

Community Preparedness Capability Plan

"C2P2"

"How the City of Bridgeport educates, practices and prepares their citizens for a disaster and/or emergency."

One of the most significant challenges in community health and wellbeing is how to assist communities in making meaningful and significant changes.

Sustainable change only occurs when an empowered community and its Leaders effect policy and environment changes.

A COMMUNITY MUST KNOW HOW TO MAKE CHANGE AND THEN DO IT!

The City of Bridgeport's Emergency Management Department will implement a structured plan to **educate, practice and prepare** the citizens of Bridgeport for a disaster and/or an emergency utilizing the *Community Health Participatory Planning (CHPP)* model. The model will be adapted /modified for implementation to meet the desired outcomes of the Community Preparedness Capability Plan (C2P2).

Community Health Participatory Planning is predicated on the concept of participants' experiencing firsthand policy, environmental, societal and personal barriers to living a healthy lifestyle while addressing the health needs of their own community environment. This is accomplished through participants' simultaneous involvement in three types of structured experiences over a 10-12 week period: informational, experiential and action/task force.

The key concept to a "winning" participatory planning approach for community change isPERSONAL INVOLVEMENT

What is CHPP?

- A 10-week, 4 phase planning process for community interventions
- A process structured so that participants focus on the community while also addressing their own personal risk factor reduction
- A forum to collect, share and take action on information to plan for community intervention/preparation planning
- CHPP is an avenue to bring interested individuals in a community together as a unified, pro-active model to make change and discoveries in pursuit of their goals
- An underutilized approach to system change
- A model that focuses on and builds **FUNCTIONAL COMMUNITIES**

What does CHPP do?

- Encourages participants to identify and work through barriers
- Mobilizes the talents, energy, and insights of all participants
- Involves local stakeholders and other community members in identifying, mobilize around and overcome barriers to change
- Provides a synergistic setting for critical insight and problem solving
- Helps citizens realize the true value of both personal and community support
- Utilizes direct involvement to mandate program ownership
- Heightens the commitment to the success of the project
- Develops group cohesiveness and trust
- Discovers both materialistic and humanistic resources within the local community

Purpose:

The purpose of using the CHPP model and the intent of the EMA is to establish and affirm the City of Bridgeport as a self-sustainable community in distressful situations.

The city will be able to maintain ecological balance, sufficient habitats for their citizens, impose and continue law and order under the State and City statutory. These goals will be met through education, practice and preparation community wide.

The process of CHPP

There are four phases involving a CHPP. These phases are as follows.

Phase I: CHPP commences of 1-3 people.

- 1) Chief John Walker
- 2) City Manager, Kim Haws
- 3) Emergency Management Director, Tammy Renzelli (CHPP Coordinator)

Phase II (2 tasks): Establish a Steering Committee

The individuals in Phase I recruit 5-6 people to work on the *Steering Committee* (task1).

Steering Committee meets to confirm plans for 10 week program and recruits 20- 50 members to participate (task 2). This should include representation from each neighborhood (as they will be divided), different age groups, different races, different occupations and representation from the special needs population. Local government officials should also be included. This is perfect time to “look outside the box” for input.

Phase III: Conduct the 10 CHPP Sessions

Participants meet on a once a week bases for 1 hour ONLY to learn about preparedness and develop plans to expand the awareness/knowledge to the whole community. The Coordinator will provide the structure and content of each session following the CHPP outline. Individuals will be asked to perform certain tasks and held accountable for their their contribution and reporting back to the group. Phase III consists of the 10 week (sessions) of the model. Each session will have its own goal, topic and activity.

Phase IV : Establish an Advisory Board

In addition to the Emergency Services Council, the participants in the CHPP will be asked to participate and recruit others in a Community Advisory Board. This Board will meet every other month to serve in a *checks-n- balances* capacity and offer suggestions.