

Summer Youth Emergency Preparedness Academy



The Serve DC
Summer Youth
Emergency Preparedness
Academy (SYEPA) is comprised
of four components:



Teen CERT Certification —
Community Emergency Response
Team training that is geared
toward young adults



Commander Ready Certification
"Train-the-Trainer" Model —
Certifies participants to teach
youth (ages 6-13) the basics of
emergency preparedness



First-Aid/CPR/AED Certification —
Two-year certification that is in
accordance with the American
Red Cross' standards



Workforce Development —
Exposure to various careers in
emergency management by
engaging industry professionals,
which happens through lectures,
site visits, and trainings for SYEPA
participants

About The Program

The Summer Youth Emergency
Preparedness Academy is
designed to empower District of
Columbia youth with training to
assist their families and
communities in the event of a
disaster, while providing
exposure to careers in
emergency management and
public safety.



SYEPA Program Overview, Requirements, and Registration



Serve DC – The Mayor's Office on Volunteerism promotes community service as an innovative way to engage residents of all ages to help solve neighborhood challenges. Serve DC supports communities in all eight DC Wards through federal grants from the Corporation for National and Community Service (CNCS) and the U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS).

The Summer Youth Emergency Preparedness Academy (SYEPA) is a collaboration between the Mayor Marion S. Barry Summer Youth Employment Program (MBSYEP) and Serve DC – The Mayor's Office on Volunteerism. Serve DC would like to express its sincere gratitude to the Department of Employment Services' Office of Youth Programs.



SYEPA Requirements:

- District of Columbia High School Students: 11th and 12th Grade
- Interest in Emergency Management/ Public Safety Careers
- Resume
- Potential applicants apply through DC Department of Employment Services each spring

DC National Guard at Fort Belvoir.

SYEPA 2017

“Outstanding Youth” Awardees

Each year, SYEPA selects participants for the Mayor Marion S. Barry Summer Youth Employment Program (MBSYEP) “Outstanding Youth” awards. Candidates are evaluated on time and attendance, job performance, achievements, leadership, initiative, and workplace conduct. Ideal candidates perform outstanding work and exhibit expertise, dedication, and enthusiasm in their job performance. Candidates are selected from all MBSYEP programs across the District, and they are acknowledged at an annual recognition ceremony, held at Eastern High School, where they receive a commemorative certificate.

Chantay Lucas, a graduate of Northwestern High School, is a critical thinker and a natural leader, who always supports her peers in times of need. Chantay attended the 2018 Mayor Marion S. Barry Summer Youth Employment Program (MBSYEP) Career Expo, and was instantly interested in emergency preparedness and the Summer Youth Emergency Preparedness Academy (SYEPA). At the beginning of the academy, Chantay thought she would only receive basic CPR training. The academy was more than she expected it to be, learning from participating in field trips covering First AID, AED, Stop the Bleed, and 8 signs of terrorism. She was especially impressed with the field trip to FEMA, to which she is currently applying for an internship.



Chantay Lucas (L), Alex Baker (R)

Chantay hopes to attend Prince George's Community College and study Paramedic Associate's of Applied Sciences to be part of the Emergency Medical Service, who is one of the first responders. Chantay stated she has implemented her CPR and First AID trainings by teaching her younger siblings, and also that she is more aware of her surroundings and is currently helping family/friends to prepare emergency backpacks. She is so grateful for the opportunity that she is recommending and encouraging everyone to apply to SYEPA next year.

Alex Baker is a junior at Woodrow Wilson High School. He demonstrated great leadership, constantly taking the lead in facilitating workshops at recreational centers for children and staff.



Alex was most impressed with Ms. Shakira Richardson's presentation from the Human Rescue Alliance, Pet Adoption, and Rescue Services because he never knew such a career field existed. He hopes to intern there in the future. He hopes to graduate with honors and attend Howard University. Upon completing his undergraduate studies, he also hopes to attend medical school to become a neurologist. Alex truly enjoyed his experience, friendships, and narrating his team's public service announcement. He expressed his gratitude for this amazing opportunity and cannot wait to become a Teen CERT ambassador at his high school.

Teen Community Emergency Response Team Training (Teen CERT)

Teen CERT is the curricular and instructional foundation of SYEPA. Teen CERT is emergency preparedness training that focuses on potential disasters that could affect cities and neighborhoods. The motto of CERT is "do the greatest good for the greatest number." SYEPA students receive hands-on practice and realistic exercise in basic emergency preparedness. SYEPA participants gain leadership and teamwork skills that empower them to safely respond to an

emergency and assist victims without endangering themselves or others. SYEPA participants also learn how to assist in evacuations, create a successful triage, make tourniquets, and rescue techniques designed to evacuate injured individuals. Teen CERT Training also helps participants provide damage assessments and shelter support for first responders, assist in crowd control, and give assistance to survivors of disasters.

" My experience with the SYEPA program was amazing! During this six week program I gained knowledge about the Community Emergency Response Team (CERT), their important role to do the greatest good for the greatest number aspires me to continue this work and become a teen CERT ambassador at my high school."- Alex



Upon completion of the program, participants receive a Community Emergency Response Team Certificate and a backpack filled with useful tools to assist in emergencies and disasters.



Commander Ready, Train-the-Trainer Model



The goal of the Commander Ready program is to teach young children between the ages of 6 and 13 how to prepare for, and respond to, emergencies and disasters, including fire safety and prevention, severe weather-related disasters, public health safety, disease prevention, stranger danger and street smarts, how to handle bullying, and terrorism. SYEPA utilizes the Train-the-Trainer model, where participants receive instruction, coaching, and mentoring from experienced Commander Ready instructors. SYEPA students then transfer their knowledge and skill to younger children in their own engaging manner. For more information about Commander Ready, please visit <https://serve.dc.gov/service/youth-preparedness>. Teaching others is a true test of skill mastery because it demonstrates that



SYEPA students have become confident in their knowledge of the curriculum. During the summer of 2017, SYEPA participants taught the Commander Ready program to 830 DC Department of Parks and Recreation elementary and middle school students. Commander Ready "Cadets" also received a go kit that was filled with age-appropriate supplies for staying safe in an emergency. Training younger students in emergency preparedness is an example of service to the community.



640

Elementary and middle school students from across the District of Columbia were taught emergency preparedness through the Commander Ready program by SYEPA participants.

 = 100 students



First-Aid/CPR/AED Certification



Being Ready

SYEPA participants learn First-Aid to care for wounds, cuts, scrapes, strokes, heart attacks, diabetes, and more.

Over the course of the six weeks, SYEPA students learned how to respond to cardiac arrest and First-Aid emergencies. After demonstrating their knowledge, SYEPA participants earned American Red Cross certification. People trained to perform First-Aid, administer CPR (cardiopulmonary resuscitation), and use an AED (automated external defibrillator) can help save lives while waiting for professional responders to arrive on the scene of a health emergency.

"Performing CPR on mannequins was fun, with this training I feel confident to save lives! Thank you SYEPA for giving me the opportunity to be part of this program."

-Zakeya , SYEPA Participant



Public Service Announcements (PSA)

Students took leadership in creating Public Service Announcements (PSA) that showcased safety protocols. The purpose of the PSA is to encourage emergency preparedness to the community. The videos focused on Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation (CPR), Automated External Defibrillator (AED), Stop the Bleed, and eight types of terrorism.



SYEPA Terrorism PSA



SYEPA Stop the Bleed

" Being part of the SYEPA program was an awakening experience. In every field trip I learned something new and every speaker had important information that I have tried to apply in my daily life. It was great working with my peers on our PSA videos, we became like family. Thank you SERVE DC."- Kobe

Career Exposure and Readiness



SYEPA is designed to expose District of Columbia youth to emergency management, public safety, teaching, and science-related careers. SYEPA participants go on field trips to a wide range of public safety agencies, including DC Fire and Emergency Services (DCFEMS), DC National Guard (DCNG), DC Office of Forensic Sciences (DFS), Water Resources Research Institute (WRRR) of the University of the District of Columbia (UDC), and George Washington University Emergency Medical Services (GWUEMS). These field trips provide hands-on insight from professionals, who also serve as role models. SYEPA participants meet with leaders in a wide range of career fields who share their views on career readiness and innovative leadership. These guest speakers work in a variety of public agencies, including DC Department of Health (DOH), Homeland Security and Emergency Management Agency (HSEMA), DC Metropolitan Police Department

(MPD), and the DC Search and Rescue Unit of the DC Fire and Emergency Management Service (DCFEMS).

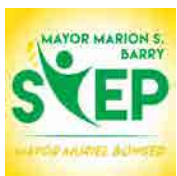
By week six, SYEPA participants have enhanced their communication skills, teamwork strategies, problem solving, and critical thinking skills. Each participant contributes to the design, planning, and production of a Public Service Announcement (PSA) about the importance of emergency preparedness. In addition, SYEPA students gain an awareness of careers that may not require a traditional four-year undergraduate degree. Students have a unique opportunity to network with professionals who also serve as mentors. Also, 100% of college students who served as SYEPA Team Leads expressed an interest in teaching young students or careers in science-related fields.

"I feel prepared to apply to any career- field, with the support of SYEPA I was able to acquire the right tools to update my resume and cover letter. This workshop gave me the confidence to apply to the Metropolitan Police Department."

- Jaude, SYEPA Participant

"My dream is to become an EMS first responder. Being part of the SYEPA was one step closer to realizing that dream. Thank you to the staff from Serve DC for hosting and leading such an amazing program!"

– Delilah, SYEPA Participant



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