



# Medical Reserve Corps

*Volunteers Building Strong, Healthy, and Prepared Communities*

## Medical Reserve Corps Monthly Report: March 2019

### Monthly at a Glance



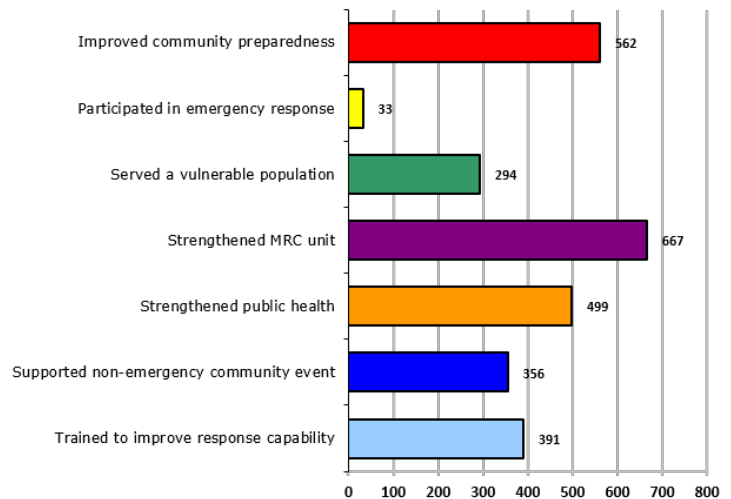
**867** MRC units

**185,175** volunteers

MRC members devoted more than **1,100** hours in response to a tornado in Alabama and more than **1,000** hours responding to flooding in Nebraska and Iowa.



### 990 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

- ★ The **PROJECT H.E.L.P. USA MRC (AL)** provided a variety of medical services in response to an F4 tornado in Lee County, Alabama. MRC volunteers triaged tornado victims, provided first aid, and verified and replaced medication. The **Black Belt MRC - Macon and Bullock County, AL (AL)** also responded to the tornado, assisting the county sheriff's office and local emergency management agencies with debris cleanup.
- ★ Members of the **Albuquerque Healthcare Coalition MRC (NM)** provided medical assistance and translation at clinics set up to assess migrants' health.
- ★ In response to flooding in the Omaha, Nebraska, area, the **Southeast Nebraska Medical Reserve Corps (NE)** provided first aid, including psychological care, at two shelters in the greater Omaha area, and the **Eastern Nebraska/Western Iowa Medical Reserve Corps (NE)** provided shelter assistance in Nebraska.
- ★ In response to flooding in North Iowa, the **North Iowa CERT & MRC (IA)** pre-deployed shelter trailers to sites, delivered sandbags to communities, prepared for possible evacuation of several apartment complexes, supported an emergency operations center, and delivered pumps to communities.
- ★ The **Medical Reserve Corps of Puerto Rico (PR)** participated in a chemical decontamination response full-scale exercise.
- ★ The **East Central Health District MRC (GA)** supported a Strategic National Stockpile point-of-dispensing exercise in Jefferson County, Georgia.

## 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 March 5, which focused on best practices for volunteer recruitment and retention. A recording is archived on the [MRC website](#).
- ★ The Region 1 (CT, ME, MA, NH, RI, and VT) MRC Liaison participated in a U.S. Department of Health and Human Services Office of the Assistant Secretary for Preparedness and Response Region 1 team meeting in which the participants discussed preparations for the Boston Marathon.
- ★ The Region 5 (IL, IN, MI, MN, OH, and WI) MRC Liaison participated in a meeting with the Minnesota Department of Health Director of American Indian Health/Tribal Liaison and the leader of the Minnesota Behavioral Health MRC to discuss the needs of tribal nations in Minnesota and potential solutions involving the MRC.
- ★ The Region 6 (AR, LA, NM, OK, and TX) MRC Liaison met with the leaders of the public health programs that oversee the MRC in each Region 6 state, discussing ways to overcome barriers to utilizing MRC units for Emergency Management Assistance Compact requests.
- ★ The Region 9 (AZ, CA, HI, NV, Guam, American Samoa, CNMI, FSMI, RMI, and Palau) MRC Liaison met with the State of California Emergency Medical Services Authority to discuss how the MRC program can better support activities during wildfires.



**Pictured: (top)** Eastern Nebraska & Western Iowa MRC (NE) volunteers pose with U.S. Representative Jeff Fortenberry at a shelter for victims of flooding in Nebraska; **(bottom)** the Manasota MRC activated as part of Manatee County's "First-In" team exercise, which involved a response to a hypothetical tornado. After first-in teams removed trees, vehicles, and power lines from the roads, search-and-rescue teams utilized mini emergency response vehicles, such as the one pictured here, to look for those who were "injured."

**Website:** <https://mrc.hhs.gov> | **E-mail:** [MRCcontact@hhs.gov](mailto:MRCcontact@hhs.gov)

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