



Confluence serves as an intersection where we share events, interests, and important information about our Center and the state’s all-hazard emergency management pathway programs.



**“Volunteering” Edition April 2019**



## Celebrate Service In April

*National Volunteer Week* is an opportunity to recognize and thank volunteers who lend their time, talent, voice and support to causes they care about. Their stories serve to inspire others to take action, to realize their power to make a difference, and be a force that transforms our communities and state.

April is *National Volunteer Month* and we are publishing this special Volunteer Recognition edition of Confluence to say thank you to every one including the hundreds of Community College Advisory Board Members who share their time and talents helping our communities during emergencies and disasters and other important causes. Governor Inslee proclaimed Aril 12, Volunteer Appreciation Day and the Governor will host the Governor’s Volunteer Service Awards and partner with the Seattle Mariners for a Salute to Volunteer night. Volunteering is an important economic factor in our countries prosperity providing resources to expand the capacity of nonprofits, faith-based groups, local agencies and community organizations, allowing them to serve more people than they could without the extra help. Americans volunteered nearly 6.9 billion hours, worth an estimated \$167 billion in economic value according to research done by CNCS.



## Turning Volunteer Experience Into Work Experience

[Discover jobs, internships and volunteer opportunities](#)

Many young people finish college successfully only to find that their resume doesn’t have everything they need to land a job in their field. New graduates are advised to remember that their volunteer experience is a great thing to include when building their resume. People who volunteer and/or intern should remember that unpaid work is a valid and helpful thing to exhibit as part of their work experience history. Volunteers are advised to think about what specific list of qualities applies to their history of experience and then gear it towards the field that they are hoping to go into. Someone who is volunteering in their career pathway to gain experience can document their volunteer hours both in long-term weekly volunteer commitments which count more like a part-time job as well as projects over a period of time which could be counted more as an internship.

Disaster volunteer management best practices have changed as volunteer expectations and the reach of nonprofit organizations evolve. The ultimate goal has always been, and will always be, to provide great experiences to volunteers and affect the community in an organized and efficient way. Organizations that have successful advantage trends, utilize technology and adjust to changes have the best chance of recruiting volunteers, retaining them, making a bigger impact and positively touching the bottom line.

When disaster – natural or manmade – strikes a community, specific emergency management and nonprofit organizations automatically respond according to a pre-established plan. Each of these designated organizations has a specific role to play in ensuring an effective response to and recovery from the disaster’s devastation. Yet one element within the present system continues to pose a challenge: spontaneous, unaffiliated volunteers. The paradox is clear: people’s willingness to volunteer versus the system’s capacity to utilize them effectively.

The Center will be putting together a work group of experienced Disaster Volunteer Managers to plan/organize a DACUM for the Disaster Volunteer Management Certificate.

This area could be developed for a Certificate or Concentration Topic for a degree program (e.g. HSEM, OSH, Fire Command, EMT/EMS, etc.)



## Governor's Volunteer Service Awards

[Subscribe to receive notification for next year's nomination process](#)

**The Governor’s Volunteer Service Awards recognizes Washington’s volunteers for the service contributions they make to organizations and communities across our state in the past calendar year.** Individuals are identified for this honor through a statewide nomination process and selected by a panel of Serve Washington Commissioners based off of the nominee’s outstanding commitment to volunteerism, accomplishments and the impact of their service on the community.

### 2019 Honorees

- [Honorees by Award Category](#)
- [Proclamation](#) - Volunteer Appreciation Day - April 12



**WAserv Volunteer Registry** Washington State Emergency Registry of Volunteers is for citizens who are willing and able to help during disasters and significant events. Register now to partner with your local Public Health, local hospital, neighbors, and others who need assistance.



CERT - Washington

**Community Emergency Response Team (CERT):** The CERT program educates people about disaster preparedness for hazards that may impact their area, and trains them in basic disaster response skills, such as fire safety, light search and rescue, team organization, and disaster medical operations. Using the training learned in the classroom and during exercises, CERT members can assist others in their neighborhood or workplace following an event when professional responders are not immediately available to help. CERT members also are encouraged to join the active Whatcom County team and assist in CERT training and emergency preparedness projects in their community. <http://www.cert-la.com/cert-washington/>



**[CONTACT INFORMATION FOR VOLUNTEERS](http://www.coehsem.com/washington-state-contact-information-for-volunteers/)**

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**The Center has a webpage where you can research the contact and volunteer information for Washington State emergency management/services.**

**Go to the webpage above and find your county for the contact information.**

**List of Counties: Adams, Asotin, Benton, Chelan, Clallam, Clark, Columbia, Cowlitz, Douglas, Ferry, Franklin, Garfield, Grant, Grays Harbor, Island, Jefferson, King, Kitsap, Kittitas, Klickitat, Lewis, Mason, Okanogan, Pacific, Pend Oreille, Pierce, San Juan, Skagit, Skamania, Snohomish, Spokane, Thurston, Wahkiakum, Walla Walla, Whatcom, Whitman, Yakima, Walla Walla, Whatcom, and Whitman.**



**WASARCON 2019**  
**Conference Volunteers**  
 Help make WASARCON 2019 great by volunteering a few hours of your time for various duties that need manpower! Volunteers will receive an awesome t-shirt designating their status!  
 Location: Fairgrounds, Ellensburg

## How to Volunteer for Search and Rescue

Contact Local Units or Sheriff's Office

Search and rescue units are located throughout Washington State. If you are interested in joining a search and rescue unit in your area, you can find contact information on [our SAR Units by County page](#). If you live in a county that does not have a SAR unit listed, you can ask if a search and rescue program exists by contacting the Sheriff's Office or Department of Emergency Management in your county.

[Search & Rescue Volunteering](#) and [2019 Conference June 21-23](#)



## Washington State Animal Response Team Emergency Phone: 425-681-5498

### Get Involved [VOLUNTEER HERE](#)

It is not all about putting on a harness and pulling an animal out of a sticky situation or of helping out in an emergency animal shelter. Whether your interest is in technical rescue, hospitality, fundraising, training, or other opportunities, we have a job for you and they all work toward the same goal—saving lives.



### SEEKING VOLUNTEER FIREFIGHTERS!

Volunteer Firefighter Opportunities in Washington State Fire Departments

In the State of Washington, we have a volunteer firefighter staffing challenge that is viewed as having both a recruiting and a retention problem. Overall, we have not recruited volunteers rapidly enough to keep pace with attrition. It is estimated that we recruit approximately 3,900 new volunteers each year although that number continues to decline, and in recent years, we are losing about 3700 per year. Further, in Washington State, we are governed by a standard (NFPA 1720) that indicates the state actually needs 9000 more responders to provide adequate coverage and meet stated response times. <http://www.justbethere.info/>



## South Puget Sound Red Cross

American Red Cross of South Puget Sound serves Pierce, Lewis, Thurston, South Mason, Mason and Grays Harbor counties.



**SPECIAL VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY** the Red Cross Home Fire Campaign offers volunteers a special opportunity to help reduce the number of home fire injuries and deaths by 25 percent over the next several years. Since the Home Fire Campaign started in 2014, it has been credited with saving at least 348 lives (as of January 31, 2018). Volunteers have already installed more than 1.1 million smoke alarms in cities and towns across the United States.

The Red Cross and its partners will be out in communities between April 28 and May 13 to [\*Sound the Alarm\*](#) against home fires and install 100,000 free smoke alarms in just 16 days. You can help by visiting [SoundTheAlarm.org](http://SoundTheAlarm.org) and volunteering or making a financial donation.

If you have questions or are interested in being involved with the Red Cross in your area of the state as a Board Member or volunteering in another capacity, please contact Bonnie at (253) 318-0123 or [bonnie.bush@redcross.org](mailto:bonnie.bush@redcross.org).

## Click here for March 2019 Confluence News Magazine Edition

### 2019 COE Schedule of Events

- |             |   |
|-------------|---|
| April 15-17 | Partners in Preparedness, Lynnwood WA         |
| June 21-23  | <a href="#">2019 Conference June 21-23</a>    |
| October 16  | Securing the Supply Chain – Health Care Forum |



*\*Confluence Media* will highlight the work of our Center’s Advisory Board Members, Senior Fellows, staff and our CTC Programs and bring together our six Career Pathway employers, students, faculty, and community members to discuss a variety of issues and interests. Confluence will serve as an intersection where come together to share events, interests and important information so “stay tuned”.

Center of Excellence – Homeland Security Emergency Management  
*Access information on all-hazard emergency management education and training, career pathways and the job market information and resources and business and community preparedness.*

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