



Westshore Regional CERT 2014 Annual Report

Prepared by:
Tricia Granfors, Coordinator
January 15, 2015



INTRODUCTION

The Westshore Regional Community Emergency Response Team “WSC,” a volunteer organization operating under the Westshore Council of Governments and staff coordinator, that serves the following cities: Bay Village, Fairview Park, Lakewood, North Olmsted, Rocky River, and Westlake.

The mission of the WSC is to be a local, regional component of the Citizen Corps and the Cuyahoga CERT Association, encompassing public education, training, and volunteer opportunities to engage all citizens in making their communities safer, stronger, and better prepared for preventing, preparing for, responding to, and recovering from emergencies and disasters of all types, including natural and technological disasters and acts of terrorism.

The goal of the WSC is to bring together citizens, local public officials, governmental agencies, leaders and stakeholders from area business, civic, faith-based, and volunteer organizations. We strive to involve them in community disaster preparedness to make the Westshore communities safer, stronger, and better prepared to be both disaster resistant and disaster resilient. Our objectives include promoting individual, family, business, and community safety and emergency preparedness by encouraging personal responsibility. We also provide public information, education, training, and volunteer service. In doing so, the WSC provides assistance to government agencies including but not limited to light search and rescue, damage assessment, first aid, documentation, communications, shelter and point of dispensing/distribution management,

perimeter control, and security. Above all, the WSC contributes to life safety, incident stabilization, property conservation, and doing the greatest good for the greatest number of people.

As of January 2015, team membership has exceeded 300.

WESTSHORE REGIONAL CERT LEADERSHIP

Tony Raffin, Fairview Park Chief of Fire, Staff Advisor

Tricia Granfors, North Olmsted, Staff Westshore Regional CERT Coordinator

Advisory Committee:

- Staff Advisor
- Staff Coordinator
- Robert and Vicki Sprague (Bay Village)
- Karen Altmos (Fairview Park)
- Jean Maxwell (Lakewood)
- Daniel Hauenstein (North Olmsted)
- Jon Silvis (Rocky River)
- Dennis Kucler (Westlake)

The Advisory Committee meets every other month and is made up of volunteers from each WSC unit (city). Policy issues, schedules, training choices, community event involvement, financial decisions, and other WSC business are discussed and decided in this forum. In addition to the Advisory Committee, many members have taken on leadership positions, in both team business and event management.

Coordinator

Seeking continual improvement in the ability to lead, coordinate, and instruct the WSC, Coordinator Granfors has continued her education. Now in her last year at Cleveland State University earning a Public Safety Management degree with a minor in Environmental Studies, she has maintained a 4.0 GPA throughout. In addition, Tricia will complete the Emergency Management Leadership Academy Course this year at the National Emergency Training Center in Emmitsburg, Maryland. Tricia continues to serve on the Hopkins International Airport exercise and disaster planning committee and has continued in partnership with St. John Medical Center and Southwest General Health Center on the CERT committees. Tricia is also serving as a NIMS instructor for the Cuyahoga County Office of Emergency Management and for Cleveland State University Office of Emergency Management at Maxine Goodman Levin College of Urban Affairs.

BUDGET / FINANCES

While the focus was on training in 2014, a variety of funding sources were pursued. The largest grant received was awarded by Morris Cadillac and the Friends for the Community Foundation in the amount of \$1500. A generous grant was received from the Celebrate Westlake /North Coast Challenge group. Individual team members were also generous.

The Celebrate Westlake grant, as designated, was used to purchase a medical go kit for use at community events. As the team becomes more recognized in the Westshore communities, more situations are brought to members' attention. Even when the team is participating at an event only to provide disaster preparedness materials, those with minor injuries or other unexpected needs come to or are brought to the WSC location. The go kit will provide members with equipment and supplies required to meet these needs.

2014 FUNDING RECEIVED

Date	Received From	Total	Y-T-D	Notes
01/11/13	2013 Balance	\$ 7,579.44	\$ 7,579.44	
02/06/14	Gold Gals; Nancy Meyer-Emerick	\$ 30.00	\$ 7,609.44	Donation; percent of business
02/06/14	Meeting	\$ 34.00	\$ 7,643.44	Donation
03/18/14	ICE Key Tag Kits	\$ 13.00	\$ 7,656.44	
04/12/14	Meeting	\$ 29.00	\$ 7,685.44	Donation
08/05/14	Scott Graham, member	\$ 50.00	\$ 7,735.44	Full Scale Exercise costs
10/15/14	Meeting	\$ 17.00	\$ 7,752.44	Donation
10/28/14	Celebrate Westlake	\$ 300.00	\$ 8,052.44	Grant: Medical Kit for Events
11/10/14	Carvtober Fundraiser	\$ 3.03	\$ 8,055.47	Three designs sold (J. Sanders)
12/13/14	Public Safety Softball Tourney	\$ 1,500.00	\$ 9,555.47	Friends...Foundation
12/13/14	ICE Key Tag Kits	\$ 6.00	\$ 9,561.47	
12/13/14	Meeting	\$ 67.00	\$ 9,628.47	Donation

2014 PURCHASES

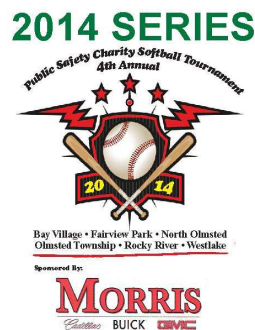
Date	Vender	Item	Total	Y-T-D	Balance
					\$ 9,628.47
3/18/2014	Target/Tricia Granfors	Thank you cards (48 total)	\$ 12.74	\$ 12.74	\$ 9,615.73
4/14/2014	Pat Catan's	Accountability supplies	\$ 57.55	\$ 70.29	\$ 9,558.18
4/14/2014	Office Max	Accountability supplies	\$ 53.92	\$ 124.21	\$ 9,504.26
4/7/2014	Things Remembered	Decanter; Chief Williams Retirement	\$ 50.00	\$ 174.21	\$ 9,454.26
5/8/2015	VoiceShot	Monthly Fees (annual)	\$ 300.00	\$ 474.21	\$ 9,154.26
5/28/2014	Greenspan	Spring Dinner sponsorship	\$ 50.00	\$ 524.21	\$ 9,104.26
7/15/2014	Karen Matter	LW Trailer Repair	\$ 34.96	\$ 559.17	\$ 9,069.30
8/6/2014	Office Max	Hanging name badges	\$ 43.99	\$ 603.16	\$ 9,025.31
10/30/2014	Global Industrial	First Voice Medical Jump Bag	\$ 307.75	\$ 910.91	\$ 8,717.56
11/6/2014	Hospice of Western Reserve	Memorial gift re: Ryan Williams	\$ 25.00	\$ 935.91	\$ 8,692.56
12/3/2014	Chick-fil-A North Olmsted	Ten \$10 GCs; prizes/party game	\$ 75.00	\$ 1,010.91	\$ 8,617.56
			\$ -	\$ 1,010.91	\$ 8,617.56

Equipment/Supplies Donations:

- Member Scott Graham donated 40 ID badge holders valued at \$60
- Member John Moody donated a tablet as a door prize at the December General Meeting. Many other members donated a variety of door prizes for that meeting.
- Scott Graham donated \$50 towards full scale exercise supplies and many other members donated refreshments for the event.
- Tricia Granfors donated approximately \$350 dollars for a number of team needs including a retirement gift for Chief Williams, refreshments and custom event labels for the full scale exercise, a disaster kit for use as the grand prize at the City of North Olmsted Senior Center Zombie Apocalypse presentation, and gift cards for use as team prizes at the December General Meeting.
- The City of Westlake Service Department purchased and applied repair supplies for the WL CERT trailer.

Planned 2015 Expenditures: Along with routine expenditures, improvements are planned for the Lakewood trailer. Additional accountability and leadership kit supplies are needed. Depending on enrollment, a supply of CERT kits and related supplies may be ordered.

Fundraising: Along with grant submittals, fundraising ideas will be discussed for community events.

Public Safety Charity Softball Tournament

The fourth annual Public Safety Charity Softball Tournament, hosted by Cuyahoga County District 1 Council Representative

Dave Greenspan's Friends for the Community Foundation, was held as part of the City of Fairview Park Summerfest. This double elimination tournament, featuring local responders, raises money for the WSC and Olmsted CERT while honoring our professional

firefighters, law enforcement, and emergency medical personnel.

The Fairview Park team brought home the 2014 tournament win. As a result of this event, the Friends for the Community Foundation awarded



the WSC \$1,500. The 2015 tournament series will be held in conjunction with the North

Olmsted Homecoming (Bicentennial year) Festival, August 28-30. For 2015, professional fundraising assistance is being contemplated to increase the amount of funds raised for the CERT program.

2014 TRAINING

In addition to one round of FEMA CERT Basic Training, established members took advantage of a great variety in training opportunities in 2014. This was partly due to the pending Cuyahoga CERT Association accreditation requirements and the training topics offered to meet them.

Surveillance Exercise: In February, team members had a unique opportunity to hang out at Tower City and act suspiciously. Working with the Northeast Ohio Fusion Center, the team assisted in training security observers in advance of the Cleveland Gay Games and other large public events scheduled in the Greater Cleveland area.



Mass Casualty Full Scale Exercise: The second independent mass casualty full scale exercise since the team's inception in 2007, the event was graciously hosted by St. Paul Lutheran Church on Detroit Road in Westlake. Based on a scenario that included the aftermath of a severe storm and tornado at a large church picnic, 164 individuals participated as CERT responders, victim role players, evaluators, and observers. Along with WSC members, four other teams participated (CWRU, CSU, North Royalton, and Parma), along with three fire departments (Westlake, Fairview Park, and Berea), and other organizations including BayComm, the North Central Ohio K-9 Search & Rescue unit, Westcomm Dispatch, and Crocker Park/Stark Enterprises. The exercise area included a large part of the school building, the parking lot, and adjacent areas including a playground, cut grass field, tall meadow, and wooded area.

Hopkins Airport Active Shooter

Exercise: Four separate active shooter scenarios were performed on November 12 in Terminal D; one each for the Federal Air Marshalls, the Cleveland

Police Department, the FBI, and Customs and Border Protection. Chief Davis of the Airport Fire-Rescue Department led the planning process. As a member of that committee, Tricia Granfors participated in the planning sessions and during the event, served as a coordinator and director, working with over 100 victim role players to set up and direct each scenario. WSC members Colleen Drews and Carrie Hebert acted as moulage artists for a majority of the injuries. Approximately 30 WSC members participated as victim role players, getting a front row seat in learning how law enforcement is trained to respond to these types of

emergencies. Representatives of airport administration and the four law enforcement organizations involved indicated the scene set up, the convincing wounds and effects (moulage), and symptoms and reactions from the role players made the training realistic and worthwhile. Video and information on the exercise was featured on (at least) Fox 8 and WOIO 19 Action News.

Personal Bests: WSC member Scott Graham earned the State of Ohio Citizen Corps CERT Intermediate Certificate of Completion. Member John Moody earned a Certificate of Achievement for completion of the Emergency Management Institute's Professional Development Series. Through training and dedication, several WSC members are eligible for Cuyahoga CERT Association accreditation.

Additional training accomplished by WSC members in 2014:

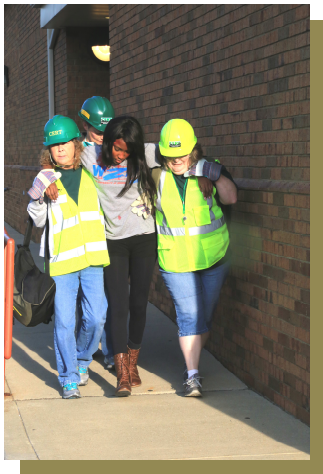
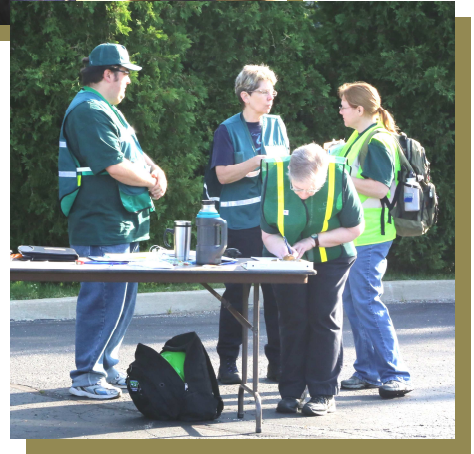
- Functional Needs
- Leadership
- Solar Weather
- Points of Dispensing
- CPR/AED (several dates)
- Canine Search & Rescue
- Burke Airport Tabletop
- Full Scale Exercise Planning

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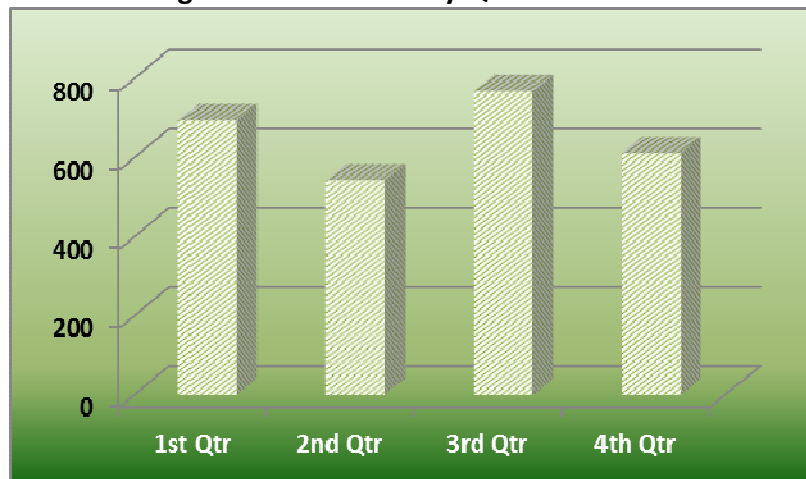
(Training, continued)

- Mass Casualty Full Scale Exercise
- SWGHC CERT Final Exercise
- Hopkins Full Scale Active Shooter Exercise
- Heartsaver Blood Borne Pathogens
- ICS & CERT Refresher (game)
- ARC Shelter Courses
- ARC Shelter Fundamentals & Exercise
- IS-100, Intro to Incident Command System



- IS-200, ICS for Single Resources and Initial Action Incidents
- IS-700, Intro to National Incident Management System
- A large variety of FEMA EMI on-line courses and seminars via the County EMA and Cuyahoga County Board of Health

2014 Training and Event Hours by Quarter



2014 ACTIVATIONS, PROJECTS & COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES

Activation / Missing Person: On the morning of May 12 the team was activated by the City of Bay Village Police Department for a missing 14 year old female. She was located as the team

responded. Within approximately one hour, 38 members had gathered and many more were on their way.

Community Activities:

Across the Westshore, team members assisted with traffic, pedestrian and

perimeter control, delivered first aid, and presented disaster preparedness

materials at various community events. We also addressed several civic groups.

- Welcome to Lakewood Event
- Bay Village Safety Fair
- Cleveland One World Festival
- Bay Village Open House
- Public Safety Softball Tournament
- Bay Days Festival
- Fairview Park Summerfest
- Celebrate Westlake Race
- Fairview Park Clutter Buster

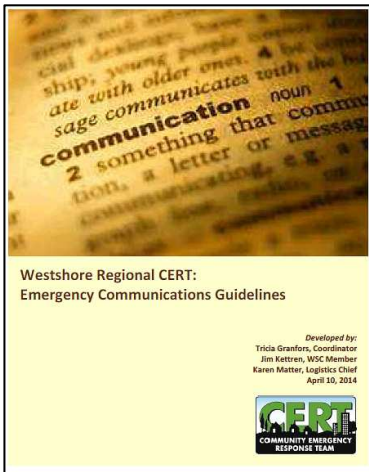


- North Olmsted Senior Center, Zombie Apocalypse Presentation
- North Olmsted Fire Department 9-11 Remembrance Ceremony
- Rocky River Senior Center Health Fair & Junk-in-the-Trunk Sale
- Fairview Park Winterfest
- Several City of CLE Events



Projects

Communications Guidelines: As 2013 came to a close, a formal communications guideline was drafted by BayComm Commander and WSC member Jim Kettren, WSC Logistics Chief Karen Matter, and Coordinator Tricia Granfors. Early in 2014 the guidelines were vetted and approved by the Westshore fire chiefs and the



WSC Advisory Committee. The completed guidelines were then put into effect through distribution to the entire team via email, review at a general meeting, and linked to the website.

Logistics Project: At several times through 2014 small groups of team members joined forces to inventory and organize team supplies and rehab team member kits for use.

Accountability / Leadership Project: One of the needs identified via the full scale exercise was a better, more efficient means to track responders for safety and accountability. Another need identified was portable leadership “kits” for a few team leaders in case they need to manage an activation in the coordinator’s absence. These projects were combined in purchases and assembly by Logistics Chief Karen Matter and LW Planning Deputy John Sanders. While essentially done, a few more items will be added to each kit in 2015.

COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS & MEMBERSHIPS

The WSC continues to partner, collaborate, and train alongside many organizations in order to reach continuing education, preparedness, organization, and service goals.

Federal, State & Local

As grass roots disaster preparedness training continues to be a strong focus of FEMA, the state, and the Cuyahoga County Office of

Emergency Management, the Cuyahoga CERT Association has researched volunteer response credentialing issues over the last two years. The majority of the questions on standards have now been answered. Final clarifications are expected in 2015 and the task of credentialing county CERT members meeting those standards will be underway.

Cuyahoga CERT Association

The WSC continues to cooperate with and participate in the credentialing process and necessary training with the association. Training required for the new county credentialing was scheduled and offered to team members in our area; many took advantage of the opportunity.

Partners

The WSC continues to train and collaborate



with other teams, professional responders, public safety agencies, and business continuity organizations.

Our local training would not be possible without the contributions of time and expertise by Michael Johnson, R.N. of St. John Medical Center, Chief Chris Flynn of Rocky River Fire, Captain Gordie Polando of Lakewood Fire, Lieutenant Ken Hehnen of North Olmsted Fire, team members Jean Maxwell, R.N. (Lakewood Hospital), Tim Brown (Energizer health & safety expert), Tom Schuerger (fire safety equipment

coordination), Colleen Drews and Carrie Hebert, our moulage and training environment experts, instructors Karen Matter and John Sanders, and the many members who manage and facilitate training each year including Sharlene Marty who facilitated many training sessions in 2014.

The year also brought retirements. Lt.

Ken Hehnen retired from the North Olmsted Fire Department, but will continue to instruct for the WSC. Chief Flynn retired from the Rocky

River Fire Department early in 2015 and will also stay on as a team instructor. Bud Williams, who retired as Fairview Park Fire Chief in 2014, has graciously agreed to serve as a team instructor.

The team also wishes to thank our mayors for their continued support as well as Cuyahoga County District 1 Council Member Dave Greenspan for his support and many efforts through the Friends for the Community Foundation.

GOALS FOR 2015

Leadership: This focus will continue throughout 2015 as team members take on additional leadership roles at events, training, and in team management. Coordinator Granfors has focused her NETC Leadership Academy course project

on growing leadership within the WSC in order to increase team capabilities and reach.

Fundraising: All possible sources will continue to be researched to support the training, response, and maintenance needs of the WSC.

Increase Membership and Commitment: The average CERT response for both

scheduled and unscheduled events is one-third to one-half of the team. The team therefore should be significantly larger than the expected need. While the organization has continued to grow, not all members are meeting the minimum qualifications. While growing the team is important, the knowledge, skill and

safety of all members are more so. During 2015, team members who have not been participating in continuing education will be asked about

their future intentions with the WSC. Those who do not meet minimum requirements will be asked to resign and return CERT equipment assigned.

Training & Projects: Along with two rounds of basic training (February/March and October), numerous classes and projects have been scheduled for 2015:



Training

- Firefighter Rehabilitation
- Animal Response I & II
- Generator Drills
- Traffic & Crowd Control
- Wide Area Search Full Scale Exercise (Metroparks Rangers)
- Tabletop Exercise (ICS focus)
- NIMS Courses IS-700.a & IS-100.b, and IS-200
- CERT Olympics
- Citizen Corps: Radio/Communications
- American Red Cross Damage Assessment
- American Red Cross Sheltering
- Various regional exercises including Burke Airport and Flight Nurse full scale exercises
- Fulfillment of leadership qualifications training through FEMA Emergency Management Institute (EMI) online

Projects

- Completion of accountability & leadership kit development
- Update team guidelines with new Cuyahoga CERT accreditation criteria
- Development of team leadership
- Development of training event planning
- Lakewood CERT Trailer communications center & other improvements
- Community events & presentation opportunities
- Logistics supplies organization
- Seek grants and other fundraising opportunities
- Seek sponsorship for annual Public Safety Charity Softball Tournament
- Public Speaking: Provide disaster preparedness information and encourage residents to “get a kit, make a plan & be informed.”

The Westshore Regional Community Emergency Response Team: Volunteers Prepared to Serve Their Community

*Report prepared by: Tricia A. Granfors,
Westshore Regional CERT Coordinator
Photos courtesy of Douglas Sacha, John Sanders,
Jim MacMillan, and others*

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