

30. MAKING LIFE BETTER ON THE STREET WHERE YOU LIVE

Working together to improve
your neighborhood

WHY ACT?

Teams who complete *All Together Now* can put the relationships, teamwork and trust to immediate use. They don't have to wait for an emergency to benefit from the powerful community they have formed.

PREPAREDNESS ACTION

Step 1: Research the opportunities that best meet your team's desires for improving your building or block, including:

- Option 1: Invite your building or block-based team to get involved in improvement activities by participating, if one exists, in your building, block or neighborhood association.
- Option 2: If one doesn't exist, consider starting an association. To find out how, contact Citizens for NYC and learn the practical skills you need to create an efficient, effective organization. Apply for grants, training, hands-on assistance and self-help literature. Contact information: (212) 989-0909 or www.citizensnyc.org.
- Option 3: A neighborhood improvement program that can assist your team is Empowerment Institute's *Livable Neighborhood Program*. Designed in the same team-based format as this program, it focuses on improving the overall livability of your block. Four areas are addressed: health and safety, beautification and greening, resource sharing and neighborhood building. To learn more visit www.empowermentinstitute.net.

Step 2: Choose the activity that best meets your team's desires and begin.

MATERIALS

A telephone and/or your computer to research organizations.

TIME

From a few minutes to identify your organization of choice to as many hours as you can give.

RESILIENCY GAIN

You are the neighborhood resiliency gain.

