



# Medical Reserve Corps

*Volunteers Building Strong, Healthy, and Prepared Communities*

## Medical Reserve Corps Monthly Report: February 2019

### Monthly at a Glance



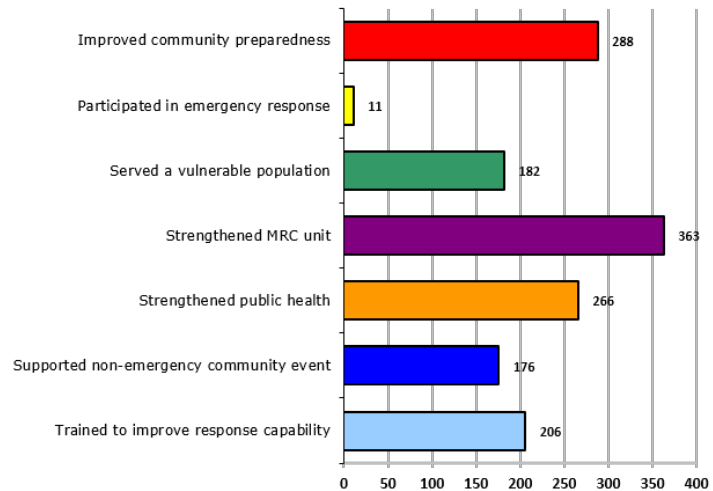
**867** MRC units

**185,962** volunteers

MRC members volunteered more than **395 hours** in response to emergencies caused by winter storms and severe winter weather.



### 531 MRC activities reported



*The number of activities notes the number of unique entries by MRC unit leaders for the current month. MRC unit leaders also select impact areas for each activity, which may include multiple categories. Thus, the numbers in the bar chart may not equal the total number of activities.*

### MRC: Building Strong, Healthy, and Prepared Communities

- ★ After a winter storm caused power outages affecting 200,000 people, the **Kent County MRC (MI)** assisted in an Emergency Operations Center and at warming shelters in the county. The **Ottawa County MRC (MI)** and the **Montcalm-Ionia MRC (MI)** also assisted with the response. In addition, the **Muskegon County MRC (MI)** opened shelters in response to several apartment buildings having no heat during the cold conditions.
- ★ In response to cold weather conditions, physicians, physician assistants, nurse practitioners, registered nurses, and paramedics with the **Multnomah County MRC (OR)** performed basic medical triage at warming centers in Multnomah County, Oregon.
- ★ In response to Winter Storm Ryan and the significant snow accumulations it caused, volunteers with the **Marion County MRC (OR)** used a track-mounted utility vehicle called a MULE to move through the snow-covered streets and check on home-bound individuals in a remote area.
- ★ The **Knox County MRC (KY)** helped identify shelters for individuals displaced by flooding.
- ★ The **Montgomery County MRC (TX)** exercised their ability to respond to bioterrorism by setting up a Point of Dispensing at a local high school and measuring how quickly they were able to dispense medication.
- ★ Members of the **MRC Los Angeles (CA)** trained for responding to pandemic influenza, learning the procedures for addressing challenging situations during deployments.

## Strengthening the MRC Network and Enhancing Connectivity with Partners

- ★ As part of the program's monthly Well Check Webinar series, MRC staff hosted a webinar on February 5, which focused on best practices, tools, and resources for supporting at-risk individuals during preparedness, response, and recovery efforts. A recording is archived on the [MRC website](#).
- ★ Due to some Regional Liaison staff members being unavailable, some Liaisons handled assignments outside of their assigned jurisdiction.
- ★ The Region 1 (CT, ME, MA, NH, RI, and VT) MRC Liaison attended a National Association of County and City Health Officials (NACCHO) workshop in Columbia, South Carolina, where she served as a subject matter expert. The workshop is part of a NACCHO-led effort to better align MRC response capabilities with the new priorities of the Assistant Secretary of Preparedness and Response (ASPR) and provide emergency response stakeholders with a tangible set of MRC capabilities for emergency response planning.
- ★ The new Region 4 (AL, FL, GA, KY, MS, NC, SC, TN) MRC Liaison worked with Regional Emergency Coordinators to identify MRC units involved in Hurricane Michael recovery efforts who could apply for Federal Emergency Management Agency grant funding for continued support of the Hurricane Michael survivor population.
- ★ The Region 5 (IL, IN, MI, MN, OH, and WI) MRC Liaison participated in the Wisconsin Division of Public Health's Wisconsin Healthcare Emergency Readiness Coalition Staff Meeting to discuss the various capabilities of the MRC, address the response challenges of the units, and emphasize the importance of partnership building.
- ★ The Region 6 (AR, LA, NM, OK, and TX) MRC Liaison met with the Texas Strategic National Stockpile (SNS) team to discuss their request for an MRC presentation at their SNS Coordinator Conference.
- ★ The Region 7 (IA, KS, MO, and NE) MRC Liaison worked with prospective and existing Kitsap County MRC (WA) leaders and the Washington MRC State Coordinator on the formation of a new MRC unit in Bainbridge Island, Washington. The Liaison also discussed the formation of a proposed MRC unit for Lynnwood, Washington, with the Snohomish County MRC (WA) coordinator.
- ★ The Region 8 (CO, MT, ND, SD, UT, and WY) MRC Liaison participated in a call hosted by the Natrona County MRC (WY) to discuss a joint project application with the Albany County Wyoming MRC (WY); the application is for AmeriCorps funding to support capacity building for medical shelter training and operations.
- ★ The Region 9 (AZ, CA, HI, NV, Guam, American Samoa, CNMI, FSMI, RMI, and Palau) MRC Liaison talked with Arizona State University employees who are interested in re-establishing an MRC unit housed within Arizona State University.



**Pictured:** During a mass-casualty incident drill, the Berkeley MRC (CA) responded to a hypothetical scenario involving an earthquake on the University of California Berkeley Campus and numerous injured victims in a parking garage. MRC members triaged and transported other members, who role played as victims, to the treatment area.

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