

# Brecksville- Broadview Hts. CERT Updater

New &  
Improved

[www.bbhc.org](http://www.bbhc.org)

## Important Dates at a Glance

### **Wednesday October 6<sup>th</sup> Board & Coordinator Meeting – 6:30pm Coffee Club**

**(Broadview & 82)** – Open to anyone who is interested in a becoming more involved as a coordinator.

### **Thursday October 21<sup>st</sup> 7pm Brecksville Human Services Center Gathering Room**

October General Meeting – Scavenger Hunt. Dress for the weather and bring your backpacks. If you don't have a backpack, you might want to bring a flashlight at least.

### **Sunday October 24<sup>th</sup>, 1-4pm Boo-ville- Brecksville Halloween Party- Traffic & Safety Volunteers needed**

**Wednesday, November 17<sup>th</sup>  
7pm Brecksville Human  
Services Gathering Room –**  
November General Meeting &  
Holiday Social

**Sunday December 5<sup>th</sup> 4pm**  
Brecksville Christmas Parade &  
Kickoff to the Bicentennial  
Celebrations.

### **Contact Information**

**Brecksville Fire Department  
(440) 526-2640**

**Broadview Hts. Fire Department  
(440) 526-4399**

**Leslie Lesinski –Board President  
[Leslieandfcl@aol.com](mailto:Leslieandfcl@aol.com)**

**Brian Wolf –Board VP  
[bkwolf@sbcglobal.net](mailto:bkwolf@sbcglobal.net)**

## Minutes from June General Meeting Critical Incident Stress Management (CISM)—Vince Ventura

1. A Critical Incident is any event with significant emotional power, strong enough to produce unusual or distressing reactions in emergency services professionals. A critical incident is so unusual that it overwhelms the normal coping abilities of emergency personnel and can include:

- \* Line of duty death
- \* Serious line of duty injury
- \* Multi-casualty incident
- \* Significant events involving children
- \* Victims known by the rescuer
- \* Extensive media coverage

2. The CISM team is a non-profit grant funded service. The team usually facilitates police and fire in coping with stress from an incident when it starts taking it's toll and can be described as psychological first aid. The team may also respond to other segments of the emergency services community (i.e. CERT). Any member of police, fire or CERT can call the CISM team when the incident takes you beyond the ability to cope. Permission to call the team is not needed from any authority within these emergency services.

3. CISM services are provided at no charge and are delivered in a confidential manner. CISM teams have "protective privilege" which means they cannot be subpoenaed.

4. The CISM model is collaborative between the mental health community and emergency services and is based on the prevention of serious long term reactions to critical incidents with pre-incident education being the primary component. The team is not formally associated with or wholly dependent upon any governmental or private affiliation.

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## Fall 2010 Edition

### **2010 General Meeting**

All meetings will be held at 7pm at the Brecksville Human Services Center. Please mark your calendar!

✦ **Thursday, October 21<sup>st</sup>  
CERT Skills Scavenger Hunt**

✦ **Wednesday, November 17<sup>th</sup>  
Holiday Social**

Have a topic you would like to learn more about? Let us know we are planning the 2011 schedule!

### **Congratulations to the new BBH CERT BOARD President Leslie Lesinski!**

At the September Board Meeting, Leslie Lesinski was elected the new Board President by the Board & Coordinators. The position became open after the current Board President of 4 years Jill Gerber stepped down. We would like to congratulate Leslie and look forward to working with her as the new president.

We would also like to take this opportunity to say a huge THANK YOU to Jill for all of her leadership over the past 4 years. Jill will remain active with CERT and has agreed to accept an advisory role of current past president.

### **CERT Skills Scavenger Hunt**

In October we will be having a scavenger hunt of sorts for all of our members to use all the skills we have learned over the years.



**July Meeting Minutes  
Animal Rescue after Katrina  
Dale and Karen Churchill**

Dale and Karen shared their experience and pictures of rescuing house pets in the aftermath of hurricane Katrina. Their business is photographing dogs so they felt uniquely qualified to make a difference and get involved in saving these stranded animals. They decided to make the trip as independent rescuers and credit their organized approach as being a key component to their success.

This experience has given them insight into what can be done to help improve the handling of pets during a disaster and ways to improve recovery and reuniting pets with their owners. Some recommendations are:

- \*To imbed registered microchips into your pets
- \*To include an out-of-state family members phone number on your pets tag or collar.
- \*Place information on the door to your home as to what type of pets are inside to help police and fire personnel in the event of an emergency.
- \*Animal rescuers should maintain a log of where the animal was found and to also staple this information to the pet's collar.
- \*Each County should have a disaster plan that includes how to handle pets.

Because of their experience, Dale and Karen would like to help work on improving the County disaster plan as it relates to pets and hope that working with CERT may be an avenue for helping get that accomplished.



**Thank you everyone who  
volunteered during the summer at  
the many Brecksville Home Days  
Events, and Broadview Heights  
Home Days on the Green!**

If you volunteered with parking at Broadview Heights during Home Days on the Green please contact Joe Price at 440-915-3087 or [joeprice@aol.com](mailto:joeprice@aol.com) so he can finalize his list of volunteers.

**June Meeting Minutes continued from page 1**

5. When activated, the CISM team member prefers to work with someone that is not directly involved in the incident before the intervention begins. The CISM team member will recommend, after consultation with the director of CISM, a plan to help deal with the incident.
6. All CISM team members have the same training no matter what part of the country they are from. Each person reacts to a traumatic event in a different way. The CISM team helps people understand how others are dealing with the situation to help them understand what's going on within themselves and their coworkers.

**CISM team can be reached 24/7 at 216-771-1363**

**BBH CERT BOARD & COORDINATORS  
ARE LOOKING FOR SOME NEW FACES!**

We are looking to fill a few positions within the Coordinator Group of the Organization Chart. Anyone who is interested in becoming a little more involved in CERT is welcome to attend the October 6<sup>th</sup> Board and Coordinator Meeting to learn more about the positions available and get a feel of what the Board and Coordinators do. They currently meet the first Wednesday of each month at the Coffee Club at Rt. 82 and Broadview at 6:30pm. Some of the positions that are available include the CERT Association Liaison, Operation Coordinator, Historian/Scrapbook Person and more. Come see what it is all about.

Cleveland Department of Public Health is asking for some volunteers to staff some of their flu clinics this fall. They are looking for vaccinators and support on the following dates. If you are interested please email your name, email & phone number, vaccinator or administrative support, and the dates/place/time of availability to Sharon Nicastro at [snicastro@sbcglobal.net](mailto:snicastro@sbcglobal.net) For information on the locations please visit [www.clevelandhealth.org](http://www.clevelandhealth.org)  
Dates: October 7 12-6pm, 14 4-8pm, 16 10am-2pm, 18 9am-4pm , & 19 4-6pm