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## **N.C. Citizen Corps Announces \$420,800 in Grant Funding to 35 Counties in North Carolina**

**RALEIGH** – North Carolina Citizen Corps announced today that 35 counties in North Carolina will receive more than \$420,800 in grant funding from the Department of Homeland Security. The funding will create programs that will engage volunteers to prepare citizens and communities for disasters and emergencies.

“We encourage all North Carolinians to take responsibility for being prepared when it’s time to respond to emergencies and disasters,” said Faye Stone, director of N.C. Citizen Corps. “Everyone can do their part in their communities by volunteering with a Citizen Corps program to support local emergency responders, disaster relief and community safety.”

The grants will expand the current statewide network of over 700 community preparedness volunteer programs. The funding will be used to recruit and train volunteers for Community Emergency Response Teams in local communities and on high school and college campuses, provide support to the Ready Kids Camp to prepare elementary students for emergencies and disasters, recruit and train new Medical Reserve Corps volunteers for public health emergencies, and create additional programs for Volunteers in the Police Service and Fire Corps.

Funding will support volunteer programs in the following counties: Bertie, Buncombe, Burke, Cabarrus, Caldwell, Camden, Carteret, Catawba, Chatham, Cherokee, Chowan, Columbus, Craven, Cumberland, Currituck, Dare, Forsyth, Gates, Guilford, Henderson, Hertford, Hyde, Martin, McDowell, Moore, Nash, New Hanover, Onslow, Orange, Pasquotank, Perquimans, Robeson, Tyrrell, Wake and Washington counties.

North Carolina Citizen Corps is managed by the North Carolina Commission on Volunteerism and Community Service, housed in the Office of the Governor. To learn more about Citizen Corps (FEMA’s grassroots strategy to involve citizen volunteers in community preparedness) visit [www.citizencorps.gov](http://www.citizencorps.gov).

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