

VOLUNTEER

Volunteers Step Up to Protect their Community

NewsUSA

(NU) -September is National Preparedness Month, and individuals across the country are stepping up to ensure that their neighborhoods are ready for the next disaster.

One way they can do this is to join their local fire or emergency service department.

Seventy percent of U.S. firefighters are volunteers, dedicating their time and service to help their communities in an extraordinary and rewarding way. Nearly one million people have made the commitment to protect their community as a volunteer firefighter or EMS provider.

“Anyone can be a firefighter. We come from all ages, genders, races, ethnicities, and professions. All you need is the commitment and desire to serve. The department will provide the training,” says National Volunteer Fire Council chair Kevin D. Quinn.

Volunteer firefighters make up a crucial component of the emergency services in many communities and save taxpayers across the nation \$140 billion per year. They respond to all types of emergencies, including fires, medical emergencies, search and rescue, natural disasters, terrorist threats, hazardous materials incidents, and more.

In addition, support volunteers can help the department provide services such as fire prevention education and preparedness efforts.

Learn more about the volunteer fire service and find local opportunities by visiting www.MakeMeAFirefighter.org.