

# CERT

## COMMUNITY EMERGENCY RESPONSE TEAM

### *BRECKSVILLE – BROADVIEW HEIGHTS*

General Meeting Minutes

Date: 3/24/2010

Time: 7pm-7:45pm

Location: Brecksville Community Center

The meeting started with general announcements by Jill Gerber followed by a presentation about injury prevention in the home by Nikesha Yarbrough and Heide Dolan from University Hospitals Rainbow Injury Prevention Center.

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#### **A. General Announcements**

1. Search and Rescue Exercise

This exercise was canceled in February and has been rescheduled for Saturday 3/27 from 8:30am-12pm at Blossom Hill in room 15 of the Elementary School. Participants should bring their backpacks.

2. Upcoming Events, Meetings and Training

- a. H1N1 POD Volunteer Appreciation Gathering, Monday April 19<sup>th</sup> from 6pm-8pm, at the Skyline Hotel. Please RSVP by Friday April 9<sup>th</sup> as per the email invitation.
- b. April Meeting, Thurs. April 15<sup>th</sup> at 6:30pm, Skywarn
- c. FEMA Training, April 17<sup>th</sup>, 24<sup>th</sup> and May 1<sup>st</sup>, 9am-12 noon, contact Brian Russo. The final exercise will take place on May 8th
- d. May Meeting, Wed. May 19<sup>th</sup> at 7pm, Flooding and Erosion

#### **B. Injury Prevention—Heide Dolan and Nikesha Yarbrough**

1. The number one killer of children ages 1-14 years is unintentional injury. Childproofing your home is the best way to prevent these unintentional injuries. It is recommended that you go through your home on your hands and knees to look for hazards from your child's viewpoint. The following items can be purchased to help with childproofing your home:

- Outlet covers—the newer oval covers are safer as they are not a choking hazard
  - Cord wraps—these are used to wrap cords from window blinds to eliminate entanglement and hanging hazards
  - Cupboard latches and Lazy Susan latches--prevent children from gaining access to cupboards
  - Toilet locks—prevents children from opening toilets as they have been found to be a drowning hazard
  - Door knob covers—prevents children from opening doors
  - Appliance straps—prevents children from opening appliances such as ovens, microwaves and refrigerators
  - Furniture anchor straps—stabilizes book cases and tall furniture and prevents them from falling on children
  - Car seats—the new law requires children 8yrs old and under or children 4’9” or under to be restrained in a booster seat while riding in a car
2. The Greater Cleveland Poison Control Center phone number is 1-800-222-1222 and is staffed by nurses and doctors 24 hours/7 days a week. Poisonings occur most often in individuals between 25-45 years of age. The greatest number of poisonings occurs from the improper use of pain killers which result in overdoses. Much of this overuse can be attributed to “Pill Mills” which are illegal drug dispensing clinics in southern Ohio.
  3. Lead contamination is found in the environment, old paint and plumbing. Exposure to lead can be especially harmful to children. Children should be tested to determine if they have been exposed to lead. Lead poisoning can lead to slow brain development and behavioral problems. Feeding children foods with iron and calcium help your child’s body fight off lead. Free home abatement exams are performed on those children with positive lead levels in their blood.
  4. Everyone was encouraged to take the many handouts and pamphlets that Heidi and Nikesha brought that are provided by the Injury Prevention Center.

*Respectfully Submitted,*

*Sue Schindler*

Cc: E.Egut, J. Hajek, C. Jatsek, P. Koss