Proposal for a CHUCC-Sponsored Event

Cedar Hills Ready! Preparedness Event

# Who

Cedar Hills Ready! is a project initiated by CHUCC member, Karen Ronning-Hall, to help create more connected, caring and resilient neighborhoods. We are planning a free neighborhood disaster preparedness event on April 27th, 2019, to raise awareness and educate people on how to get prepared individually and as a neighborhood. The event will be open to the public.

# What’s Possible

Imagine the possibility of feeling connected and cared for by your neighbors. We are all in this together! If your power goes out, mine probably does too. If (when?) the earthquake hits, we want to be able to help each other as neighbors, because emergency services will be overwhelmed in a natural disaster; they won’t be able to help us for weeks, if not months—so says FEMA and or local government.

Natural disasters—fires, floods, and severe storms—have been increasing over the past few decades. We are stronger together in the face of this danger; by joining forces, we can create more resilient neighborhoods. We can create a community where neighbors have the tools and knowledge and a plan to make sure everyone has the best possible chance of surviving.

Our predictable future, if we do nothing? We could lose it all, our lives, homes, and neighbors, our pets. Let’s get prepared together!

# Why CHUCC

The process of preparing together builds community, connection, and resiliency. We are asking that this be a church-sponsored event because our church is part of the Cedar Hills community; participating and sponsoring this neighborhood preparedness event will build stronger bonds with our community and could save lives in the event of a future disaster. All CHUCC members and staff, their families, and neighbors could benefit from participating in this event.

# Our Goals

We have three overarching goals:

* The first goal is to raise awareness of existing neighborhood disaster preparedness programs and increase participation in these programs. These programs include Map Your Neighborhood, Take 5 to Survive, and Community Emergency Response Team (CERT).
* The second goal is to educate people in practical ways to get prepared individually and as a neighborhood. With a neighbors-helping-neighbors approach, individual and neighborhood preparedness can be an enjoyable and connecting experience—it can even be fun!
* Our third goal is to create a model for local community activism and awareness programs that can be replicated and sustained in other neighborhoods.

# Preparedness Event

To raise awareness and educate people about disaster preparedness, we are planning a free public event designed for 200+ participants. It will be broad enough to include government agency presentations, vendor displays and booths, speeches and demonstrations on disaster prep and survival topics, and activities attractive to children. The tone will be upbeat and friendly, while the focus will be to inform participants about potential disasters and the availability of information, tools, techniques and practices for their survival. It will also focus on how to connect with their neighbors in getting prepared for a disaster event.

* Vision: Connected, Caring, Resilient Neighborhoods
* Theme: Practical and Affordable Ways to Get Prepared with Your Neighbors
* Measurable results:
* 200+ people to attend the event to raise awareness of disaster preparedness
* 15+ Neighborhood Captain sign ups to host Map Your Neighborhood events
* Media: 300+ fliers, Facebook Page, Cedar Hills Ready! website, and Event and discussions on NextDoor App. Mention in CHUCC Newsletter & HACH Newsletter. Story in the Valley Times.

# When and Where

We respectfully request the use of the church on Saturday, April 27th, 2019, for the event itself. We have already discussed this date with Jennifer Warren and the CHUCC office. We would like CHUCC Council approval, buy-in, and support. We are also asking for the use of one room, the Niebuhr room or Brown Blackwell room, for a once a month planning meeting through April. We are gathering input from our volunteers and working with the CHUCC office to determine the best timing for these meetings.

The sanctuary space could be used for presentations, with sound, video/PPT and seating capacity. We may use Amistad Hall to accommodate booths, display tables, and game spaces for children, as well as two smaller rooms for targeted presentations or demonstrations. We can also possibly create booth space in the parking lots. We have talked about having a firetruck parked in one of our parking lots.

# Volunteers

Cedar Hills Ready! has held a volunteer recruiting event at CHUCC in November 2018. It was well advertised through social media and the Homes Association of Cedar Hills Newsletter. About 40 people attended the event, including church members, neighbors, members of Community Emergency Response Team, the founder of QuakeUp, and a Beaverton City Council woman. More than half of those who attended expressed interest in volunteering.

A couple of CHUCC volunteers would be needed to help welcome people (a familiar face) and let the Cedar Hills Ready! people know about the kitchen. Linda Ebert has volunteered to unlock and relock the building. Jennifer Warren has volunteered and said that she can help with training folks in the kitchen. Steve Tarr has volunteered to help with sound; we may need another volunteer to back up on the technical support. It would be helpful to seek additional help from the Fellowship and Missions committees. They may want to attend the event as well.

# Who’s Currently Involved and Gaps

In our first organizing meeting with our expanded volunteer pool this month, we will be recruiting people to participate in the following roles. We will be inviting people who attended the last meeting and indicated interest. Also, we can invite church members via the email newsletter, and we can publicize the meeting via the NextDoor website/app, as well.

Anybody participating to make this a successful event will have the opportunity to connect, have fun, learn a lot, and to make a difference in their life and the lives of their friends, neighbors, and church members.

We have numerous opportunities where people can get involved. More than one person can fill each role; in fact, we encourage it. People will be supported in the roles they take on. Many hands make light work—and turn work into fun.

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| **Role** | **Team** | **Description** |
| Project Manager  | Karen Ronning-Hall | Oversees the development of the program. Tracks progress and chairs monthly meetings.  |
| Public Relations and Publicity Team | Bill Hall \* | Raise awareness of the event to attract attendees. Involves creating promo content, social media, etc.  |
| Webmaster  | Stan Houseman | Build and maintain the website.  |
| Event & Logistics Coordinator(s) | Linda Ebert \* | Plan and coordinate the logistics of the event: activities, facilities, and supplies. |
| Technical Support | Steve Tarr\* | Set up and assist in sound, video, internet equipment to support speakers |
| Admin Support | \*\* | Schedule planning meetings, take and distribute notes, and other administrative support.  |
| Speaker Coordinator(s) | \*\* | Develops the speaker program and coordinates activities to support the speakers.  |
| Exhibitor Manager(s) | \*\* | Recruits and the coordinates the exhibitors. Creates a map of exhibitors.  |
| Information Booth Manager(s) | \*\* | Recruits, sets up, and coordinates volunteers to greet attendees at the information booth.  |
| Volunteer Coordinator(s) | \*\* | Recruit, schedule, and track volunteers. Organize volunteer support for activities and speakers. |
| Food Services Team | Jennifer Warren\* | Coordinate food and drink for speakers, volunteers, and guests. Train volunteers to help in kitchen. |
| Event Volunteers | \*\* | Help with attendees, speakers, and exhibitors, as needed, on the day of the event. (Room for many.) |

# Thank you!

Thank you for your consideration. Please contact me with any questions at Karen.cedarhillsready@gmail.com or call 503-793-9192.