



NORTHWEST AMBULANCE DISTRICT

**SERVING AUSTINGBURG TOWNSHIP, HARPERSFIELD TOWNSHIP,
GENEVA CITY AND TOWNSHIP AND TRUMBULL TOWNSHIP**

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From the Desk of Vincent T. Gildone

Community Resilience

The last 15 years, floods, terrorist attacks, earthquakes, volcanic eruptions and unfortunately, anticipation of more to come have driven governments throughout the world to move attention and efforts to national resilience.

New efforts now call for increased flexibility, quicker responses by relying more on regional and local capabilities, shifting the focus to “all-hazards”.

So what is Community Resilience? Public engagement, in preparing for and responding to emergencies. Empowering communities and citizens to become a more integral part of the national strategy. Close collaboration between government, civic sector and private enterprise in a “whole community” approach to planning and response. By use of local resources and expertise to help ourselves in an emergency in a way that complements response of the emergency services. It’s the use of ordinary skills in extraordinary circumstances.

Resilient communities are capable of bouncing back from adverse situations. They can do this by actively influencing and preparing for economic, social, and environmental change. To understand resilience we need to break it down to people, organizations, resources, and community process.

“Residents”

Beliefs, attitudes and behavior in matters of leadership, initiative, education, pride, cooperation, self-reliance, and participation.

“Organizations”

Collaboration within local organizations, institutions, and groups.

“Resources”

The community builds on local resources to achieve its goals, while drawing on external resources strategically

“Community”

Nature and extent of community economic development, planning, participation, and action.

Community resilience means many things to many people. A strong and resilient community should be a priority to everyone who lives here. If our community is strong, our county will be strong.

35 years of putting the patient first

Serving Geneva, Geneva Township, Harpersfield Township, Austinburg Township, and Trumbull Township