



IMPLEMENTING YOUTH PREPAREDNESS INTO YOUR ORGANIZATION

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION:

DHS/FEMA and the Red Cross are kicking off a nationwide series of workshops starting in Chicago to introduce a resilient community initiative, focusing on educating our youth in disaster preparedness.

Emergencies can happen at any time and often without warning. While emergency personnel do their best to quickly respond to emergencies, it could take time for them to arrive on the scene. The best way to help citizens during an emergency is to ensure they're prepared in advance to sustain themselves and their families for the first 72 hours after a disaster strikes. Leading educators and scholars in the field of preparedness education believe that children can be the best envoys to bring this message home to their families.

Establishing a youth preparedness program in your community may seem like a daunting task, but this workshop will provide you with many of the resources available that can help your organization implement an effective program.

While children have unique needs during an emergency, they can also play a very important role when it comes to preparedness.

- Children can have a positive influence in the home
- Children can be leaders during emergencies
- Prepared children are more confident during an emergency

This workshop will provide participants with information on how their organization can integrate preparedness education into their program offerings. You will hear from experts who have developed and delivered some of the most successful youth preparedness programs across the country. In discussing their programs, they will discuss the following:

- Getting Started & Engaging Partners
- Identifying Curriculum
- Implementing Program
- Promoting Program
- Sustainment & Evaluation

All participants will receive a "how to" guide for implementing preparedness programs as well as a catalog of youth preparedness resources.

RSVP and questions should be directed to Mary Rhedin 312.408.4404 or mary.rhedin@dhs.gov. We look forward to your participation in this very important workshop.