



## Community Emergency Response Teams (CERT) /

### Community Organizations Active in Disaster (COAD) Meeting

Thursday December 5, 2019 (6:00pm-8:00 pm)

Independence Civic Center

#### 1. Welcome & Introductions

- Serena Steele from CCOEM welcomed attendees from various CERT organizations. There were 16 in attendance with 10 CERT Teams represented (Garfield Hts. CERT, Cleveland State University CERT, Quad City CERT, Geauga CO EMA, Brecksville/Broadview Hts. CERT, Olmsted CERT, Moreland Hills CERT, Parma CERT and North Royalton CERT)

Attendees introduced themselves from various CERT's.

#### 2. OEM Report / Organizational Matters

- **CERT Roster Update:** OEM discussed the importance of updating the roster and asked CERTS to please look over the current roster and make changes on the form that was given to them.
- **Ohio Responds:** CCOEM discussed that Ohio Responds is programmed to flag accounts as incomplete or inactive if there's no update to training within 3yrs. From that aspect, it can cause issues for volunteers as they may not be seen as "active" in the event that there's ever a question about their liability protection. The State suggests CERTS re-take one of the ICS IS courses and load in the updated information and then they will not have to worry about it for the next three years.

The 2020 National CERT Conference will be in Springfield, Missouri from Thursday 16 – Saturday 18 July 2020 (pre-conference training Monday 13 – Wednesday 15 July 2020) information and Registration: <http://2020nationalcertconference.com/>

- **National CERT Association:** The National CERT Association is up and running and developing our plan for the future. The State has an MOU with FEMA and are an actual partner with the Agency advocating for CERT nationwide. Memberships are not yet available, but individuals can sign up to the email list for information. Josh Vitte our State rep is one of the two individuals on the Board of Directors from FEMA Region V. Information: <https://nationalcert.org/>



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- **CERT Webpage:** The Cert website is live and activated. CCOEM encouraged CERTS to go to the website and send their feedback back to CCOEM.  
<https://ready.cuyahogacounty.us/en-US/cert.aspx>

CCOEM is developing a map that will contain all of the CERT Teams. CCOEM currently has responses back from 11 CERT teams. If your Team has not, please email your information to [agriffith@cuyahogacounty.us](mailto:agriffith@cuyahogacounty.us). We need Team Name, Contact Name, mailing address, email address, website, and social media handles.

### 3. Collaboration Opportunities

- **Training:** The G-427 CERT Program Manager that was scheduled December 2019 was canceled due to attendance. CCOEM will reschedule the course with North Royalton in 2020.

CERTs were encouraged to go on the new web page and list any upcoming trainings and exercises.

CCOEM discussed the Logistical Whirlwind Recovery Full Scale Exercise (FSE) that was scheduled August 14, 2019. The FSE exercise was designed to test Recovery Functions and several Core Capabilities within Cuyahoga County, including Operational Coordination, Public Information and Warning, Logistics and Supply Chain Management, and Mass Care Services. There were 2-PODS setup (Richmond Town Square and Shaker Hts. FD) and 2 shelters (Lyndhurst and MLK Civic CTR.) Operations testing (County EOC and ARC). Over 75 affiliated volunteers and agencies participated.

- **Community Organizations Active in Disaster (COAD)**
  - **Flooding Activity:** In July 2019, the city of Parma and surrounding areas experienced heavy flooding. CCOEM assisted in damage assessment reporting and recovery concerns. CCOEM worked with COAD agencies (Cleveland Furniture Bank, Salvation Army, The Church of Jesus Christ Latter Day Saints, The Hunger Network, and 2-1-1) to meet the needs and provide resources to residents during the recovery phase.



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#### **4. United Methodist Church (UMCOR) “Connecting the Neighbor’s” presentation**

- Tom Vencl from Geauga County EM presented CERTs with a brief presentation of how Geauga and Cuyahoga will partner with United Methodist to bring the “Connecting the Neighbor’s” initiative to assist faith-based organizations/houses of worships during an emergency or disaster. The presentation is 4-hours in length and will roll out sometime in 2020. CERTs were given participant handouts to review and offer feedback.

#### **5. CERT Report Outs (What is Happening in your Community CERT Program)**

- **Quad City:** discussed their trainings and how they are rolling out their new CERT page link in their respective cities.
- **Website:** CERTs were encouraged to go on the County’s CERT page to review, give feedback and alert every one of their trainings and exercises.  
<https://ready.cuyahogacounty.us/en-US/cert.aspx> CERTs were also advised to copy link in their browser if not clicking on it directly.

#### **6. Announcements / Other Business**

- N/A

#### **7. Next Meeting Determination**

- The next meeting will be Spring 2020 (TBD)

#### **8. Adjournment**

- Meeting Adjourned at 7:25 pm