

Annual Report

Greater Kirkland Citizen Core Council

Fiscal Year November 1, 2014 through October 31, 2015

Mission Statement

The mission of the Greater Kirkland Citizen Corps Council is to build a safer, more resilient community by helping to coordinate the preparedness efforts of local leaders, community groups, citizen volunteers, and the Kirkland Office of Emergency Management in responding to disasters of all kinds by harnessing the power of involved citizens.

Accomplishments for 2015

During 2015, the Greater Kirkland Citizen Core Council (GKCCC) supported the following activities that further the mission of our organization.

- Greater collaboration between Kirkland’s OEM and volunteer programs Kirkland Emergency Communications Team (KECT), Community Emergency Response Training (CERT), and Map Your Neighborhood (MYN) is being achieved by expanding the council to include members and directors from the city OEM as well as each volunteer group.
- We have supported Kirkland’s OEM with participation in the Evergreen Tremor exercise in June, which included neighborhood CERT volunteers, KCET members, and the Stone Soup Brigade site at Inglewood Presbyterian Church in the Finn Hill Neighborhood.
- The Kirkland CERT website has been upgraded, and the membership database expanded from 500 to 2000 citizens. The membership is kept up-to-date with monthly e-newsletters which cover upcoming trainings and related events for each of the participating groups.
- A social media presence has been established for Kirkland Emergency Management with active Twitter and Facebook pages. The CERT steering committee has assigned a social media volunteer to keep the CERT Facebook page up to date.
- We established a scholarship program for CERT trainings and the annual CERT Expo. One scholarship was awarded in this first year of the program.
- A CERT ‘command center’ has been established in the Finn Hill neighborhood at Inglewood Presbyterian Church, and discussions are underway for a second location. It is part of the OEM’s Stone Soup Brigade program.

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- We have continued to work on expanding the CERT Neighborhood Network, with a new neighborhood network coordinator, Steve Bennett, who organized 5 network meetings, an interactive map on our website, and a turn-out exercise last June. The Finn Hill and Houghton neighborhoods are the first to have established regular meetings and several others are in process.
- CERT trainings were conducted as planned
 - CERT 19, February 25-April 25
 - CERT 20, September 10- November 14
- Ongoing Education Classes expanded to 10 offerings in FY 2015.
 - November 19, 2014 – Incident Command System Review
 - November 22, 2014 – Social Media Training
 - February 19, 2015 - Gas and Electric Safety
 - March 09, 2015 - Water Safety and Storage
 - May 13, 2015 - Personal Preparedness
 - May 16, 2015 - CERT for Animals with WASART
 - September 23, 2015 - Basic Disaster Preparedness
 - October 26, 2015 - Disaster Psychology Training
- Public Outreach:
 - We participated in 3 neighborhood association picnics with a program information booth: Juanita, North Rose Hill and Finn Hill’s DennyFest.
 - We hosted an information booth at two of the Juanita Friday Markets
 - CERT volunteers and OEM staff marched in Kirkland’s July 4th parade.
- Map Your Neighborhood (MYN):
 - MYN facilitator trainings were held by Susan Vossler in May and October. 29 people attended and we know of at least 3 who followed through with a neighborhood meeting.
- Kirkland Emergency Communications Team (KECT)
 - The Kirkland Emergency Communications Team (KECT) is an independent, volunteer supported communications system which operates under the guidance of the Office of Emergency Management in the City of Kirkland. Our membership is open to individuals with an interest in providing vital emergency communications support to our community during a disaster or emergency situation. All members must have a Technician License or higher in order to participate.

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