



## **Community Involvement**

*"By failing to prepare, you are preparing to fail." - Benjamin Franklin*

The Kansas City Regional COAD firmly believes the above to be true but take things a step even further. Too often emergency planning focuses exclusively on the technical aspects of such and only involves the usual professionals around that planning table. Although this is a crucial part of planning efforts, it leaves out something, something big and that is people, people often in the greatest need but often receiving the least support. The COAD believes in the value of connecting with people and communities ***before*** disasters happen. By building these relationships, joining hand in hand with citizens, earning trust, the COAD is well-positioned to get right to work avoiding delays and down to the business of restoring lives. Here are some of the ways that the COAD is connecting with all citizens and communities:

- **Monthly Service:** The COAD believes in community service to support our partners in their respective missions. This investment of time and the fostering of meaningful relationships in turn effects positive changes on local and global levels.
- **Education:** Teaching people about risks and how to prepare. It's not a matter of if but, when will a disaster happen thus making preparation truly lifesaving. The COAD is available to give presentations virtually and in person to any group, club, school, any place learning more about disaster preparation. The COAD believes in leading in preparation, not fear.
- **Community Events:** The COAD is happy to attend any event that reaches people to further show how anyone can become better prepared for disasters and emergencies. Any step, no matter how small towards preparation can and does save lives.
- **Training:** The COAD regularly conducts trainings with large and smaller entities of all kinds to increase knowledge of preparedness efforts and remove barriers to well-prepared communities.

*If you are interested in learning more about any of this or would like to request the Kansas City Regional COAD to come to your planned community event, please do not hesitate to reach out!*

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