Medical Reserve Corps Monthly Report: December 2019

Monthly at a Glance

- **844** MRC units
- **178,962** volunteers

MRC units devoted more than **1,500** hours to training activities.

580 MRC activities reported

- Improved community preparedness: 297
- Participated in emergency response: 14
- Served a vulnerable population: 181
- Strengthened MRC unit: 271
- Strengthened public health: 288
- Supported non-emergency community event: 236
- Trained to improve response capability: 275

*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 cold weather, **Snohomish County Medical Reserve Corps (WA)** volunteers devoted more than 200 hours to staffing shelters. In response to winter storm Ezekiel, the **Sussex County Medical Reserve Corps (NJ)** opened and staffed an overnight shelter and helped operate the county emergency operations center.

- In response to hepatitis A outbreaks and exposures across the country, several MRC units responded, including the **Maricopa County Public Health Medical Reserve Corps (AZ)**, the **Southwest Virginia Medical Reserve Corps (VA)**, the **Niagara County Medical Reserve Corps (NY)**, the **South Central NH Medical Reserve Corps (NH)**, and the **Medical Reserve Corps of Eastern Washington (WA)**.

- Members of the **Prince George's County Health Department Medical Reserve Corps (MD)** helped carry out a tuberculosis investigation at a local high school, assisting with testing and medical care.

- In response to two pediatric meningococcal disease cases in Boston, the **Boston Medical Reserve Corps (MA)** helped host a one-day clinic to provide children, staff, and families at a local daycare center and shelter with meningococcal disease vaccinations.

- The **Albuquerque Healthcare Coalition MRC (NM)** supported the Albuquerque Westside Emergency Housing Center Healthcare Clinic by treating patients’ acute illnesses and helping patients with hospital discharges.

- The **Fulton County Volunteer Medical Reserve Corps (IL)** participated in a pandemic flu full-scale point-of-dispensing exercise.
As part of the program’s monthly Well Check Webinar series, MRC staff hosted a webinar on December 3 that highlighted successful programs and response activities in 2019. A recording is archived on the MRC website.

Regional Liaisons scheduled and conducted Technical Assistance Assessments with MRC unit leaders.

The Region 1 (CT, ME, MA, NH, RI, and VT) MRC Liaison participated in Regional Disaster Health Response System meetings in Maine and Rhode Island to gain an understanding of the current state response capacity and assist with the future development of regional capacity in large-scale disaster responses.

Along with the New York City MRC, the Region 2 (NJ, NY, PR, and VI) MRC Liaison conducted a webinar for the Federal Emergency Management Agency’s Region 2 staff on MRC regional activity and flu vaccination/education efforts.

The Region 3 (DC, DE, MD, PA, VA, and WV) MRC Liaison met with Maryland MRC State Coordinators, the District of Columbia Pediatric Medical Reserve Corps, and the Academy of Pediatrics’ Disaster Pediatric Council for Preparedness and Recovery to develop pediatric training for Maryland MRC units and potentially create a deployable pediatric emergency response team in Maryland.

The Region 4 (AL, FL, GA, KY, MS, NC, SC, TN) MRC Liaison participated in the Region 4 Hospital Preparedness Program conference call.

The Region 6 (AR, LA, NM, OK, and TX) MRC Liaison attended the Office of the Assistant Secretary for Preparedness and Response Region 6 staff meeting and continued facilitating planning for the Texas, Arkansas, Louisiana, Oklahoma, and New Mexico (TALON) MRC Conference.

Pictured: (left) During an American Heart Association Heartsaver cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) / automated external defibrillator (AED) class, an Upper Merrimack Valley Medical Reserve Corps (MA) member explains how to use an AED to members of the Westford, Massachusetts, Water Department; (right) the Martha’s Vineyard Medical Reserve Corps (MA) is training this dog, Kyra, as a potential therapy dog during disaster responses.

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