

The **Medical Reserve Corps** Program Office is based in the Office of the United States Surgeon General. It functions as a clearinghouse for information and best practices to help communities establish, implement and maintain **MRC** units across the nation. The **MRC** Program Office hosts a website, sponsors an annual leadership conference, provides technical assistance and coordinates with local, state, regional and national organizations and agencies to help communities achieve their local visions for public health and emergency preparedness. **MRC** Regional Coordinators, stationed nationwide in the 10 HHS Regional Offices, also facilitate and encourage coordination between **MRC** units.



### Medical Reserve Corps

The **Medical Reserve Corps** is sponsored by the Office of the Surgeon General, in cooperation with the White House's USA Freedom Corps and the Department of Homeland Security's Citizen Corps.



## NORTHEAST MISSOURI MEDICAL RESERVE CORPS



#### MRC Statistics

Units: 742      Volunteers: 155,848

### How Do MRC Volunteers Help in Non-Emergency Times

During non-emergency times, **MRC** volunteers strengthen the overall health of Americans by participating in general public health initiatives such as flu vaccination clinics and diabetes detection programs. The U.S. Surgeon General has outlined his priorities for the health of individuals and the nation as a whole. He encourages **MRC**

volunteers to increase disease prevention and eliminate health disparities in addition to public health preparedness.



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### Northeast Missouri Medical Reserve Corps

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### Strengthening the Public Health Infrastructure and Improving Emergency Preparedness



## About the Medical Reserve Corps



The **Medical Reserve Corps (MRC)** was founded after President Bush's 2002 State of the Union Address, in

which he asked all Americans to volunteer in support of their country. The **MRC** is a partner program of Citizen Corps, a national network of volunteers dedicated to ensuring hometown security. Citizen Corps, along with the Corporation for National and Community Service, and the Peace Corps are all part of the President's USA Freedom Corps, which promotes volunteerism and service throughout the nation.

**MRC** units are community-based and function as a way to locally organize and utilize volunteers—medical professionals and others—who want to donate their time and expertise to promote healthy living throughout the year and to prepare for and respond to emergencies. **MRC** volunteers supplement existing local emergency and public health resources.

**MRC** volunteers include medical, mental, and public health professionals such as physicians, nurses, pharmacists, dentists, veterinarians, epidemiologists, and counselors. Other community members, such as interpreters, chaplains, office workers, and legal advisors, can fill other vital support positions.

## The NEMO MCR Mission

The **Northeast Missouri Medical Reserve Corps** is a volunteer group that can supplement existing community emergency

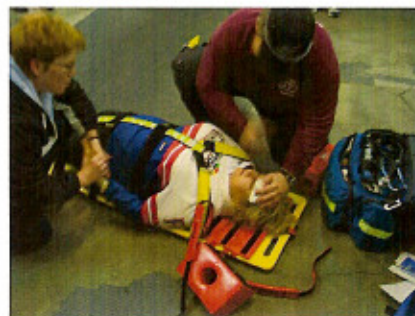
medical resources, as well as contribute to meeting the public health needs of the community.

## Organizing an MRC Unit

Every community is different, so every community will approach the task of establishing its **MRC** unit differently. The **MRC** website, [www.medicalreservecorps.gov](http://www.medicalreservecorps.gov), includes general guidelines covering many key issues to assist with planning as well as sample brochures, presentations, and information documents created by other **MRC** units.

**MRC** communities nationwide are implementing innovative ideas on strengthening their region's everyday public health infrastructure while increasing emergency preparedness through teambuilding activities and exercises.

Local government agencies or not-for-profit organizations, including health departments, boards of health, faith-based organizations, emergency management agencies, and Citizen Corps Councils are encouraged to sponsor **MRC** units. Partnerships are key to the success and sustainability of the **MRC**, so leaders are strongly encouraged to establish a strong community network with response partners, government officials, and even local businesses to help identify needs, negotiate differences, work out conflicts, and optimize shared resources.



## What Background Do I Need to Become an MRC Volunteer?

The **MRC** program seeks volunteers to assist with emergency preparedness and response efforts. Volunteers in the **MRC** program include:

- Practicing, retired, or otherwise employed medical professionals, such as doctors, nurses, emergency medical technicians, pharmacists, nurses' assistants, and others.
- Public health professionals.
- Community members without medical training can assist with administrative and other essential support functions.

## What Can MRC Volunteers Do?

- Support local public health initiatives and emergency preparedness initiatives.
- Assist local hospitals and health departments with surge personnel needs.
- Participate in community preparedness activities, such as exercises for shelters, mass prophylaxis, vaccination clinics, and other emergency scenarios.
- Train with local emergency response partners for mass casualty events.
- Staff Red Cross Shelters.
- Respond to large incidents for firefighter rehabilitation.

