

Q: What is the role of Block Preparedness Coordinator (BPC) ?

A: Educate & encourage residents on your block to be prepared for emergencies, serve as a communication node for your block to report the conditions of your block during an emergency, and coordinate block emergency preparedness activities.

Q: What is the time commitment for a BPC?

A. There are 3 hours of mandatory prerequisite classes that cover the BPC Program, Damage Assessment and Communications; after that, approximately 6 hours per month.

Q: How many houses do BPCs cover ?

A: On average, BPCs cover 20-30 homes depending on the physical make-up of the block or area.

Q: Will there be on-going training and support?

A: Yes, training and drills are scheduled at least once a quarter; and the PAN EPrep team is available to support you.

Q: Can I partner with others?

A: Co-Block Preparedness Coordinators are encouraged.

Q: Is this a City of Palo Alto Program?

A: The Palo Alto Neighborhoods (PAN)

[www.paneighborhoods.org] have partnered with the City of Palo Alto to form the Block Preparedness Coordinator (BPC) Program to ensure that residents, businesses, and other groups can participate with the City in disaster preparation, response, and recovery. The BPC program is administered by PAN. As a partner, the City provides ongoing support.

Block Preparedness Coordinator Program 3846 Corina Wy Palo Alto, Ca 94303

## Palo Alto Neighborhoods Block Preparedness Coordinator Program



Safer Neighborhoods



More Connected Neighborhoods



Community Building

## about the block coordinator program

The program offers opportunities for neighbors to interact and to look out for each other, from the young to the elderly. Palo Alto Block Preparedness Coordinators (BPCs) are the driving force in helping neighbors meet, interact and work together to make our neighborhoods safer during emergencies and from crime; hence, making our neighborhoods more harmonious places to live.

The BPC Program offers tips on how to meet and approach neighbors and how to help your neighbors get to know each other.

BPCs are a vital link within a Neighborhood as the "eyes and ears" within the neighborhood during emergency situations. They are trained to communicate and to bring in help for critical situations.

BPCs are supported by the Palo Alto BPC Program within the Palo Alto Neighborhoods (PAN) organization. PAN is a grass-roots organization; all participants are volunteers.

Volunteer now, be a neighbor helping neighbors, contact us at epvolunteers@paneighborhoods.org

"In disaster preparedness efforts, the City recognizes that we won't be able to address every issue. This is why partnerships with the neighborhoods are so important."

Jim Keene, Palo Alto City Manager

"Thanks for encouraging us and for helping to make our planning so simple" Karen Lawrence, Midtown Block Preparedness Coordinator

## how to gather your neighbors

Block leaders can organize neighborhood activities in a number of ways, including:

- Creating a neighborhood roster for use in activity planning and emergencies.
- Planning block parties.
- Coordinating emergency preparedness meetings or crime watch meetings.
- Preparing a neighborhood guide to welcome new neighbors.





## how the City of Palo Alto can help you

- The City of Palo Alto can refer potential block coordinators to the appropriate neighborhood association.
- The Palo Alto Police Department can conduct training presentations along with Palo Alto Neighborhood representatives on the Block Coordinator Program upon request.
- The City of Palo Alto officials will attend neighborhood gatherings upon request.

### related resources

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#### To learn more about

- Palo Alto Neighborhoods and Emergency Preparedness visit www.paneighorhoods.org/ep or email at epvolunteers@paneighborhoods.org
- Palo Alto programs & services visit www.cityofpaloalto.org

"Don't be on your own, join us" Annette Glanckopf - PAN EPrep Chair