Medical Reserve Corps
Volunteers Building Strong, Healthy, and Prepared Communities

Medical Reserve Corps Monthly Report: December 2018

Monthly at a Glance

885 MRC units
186,634 volunteers

MRC members volunteered close to 600 hours in response to fires, approximately 120 hours to address emergencies caused by severe winter weather, and 21 hours in response to damage caused by a tornado.

647 MRC activities reported

- Improved community preparedness: 358
- Participated in emergency response: 16
- Served a vulnerable population: 221
- Strengthened MRC unit: 462
- Strengthened public health: 941
- Supported non-emergency community event: 238
- Trained to improve response capability: 267

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

- In response to the Camp Fire, the Sonoma County MRC (CA) provided care at evacuation shelters. In addition, the UC Davis Veterinary Emergency Response Team MRC (CA) provided wellness checks, vaccinations, and microchipping for small animals affected by the fire.

- Members of the McLean County Health Department MRC (IL) assisted with a shelter set up in response to damage caused by a tornado. In addition, the Montgomery County MRC (IL) assisted with the set-up of a multi-agency resource center for people affected by the tornado.

- Ottawa County MRC (MI) volunteers delivered water to families who were unable to use their well water due to elevated levels of per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS).

- The Mountain Regional MRC (NC) provided technical support and medical assets to healthcare facilities impacted by a severe snowstorm.

- Orange County MRC (NY) volunteers called 200 residents of Kiryas Joel, NY, that were potentially exposed to the measles to inquire about signs and symptoms and to provide them with educational information on exposure and prevention.

- In response to a large fire at a West Philadelphia apartment complex that displaced approximately 70 people, members of the Philadelphia MRC (PA) assessed shelterees for medical follow-up care and helped them connect with healthcare providers and pharmacies to obtain emergency medication refills.
As part of the program’s monthly Well Check Webinar series, MRC staff hosted a webinar on December 4 that reviewed MRC accomplishments in 2018, spotlighting successful programs and response activities. A recording is archived on the MRC website.

The Region 1 (CT, ME, MA, NH, RI, and VT) MRC Liaison attended the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Regional Interagency Steering Committee meeting, which focused on how the private sector collaborates with the federal government in emergency responses.

The Region 2 (NJ, NY, PR, and VI) MRC Liaison tracked, monitored, and supported activations, including the Orange County MRC’s response to a protracted measles outbreak.

The Region 5 (IL, IN, MI, MN, OH, and WI) MRC Liaison participated in Illinois’s medical countermeasures Strategic National Stockpile statewide tabletop exercise, which touched upon the difficult issue of volunteer management and notification.

The Region 8 (CO, MT, ND, SD, UT, and WY) MRC Liaison met with the Medical Reserve Corps of Boulder County, Colorado, to discuss operations, including alternate care site planning for a full-scale exercise in 2019.

The Region 9 (AZ, CA, HI, NV, Guam, American Samoa, CNMI, FSMI, RMI, and Palau) MRC Liaison participated on response calls relating to the Camp Fire in California along with federal and nonprofit organization partners.

Pictured: (Left) In response to an animal hoarding situation, the Tulsa County MRC (OK) helped care for dogs and cats in a shelter; (Right) The Norfolk MRC (VA) participated in a point-of-dispensing exercise in which members provided flu shots.

Website: https://mrc.hhs.gov | E-mail: MRCcontact@hhs.gov
Facebook: http://www.facebook.com/MedicalReserveCorps | Twitter: @MRC_ASPR