



The Responder Updates

E-Volume 1, Issue 1

February 2010

Inside this issue:

Trainings

Spring Regional Meeting

- ♦ May 7th - Arkansas State Police

Basic Crisis Response Trainings

- ♦ February 4 - 5
Conway
- ♦ March 4 - 5
Springdale
- ♦ March 18 - 19
Little Rock
- ♦ April 27 - 28
Russellville

Community Emergency Response [CERT] Trainings

- ♦ March 4, 5, 6
Jonesboro
- ♦ April 9, 10, 11
Russellville
- ♦ August 4 - 5
Arkadelphia

Arkansas Citizens Volunteer Advisory Council

New Associate Member Category

New Website

Haiti

Upcoming Trainings

Spring Regional Training: May 7th

Location: Arkansas State Police - State Police Plaza Drive - Little Rock, AR 72009

Time: 9:00-3:30 p.m.

For more information: www.ar-crt.org/calender.html

Winter and Spring Basic Crisis Response Trainings

Conway Fire Department

Host: Fire Chief Bart Castleberry

February 4-5

Northwest Arkansas Circle of Life Hospice, Springdale

Host: Steven L. Thomason, MD., M.Div., Medical Director

March 4-5

Arkansas Hospital Association, Little Rock

Host: Beth Ingram, Vice President

March 18-19

Training is for hospital personnel

Arkansas Tech University

Host: Beth Wilson Gray, Assistant Professor, Department of Emergency Management

April 27-28

Community Emergency Response Team [CERT]

CERT training educates people about disaster preparedness for hazards that may impact their area and trains them in basic disaster response skills. Training includes fire safety, light search and rescue, team organization, and disaster medical operations. The training is free and provides a vital role when professional responders are not immediately available.

The AR-CRT Board of Director endorses the CERT program and looks forward to working collaboratively with Drew Pannell, State Citizen Corps Coordinator, Arkansas Department of Emergency Management. CERT is a free training that counts towards AR-CRT continuing education hours. For more information on training, contact: Drew Pannell, State Citizen Corps Coordinator - 501-683-6729

Andrew.Pannell@adem.arkansas.gov

<http://www.citizencorps.gov/cert/>

Scheduled CERT Training:

Jonesboro: March 4-5 [evenings] 6 [day]

Host: Emergency Management

Russellville: April 9-10 [evenings]11 [day]

Host: Pope County CERT and Arkansas Tech University

Arkadelphia: August 5-6 [day]

Host: Henderson State University, Deborah Collins, Counseling Clinic Director



Arkansas Citizens Volunteer Advisory Council [ACVAC]

AR-CRT joins Arkansas Voluntary Organizations Active in Disaster [ARVOAD], State Citizens Corps and Citizens Emergency Response Team [CERT] Programs, Arkansas Department of Emergency Management, Arkansas Department of Human Services, Division of Emergency Management and Division Volunteer Services and Arkansas Tech University to develop a pilot project.

The purpose: To develop a blended structure at the local level to best utilize all resources addressing volunteer efforts during preparedness, mitigation, response and recovery phases of disaster. AR-CRT representatives to ACVAC are: Captain Dale Saffold, AR-CRT Treasurer and Ginger Bankston Bailey, AR-CRT Executive Director.

AR-CRT county representatives are:



Greg Church



Richard Whitley

Ashley County



Gretchen Clayton

Greene County



Steve Wallace

Pope County



Julie Moody

Washington County

AR-CRT Associate Membership Category Approved

Does your schedule prevent you from being an active participant on the crisis team? The Board of Directors offers an alternative.

At its quarterly meeting on Tuesday, Jan. 26, in Little Rock, the Board of Directors of AR-CRT approved the new membership category. An associate member continues to be part of the team through financial support, but is exempt from the annual continuing education requirement. Associate members may participate in trainings, but not callouts. For more information contact, Charlotte Rundell, AR-CRT Membership Chair at arcrt@sbcglobal.net

New AR-CRT Website

The AR-CRT website is being revamped in order to bring you timely and comprehensive information. Each member will be given a log-on and password in order to access databases, forms, news updates and other information pertinent to us serving the citizens of Arkansas. Please give us your suggestions as our site is rebuilt. Your input is important! Email us at arcrt@sbcglobal.net.

Haiti

As Arkansans return from Haiti, AR-CRT prepares to assist with emotional first aid. Don Howell, Executive Director, International Critical Stress Foundation, said, "As with most disasters, the need for critical incident support services does not have to be at the actual disaster location. Within the United States there are many areas that have significant Haitian populations that are impacted by this event. There will also be many responders that will ultimately return that may be impacted as well." For AR-CRT members, look within your community at returning first responders, healthcare personnel and Arkansas Voluntary Organizations Active in Disaster [ARVOAD] staff and volunteers who may need the "listening presence" that we offer.