

1) **What is the history of CERT?**

- a) Started in Los Angeles – 1985
- b) FEMA endorsed program 1992
 - i) Grass roots expansion
 - ii) All hazards program
 - iii) Part of the Citizen Corps (www.citizencorps.gov)

2) **Teen SERT Focus**

- a) Self
- b) Family
- c) School
- d) No self-deployment authorization!

3) **What are some statistics to support CERT/Teen SERT?**

- a) 95% bystanders are first on scene
- b) Results from evaluations of 250 Teen SERT students (Pueblo West High School, Colorado)
 - i) 99.9 % agreed Teen SERT should be offered in every high school.
 - (1) Their answers split about 50-50 as to whether it should be a required course or an elective.
 - ii) 100% expressed a less feeling of helplessness or gain of ability to help in the event of a disaster
- c) Teen SERT students at Pueblo West High School alone, in the first 18 months, have dramatically affected 6 family members' lives.
 - i) (3) Heimlich saves
 - ii) (2) Cardiac-related
 - iii) Student stopped mother from moving brother who had hit head-on into the wall while playing hockey. Later found out that she was right, her brother would have likely severed his spinal cord, had he been moved by his mother.

4) **How and where is Teen SERT taught?**

Varies from school to school, organization to organization

- a) Health Classes
- b) Government Classes
- c) Physical Education Classes
- d) Science Classes
- e) JROTC
- f) Service Learning / Community Service Classes
- g) After school
- h) Summer Sessions / Camps
- i) Clubs formed with SERT graduates
- j) Vocational Programs
- k) Girl/Boy Scouts
- l) Continuing education opportunities

5) **What is the difference between the Teen SERT and CERT curriculums?**

- a) CERT = 20 hours
- b) Teen SERT = approximately 45 hours

- c) Both curriculums:
 - i) Disaster Preparation & Mitigation
 - ii) Disaster Fire Safety & Suppression
 - iii) Medical Operations I
 - iv) Medical Operations II
 - v) Light Search & Rescue Operations
 - vi) Disaster Psychology & Team Organization
 - vii) Terrorism
 - viii) Course Review, Mock Disaster Drill, volunteer opportunities
- d) Examples of Teen SERT's additional training opportunities / continuing education
 - i) First Aid
 - ii) CPR
 - iii) AED
 - iv) Blood Borne Pathogens
 - v) Incident Command System
 - vi) Shelter Management
 - vii) "What to expect when you dial 911"?
 - viii) Crime scene preservation
 - ix) Civil Air Patrol
 - x) National Weather Service's Weather Spotter Training
 - xi) Rope course (team building)
 - xii) Federal disaster declaration process

6) Why do students want Teen SERT?

- a) Concern / preparedness focus / to overcome their feeling of anxiety
- b) Natural curiosity
- c) Emergency Services career path
- d) College Credit (Some community colleges are allowing 1.5 Cr. Hours for students 16 yrs. old and up who complete the course)
- e) Service Learning / Community Service project

7) What are some of the students most common "Lessons Learned"?

- a) Increased level of confidence that students can make a difference, if and when needed
- b) Overwhelming result of self-preparedness and self-reliability
- c) Increased awareness of natural and human-caused emergencies and of their personal involvement and responsibility
- d) Advanced ability in teamwork and cooperation
- e) Evolving leadership and community outreach
- f) Increased problem-solving skills
- g) Increased decision-making skills

8) What are some of the instructors most common "Lessons Learned"?

- a) Youth are more interested and involved in the training than adults
- b) Youth want more of the same/similar type training and information upon completion of Teen SERT
- c) Parents of students are interested and supportive of Teen SERT
- d) Responders are more than willing to assist with Teen SERT-at minimum they are willing to be speakers
- e) Increases students' interest in response related opportunities (both paid and volunteer)
- f) Endorsing no self-deployment (outside of family members) has been a positive and the kids respect the no self-deployment request (based on 350 Teen SERT kids at Pueblo West High)

9) What is unique about Teen SERT?

- a) Meets ALL learning styles
 - i) Visual
 - ii) Tactile / Kinesthetic
 - iii) Auditory
- b) Addresses ALL physical abilities
 - i) Able bodied
 - ii) Disabled

10) What are examples of some uses for Teen SERT members?

- a) Accountability / Assistance
 - i) During fire or other types of drills held at the school
 - ii) Assist school administration
 - iii) Assist professional rescuers
 - iv) Serving as victims
 - v) Staff First Aid booths
 - (1) Events (sports, carnivals, county fairs, etc.)
 - (2) Assist in additional public education opportunities
 - (a) Teaching younger kids about safety & being prepared, etc.
 - (b) Distributing preparedness information

11) Additional resources for Teen SERT Training

- a) Drama Club
 - i) Provide “moulaged” victims for the final drill
 - ii) Help write the final drill scenario

12) Program Funding

- a) Grants
- b) Community partners
- c) Private donations

13) What are other programs for kids to get involved (elementary and middle schools)?

- a) Elementary School: “FEMA for Kids” at www.femaforkids.gov
 - i) Online resource that is excellent for introducing preparedness
 - ii) Students receive a certificate after they complete the program
- b) Middle School: “Are You Ready” manual (and Instructor Guide with CD) is available by calling 1-800-480-2520. Bulk orders can be requested.
- c) Save A Life Foundation addresses both elementary and middle school: <http://www.salf.org/>
- d) American Red Cross: <http://www.redcross.org/disaster/masters/>