

2006 Bi-National Regional Emergency Preparedness Conference scheduled on July 19 & 20, 2006 at The Conference Center Niagara Falls

Border Community SERVICE is delighted to announce that the 2006 Bi-National Emergency Preparedness Conference will be presented on Wednesday and Thursday, July 19 and 20, 2006 at The Conference Center Niagara Falls.

This year the conference is being planned and offered in partnership with the Local Emergency Planning Committees (LEPC) of both Niagara and Erie Counties and with the Western New York Health Alliance and the WNY Healthcare Association.

Local Emergency Planning Committees bring together emergency service providers, first responders, healthcare agencies, governmental groups, educational entities, private industries and others to plan for possible emergency conditions within a county.

Our 2005 conference was very successful and our partnership this year with other

agencies will likely result in a significantly larger attendance. To accommodate more attendees we are moving to a larger venue and preparing materials for many more participants.

Last year the most frequent suggestion on conference evaluations was that we offer some workshops more than once so participants wouldn't have to spend the day choosing between two great presentations.

Scheduling a second conference day will allow us to offer some very popular workshops twice, to add more workshops to the conference, and to offer professionally mandated training, especially to those who work in health care.

The full conference registration fee for this year's two day event is \$150.00 with an early bird registration fee of \$120.00. Unfortunately these fees are higher than the

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Pictured Here:

Attendees in one of the workshops presented at the 2005 Bi-National Emergency Preparedness Conference held at Niagara University last August

Volunteer Opportunities

Border Community SERVICE is an organization of trained volunteers who agreed to provide an average of 4 hours per month of community service when they received their training. Many opportunities exist to volunteer time in your community to fulfill your commitment.

Clean Sweep Niagara - April 22

Please save Saturday, April 22, 2006 for the annual Clean Sweep Niagara event. Volunteers are needed to help clean up various areas and neighborhoods in Niagara Falls. Clean up will include raking and collecting trash as well as graffiti removal at Niagara Falls parks. More information will follow as plans are finalized.

Healthy Neighborhoods

Healthy Neighborhoods is looking for volunteers to help them during the

week from 10 AM to 4 PM. Volunteers will accompany staff members who visit homes to promote healthy choices. Our volunteers will share emergency preparedness information, distribute first aid kits and assist with survey completion. For more information, please contact Gail Root of Healthy Neighborhoods at (716) 278-8292.

Local Red Cross Chapter

BCS provides training in partnership with 3 chapters of the American Red Cross: Niagara Falls, Greater Buffalo, and Eastern Niagara County Chapter in Lockport. Your local Red Cross Chapter needs volunteers to assist with blood drives, provide office support, train to be members of the local Disaster Assistance Program and support their work in many other ways. Please contact your local chapter if interested. If you are unsure of which



Chapter is yours, please contact us.

If you are interested in any of these opportunities, please contact Nola at (716) 205-0070, unless otherwise noted. If you know of any volunteer activities that would be appropriate for BCS volunteers, please contact the office.

Please maintain a log of all volunteer hours. Our office will send a reminder to report any hours accrued. Border Community SERVICE is required to report volunteer hours to our funding agency. Your cooperation with the collection of those hours is greatly appreciated.

Skills Enhancement Trainings

Border Community SERVICE has two Skills Enhancement Trainings scheduled in March.

Please watch your email for additional information and be sure to register either by calling our office at 205-0070 or by e-mail to nch@niagara.edu. **Due to space limitations, pre-registration is required.**

A **Defensive Tactics Training** has been scheduled on **Thursday, March 16.**

Originally planned for December, but postponed due to weather conditions, the class will be held in the front gym of the **Kiernan Center**. Enrollment is limited to 40 participants with priority given to those who were enrolled previously.

Another **Incident Command System (ICS-100)** training will be offered to all volunteers and community members **from 1 PM to 4 PM on Saturday, March 18** in the computer lab of St. Vincent's Hall (Room 105).

William Correa, past Chief of the NF Fire Department, will explain this vital command system.

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registration fees (\$50.00/\$40.00 early bird) charged in 2005 for our one day conference.

To ensure that interested Border Community SERVICE volunteers have an opportunity to attend this remarkable conference, volunteers who assist us with conference preparations before the

conference and with activities such as registration at the conference may have some or all of the conference registration fee waived.

Please add the conference dates of July 19 & 20 to your calendar now and also please consider scheduling some time to help us in June and early July.

Before the conference we will need help with publicity, pre-registration, assembling conference packets, and many other details.

During the conference volunteer help will be needed with registration, tourist information, workshop support and other activities. Please come to help and stay to learn.

Volunteer Profile - David B. Taylor Ph.D.

The March featured volunteer is David B. Taylor PhD. Dr. Taylor joined the Department of Criminology and Criminal Justice at Niagara University in the fall of 1999. Dr. Taylor earned a B.A. in Psychology in 1990 at Castleton State College and an M.A. in Criminal Justice from Indiana University in 1992. He received his Ph.D. in Criminology, Law and Society from the University of California, Irvine in 1999.

Working in partnership with community leaders, Dr. Taylor brought the Border Community SERVICE project to Western New York with a grant from The Corporation for National and Community Service. He has served as BCS Project Director since September, 2004.



What would you like to share with us about your family?

My family is very small at this time, with only myself and my wife, Christina. We were married last fall and this month we will celebrate our six month anniversary. My mother lives in Dracut, Massachusetts, where I grew up. Christina was born and raised in Niagara Falls, and her family still resides in the city.

How have you prepared your family for an emergency?

Christina and I talk about preparedness often. We recently replaced all of the batteries in our smoke and carbon monoxide detectors and did a sweep of the house looking for any dangers that might be present.

What would you save from your house in an emergency such as a fire or a flood?

I would save my wife. Assuming she is with me, then we'd try to save her Gone with the Wind memorabilia.

Why did you join BCS?

I joined BCS because I wanted to be a part of something very special. The opportunity for people in Western New York to create a model for the rest of the country is very exciting to me. While we are not the first to develop these programs, the opportunity to bring so many different people to the table who are willing to work together will, hopefully, serve as a catalyst for future partnerships and be part of the legacy of the BCS program.

Ways I've been involved in the program:

I have attended CERT training and most of the monthly Skills Enhancement trainings. I recently completed the CERT Train-the-Trainer course to increase opportunities for sustainability once the grant monies are no longer available. I also participated in the POD flu clinic held in December.

What has been your favorite part of the program so far?

My favorite part of the program right now is the monthly training opportunities because they introduce our volunteers to so many different aspects of preparedness. I also am very pleased that more than 2600 first aid kits have been distributed in primarily under-served areas in Niagara County. With each first aid kits comes a disaster preparedness presentation.

Words of Wisdom/Favorite Quote:

My favorite quote is from the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. who said,

**“All labor that uplifts humanity
has dignity and importance
and should be undertaken
with painstaking excellence.”**