



Medical Reserve Corps

Volunteers Building Strong, Healthy, and Prepared Communities

Medical Reserve Corps Quarterly Report: FY2018 Quarter 4 (July 1 – September 30, 2018)

The Medical Reserve Corps (MRC) is a national network of local volunteers with a mission to strengthen public health; reduce vulnerabilities; improve emergency preparedness, response, and recovery capabilities; and build community resilience. MRC volunteers include medical and public health professionals and other community members interested in improving the health and safety of their local jurisdictions.

MRC: This Quarter By the Numbers



889 MRC units
188,184 volunteers



1 new MRC units registered
22 MRC units de-registered



MRC units devoted more than **9,050** hours to emergency responses related to wildfires.



MRC members volunteered more than **6,500** hours in response to emergencies related to hurricanes and tropical storms.



More than **330** volunteers from three different MRC units devoted more than **12,400** hours to health clinics that provided medical care to underserved communities.



More than **540** volunteers from various MRC units in Massachusetts devoted approximately **28,450** hours in response to natural gas explosions in the Merrimack Valley in Massachusetts.



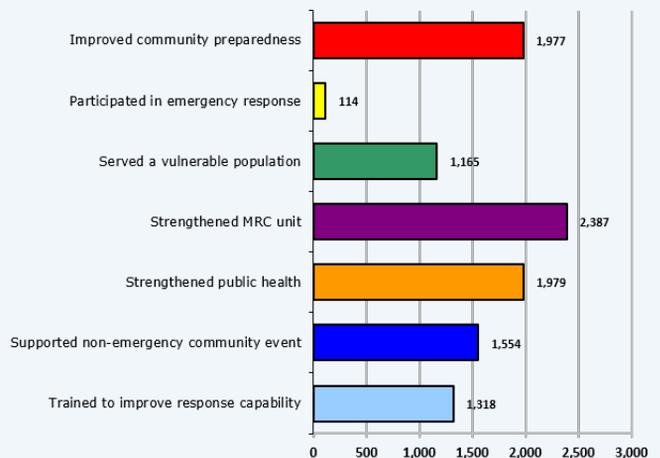
More than **160** MRC members from various MRC units across the country volunteered approximately **1,060** hours during Independence Day celebrations, providing medical care and patient tracking services.

MRC: At Work in our Communities

This quarter, **590** MRC units reported a total of **3,831** activities.

- **114** emergency-related
- **3,717** non-emergency

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



Emergency and/or Response-Related Activities

- ★ The **Apache County MRC Critical Incident Stress Management Team (AZ)** offered debriefing support after an officer-involved shooting.
- ★ Members of the **ALCO MRC (CA)**, the **Berkeley MRC (CA)**, the **Contra Costa County MRC (CA)**, the **Marin MRC (CA)**, the **San Francisco Fire Department Civilian Volunteer MRC (CA)**, and the **Sacramento MRC (CA)** helped operate shelters and provided medical support for victims of the Mendocino Complex Fire.
- ★ The **California Veterinary MRC (CA)** supported sheltering and medical care for more than 1,200 pets during the Carr Fire.
- ★ The **Fresno MRC (CA)** provided rehabilitation to responders from the fire service, the Drug Enforcement Agency, and local law enforcement on a 14-hour hazmat call at a location processing fentanyl and other drugs.
- ★ Colorado MRC units, led by the **Pueblo County MRC (CO)** and volunteers from surrounding units, including the **MRC of El Paso County (CO)**, assisted evacuees of the large Spring Creek Fire, providing tetanus vaccinations for survivors returning to their homes and administrative support for the health department at the Disaster Recovery Center.
- ★ The **Manasota MRC (FL)** provided emergency medical rehabilitation to more than 40 firefighters who were responding to a large fire in a biodiesel storage tank.
- ★ Volunteers with the **Kauai MRC (HI)** and the **Maui County Health Volunteers (HI)** provided medical assistance at evacuation shelters set up in response to Hurricane Lane.
- ★ The **Oahu MRC (HI)** helped staff a fire evacuation shelter that the American Red Cross opened due to a wildfire on the west side of Oahu.
- ★ **Grundy County MRC (IA)** volunteers responded to a tornado in neighboring Marshall County. Volunteers treated injuries at the hospital and assisted with general relief efforts in affected neighborhoods.
- ★ In response to gas explosions in Massachusetts, five local MRC units—the **Greater River Valley MRC (MA)**, the **Upper Merrimack Valley MRC (MA)**, the **Mystic Valley MRC (MA)**, the **North Shore-Cape Anne Emergency Preparedness Coalition MRC (MA)**, and the **Topsfield Regional MRC (MA)**—provided medical care at evacuation shelters and behavioral health support at claim centers.
- ★ The **Eastern Nebraska & Western Iowa MRC (NE/IA)** provided medical support at shelters for approximately 500 residents who were relocated from a building due to unsafe conditions.

Emergency and/or Response-Related Activities (continued)

- ★ The **Clark County MRC (OH)** activated their crisis response team when a local bank manager requested their assistance after a robbery at gunpoint. The team performed crisis intervention for staff who needed help with coping strategies and to express their trauma.
- ★ After severe flooding, the **Delaware County MRC (PA)** staffed three Individual Assistance Centers to allow community members to file reports of damage and loss to emergency management. MRC volunteers spoke to residents and collected information from those that were in need of urgent intervention and assistance in remediating mold in their residences.
- ★ **Pee Dee Public Health Reserve Corps (SC)** volunteers assisted with a measles vaccination clinic in Horry County, SC, established in response to a potential measles case. Five medical and two non-medical volunteers helped operate the clinic and translate for some members of the affected population.
- ★ Volunteers with the **Chattanooga-Hamilton County Health Department MRC (TN)** supported three hepatitis A vaccination clinics, providing vaccinations to homeless individuals.
- ★ The **Brazoria County MRC (TX)** continued working with the Brazoria County Water Lab to test private wells that were affected by flooding during Hurricane Harvey.
- ★ The **Weber-Morgan MRC (UT)** responded to the Avon Fire by providing medical support at an evacuation shelter.
- ★ The **Northwest VT MRC (VT)** hosted cooling centers for community members as summer temperatures remained in the 90s for many days.
- ★ The **Sawyer County MRC (WI)** search-and-rescue team was deployed three times in September to assist with searching for missing hunters and residents.
- ★ Multiple MRC units responded to Hurricane Florence, including the following:
 - ★ MidCarolina SMAT (NC)
 - ★ Capital MRC (NC)
 - ★ Moore County MRC (NC)
 - ★ Triad MRC (NC)
 - ★ Southeastern Healthcare Preparedness Region MRC (NC)
 - ★ Metrolina MRC (NC)
 - ★ Midlands Public Health Reserve Corps (SC)
 - ★ Pee Dee Public Health Reserve Corps (SC)
 - ★ South Carolina Veterinary Reserve Corps (SC)
 - ★ Virginia Beach MRC (VA)
 - ★ Portsmouth Health District MRC (VA)
 - ★ Three Rivers MRC (VA)
 - ★ Alexandria MRC (VA)
 - ★ Henrico and Chickahominy MRC (VA)
 - ★ Peninsula MRC (VA)
 - ★ Georgia Veterinary MRC (GA)
 - ★ LSART Veterinary MRC (LA)
 - ★ Calcasieu MRC (LA)
 - ★ Choctaw Nation MRC (OK)
 - ★ Delaware Veterinary MRC (DE)
 - ★ MD Responds MRC (MD)
 - ★ MRC of Southern Arizona (AZ)
 - ★ Fairfield Easton MRC (CT)

Non-Emergency / Steady State Activities

- ★ The **Baldwin County MRC (AL)** participated in a local health care coalition meeting at the Baldwin County Emergency Management Agency. Topics included shelter plans, hurricane season preparation, and transportation support.
- ★ Members of the **San Francisco Fire Department Civilian Volunteer MRC (CA)** received training in psychological first aid techniques that will enable them to support survivors in disaster, administer self-care, and support volunteer team members.
- ★ **MRC of North Idaho (ID)** volunteers provided first aid to members participating in the 2018 Tribal Encampment and Julyamsh Powwow dance competition.
- ★ **Maine Township MRC (IL)** volunteers participated in Taste of Park Ridge, a local community event. The volunteers disseminated preparedness information, provided free blood pressure checks, and trained more than 200 people in hands-only CPR. Members also educated attendees on the symptoms of stroke.
- ★ The **Kansas State Animal Response Team Veterinary MRC (KS)** participated in Project CARE in Wichita, KS. Project CARE serves as an exercise, allowing volunteers to practice animal sheltering skills and provide free vaccinations and basic health checks for the pets of low-income and homeless populations.
- ★ Volunteers from the **Newaygo County MRC (MI)** participated in a no-notice exercise for a dam failure emergency drill. The exercise tested real-time notification, communications, deployment, and operations for the MRC/community emergency response team.
- ★ The **Mississippi Behavioral Health MRC (MS)** practiced setting up and running a Family Assistance Center as part of an active shooter drill. Volunteers also served as surge support of the medical examiner's team.
- ★ In observance of National Preparedness Month in September, the **Hudson Regional Health Commission MRC (NJ)** partnered with the American Red Cross, a community emergency response team, Team Rubicon, and other local agencies to install 287 smoke detectors in 72 homes in Jersey City, NJ.
- ★ The **Nassau County MRC (NY)** provided medical support, in conjunction with the Nassau County Police Department's Emergency Ambulance Bureau, during the 2018 Long Island Fair. Twelve Nassau County MRC volunteers staffed a stationary medical tent over a two-day time period.
- ★ **Orange County MRC (NY)** volunteers staffed two field hospitals at the New York State Airshow, an event that draws approximately 30,000 people each day. The Orange County MRC deployed two health and medical task force units. These units treated 114 people, with two individuals transferred off site for additional care.
- ★ The **Coos County MRC (OR)** conducted a water, sanitation, and hygiene disaster resilience training with a local women's community group.
- ★ The **Rhode Island MRC (RI)** helped set up and operate a field hospital at the Bristol Fourth of July parade, treating 50 patients.
- ★ Approximately 140 members of the **Texas State Guard Medical Brigade MRC (TX)** volunteered 9,862 hours with Operation Lone Star, a large-scale public health exercise and medical service delivery event for thousands of medically underserved members of the Rio Grande Valley community. Volunteers assisted with immunizations, diabetes screenings, basic optometry, and dental and physical exams.
- ★ **Thurston County MRC (WA)** volunteers partnered with a local community group to provide first aid, health education, and resources to vulnerable populations in the local area. MRC volunteers also passed out personal care kits with first aid and personal hygiene items.

Non-Emergency / Steady State Activities (continued)

- ★ The **Eastern Shore MRC (VA)**, in partnership with the NASA/Wallops Flight Facility Visitor Center, the Chincoteague National Wildlife Refuge, the Assateague Island National Seashore, and the Delmarva Space Science Foundation, provided a first aid unit at the Astronomy & Night Sky Summer Series on July 13. In addition, volunteers distributed insect repellent, Zika kits, tick removal kits, and drug deactivation packets to the public.



The Eastern Shore MRC (VA) provided a first aid unit at the Astronomy & Night Sky Summer Series on July 13.



North Carolina Governor Roy Cooper posed with Virginia MRC volunteers (and others) who were supporting shelters in North Carolina after Hurricane Florence.

Strengthening the MRC Network and Enhancing Connectivity with Partners

During the quarter, the MRC Program and the MRC Regional Liaisons fostered partnerships and participated in a number of events to enhance connectivity, raise awareness, and strengthen the sustainability of the MRC Network. Examples include the following:

- ★ As part of the program's monthly Well Check Webinar series, MRC staff hosted a webinar on July 10 on the topic of rural MRCs and their success stories. A recording is archived on the [MRC website](#).
- ★ The MRC Program led the ASPR/HOSA- Future Health Professionals Public Health Leadership Scholars Seminar in Washington, DC, on July 9-13, 2018.
- ★ MRC Program Director Esmeralda Pereira facilitated the MRC State Coordinator Webinar on Thursday, July 19.
- ★ As part of the program's monthly Well Check Webinar series, MRC staff hosted a webinar on August 7 focused on success stories at large, urban MRCs. A recording is archived on the [MRC website](#).
- ★ MRC Program Director Esmeralda Pereira attended the Oklahoma MRC Volunteer Workshop in Oklahoma City on August 2-3, 2018.
- ★ As part of the program's monthly Well Check Webinar series, MRC staff hosted a webinar on September 11 focused on MRC involvement in emergency responses. A recording is archived on the [MRC website](#).
- ★ The Region 1 (CT, ME, MA, NH, RI, and VT) MRC Liaison attended the New Hampshire statewide MRC meeting, fielding programmatic questions and providing information on the MRC national program.
- ★ The Region 2 (NJ, NY, PR, and VI) MRC Liaison participated in the United Nations' Volunteerism and Community Resilience meeting and report launch.
- ★ The Region 3 (DC, DE, MD, PA, VA, and WV) MRC Liaison participated in a discussion with the Illinois Department of Health and the Chicago Department of Health regarding how the [emPower](#) system can be used during an emergency.
- ★ The Region 4 (AL, FL, GA, KY, MS, NC, SC, TN) MRC Liaison participated in the Unified Planning Coalition Meeting with Emergency Support Function #8 state and federal partners in St. Augustine, Florida. The Regional Liaison also discussed ways the MRC can support the mission of the Hospital Preparedness Program.
- ★ The Region 5 (IL, IN, MI, MN, OH, and WI) MRC Liaison presented at the Illinois Emergency Management Agency Training Summit on the importance of building relationships between MRC units and emergency managers.
- ★ The Region 6 (AR, LA, NM, OK, and TX) MRC Liaison attended the Assistant Secretary for Preparedness and Response (ASPR) Regional Incident Support Teams (RIST) training on August 14 at the Mission Support Center to understand the ASPR liaison role during a disaster.
- ★ The Region 7 (IA, KS, MO, and NE) MRC Liaison participated in a conference call with local and state officials on the redevelopment of a regional MRC unit in the Kansas City area.
- ★ The Region 8 (CO, MT, ND, SD, UT, and WY) MRC Liaison met with the Colorado Hospital Association and ASPR partners to promote MRC engagement.
- ★ The Region 9 (AZ, CA, HI, NV, Guam, American Samoa, CNMI, FSMI, RMI, and Palau) MRC Liaison monitored preparedness activities in Hawaii relating to Hurricane Olivia.
- ★ The Region 10 (AK, ID, OR, and WA) MRC Liaison provided an overview of the MRC program to several counties in the Olympic Peninsula of Washington to promote the potential development of new MRC units.