

Franklin Citizen Corps Council

In 2005, the first CERT (Community Emergency Response Team) training was held in Pendleton County. Graduates formed the Franklin Citizen Corps Council. Since that time, the council has been meeting once a month and has been involved in disaster preparedness activities for the county.

Recently, we received a grant from the WV Commission for National and Community Service through Home Land Security. The grant funding provided equipment for our CERT members and provided materials for county shelters in times of emergencies and/or disasters.

In 2008, the council was awarded grant funding to purchase a “Shelter To Go” cargo trailer. Our shelter equipment of 68 cots and 200 blankets along with shelter kits and first aid materials were purchased and placed on the trailer for quick response.

Through out the year, the Franklin Citizen Corps Council members help with community emergency plans and preparedness outreach. Our purpose is to be trained and prepared to response to disasters of all kinds. We continue to develop our skills to support emergency responders during emergency and/or disasters. We also offer a workforce for performing duties such as shelter support, crowd control, evacuation, and support to the Emergency Operation Center as needed.

For more information contact Edna Mullenax/AmeriCorps VISTA for the Pendleton County Office of Emergency Management @ 304 358-3889 or mullenaxed@yahoo.com

PROJECT G.R.A.C.E – Getting Ready Ahead of Catastrophic Events

PROJECT G.R.A.C.E. helps churches prepare in advance to serve their community as shelters, distribution centers, triage centers, or other necessary functions during a crisis. In Harrison County West Virginia PROJECT G.R.A.C.E. and the Harrison County Citizen Corps Council have trained 10 pastors to be emergency response chaplains, developed agreements with 10 strategically located churches to be shelters, distributions centers, or triage centers, and have commitments from 50 churches to provide personal preparedness education and training to their congregations. During September of 2008 Harrison County Citizen Corps and PROJECT G.R.A.C.E. held the first Community Emergency Response Team training drill. Thirty-five CERT trained volunteers participated.