

This summer, President Barack Obama is calling on all Americans – young and old, from every background, all across this country – to participate in our nation’s recovery and renewal by serving in our communities. As part of the Administration’s call to service, United We Serve, a summer service initiative will kick-off Monday, June 22 and conclude with the National Day of Service and Remembrance on September 11.

Department of Homeland Security (DHS) and Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) officials will be participating in several events throughout the summer to support United We Serve. Beginning with DHS Secretary Janet Napolitano’s support for community readiness in Orlando, Fla., on June 22, where she will work with the Orlando Citizen Corps Council and volunteers to assemble CERT kits in preparation for hurricane season at the Orlando Emergency Operations Center. In addition, FEMA Administrator W. Craig Fugate will discuss the importance of service at a roundtable in Denver, Col., with firefighters and volunteers from Fire Corps and CERT programs on June 22. We invite you to join Administrator Fugate at this event via a live streaming webcast on the internet at 11:00 AM Mountain Time (1:00 PM EST) at DHSON.TV (<http://www.dhson.tv/>).

You can also participate in United We Serve events across the nation this summer by visiting the new White House website, [Serve.gov](http://www.serve.gov/) (<http://www.serve.gov/>). On this website, you can find service opportunities in your community, register your service projects, connect with others with similar interests, and share your stories. To encourage participation in service this summer and beyond, the [Serve.gov](http://www.serve.gov/) website allows people to search for volunteer opportunities based on location and interests. The site also includes social media tools to share volunteer opportunities with friends. FEMA is working closely with the developers of [Serve.gov](http://www.serve.gov/) to post Citizen Corps Council and Partner Program information on the website. Please be sure to post your summer service projects and share stories of how your volunteers are making a difference on [Serve.gov](http://www.serve.gov/) and encourage your neighbors to do the same.

“Volunteerism strengthens a community’s capacity to meet challenges,” said DHS Secretary Janet Napolitano. “President Obama’s call for service—today and everyday—plays a critical role in our efforts to prepare and protect the nation.”