

New York City



# New York City Medical Reserve Corps



**May 2015**

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## Third Annual NYC MRC Symposium A Rousing Success!

On Sunday, May 26th, NYC MRC members gathered at NYU Kimmel Center for the Third Annual NYC MRC Symposium.

The Department of Health and Mental Hygiene was well represented by Dr. Mary Bassett, Commissioner, and Marisa Raphael, Deputy Commissioner of the Office of Emergency Preparedness and Response. Dr. Bassett praised NYC MRC, noting your commitment to public health and emergency response. She thanked MRC members for service during Ebola, as well as your service at public health events.

The theme "**Confronting Ebola**" was explored by our three speakers.

Dr. Sheri Fink, two-time Pulitzer Prize winner spoke of her experiences as an observer in West Africa. Dr. Dario Gonzalez, Medical Director for FDNY, introduced the history of Ebola, and spoke of his experiences as a medical doctor in West Africa. Mitch Stripling, Assistant Commissioner of the Office of Emergency Preparedness and Response, addressed the Ebola response in NYC.

Everyone in attendance enjoyed lunch, the home made cookies baked by Betty and everyone appreciated the MRC logo fleece that was the present for attending the conference.

**See photos on next page...**

## Why I Volunteer ?



**Kimberly Kahn, Veterinarian**

**How long have you been a member of NYC MRC?**

Two years.

**What is your profession?**

I am a veterinarian in private practice, treating dogs, cats and exotic pets.

**What MRC activities have you participated in lately?**

Pet Preparedness training, the Rabies vaccination clinic in Brooklyn, and the FDNY exercise in the East River tunnel.

**Why do you volunteer for NYC MRC?**

Volunteering for MRC is a way of making the city I love safer and stronger. Animals are an inextricable part of life in our city, and when we think about preparedness and public health, we have to remember that people share this city with pets, working animals, wildlife, zoo animals, and others. I want to use my perspective as a veterinarian to help make our city safer and stronger for animals and people alike.



## Upcoming Trainings and Events



30th ANNUAL

**AIDS  
WALK  
NEW YORK**

**MAY 17, 2015**

### Join NYC MRC for Aids Walk NY 2015

NYC Medical Reserve Corps will again sponsor a team for the Aids Walk, which will be held on **Sunday, May 17<sup>th</sup>** in Central Park. This is an opportunity to show New Yorkers our MRC pride, raise money for a good cause, and get to know some great MRC members.

To learn more, register for our team, and/or donate, go to:

<https://ny.aidswalk.net/Team/View/5658/NYC-Medical-Reserve-Corps-8264>

### Infection Control

DOHMH is responsible, in biological emergencies, for preventing exposure and transmission in all sectors of NYC. This effort is challenged by the size of the city, and by the many and intricate interfaces and interactions between and among populations, infrastructures, and environments. Standard infection and exposure control guidance tends to address discrete populations, predictable exposures, and controlled environments. Nevertheless, established infection control principles, adapted to account for scale, complexity, and uncertainty, provide a sound basis for effectively managing all phases of a biological emergency. This presentation examines infection control for Ebola and other large scale, population based, infection and exposure control in our multifaceted and densely populated urban environment.

This presentation will be given by **Pamela Kellner, RN, MPH**

**Date:** Tuesday, May 19th

**Time:** 6:00pm — 8:00pm

**Location:** The Churchill School, 301 E. 29th Street, New York, NY

**Registration:** <https://a816-healthpsi.nyc.gov/MRCSelfServe/>



### Therapy Animals: Helping People Heal After Disaster Events

Learn about the healing and therapeutic benefits of Animal Assisted Interactions (AAI) and the nature of the human/animal bond

Learn how Therapy Animals help during disasters, and have been used after Hurricane Sandy, in the Newton school shooting, and other disasters. Learn how visits from therapy animals can motivate people in occupational and physical therapy and psychotherapy, and reading intervention programs

“Dogs can substantially reduce stress, discomfort or fear of a painful procedure and they give patients a feeling of being accepted despite their physical condition,” (*AAMC Reporter, 2005*). “Therapy dogs may lead to better health outcomes, such as lower blood pressure, less stress and anxiety, fewer requests for pain medication, and shorter recovery times (*Roth, 1999*).

This training will be presented by Nancy George-Michalson from the New York Therapy Animals organization.

**Date:** Tuesday, June 9th

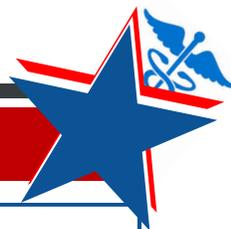
**Time:** 6:00pm - 8:00pm

**Location:** The Churchill School, 301 East 29 Street, Manhattan

**Registration:** <https://a816-healthpsi.nyc.gov/MRCSelfServe/>



# Upcoming Trainings and Events



## MRC Orientation

This training is an introduction to NYC MRC. It is a great overview for both new members and longtime members, and is the prerequisite for our most popular trainings. Orientation explores how MRC fits into the bigger emergency response picture, what NYC MRC members will do, what protections are offered, and what you can do to be prepared.

**Date:** Sunday, June 14th

**Time:** 10:00am - 12:00pm

**Location:** 125 Worth Street, New York, NY 10013

**Registration:** <https://a816-healthpsi.nyc.gov/MRCSelfServe/>

New York City



## Patient Evacuation: Who do you save first?

In an emergency, who do you evacuate first? When do your priorities change, and why? In this interactive session, participants will learn the fundamentals of patient prioritization in evacuation based on the speaker's own experiences in Hurricane Irene and Super Storm Sandy, and you will have a chance to practice decision-making in a variety of hypothetical scenarios.

**Date:** Tuesday, June 16th

**Time:** 6:00pm — 8:00pm

**Location:** The Churchill School, 301 E. 29th Street, New York, NY 10016

**Registration:** <https://a816-healthpsi.nyc.gov/MRCSelfServe/>



## NYC MRC Volunteer Response To The Needs of Vulnerable Populations

The DOHMH Bureau of Policy, Community Resilience and Response will provide Medical Reserve Corps (MRC) volunteers an interactive workshop that explores and defines vulnerabilities in NYC and discusses the implications with the Post-Emergency Canvassing Operation (PECO). Workshop participants will explore and define vulnerable populations in NYC, participate in coastal storm and heat wave breakout sessions specific to MRC response, and learn about PECO and Disability and Functional Access Needs (DAFN).

**Date:** Tuesday, June 23rd

**Time:** 6:00pm - 8:00pm

**Location:** The Churchill School, 301 E. 29th Street, New York, NY 10016

**Registration:** <https://a816-healthpsi.nyc.gov/MRCSelfServe/>



# Public Health Activities



## Public Health Activities

### BLOOD PRESSURE SCREENINGS

In collaboration with Lutheran Community Health, MRC has been asked to provide MRC members to help with blood pressure screenings at two churches in Brooklyn:

**Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church**, 59<sup>th</sup> St. and 5<sup>th</sup> Ave., Brooklyn  
Sunday, May 24<sup>th</sup> – 10:30am – 1:00pm

**Language:** Spanish

**Our Lady of Refuge Church** 2020 Foster Ave., Brooklyn  
Wednesday, May 20<sup>th</sup>— 10am—12:30pm

**Language:** Creole



### PHARMACISTS BROWN BAG RX REVIEWS

We have added a new initiative to our Public Health Activities: Brown Bag Medication Reviews. Community members are invited to bring their medications in a “brown bag” and pharmacists will review their purpose and how they are to be taken. Three Spanish speaking MRC pharmacists participated in our first Brown Bag Review last Saturday, and we hope to do many more. This is a great opportunity for Pharmacists to volunteer.

### BROWN BAG RX REVIEW — PHARMACISTS NEEDED

#### Brooklyn Section Health & Education Fair

Von King Cultural Arts Center/Park, Between Green and Lafayette Avenues

Saturday, June 20<sup>th</sup> from 11:30am – 4:30pm

**Language:** English



## Update Your Record

We rely on the data in **ServNY** to reach you in times of emergency or disaster. It is very important to keep your record up to date. You can do this in three ways:

- 1) Update your own record at: <http://bit.ly/1C5YvCr>
- 2) Send your current/new data to: [healthmrc@health.nyc.gov](mailto:healthmrc@health.nyc.gov)
- 3) Call us at **347-233-1545** or **347-396-6248**

**Thank You!**



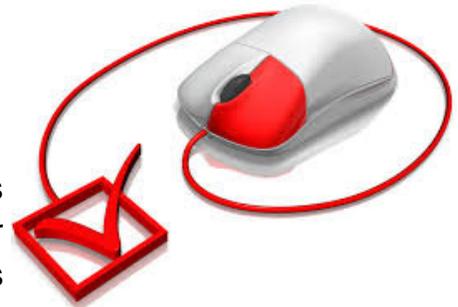


## Notes on our New Registration System

As many of you have discovered, we began using our MRC Self-Scheduling System (SSS) for emergency events and training registrations. The purpose of this system is to allow you to become accustomed to the tool, and for us to find and fix any “kinks” that may exist.

### Here are some things you should know about logging on:

- The Self-Scheduling System coordinates with ServNY to confirm your identity. You must enter your first name, last name and email address *exactly as you entered in your ServNY* profile. Failure to provide the exact information will result in an automated “Error in verifying your credentials” message and you will be unable to log in.
- Once logged in to the SSS, it will ask you to confirm your current phone number. When your phone number has been validated, you will arrive at the “Search Shifts” page.
- Click on the “Event” drop down to choose the event you are interested in. You will then see the entire list of shift dates, shift times and total needs available for your profession.
- You can choose to narrow your search on the “Search Shifts” page by choosing a “Borough” or a date range in the “Search Between” drop down.
- If all shifts for an event or site are full, it will not appear on your screen. This means if you are looking for an event, and you cannot find it, it is closed to new registrants.
- Once you have successfully registered, the system will automatically send you a confirmation email
- This system is designed to be used on a computer. It has some compatibility with Droid tablets, but does not work with iPads and is not phone enabled.



Thank you for your patience with learning this new system. It is our hope that SSS will make it much easier for you to volunteer during large scale emergencies, smaller events as well as trainings.

## Follow MRC on Facebook and Twitter



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[www.fb.com/nycmrc/](http://www.fb.com/nycmrc/)

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medical  
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