



by Scott Obel

# The Future of Lido's Emergency Response Depends on Volunteers!

Lido's Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) met in June to discuss the future of our disaster preparedness and response program. The meeting was chaired by Lido CERT's new coordinator, Scott Obel.

Lido's disaster response plan depends on having volunteer block captains who will survey their block to record damage, injuries, and situations that could potentially lead to more injuries or loss of life. Block captains will then report their findings to the Newport Beach Fire Department to assist them in making decisions regarding the allocation of resources. With high density areas like apartments and high rise office buildings, Lido may not receive assistance for hours or even days following a disaster. Therefore, the island needs to be as independent as possible. We can do this by having educated, prepared homeowners as well as an organized and trained team of resident volunteers. Lido CERT's team has lost many of its members. We need volunteers!

Members of the CERT team are encouraged to take the CERT Training Program where participants learn about

hazards that may impact their area and are trained in basic disaster response skills, such as fire safety, light search and rescue, team organization, and disaster medical operations. Future articles in the Islander will announce upcoming training sessions.

While volunteers are there to help, they can't do it all. At least one person in each home should have first aid training, so Lido CERT plans to offer basic first aid classes to our residents. Also, the CERT shed at San Remo park has disaster response supplies and communication equipment, it does not have food or water for residents. Every household should have, among other things, at least a three day supply of food and water. Future Islander articles will include information on assembling a Disaster Preparedness Kit.

Those of us who met in June and those who couldn't make the meeting but are still interested in being on the team, are looking forward to a revitalized emergency preparation and response program on Lido. Join us!

**NEXT MEETING: July 9, 2022 at 10am**