

DALLAS COUNTY HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES:  
PUBLIC HEALTH PREPAREDNESS DIVISION

DALLAS COUNTY  
**MEDICAL  
RESERVE CORPS**



# Medical Reserve Corps

## Mission Statement

To assist the local community during a public health emergency by providing rapid, coordinated and specific response using locally recruited medical, mental health, public health and health support volunteers appropriately trained in the latest emergency response methods.

# USA Freedom Corps



The USA Freedom Corps was established to promote volunteer service in America. Of the four entities, only Citizen Corps is a national network of volunteers dedicated to ensuring hometown security. The MRC is a specialized component of Citizen Corps.

# WHAT IS THE ROLE OF THE MEDICAL RESERVE CORPS?

- The MRC supplements the existing emergency response systems in place during times of **bioterrorism attacks, non-terror threats and natural disasters.**
- The MRC consists of medical and non-medical volunteers.

# WHAT IS BIO-TERRORISM?



Bioterrorism is the overt or covert dispensing of disease pathogens as biological weapons for the expressed purpose of causing harm.

# TERROR THREATS- AGENTS OF CONCERN

Smallpox

Viral Hemorrhagic Fever

Anthrax

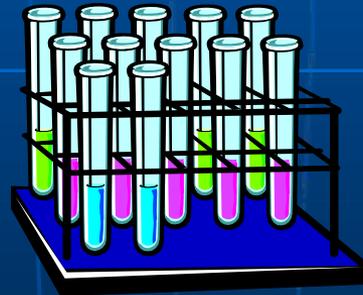
Pneumonic Plague

Botulism

Ricin

Encephalitis

Tularemia



# NON-TERROR THREATS



- Influenza Epidemic
- Measles Outbreak
- Hazardous Material Incident



# NATURAL DISASTERS

Tornados



Floods



# Reasons for Texas to Accelerate Preparedness

- Texas is home to the western Whitehouse
- Texas has port and border issues



# MRC Volunteer Roles

# MEDICAL VOLUNTEER ROLES

- Point of Delivery (POD)
  - Site Director
- Clinic Manager
- Drug Dispensing/Vaccine Coordinator
- Medical Screener
- Drug Dispenser/Vaccinator
- Triage Coordinator
- Emergency Medical Care
- Physician Consultant
- Mental Health Worker/  
Crisis Counselor



# NON-MEDICAL VOLUNTEER ROLES

- Administration Manager
- Documents Coordinator
- Documents Technician
- Facilities Manager
- Inventory Coordinator
- Inventory Technician
- Patient Educator
- Runner
- Crowd Control
- Translator
- Greeter/Forms Distributor
- Comm./IT Manager
- Comm./IT Coordinator
- Comm./IT Technician



# WHY VOLUNTEER?

- To give back to the community
- Share your abilities
- Develop new skills
- See a mission accomplished
- Network with people



# HOW MANY VOLUNTEERS ARE NEEDED?

At two 12-hour shifts Dallas County will need 10,000-12,000 volunteers to operate multiple POD (Point of Delivery) sites for one day.



# POPULATION OF DALLAS COUNTY SWELLS DURING THE WEEK



According to the 2000 U. S. Census, 45% of residents of Collin & Denton Counties commute into Dallas County on a daily basis.

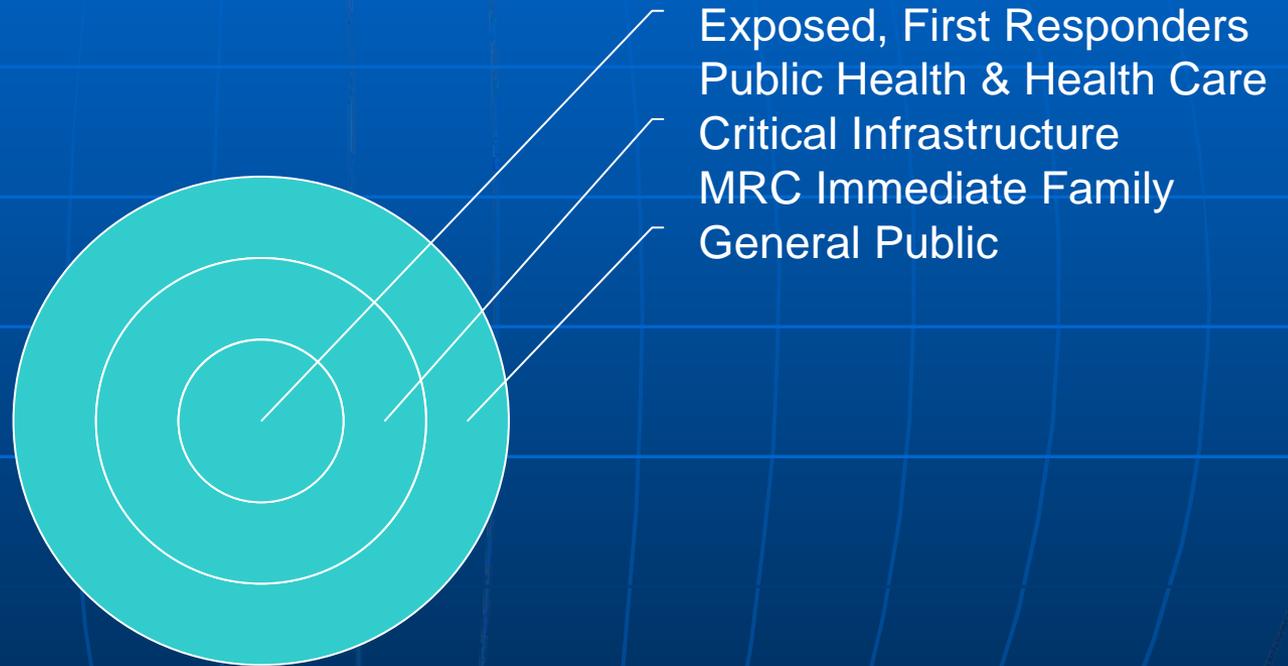
# FYI for Volunteers...



In the event of a bioterrorism attack, all volunteers will be among the first to receive antibiotics or vaccinations.



# System for Prophylaxis



# MRC VOLUNTEER TRAINING

- Basic training consists of 3 components:
  1. Orientation
  2. Medical & Non-Medical Job Training
  3. POD Site set-up, walk through and tear-down
- It is mandatory volunteers complete all 3
- Continuing education courses are offered throughout the year to those interested.



Volunteers registering for POD training



**WELCOMING REMARKS AT THE 1<sup>ST</sup> TRAINING SESSION AT  
PC COBB FIELD HOUSE. 300 MRC VOLUNTEERS  
ATTENDED THE TRAINING.**



Document control volunteers receiving training



Inventory control volunteers receiving training



Volunteer "runners" receive training and prepare for POD



**LAW ENFORCEMENT & EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT WHO PROVIDE SECURITY FOR THE POD**



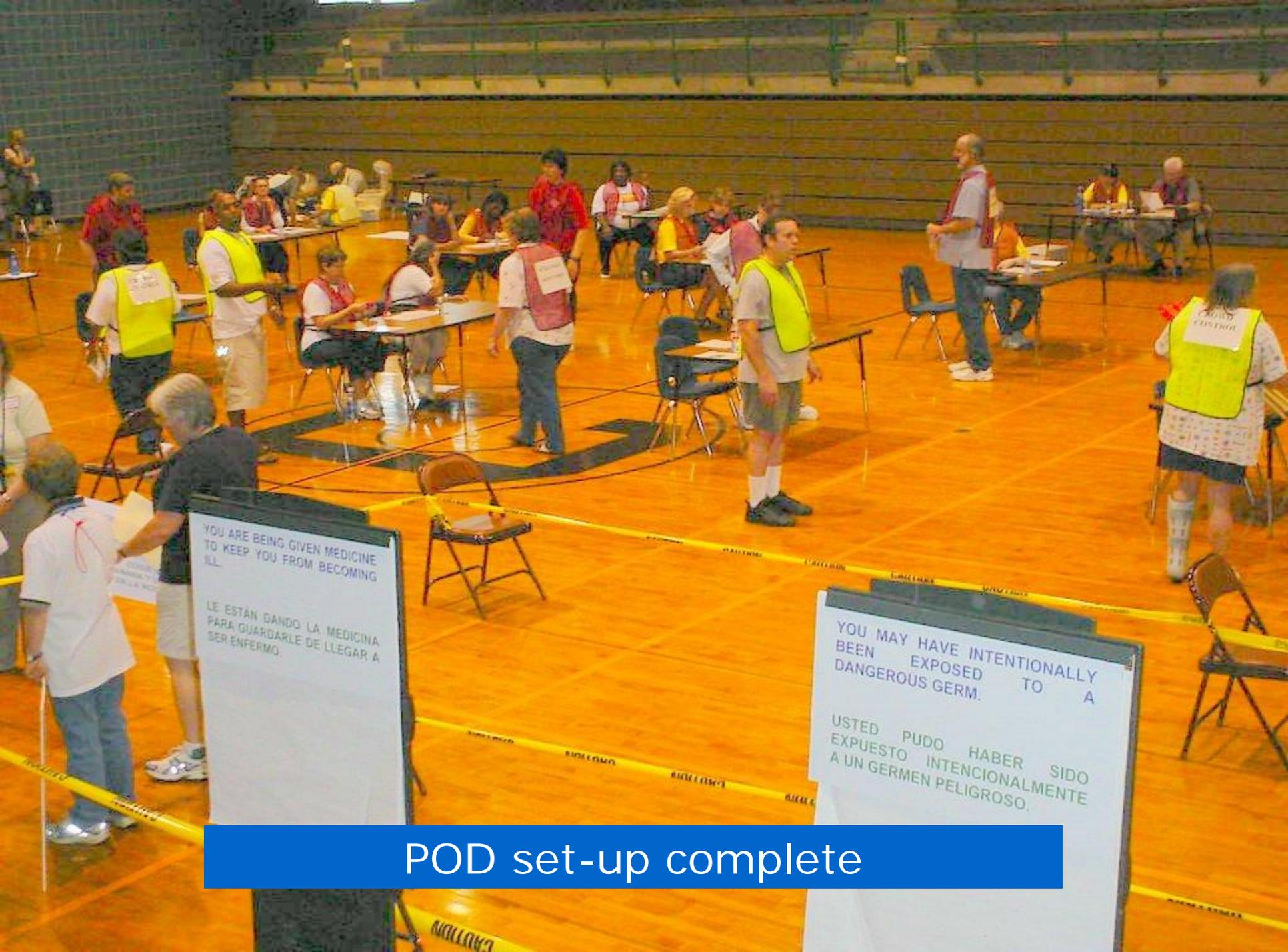
**NON-MEDICAL VOLUNTEERS  
AMATEUR RADIO OPERATORS (HAMS)**



Volunteers prepare to set up a POD



Volunteers begin to set up a POD



YOU ARE BEING GIVEN MEDICINE TO KEEP YOU FROM BECOMING ILL.  
LE ESTAN DANDO LA MEDICINA PARA GUARDARLE DE LLEGAR A SER ENFERMO.

YOU MAY HAVE INTENTIONALLY BEEN EXPOSED TO A DANGEROUS GERM.  
USTED PUDO HABER SIDO EXPUESTO INTENCIONALMENTE A UN GERMEN PELIGROSO.

POD set-up complete



Patient throughput begins



MRC medical volunteers dispense medication to patient volunteers

SCREENERS/  
DISPENSERS



Non-medical volunteers distribute forms to patient volunteers



Crowd control volunteer signals that Table 3 is ready for another patient



Volunteer debriefing after POD is taken down

# Volunteers are protected from legal liability

Under the federal Volunteer Protection Act of 1997, people who volunteer for governmental entities cannot be held liable for any harm that they may cause while engaged in volunteer activity (except for a harm caused by operation of a motor vehicle or a harm caused by criminal conduct or gross or reckless misconduct)

# Current Statutory Efforts to Control Volunteer Liability Exposure

- Federal Volunteer Protection Act of 1997
- State Volunteer Protection Acts
- Good Samaritan Laws – Liability for Emergency Care
- Charitable Immunity & Liability Act of 1987 Texas Law
- [www.texmed.org/pmt/lel/volunteerprotectionact](http://www.texmed.org/pmt/lel/volunteerprotectionact)

# Questions



# Register to Volunteer with the Medical Reserve Corps

[www.metroplexvolunteers.com](http://www.metroplexvolunteers.com)

1. Click on "Dallas County"
2. Select "Register to Volunteer"
3. Follow prompts to complete form.

Thank You!