

Block Leader Program

Building community, one block at a time.



May 2006

Block Leader Program

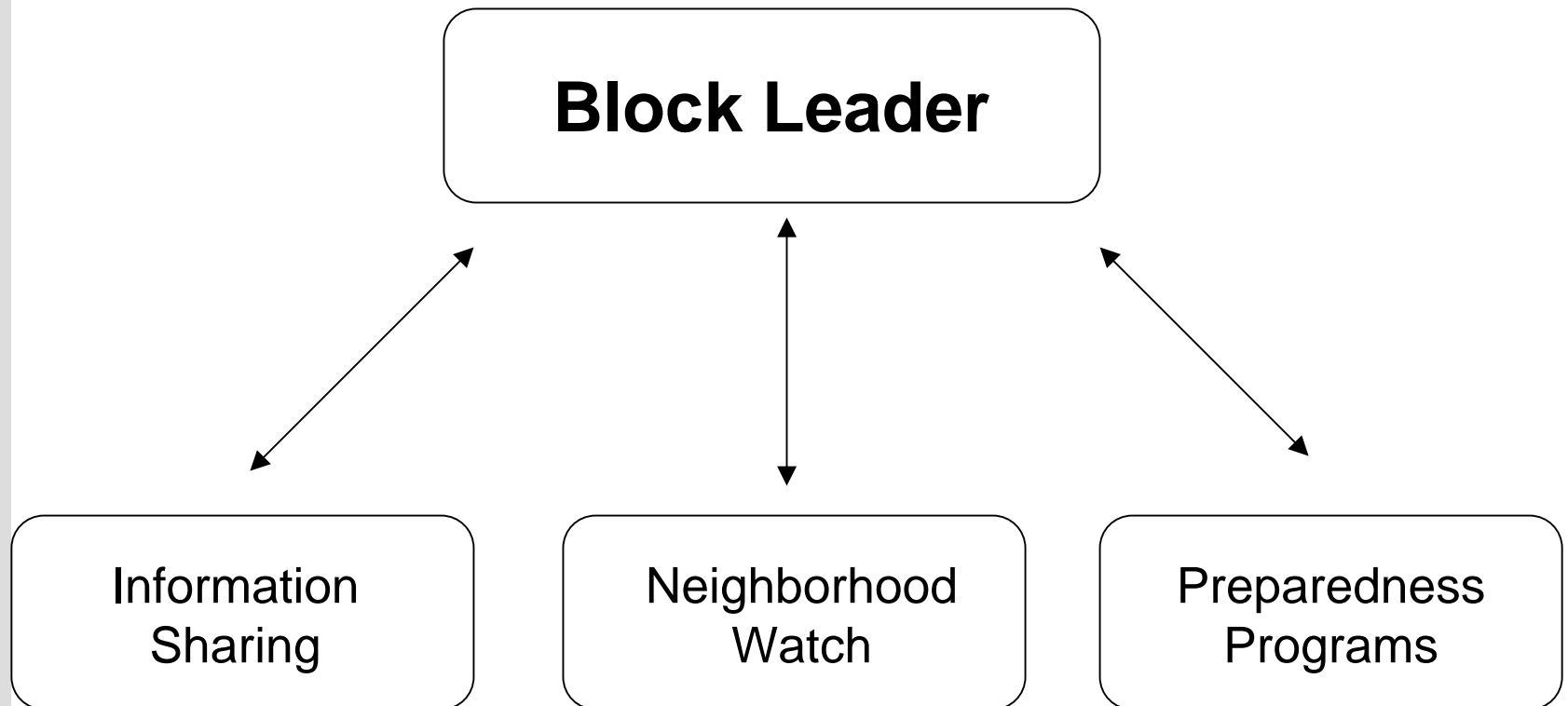
- What is a Block Leader?
- How Can Block Leaders Gather Their Neighbors?
- What is our challenge to Block Leaders?
- How does the City of Cupertino support its Block Leaders?
- How do we recruit Block Leaders?

What is a Block Leader?

- A Cupertino volunteer who connects neighbors with each other and the City and with the neighborhoods
- A community leader who helps to increase public safety
- A person who helps to enhance cultural understanding



What is a Block Leader?



What is our challenge to Block Leaders?



- Gather neighbors for an event or meeting once a year
(Current leaders organize between 5 and 70 homes each.)
- Encourage neighbors to help with neighborhood activities. Co-leaders are a plus!

How Can Block Leaders Gather Their Neighbors?

- Create a neighborhood roster for use in activity planning and emergencies
- Plan Block Parties
- Coordinate Neighborhood Watch or emergency preparedness meetings
- Put together a neighborhood guide
- Use own ideas and creativity



How Can Block Leaders Gather Their Neighbors?

- If you live in an apartment or condo complex, or neighborhood with an active Homeowners' Association, contact the Management company or HOA to gain support.
- Start small: One floor, or one building at first. Or find contacts in other buildings.

How Does the City of Cupertino Support its Block Leaders?

- The City provides periodic training sessions.
- The City provides a comprehensive Block Leader guidebook that contains sample fliers and step-by-step methods to plan gatherings.
- The City issues block leader ID cards.



City Support (Continued)

- The City teams new leaders up with experienced Block Leaders who act as Mentors
- The City connects Block Leaders with peers who have special language skills
- City officials attend neighborhood gatherings upon request
- The City connects the Block Leader, Neighborhood Watch and Emergency Preparedness programs

How does Cupertino find Block Leaders?

- Send training invitations to:
 - CERT graduates
 - Neighborhood Watch coordinators
 - Block Party coordinators
 - City commissioners
- Ask existing block leaders for help
- Discuss at Neighborhood Watch meetings & CERT trainings
- Publicize program in local publications, City website & newsletter
- Send program information in new resident packet



Words From Block Leaders

“The City is doing a great job with programs we can invite our neighborhood to -- Neighborhood Watch, CERT, & Block Parties are all things we enjoy and most of the work is done by the City.” -- *R. Presley*

“ Thanks for encouraging us and for helping to make our planning so simple.” -- *S. Trudeau*

