



SEMA
Missouri State Emergency
Management Agency

Community Emergency Response Teams (CERTs)

Problem Statement

The state of Missouri's Community Emergency Response Teams (CERTs) faced problems such as:

- Lack of infrastructure for support, guidance and development
- Lack of resources;
- Limited engagement with other CERTs; and
- Lack of operational capacity.

Analyze

- 43 Missouri participants interested in starting Missouri CERT Association.
- 34 total participants in the CERT T-t-t course (25 from Missouri). Program Manager class had 24 participants (6 from MO).
- 375 registrations from across the U.S. at the National CERT Conference.

Scope

To build the capacity of Missouri CERTs by hosting a National CERT Conference, development of state and national associations to aid in networking/resource sharing.

Team Photo



Above: 375 team members attended the 2021 National CERT Conference in Springfield, MO in July.

Action

In 2017, Missouri announced plan to host the 2020 conference and joined the planning team for the 2018 National CERT Conference in Florida. While there, our team met with other states and began to create a shared vision to create a National CERT Association.

Data

In 2010, there were approximately 88 Missouri CERTs. By 2016, there were effectively less than 25 teams remaining.

Today, there are now 55 Missouri CERTs.

Outcomes

Our team's work resulted in the founding of the National CERT Association (NCA) as a way to share best practices, resources, instruction, teachings, courses, contacts, and other general knowledge. The NCA Was chartered in 2019 & received 501c3 tax exempt status in in 2021.

Missouri hosted the 2021 National CERT Conference in Springfield, MO July 12-17, 2021 and at this event, began the foundation for a Missouri CERT Association.