



For Immediate Release  
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## **BRACE to Conduct Northwest Florida's Largest Youth Emergency Preparedness Expo as a National Day of Service and Remembrance Event**

BRACE, the Be Ready Alliance Coordinating for Emergencies, will hold Northwest Florida's largest Youth Emergency Preparedness (YEP!) Expo on September 14 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at Booker T. Washington High School in Pensacola. The event is free and open to the public.

The Expo's many activities and demonstrations will help teach families the importance of preparing for disasters and how to respond during emergencies. This year's event will be conducted as a National Day of Service and Remembrance event, with the support of the Corporation for National and Community Service. Activities are planned as a remembrance of those who lost their lives during the tragic events of 9/11 and to honor our local heroes who put their lives on the line in service to our community. Children, youth and adults will have an opportunity to serve the community through a food drive for those served by Manna Food Pantries. Non-perishable food donations will be accepted at YEP!

"We're expecting a huge turnout for YEP! since it will offer emergency preparedness activities and exhibits for the whole family" said Greg Strader, Executive Director for BRACE. Over 40 organizations will be conducting activities ranging from assembling emergency kits to water safety rescue demonstrations in the pool at Washington High School according to Strader.

Activities at YEP! will include:

- Kids' scavenger hunt and other games and crafts emphasizing readiness for disasters
- Emergency preparedness activities for Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts and 4-H awards
- Mobile Command Center tours by Escambia Emergency Management
- Emergency preparedness information will be distributed by the Florida Division of Emergency Management
- First Responder equipment and demonstrations
- Hurricane Shutter demonstrations by REBUILD Northwest Florida
- Search and Rescue Demonstrations
- CPR demonstrations
- Canned food drive for Manna Food Pantries
- Water rescue demonstrations
- Small water craft safety demonstrations
- American Red Cross of Northwest Florida emergency preparedness
- Hurricane hardening and disaster supply demonstrations
- Blood donations will be accepted from eligible volunteer donors

For more information visit [www.bereadyalliance.org](http://www.bereadyalliance.org)

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