

Mercer County Medical Reserve Corps Mercer County Division of Public Health

Plan, Prepare and Protect

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Welcome

- Your help is needed to assist the large volume of people who come to emergency clinics
- Without volunteers like you, it would take far longer to provide the services needed to deal with public health emergencies

We Live in a Different World

- After September 11, 2001, America witnessed an outpouring of selflessness and heroism. People in every corner of the country asked, “What can I do?” and “How can I help?”
- Medical Reserve Corps are being created to help answer these questions.
- MRC volunteers were called to help the Hurricane Katrina survivors

What is The Medical Reserve Corps ?

- The Medical Reserve Corps is made of community volunteers, practicing and retired health professionals dedicated to helping during large-scale public health emergencies
- Made of volunteers throughout the state and the nation
- Trained volunteers who can respond quickly

What is The Medical Reserve Corps ?

- A division of Citizen Corps
- Community and Medical volunteers
- New Jersey and nationwide volunteers
- Help your community
- Free training

How do I become a member?

- The Medical Reserve Corps is currently accepting members online.
- Go to: <http://njmrc.nj.gov/hcpr/>, to pre-register as a volunteer
- Attend the MRC orientation and trainings, and show your personal i.d.
- Get your official MRC i.d. card

When will I be called to volunteer?

- You will receive a phone call and/or email, when the MRC is activated
- You will be called if you are available based on your skills and the emergency's needs
- Bring your official MRC i.d. card

County Health Department Preparedness Goals

- Recruit and train volunteers to work safely and efficiently during a disaster
- Increase our surge capacity during the initial stages of a large scale event
- Improve the overall readiness of the community to effectively respond to a disaster
- Protect and assure the health and well-being of our community before and after a disaster

Types of Emergencies Requiring Volunteer Assistance

- Natural Disasters
 - Floods
 - Hurricanes
 - Snow Storms
- Biological/Chemical/Nuclear Terrorist Attacks
- Unusual disease outbreaks or suspected bioterrorism incidents requiring mass immunization/medication distribution
- Explosions

Who covers me for liability while volunteering?

- Mercer County Office of Emergency Management
- Emergency Health Powers Act
P.L. 2005, c. 222
October 19, 2005
- Section 19: Immunity
 - A public entity and its agents, officers, employees, servants or representatives of a public entity, including volunteers, shall not be liable for an injury, EXCEPT for conduct that constitutes a crime, actual fraud, malice, gross negligence or willful misconduct

Mercer County Partners

- Mercer County Office of Emergency Management
- Bioterrorism Advisory Committee
- Local Mercer County Health Departments
- Mercer County Government
- Mercer County Hospitals
- Mercer Street Friends
- Mercer COAD
- Mercer County CERT

Why become an MRC volunteer?

- First to know how to protect yourself
- Will become a 2nd tier First Responder
 - To protect yourself and family
- Feel connected and appreciated
- Join a statewide and countrywide volunteer corp
- To Make a Difference!

Health Care Volunteers

- Physicians
- Nurses
- Pharmacists
- Mental Health Professionals
- Dentists
- Veterinarians

Health Care Volunteers Are Needed To:

- Assist existing medical professionals
- Health intake screenings – (medical histories)
- Administer immunizations
- Distribute medication
- Assist in triage
- Check vitals/Medical clearance
- Manage medication stockpile

Community Volunteers

- Health Educators
- Counselors
- Social workers
- IT professionals
- Clergy
- Translators/Interpreters
- All other interested residents

Community Volunteers Are Needed To:

- Greet the public during clinics
- Assist existing personnel
- Distribute forms
- Collect forms
- Translate for the non-English speaking public
- Provide courier service
- Maintain supplies

Thank You!

- Through MRC, volunteers can learn to help out in their community and keep their own families safe during a public health threat
- Your help as a member of the MRC is both appreciated and vital to the safety of your own family and to everyone in Mercer County.

Any Questions??

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