



## NEWS RELEASE

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[City volunteer opportunities start here](#)

### **CITY LAUNCHES NEW PROGRAM: CITIZENS ACTIVITY TEAMS (C.A.T.)**

LAKE ELSINORE The City has launched a new program to promote volunteer opportunities and increase public involvement. This formalized approach to the recruitment and use of volunteers has been dubbed C.A.T., an acronym for *Citizens Activity Teams*.

According to Mayor Pro Tem Amy Bhutta, who spearheaded this effort by working with staff for six months, "Our goal is to expand volunteer involvement in ways that can increase public safety and promote civic pride."

The steps taken by the City Council to formalize and step up volunteer recruitment efforts began in January with adoption of a comprehensive volunteer policy. The following month, the City Council approved the C.A.T. model, which groups volunteer service opportunities into four categories:

- City Services Support
- Emergency Support
- Patrol Support
- Event Support

Each of these four areas contains one or more volunteer programs open to youth over the age of 14 to active seniors.

Under C.A.T., existing volunteer programs such as Citizen Corps will continue to grow, while new programs, such as a volunteer Citizens Patrol, are actively being developed.

Interested in volunteering? The City has a new Web page that describes the C.A.T. program, complete with convenient downloadable application forms. The City's Web site is [www.lake-elsinore.org](http://www.lake-elsinore.org). Visitors can also click on the Human Resources Department page link to access the C.A.T. volunteer program pages.

The City's Web site also answers frequently asked questions about volunteer service, including application requirements.

Volunteer job opportunities will be posted online on the City's jobs page at the URL above. An e-subscribe function allows anyone to sign up to receive notification by email when a new volunteer position is posted.

A tri-fold brochure is also available for distribution to groups and individuals who want to explore volunteer opportunities through the C.A.T. program.

While enlisting volunteers is hardly new to the City, under the City's new volunteer policy and C.A.T., citizens can be assured that they will be given ample opportunity to respond in ways that suit their individual talents, skills and interests.

According to Mayor Pro Tem Bhutta, "We are doing more to strengthen our community by involving our citizens in preserving public safety and the quality of life we share. That is what the C.A.T. program is all about."

*"The health of a democratic society may be measured by the quality of functions performed by private citizens."*

**-Alexis de Tocqueville**  
*French historian and American observer*

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*The City of Lake Elsinore features Southern California's largest natural freshwater lake. The City's current population is estimated at 50,267. The City's brand and slogan, "Dream Extreme," exemplify the scenic beauty and active life style of this 122 year old boom town. Visitors and residents enjoy water sports such as skiing, power boating and fishing, world-class sky diving drop zone and thermals, a regional motocross track, professional baseball, an 18 hole golf course, outlet shops, plus dining and entertainment in Historic Downtown. The City's Web site is [www.lake-elsinore.org](http://www.lake-elsinore.org).*