



# **Madison County CERT Association**

*(an IRS 501(c)(3) organization)*

*PO Box 1854*

*Huntsville, AL 35807*

*[www.madisoncountycert.org](http://www.madisoncountycert.org)*

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## **What are funds donated to the Madison County CERT Association used for?**

The Madison County Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) Association was formed to assist the Huntsville/Madison County Emergency Management Agency (EMA) provide CERT training to people living or working in Madison County, Alabama and to coordinate activities of those CERT trained people in the event of a Disaster which necessitates the Activation of CERT. The training is designed by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) and consists of the basics needed for people to render assistance to their family, neighborhood, or elsewhere in the event of a widespread disaster which could stretch the response capability of the normal emergency First Responders (ambulance, Fire Department, Rescue Squad, etc.).

As a part of the training provided to citizens, upon “graduation” from the training class the Huntsville/ Madison County EMA provides people with a CERT Kit. That Kit consists of a CERT Helmet, a CERT reflective safety vest, a CERT backpack to carry assorted materials that may be usable if the person is on a CERT activation (first aid materials, flashlights, ropes, tools, etc.). For the first several years of the existence of the CERT program, the Huntsville/Madison County EMA had Grant money available to be used to purchase these Kits. However, that Grant money is no longer available. The Madison County CERT Association obtained the IRS 501(c)(3) status in order to be able to solicit donations to fund the purchasing of these Kits so the EMA can continue to provide them to CERT trained personnel. These Kits cost approximately \$40 for the minimal/basic kit and if the class has 30 people attending then each class costs \$1,200 just for Kits. Add in other costs such as having the Fire Extinguishers refilled, buying medical gloves and bandages for class participants to practice with, etc. and each class can cost \$1,500. Plus costs associated with renting a PO Box, renting a Storage Shed, maintaining the web page, etc. – it all adds up.

Your donation would be appreciated and will be used to continue CERT training for the good of all citizens of Madison County Alabama. For more information please check out our web page:

<http://www.madisoncountycert.org>

or the FEMA CERT web page at:

<http://www.fema.gov/community-emergency-response-teams>

Thank you!!