



Dear Alliance Member,

Welcome to the Emergency Management Alliance of Central Virginia. We are very excited about the opportunities we have for you to engage with your neighbors and colleagues. Our Alliance exists so that all who are tasked with planning for, responding to, mitigating against, and recovering from disasters across all sectors and industries have the support and connections necessary to enhance the capabilities of our region.

Our Alliance is unique in the Commonwealth. We began from the Urban Area Security Initiative (USAI) in 2007 and had a dedicated federal grant program to support it. However, the Richmond Metro area lost its UASI status in 2012 and the funding attached to that program. While the group did not need to continue, the value of networking and coordination was so great, it was decided to voluntarily stay together. The group was rebranded and has continued to apply for State Homeland Security Program grants, implement regional projects, and connect emergency management programs.

Yearly, with PlanRVA support, the Alliance secures hundreds of thousands of dollars in grant funding to support regional initiatives in mass care, public outreach, planning, and training and exercise projects. These initiatives support the needs of all localities, jurisdictions, agencies, tribes, and businesses within our expansive footprint. The deliverables of these projects are only half the value of our Alliance, though. Just as valuable is the wide network of connections we possess. Our Alliance places a high priority on networking, so, if you need to find someone, a resource, or get a copy of a plan or exercise, chances are a member of the Alliance can help you.

We welcome you at our table to connect and collaborate for the benefit of those you serve and for the whole region. Please make sure to fill out the contact form to be added to our directory and receive communications.

Do not hesitate to reach out to me at [robisonja@chesterfield.gov](mailto:robisonja@chesterfield.gov) or our Regional Program Coordinator, Katie Moody at [ema@planrva.org](mailto:ema@planrva.org) if there are any questions.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "JR" followed by a stylized flourish.

Jessica Robison  
Emergency Management Coordinator, Chesterfield Fire & EMS  
Chair, Emergency Management Alliance of Central Virginia

## HISTORY, GOALS & MISSION

The Emergency Management Alliance of Central Virginia (the Alliance) was created from the post 9-11 Homeland Security Urban Area Security Initiatives - Urban Area Working Group (UAWG). Its footprint includes the 25 localities and four sovereign tribes/nations in VDEM's Region 1. The Alliance is a forum for government agencies, emergency managers, emergency responders, public safety, the private sector, and non-profit partners to enhance situational awareness, share lessons learned and best practices, collaborate on plans, develop solutions, participate in training and exercises, and enhance emergency management resources at all levels in Central Virginia. By building strong networks and partnerships, the Alliance has provided unique leadership to leverage both professional and grant resources in support of regional priorities.



## SUMMARY OF MEMBERS

Local partners of the Alliance include the localities of:

- ✓ Amelia County
- ✓ Brunswick County
- ✓ Caroline County
- ✓ Charles City County
- ✓ Chesterfield County
- ✓ City of Colonial Heights
- ✓ Cumberland County
- ✓ Dinwiddie County
- ✓ City of Emporia
- ✓ Essex County
- ✓ Goochland County
- ✓ Greensville County
- ✓ Hanover County
- ✓ Henrico County
- ✓ City of Hopewell
- ✓ King & Queen County
- ✓ King William County
- ✓ Louisa County
- ✓ New Kent County
- ✓ Nottoway County
- ✓ City of Petersburg
- ✓ Powhatan County
- ✓ Prince George County
- ✓ City of Richmond
- ✓ Sussex County
- ✓ Chickahominy Indian Tribe
- ✓ Chickahominy Indians Eastern Division
- ✓ Pamunkey Tribe
- ✓ Rappahannock Tribe
- ✓ Upper Mattaponi Tribe
- ✓ Town of West Point



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@CentVaEMA

## EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT ALLIANCE OF CENTRAL VIRGINIA

The Emergency Management Alliance of Central Virginia is a voluntary association of government and key stakeholder organizations that manage emergency preparation, response, relief, recovery and mitigation in Central Virginia.

## COMMITTEES

The Alliance consists of five subcommittees that plan and manage projects, trainings, and events for the region. The Chairs of these committees make up the Executive Committee, in addition to the Chair, Vice Chair, Secretary, and Finance Officer. These positions are elected on a yearly basis by the Alliance membership.

### SUBCOMMITTEES



Mass Care and Human Services  
COMMITTEE

Public Outreach

COMMITTEE



Regional Community Emergency  
Response Team (CERT)

COMMITTEE

Planning

COMMITTEE



Training & Exercise

COMMITTEE

### EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

01 CHAIR

02 VICE CHAIR

03 SECRETARY

04 FINANCE OFFICER

## THE CENTRAL VIRGINIA EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS AND RESPONSE FUND

Created through a partnership between the Community Foundation for a Greater Richmond, PlanRVA, and the Alliance, the fund is designed to mobilize and distribute resources to initially address immediate response efforts following disasters. Most recently, the Fund was activated in March 2020 to address emergency needs related to COVID-19 in the region. As of first quarter 2021, the Fund has awarded \$6.4 million and over 200 grants to non-profit organizations in the community.

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

More info also here:

<https://www.cfrichmond.org/Leadership-Impact/Central-Virginia-COVID-19-Response>



### AWARDS



## PROJECTS AND ACTIVITIES

- ✓ Disaster Preparedness Workshop
- ✓ Regional Recovery Framework project
- ✓ Pet sheltering training
- ✓ Regional Mass Care Symposium
- ✓ Shelter supplies and equipment
- ✓ Regional Feeding/Bulk Distribution Plan
- ✓ CERT training & exercises
- ✓ Regional Family Assistance Center (FAC)/Joint Information Center (JIC) Frameworks



## **“Start Here” Guide**

Looking to find the Alliance meeting schedule or information about our committees? We’ve developed this “Start Here” guide to help orient you with some of our membership benefits.

If you have a specific inquiry or request, please use the contact form on our website.

### **Alliance Committees**

The Alliance is comprised of five, distinct standing committees: Mass Care & Human Services, Outreach, Regional CERT, Planning, and Training & Exercise. These committees are led by a Chair and co-Chair who work with PlanRVA staff to facilitate meetings, apply for grants, and organize regional projects and initiatives. See page 2 for our current Alliance meeting schedule.

#### *Mass Care & Human Services*

The MCHS Committee provides opportunity for those at the local level, responsible for Mass Care and Human Services actions during emergencies, to collaborate on:

- Funding opportunities
- Training and exercise
- Enhancing capabilities through material supply purchases
- Benefit from the sharing of best practices and strengthen capacity by exploring ways of solving challenges faced during prior events.

#### *Outreach*

The Outreach Committee organizes public and professional outreach events to share preparedness education with the community, in addition to engaging the professional community on the Alliance’s resources and benefits. Other activities include:

- Partnered with the Flying Squirrels (local baseball Team) to promote community preparedness
- Developed outreach materials such as the [Regional Preparedness Guide](#)
- Supported Business Preparedness initiatives

#### *Regional CERT*

The CERT Committee provides training and exercise opportunities for CERT programs within the region, as well as a regional forum for sharing best practices. Projects and activities include:

- Regional Stop the Bleed Classes
- Regional CERT skills rodeo
- Damage assessment classes
- Numerous workshops and guest presentation opportunities

#### *Planning*

[Amelia](#) | [Brunswick](#) | [Caroline](#) | [Charles City](#) | [Chesterfield](#) | [Colonial Heights](#) | [Cumberland](#) | [Dinwiddie](#) | [Emporia](#) | [Essex](#) | [Goochland](#) | [Greensville](#) | [Hanover](#) | [Henrico](#) | [Hopewell](#) | [King and Queen](#) | [King William](#) | [Louisa](#) | [New Kent](#) | [Nottoway](#) | [Petersburg](#) | [Powhatan](#) | [Prince George](#) | [Richmond](#) | [Sussex](#)



## Emergency Management Alliance of Central Virginia

The Planning Committee supports Alliance participants with statutory and/or grant mandated planning requirements. Its work addresses emerging trends and policies which will impact emergency management. The Committee meets these objectives through the development of plans, planning frameworks, research & guidance, and through multi-year projects.

Examples of some projects and products of the Planning Committee include:

- Richmond/Crater Multi Regional Hazard Mitigation Plan
- Threat & Hazard Identification and Risk Assessment (THIRA)
- Regional Family Assistance Center (FAC)
- Joint Information Center (JIC) planning frameworks and workshops.
- Recovery Planning frameworks, workshops, and exercises for local governments, non-profits, and the private sector.

### *Training & Exercise*

The Training and Exercise Committee provides regional support through:

- Exercise Equipment
- Exercise staff assistance
- Building cadre of Subject Matter Experts
- Maintain a regional calendar of training and exercises
- Provides weekly training updates/opportunities to membership

### **Alliance Leadership**

The Chair, Vice Chair, Secretary, and Finance Officer are elected on a yearly basis at the December regular meeting. These positions and the committee chairs make up the Alliance Executive Committee. This group meets monthly to discuss Alliance executive business and strategic planning.

#### *2023 Alliance Leadership*

Chair: Jess Robison, Chesterfield

Vice Chair: Bill Lawson, Richmond

Secretary: Darshan Parikh, Chesterfield

Finance Officer: Ben Ruppert, Hopewell

### **SharePoint Access**

The Alliance utilizes SharePoint as a workspace and document repository for grant documentation, plans, projects, and other business products. Our SharePoint is hosted by PlanRVA and managed by its staff. It is an access-controlled application accessible here: <https://richmondregional.sharepoint.com/sites/EmergencyManagementAlliance-CentralVA>

If you would like access to the SharePoint site, please complete the directory contact form or email [kmood@planrva.org](mailto:kmood@planrva.org).

*Amelia | Brunswick | Caroline | Charles City | Chesterfield | Colonial Heights | Cumberland | Dinwiddie | Emporia | Essex | Goochland | Greensville | Hanover | Henrico | Hopewell | King and Queen | King William | Louisa | New Kent | Nottoway | Petersburg | Powhatan | Prince George | Richmond | Sussex*



## **Alliance Directory**

The Alliance maintains a directory of up-to-date contact information for regional emergency management partners. This directory is available on the Alliance SharePoint site.

To add your information to the directory, please complete [our directory contact form](#). You may also indicate if you'd like to be added to any distribution lists for specific committees.

## **Alliance Meeting Schedule**

Please see below for the current Alliance regular and committee meeting schedule. Our regular meetings currently alternate between hybrid and virtual every other month. All virtual meetings are held on Zoom, and hybrid meetings are held at the PlanRVA office unless otherwise noted. Hybrid meetings always include a virtual option via Zoom for those who need to attend remotely.

- Alliance regular meeting: Held monthly, every 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday, 10am-noon

### *Committees:*

- Mass Care & Human Services committee: every 1<sup>st</sup> Tuesday, 1:30-3:30pm
  - Held monthly as hybrid w/ virtual option, alternating between PlanRVA office and regional locations
- Regional CERT/Outreach committee\*: 4<sup>th</sup> Monday, 10am-noon
  - Held bimonthly as hybrid w/ virtual option at the PlanRVA office
- Planning/Training & Exercise committee\*: 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday, 1-2pm
  - Held monthly as virtual via Zoom
  - Planning Committee held at 1pm, followed by T&E at 1:30pm

\*Two different committees that meet consecutively.