



IAEM 2008 AWARDS PROGRAM

OFFICIAL ENTRY FORM

CONTACT INFORMATION

Name of Person Submitting Entry:

Barb Graff

IAEM Member

Non-Member (An entry fee of \$75 is required for each entry by a non-member.)

Title: Director, Seattle Office of Emergency Management

Relationship to the entry submitted: Self
(such as self, colleague, subordinate, supervisor)

Name of Organization:

Seattle Office of Emergency Management

Mailing Address of Organization:

105 5th Ave South

City/State/Province/Country:

Seattle, Washington

Zip/Postal Code:

98104

Phone: (include country code & city code)

206-684-0437

Fax: (include country code and city code)

206-684-5998

E-Mail Address:

barb.graff@seattle.gov

Web Site:

www.seattle.gov/emergency

CHOOSE THE AWARD CATEGORY FOR THIS ENTRY:

Career Excellence Award

Academic Recognition Award

Public Awareness Award

Check Division:

- Local Emergency Management Agency (government)
- State/Regional/National International Government, International,
or Non-Profit Organization (such as colleges/universities or associations)
- Commercial or Other For-Profit Organization

Technology & Innovation Award

Check Division:

- Local Emergency Management Agency (government)
- State/Regional/National International Government, International,
or Non-Profit Organization (such as colleges/universities or associations)
- Commercial or Other For-Profit Organization

Partners in Preparedness Award

Interagency Disaster Preparedness Award

Business and Industry Award

Name of the Program/Activity: (or name of the person if you are entering someone for the Career Excellence Award or Academic Recognition Award)

STEP - (Student Training Employment Program) Job Readiness Program

Brief Summary of the Program/Activity: (Maximum 100 words)

STEP is a pilot partnership between Seattle Parks and Recreation and Seattle Emergency Management, teaching special needs/at-risk teens the basics of emergency preparedness, enough so that they, in, turn, can go out and teach to different community groups throughout the city.

Each teen interviewed for their position (9 total), and received a stipend during the six-week program. They were led by two college-age Team Leaders (also paid) who provided mentoring and role modeling for the teens.

A Training Specialist from the Seattle Office of Emergency Management provided structure, content and guidance on teaching emergency preparedness in the community.

Details of the Program/Activity: (Answer each section.)

1. Tell us why this program/activity was/is important, or explain why the individual deserves the award for which this entry was submitted. (maximum 200 words)

The strength of this program is the opportunity to change young teens' lives. Not only are special needs youth (four developmentally disabled, one homeless, others from low-income families) learning and reinforcing the fundamentals of emergency preparedness for themselves, they are teaching this to others. They are also learning life skills in presenting themselves in public, developing confidence in their speaking skills, and learning the important job skills of being on-time, dependable, working collaboratively with others and communicating their ideas clearly.

The teens not only developed, wrote, practiced and presented 45-minute emergency preparedness skits to many free and reduced-lunch program sites throughout the city, they gained valuable organizational experience calling program coordinators and booking the sites themselves.

This program also gave teens a birds-eye view of the different roles of emergency response by visiting and working out of the EOC, and hearing guest speakers from police, fire, emergency management and the Red Cross.

In addition, the teens attended weekly job-training workshops on applications, resume writing and interviewing skills.

2. Number of staff, volunteers, and community members involved in program/activity. (maximum 200 words)

City staff:

- 1 - Teen Program Coordinator
- 1 - Disaster Management Team Member
- 1 - Office of Emergency Management Training Specialist
- 2 - Student Team leaders
- 9 - STEP youth participants

Volunteers: 4 - guest speakers from police, fire, emergency management, Red Cross.

Community members: 14 - community groups/organizations (free/reduced lunch program sites, summer day camps, daycares, preschools, women/children's shelter, city hall)

3. Tell us how staff, volunteers and community members were involved. (maximum 200 words)

City staff: provided overall coordination/guidance/content for the program. Student Team Leaders provided direct supervision to nine youth participants. OEM Training Specialist provided guidance, content, teaching materials and activities in emergency preparedness.

Volunteers (guest speakers): Emergency responders provided first-hand knowledge of how their profession is impacted during a disaster. By sharing their training, knowledge and experience, the teens gained a broader awareness of how first responders are impacted, how emergency response is coordinated, and how they could potentially position themselves for a career in the future.

Community Members: Program coordinators at the various sites were overwhelmingly supportive of the work these teens were doing. The children attending the presentations were engaged and provided direct feedback to the teens. There was exceptional parent support from the special needs teens.

4. Tell us how the tactical plans and budget were developed. (maximum 200 words)

For the past 10 years, Seattle Parks and Recreation has provided summer job readiness training opportunities for youth (Student Training Employment Program). STEP teams consist of 10 youth and two team leaders, budgeted annually at \$17,000. Youth stipends and Team Leader funding are provided through a combination of city funding and donations made to Seattle Parks and Recreation from the Associated Recreation Council (ARC), a non-profit partner.

This year, STEP funded one pilot project focused on emergency preparedness to meet city-identified priorities of emergency preparedness, gang prevention and youth development, and outreach to vulnerable populations. Funding support came from the Southeast Seattle and South Park Action Agenda – a Mayoral initiative established to address gang prevention and provide youth development activities. Administrative staff funding was provided by the Pro Parks Levy.

Parks and Recreation presented a proposal to staff at the Seattle Office of Emergency Management and worked collaboratively to develop and implement the program.

Financial Resources for the Program/Activity:

To help judges evaluate both your efforts and the results, including the impact of your project, please estimate cash, grants and in-kind contributions that supported your program/activity. For consistency and comparison purposes, calculate values in U.S. dollars (go to www.xe.com to use free on-line currency converter).

a. Cash (actual financial contributions, donations, grants etc.)

Printing, supplies, materials	\$ 1,500
Youth stipends @ \$600 per youth x 9	\$ 5,400
Wages for STEP Team Leaders	\$10,900
ARC – admin/payroll taxes	\$ 1,600
TOTAL	\$19,400

b. In-Kind (value of materials, labor, etc., contributed to project)

12 emergency kits @ \$35 each x 12 \$ 420

Kits were donated for use during the presentations and also served as a recognition/thank you to the students and team leaders for the work they took on in getting the community better prepared for disasters.

c. Total value of cash, grants, donations and in-kind resources (add a & b).

\$19,820

Number of people affected by your program/activity: 500+ at-risk children and adults

Is your program/activity ongoing? Yes No

Tell us how the project has had an impact on your constituency or community.

(maximum 200 words)

This project involves special needs/at-risk youth in meaningful job training and connects them to their neighborhood communities through public service. STEP participants learn the importance of marketable job skills, subject knowledge, work place expectations and working together as a team.

The STEP participants also became role models to the audiences they presented to. School-age audience members, themselves low-income/at-risk, could envision themselves in a meaningful role in the future. The program not only increases awareness of emergency preparedness, it builds capacity by expanding outreach to vulnerable populations.

Other direct impacts – paraphrased from parents of the developmentally disabled students:
Alex's mom says that Alex used to be angry and bored because he didn't have anything to do during the summer. This is the first summer she has not had to call the police on her son. He's happy now, really enjoys the STEP program and knows where he's going daily.

Sean's mom says Sean simply enjoys being in an inclusive setting. He enjoys helping out where ever he's needed, and especially likes the field trips traveling to various work sites doing emergency preparedness presentations. Sean is earning his stipend just like his typical peers.

Complete and return this form and up to two attachments with supporting documents no later than **Aug. 15, 2008** via e-mail to info@iaem.com.

There is no entry fee for current IAEM members who submit entries. If a non-member wishes to submit an entry, there is a \$75 entry fee per entry. Non-member entry fees must be remitted with the official entry form to: IAEM, 201 Park Washington Court, Falls Church, VA 22046-4527.

IAEM accepts VISA, MasterCard, American Express and Discover (please include the security number located on either the front or back of the card along with the card holders billing address).

Credit Card Number:

Expiration Date:

Security Code:

Credit Card Billing Address: