CERT members assist in disaster response using basic first responder skills. After a disaster, first responders will be overwhelmed, leaving many citizens on their own for the first 72 hours. CERT members work as a team to assist victims of the disaster. The program is an all-hazards, all-risk response from trained UCSF staff, students, faculty and affiliates. No special skills or education is necessary to join, as all training will be provided.

How CERTs Are Used:

• put out small fires and address utility issues  
• provide basic first aid  
• search for and rescue victims safely  
• organize themselves and spontaneous volunteers to be effective  
• collect disaster intelligence to support first responder efforts.

Training:

CERTs are trained by the San Francisco Fire Department’s Neighborhood Emergency Response Team training program. UCPD Emergency Management also sponsors additional CERT training and exercise opportunities during the year.

For more information or to volunteer, please e-mail emer.mgt@police.ucsf.edu or visit http://police.ucsf.edu/index.php?/Preparing-for-Emergencies/volunteer-opportunities.html