



Region IV MRC Update

May, 2007

Welcome New MRC Units!

Please welcome our newest units:

Southwest Georgia Regional MRC, located in Albany, will cover a fourteen-county area that is prone to flooding, tornadoes and hurricanes (including several of the counties that were hit by the tornadoes that came through Georgia in March). They are well integrated with their Local Emergency Planning Committee, Citizen Corps and area hospitals.

SCMed6 MRC, housed within Region Six of the Department of Health and Environmental Control, will cover Williamsburg, Georgetown and Horry counties in the coastal region of South Carolina.

Anderson County MRC, located in Lawrenceburg, Kentucky, is located just south of the the state capital of Frankfort, and is housed in the county health department.

This brings us to a total of 117 registered units within our eight-state region, 653 across the US. If you know of a community that would like to start its own MRC Unit, please have them contact the Regional Coordinator, Elizabeth Fitch at (404) 562-4276 or elizabeth.fitch@hhs.gov. Units may apply for registration through the MRC website. Your support for these new units as they develop is very much appreciated.

Unit Coordinators: Three Region IV MRC units have been de-registered due to inactivity. In order to maintain registration with the MRC program, please keep your unit profile up-to-date. If you need assistance in updating your unit profile, contact the Regional Coordinator.

South Carolina Reaches MRC Milestone!

The state of South Carolina has reached quite a milestone in the development of MRC's around the state. According to Max Learner, Executive Director of the Office of Public Health Preparedness for the Department of Health and Environmental Control, "Eight Medical Reserve Corps units have now been established to serve all 46 counties in South Carolina. This is an important step that improves our communities' ability to respond to a disaster. We will be recruiting and training volunteers to serve on teams who can support public health and medical response to hurricanes, disease outbreaks or other emergency situations. I believe that the Medical Reserve Corps is a valuable organization, as the volunteer medical professionals know their communities and resources."

Congratulations to South Carolina for being the first state in Region IV to have 100% MRC coverage!

Don't forget to regularly visit the [National MRC Website](#): sponsored by the [Office of the Surgeon General](#)
Medical Reserve Corps is a partner program with [Citizen Corps](#)

2007 MRC National Leadership Conference Highlights

The 2007 Medical Reserve Corps National Leadership and Training Conference had the theme of “Forging Powerful Partnerships” and that’s exactly what we did! Presentations from the conference will be available on the MRC Website soon.



RADM Kenneth Moritsugu, Acting Surgeon General, visits with Region IV MRC Leaders during the Regional Breakout Session (photo by Joanne Mauro)



CAPT Clara Cobb makes opening remarks during the Regional Breakout Session



Missy Baxley and Penny Dendy (Southwest Alabama Medical Preparedness) talk about their poster with conference attendees



Steve Cole of the Knoxville MRC participates in small group work during the Sustainability session

Board Governance and You!

Boards aren't just for nonprofits! Many MRC Units have advisory boards that help to set policy and direction for the unit. For more information on developing and maintaining an advisory board, try these resources:



- Explanation of Board Responsibilities: http://non-profit-governance.suite101.com/article.cfm/nonprofit_board_responsibilities
- Building a Board: http://non-profit-governance.suite101.com/article.cfm/creating_a_nonprofit_board
- BoardSource: Building Effective Nonprofit Boards – although some of the site is members-only, there is a lot of good, basic information available for free <http://www.boardsource.org/>
- CompassPoint's Board Café: <http://www.compasspoint.org/boardcafe/index.php>

Upcoming Events of Interest:

- May 10, 10:00 – 11:15 a.m. ET – **Integrating Community Health Centers in Community Response** webcast
<http://www.ualbanycphp.org/GRS/eventCurrent.cfm?id=85>
- May 11, 2:00 – 3:00 p.m. ET - **Healthy Places Leading to Healthy People: Community Engagement Improves Health for All** webcast
<http://publichealthgrandrounds.unc.edu>
- May 17, 9:00 – 10:30 a.m. PT – **Pandemic Influenza Preparedness for Schools** broadcast <http://www.cdlnh.com/Schools.info>
- May 19-20, Nashville Tennessee - **Emergency Animal Rescue Service Volunteer Training** <http://www.uan.org/index.cfm?navid=27>
- June 21, 2:00 – 3:00 ET – **Preparedness Symposium: Innovative Preparedness Projects at the Local Level** webcast -
<http://www2.sph.unc.edu/nccphp/symposium/index.htm>
- June 19-21, Nashville Tennessee - **Spill of National Significance (SONS) 07 Exercise** <http://sons-program.org/>

Logo Use Reminder

This is just a reminder that the MRC logo is a legally protected trademark. Because the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services owns the logo, HHS is responsible for protecting it from misuse. In order to protect the logo, there is an authorization process that everyone must go through before using the logo on any item. Once applicants have completed the online authorization process, they have the opportunity to download several high-quality versions of the MRC logo. These versions are the only logos that are authorized for use by MRC units and partner programs. Copying the logo from the MRC website banner will result in an unauthorized logo. If the version of the

logo you are using looks like this:  or this:  (edges cut off), you are using an unauthorized version of the logo and will need to go through the authorization process to download the correct version of the logo. For more information on the logo and approval process, visit:

<http://www.medicalreservecorps.gov/MemberResources/MRCLogo>.

Helpful Online Resources

Just a reminder: There is a collection of websites that may be useful to MRC Unit Coordinators available at: <http://www.furl.net/members/Region4MRC> The easiest way to look at these links is by topic - if you go to the archive page, click on the drop-down box next to “filter by topic” (at the top of the page) and you will see the topics available. Pick a topic, such as Risk Management/Liability, and click the “search” button, and you will see the web resources I’ve collected under that topic, along with a brief clipping from the page and possibly a note from me about the link. Recent additions include:

Recruiting Hard to Find Members, Pet Friendly Shelter Trailer, Association of Volunteer Resources Management and Administration for Children and Families.

Be sure to check out the new Topic: Communication. Happy Surfing!

Upcoming Health Observances

May is National Older Americans Month
<http://www.aoa.gov/press/oam/oam.asp>

May 6-12 is National Nurses Week



<http://www.nursingworld.org/pressrel/nnw/>

May 12 is National Animal Disaster Preparedness Day
<http://www.uan.org/index.cfm?navid=36>

May 12-17 is National Police Week
<http://www.nationalpoliceweek.com/>

May 18 is HIV Vaccine Awareness Day



<http://www3.niaid.nih.gov/news/events/HVAD>

May 20 is the International AIDS Candlelight Memorial
<http://www.candlelightmemorial.org/>

May 20-26 is National Hurricane Awareness Week
<http://www.nhc.noaa.gov/HAW2/english/intro.shtml>

May 20-26 is National EMS Week



<http://www.acep.org/webportal/Advocacy/EMS/Week/default.htm>

May 26 is the National Day of Family Preparedness

June 27 is National HIV Testing Day



<http://www.omhrc.gov/hivaidsobservances/testing/index.html>

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