

SJNCERT NEWSLETTER 2024 Vol 1



San José District News

D5 – This past year was very productive for East Side CERT. We were happy to connect with new D5 CERT members, collaborate with other CERT members throughout the city, our city partners, the San José Office of Emergency Management (OEM), Collaborating Agencies Disaster Relief Effort (CADRE), Community Health Partnership (CHP) and other government organizations.

D5 Highlights for 2023:

- The D5 Neighborhood Leaders had Multi-Use Radio Service (MURS) and General Mobile Radio Service (GMRS) radio training. We also want to give a BIG thank you to Wyman Pang from CERT D2 for the radio expertise and Ernie Manfredini from CERT D3 for helping us navigate the GRMS license application process. Next up training exercises throughout our neighborhoods to map our radio coverage and create search plans.
- D5 Neighbor Leaders hosted a District-Wide Emergency Information Event with help from other city CERT Neighborhood Leaders, community partners, and our city police and firefighters. Supported by City Councilmember Peter Ortiz and staff.
- D5 members participated in a Community Resiliency Fair for East Side residents, to listen and get feedback on how we can support our D5 residents to engage in CERT training
- D5 members attended the Countywide Skills Day with hundreds of others from Santa Clara County to gain refresher training on search and rescue, radio communication, carrying techniques, and more.
- D5 members volunteered along with the Silicon Valley Red Cross Chapter at some of the city's warming centers during last year's winter storms to help and assist our local residents and the unhoused affected by the heavy rains, flooding, and cold weather conditions.

D5 Goals for 2024:

- To increase the number of new D5 CERT members
- To provide basic emergency skills for D5 residents to ensure households are prepared and can respond when needed
- To map D5 for emergency radio coverage
- To Identify D5 CERT command posts and storage locations

The D5 CERT Leaders are Sandy Flores and Melissa Got-Lopez. We are looking for opportunities to collaborate with other CERT leaders, attend refresher training exercises, and find ways to provide D5 residents with CERT emergency preparedness training. Feel free to connect with Sandy Flores at sandycapitolparkgossna@gmail.com or Melissa Got-Lopez at mpnasj@yahoo.com

D8 – D8 has formed a leadership team based on the Incident Command System. By doing so, each leader becomes an expert in that position and can train all members and contribute that expertise to enhance the team organization. Two D8 members attended an in-person Red Cross Shelter class. We learned processes that apply to CERT operations that we never considered before. Finally, if you need a projector and screen for CERT presentations at facilities that don't supply such, D8 has the gear for you to borrow. Contact Dave Burckhard at sweeperdave@mac.com.