



## 40 Graduated in Wasatch and Summit Counties Disaster Training

On April 20th Wasatch and Summit Counties graduated the first combined CERT Class for spring of 2017. Graduating 14 students from Wasatch County and 28 students from Summit County. CERT is a volunteer organization sponsored by local government to help with the response and recovery from disasters. Training is open to anyone who would like to volunteer in our community.

This 40 student CERT Class culminated with joining another 52 students from Orem and Provo in a 3-Hour Mock Disaster Exercise with 38 Victims to test and hone their new disaster response skills, that they learned in 8 CERT Classes over a Nine-week period. These CERT Classes included 23 hours of classroom training, including many hands-on exercises as outlined by Homeland Security and FEMA. In these classes, they developed a wide range of skills, ranging from Preparation, Fire Safety, Disaster Medical Operations, Light Search & Rescue, Organization, Disaster Psychology, and Terrorism. These skills will be practiced and used to augment first responders in our Communities.

Nearly 1400 Man Hours were involved by students, volunteers, and staff to bringing this class to graduation. Over 62 students started the class while only 40 graduated. Students who missed classes during the course will be able to make up missed classes in the fall when another CERT class will be offered.

The Emergency Managers from Heber City and both Counties, were instrumental in achieving this goal through their support in providing guidance, for the CERT Programs along with instruction, food and classroom locations. Wasatch County has 10 State Certified CERT Instructors who volunteer their time in teaching new members to prepare for assisting recovery in our community after disaster.

Congratulations to Wasatch's graduates, including several who completed training started in previous sessions. The graduates include: Michele Davis, Scott Davis, Laurie Gilbert, Les Gilbert, Ralph Miller, Jan Prows, Todd Rogers, Juli Taylor, Ann Worthen, Jared Wright, Amanda Rand, Tom Woolstenhulme, Dyna Woolstenhulme, Don Huggard, and Carol Huggard.