



## National Program Updates

It has been a busy time at the Program Office! Please take advantage of the website located at [www.medicalreservecorps.gov](http://www.medicalreservecorps.gov). Take time out and visit it monthly to become familiar with MRC's new trainings, initiatives and resources.

Some points of interest would be the MRC Webinars. The webinars are being offered every 6-8 weeks and began in

February '07. So far the topics have consisted of MRC 101, Self Evaluation of your unit and MRC TRAIN. All of these trainings are web based and can viewed with your volunteers at your convenience and is a good resource for trainings.

There is also a 2-way-listserv to allow volunteers who are active in the MRC Program to share ideas,

trainings, resources, best practices and lessons learned. If you have not already signed up please do so on the MRC website and sign up for the appropriate form of the listserv for you.

Also, do not forget about the MRC Core Competencies. They have been updated and can serve as a valuable resource for you and your members.



## Region V Annual Meeting

Mark your calendars for this year's regional meeting to be held August 28-29<sup>th</sup> in Chicago, IL at the Region V office in downtown Chicago.

Conference participants will be staying at the Hyatt Regency located at 151 E Wacker – steps away from the conference, dining, shopping and cultural experiences. NACCHO will be covering the cost of the rooms. Transportation

will be the participant's responsibility.

A registration link is [www.regonline.com/2007region\\_v](http://www.regonline.com/2007region_v). Please register by July 27<sup>th</sup> COB. If anyone has any questions, please contact Melissa Watt.

The meeting will last a day and half and will offer trainings on TRAIN and strategic planning. In addition to best practice

panels, resource sharing, table tops and sustainability.

If anyone is interested in being on the planning committee please let Melissa Watt know. I would like to have representation from each state to ensure the conference reflects the entire region. See you in August!

*"Region V Annual Meeting August 28-29<sup>th</sup>. Chicago, IL."*



## Woman's Challenge

Did you know through Region V the MRC program reached approximately 42,000 women through the "Woman's Challenge" sponsored through the Office for Women's Health? The challenge

was web based and encouraged women to learn about health and prevention. Topics were introduced and the women could complete bonus challenges to earn points on the online competition. Information about

individual and family preparedness plans were submitted to the web site along with how to build your own "Go Kit". Participants were able to learn about preparedness and volunteering with their local MRC.

## Maine Township MRC, IL

The Maine Township MRC participated in a Family Safety Day on May 19 at the Stevenson School in unincorporated Maine Township. The purpose of the event was to prepare the students and their families for a disaster. Approximately 700 individuals were reached during the four hour event. Participants were shown how to wrap wounds and received free blood pressure checks.

## WI Technical Rescue Operations

The K9 Emergency Response Teams (KERT) and Wisconsin Technical Rescue Operations Team (WTROT) have merged to offer insured Search and Rescue services to Law Enforcement, Fire Rescue, EMS and Emergency Management Agencies! The new name is "Wisconsin Technical Rescue Operations Team". Having this merger done will "Help MRC resources get to the patient quicker by combining all of these resources" commented Shawn Metzner, Director of WI Technical Rescue Operations MRC.

## Douglas County MRC, IL

The Douglas County Medical Reserve Corps, IL participated in the Douglas County Women's Health Fair held in Tuscola, Illinois on May 7, 2007. Approximately 200 women participated in the event, which included free blood pressure screenings and informational opportunities about women's health, heart health and volunteer activities in the community. This is one of the events i.e. county fair and street festivals that the DMRC provides service to.

## MI MRC Region 7

The Michigan Region 7 MRC conducted a series of 5 MRC orientation sessions around our 17-county region during the month of April, 2007. The sessions sought to orient new recruits by providing basic information about volunteering the Incident Command System, the Modular Emergency Medical System and other pertinent areas of knowledge. Plans are underway for the next series of orientations to be offered in the region later this summer.

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*“Snowball 3 an exercise that tested and implemented response functions of a Multi Agency Coordination System”*

### Snowball 3

MRC volunteers from Ramsey and Hennepin Counties in Minnesota participated in various components of "Snowball 3", an exercise that tested and implemented response functions of a Multi Agency Coordination System and an Alternate Care Site during a public health emergency. This had never been done before in the metro region, and rarely around the

country. Much learning was gained from individual and collective experiences.

### Boone County, IN

Boone County is continuing to sign up volunteers in the Indiana Learning Management System ([www.inlms.com](http://www.inlms.com)). The unit is also working to put on a volunteer training session and provide hands on potential mass prophylaxis training. There are also plans to participate with CERT for a tabletop event.

### Carver County MRC, MN

MRC volunteer Beth Salo, an instructor with Rasmussen College, recruited attendees of the Minnesota Society of Medical Assistants (MSMA) annual state conference in St. Louis Park on Friday, May 4th. She used her experience as an educator and her

passion for volunteerism to encourage medical assistants to join the Medical Reserve Corps. Many attendees learned about creating a Family Communications Plan. MRC bracelets were given out as well.

Spring Pancake Breakfast

on May 8<sup>th</sup> was hosted by Waconia Fire. MRC of Carver County volunteers Doug & Sue Iddings and Joan Wright shared a display area with Public Health and the Community Emergency Response Team and others. Community awareness was their goal.

### Ohio

The Ohio Community Service Council presented Star Awards to three outstanding volunteers at the annual Forging New Links, statewide volunteer conference – Dr. Forrest Smith and Richard & Nancy Stahl.

The STAR Awards are presented annually in honor of individuals, groups and/or organizations whose efforts have supported,

strengthened, and furthered volunteerism throughout the state.

**Dr. Forrest Smith pictured on the right** is Ohio, State’s Epidemiologist and Medical Director for the Division of Prevention. Forrest Smith was charged with developing the Ohio Medical Reserve Corps, a cadre of volunteer medical professionals,

credentialed, trained and prepared to respond in emergency situations. From the beginning, Dr. Smith envisioned connecting the Ohio Medical Reserve Corps to the bigger picture of citizen preparedness and response, to avoid the “silos” of fragmentation, duplication and confusion.

Much deserved congrats Dr. Smith!



## Newly Appointed State Coordinator

As of 4/13/07 Matthew Roberts was named Illinois's State Coordinator. Mr. Roberts was appointed from the Illinois Department of Public Health and is looking forward to supporting the units. At this time he brings knowledge from the state level concerning public health and emergency preparedness. Mr. Roberts was also a unit coordinator and is familiar with the challenges units face

concerning recruitment, sustainability and retention. When I asked about Matt's feelings in being appointed as Illinois's State Coordinator he responded, "I'm very excited to be the new Illinois Coordinator for the MRC program. Drawing upon my past experience as a local MRC coordinator, and working closely with the MRCIL (MRC units of Illinois)

consortium, I hope to build an improved level of health volunteerism in Illinois, putting the focus on volunteer recruitment for the local health and medical missions. I will look to expand upon efforts that affect liability concerns, funding issues, marketing systems, and MRC branding that will make the hallmark of any local program."



## Farewell

I would like to thank Colleen Mohr for her dedication being Michigan's State Coordinator. Ms Mohr has retired from the state as of 6/1/07. On behalf of Region V I would like to say farewell and happy trails. Alexanne Stone from Kent County MRC had this to say as well, "I would like to share my congratulations to

Colleen on her retirement. When she first took over the position, she had no experience with MRC. Colleen immediately attended one of our Executive Committee meetings and they thought she was an expert based on how quickly she'd learned the program. She came into the program at a run and maintained that pace throughout her tenure.

Always supportive and gentle in her manner, Colleen's sunny smile will be missed by this MRC Coordinator!" Kevin Sweeney the State Coordinator for Citizen Corps will be working with the Michigan MRC's until the state of Michigan appoints another State Coordinator. The MRC's and I thank Kevin.

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*"Always supportive and gentle in manner, Colleen's sunny smile will be missed by this MRC Coordinator."*

**Melissa Watt**  
**Regional Coordinator**

233 N. Michigan St.  
Suite 1300  
Chicago, IL 60601

PHONE:  
(312) 353-3563

FAX:  
(312) 353-7800

E-MAIL:  
[Melissa.watt@hhs.gov](mailto:Melissa.watt@hhs.gov)

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Please email me any  
news for the next  
edition of The Scoop

## Get on the Bus

The Medicare tour bus will visit each of the 48 continental states over the course of four months, bringing spokespersons to work with community partners, city and State leaders, and disease prevention advocates involved in these

initiatives. People with Medicare will be asked to take action, talk to their healthcare providers and visit [www.mymedicare.gov](http://www.mymedicare.gov) to learn more about preventive services they are eligible to receive and access tools to help manage their

healthcare.



## New Coordinators On Board

**Congratulations!** They are as follows: Alicia Abdalla, Vaughn Anderson, Pamela Walker-Bauer, Gerald Brooks, Paul Chall, Patty Clipner, Kathryn Cutlip, Colleen Dundon, Michael Gregory, Marilyn Flesher, Frank Gorscak, Robin

Groves, Jennifer Hamerlinck, Raymond Herbst, Cindy Jackson, Thomas Janetske, Barbra Jones, Michael Jones, Kerry Kerren, George Kraus, Marty Lambert, Ty Lollini, David McElhatten, Maggi McGee, Lis McNeil, Jennifer Martin, Ryan

Murphy, Kathleen Minkler, Leisa Prasser, Jeff Ritckey, Laurie Schierer, Lynn Schrum, Lucinda Sentner, Duane Stansbury, Shanna Shipman, Tilara Trece, Kim Villers, Jared Warner, Andy Wright Timothy Yoder and Kari Zalenski.

### *About Our Organization...*

[www.medicalreserve.gov](http://www.medicalreserve.gov)  
Please update your profiles quarterly to be in compliance with your NACCHO Capacity Building Grant!



## New Units On Board as of 1/07

Bureau & Putnam County, IL  
Mount Prospect MRC, IL  
Will County Health Dept. Volunteer Corps, IL  
Hendericks County, IN  
Montgomery County, IN  
Rush County, IN  
Tippecanoe MRC, IN  
City of Detroit, MI  
Ashland County, OH  
Brown County, OH  
Butler County, OH  
Clermont County, OH  
Clinton County, OH

Crawford County, OH  
Highland County, OH  
Holmes County, OH  
Marion County, OH  
Wyandot County, OH