New York City Medical Reserve Corps

October 2015

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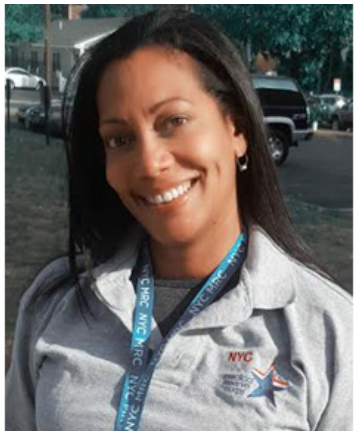
Happy Anniversary Haddie!

In our September 2010 newsletter, we welcomed Haddie Lizasuain to the NYC MRC Team. Since then, Haddie has been an invaluable member of NYC MRC. As our coordinator, she ensures that all our events run smoothly, and that our volunteers are always taken care of. Last year, Haddie was awarded the DOHMH's Professional Excellence Award. Thank you, Haddie, for remaining a part of our team!

EMERGENCY NOTIFICATION DRILL

Thanks to all of you who responded to the emergency notification drill on Sept. 16. We had a 56.2% response rate.

Why I Volunteer



Johnnita Woods, RN

How long have you been a member of NYC MRC?
I have been a member of NYC MRC since 2015.

What is your profession?
I am a Registered Nurse and my goal is to obtain an MSN/MPH dual degree.

What MRC activities have you participated in lately?
I recently participated in the Post Emergency Canvassing Operations (PECO) in East Harlem, going door to door asking a series of questions using an electronic survey tool to ascertain critical needs. I also participated with outreach teams providing information to Bronx residents regarding the Legionnaire's outbreak.

Are you involved in any other volunteer activities?
I also volunteer with NYCARES. I have assisted post-incarcerated individuals with résumé and employment assistance and participated yearly in annual winter coat drives for people in need.

Why do you volunteer for NYC MRC?
I chose to volunteer with NYC MRC because volunteers are valuable resources during public health emergencies. Volunteering with NYC MRC has also given me opportunities to apply my skills and knowledge as a nurse, while creating social interactions and networking with other NYC MRC volunteers. As an NYC MRC volunteer, I am able to assist and educate communities, while bringing joy and fulfillment to individuals in need.

Upcoming Trainings and Events

Post-Emergency Canvassing Operations (PECO) Drill

Join the Department of Health for a test of our Post-Emergency Canvassing Operations (PECO) protocols! In the event of a disaster or emergency, city personnel will be expected to go door-to-door, verifying the safety of residents in every affected household. We will be holding a full-scale, all-day exercise to test the current version of our procedures and software. We need approximately 30 volunteers to help make this test a success.

Date: Thursday, October 8th

Time: 9:00 am — 4:00 pm

Location: 116-15 Rockaway Beach Blvd

To register, please send an email to: healthmrc@health.nyc.gov

Please include name, profession and cell #

FDNY Gas Explosion Exercise

Join the FDNY in a disaster simulation! The FDNY needs volunteers to play victims and reporters in a simulated explosion in the cafeteria of SIUH's North Campus. MRC Volunteers should arrive at 6:00 pm for moulage and briefing. If you have some old scrubs you don't mind getting dirty, please wear them!

Date: Tuesday, October 20th

Time: 6:00 pm — 10:00 pm

Location: Staten Island University Hospital North Campus, 475 Seaview Ave

Registration: https://a816-healthpsi.nyc.gov/MRCSelfServe/

Smallpox Tabletop

Please join us to learn about smallpox and to learn about how decisions are made in an epidemic. This training will be given by Dr. W. Craig Vanderwagen, who was the senior federal health official in the response to Hurricanes Katrina and Rita in Louisiana, and many international responses.

In this exercise, you help decide what the response will be.

Date: Thursday, October 22nd

Time: 6:00 pm — 8:00 pm, registration & light supper at 5:30pm

Location: The Churchill School and Center, 301 E 29th St, 10016

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: Wednesday, October 28th

Time: 6:00 pm - 8:00 pm, registration & light supper at 5:30pm

Location: 301 East 29th St, New York, NY 10016

Registration: https://a816-healthpsi.nyc.gov/MRCSelfServe/

Active Shooter: What Can You Do?

An "active shooter" is an individual actively engaged in killing or attempting to kill people in a confined space or other populated area. Typically, the immediate deployment of law enforcement is required to stop the shooting and mitigate harm to victims. This course provides guidance to individuals so that they can prepare to respond to an active shooter situation. By the end of this course, participants will be able to:

- Describe actions to take when confronted with an active shooter and responding law enforcement officials.
- Describe actions to take to prevent and prepare for potential active shooter incidents.
- Describe how to manage the consequences of an active shooter incident.

Date: Thursday, October 29th

Time: 6:00 pm - 8:00 pm, registration & light supper at 5:30pm

Location: 301 East 29th St, New York, NY 10016

Registration: https://a816-healthpsi.nyc.gov/MRCSelfServe/

Welcome Back Civic Corps!

We are pleased to welcome back Matt Geiger for his second term as an NYC Civic Corps Member/MRC Associate. As many of you may remember from last year, Matt studied anthropology and political science at Bard College, and intends to make a career in emergency management. He still drinks nearly a gallon of tea a day, and he still likes St. Bernard puppies.

We are also pleased to welcome Sorrel Stetson to her first term as an NYC Civic Corps Member/MRC Associate. Sorrel is a graduate of Hunter College, where she completed an Honors degree in interdisciplinary studies, with a focus on political and military history and public policy. She is thrilled to be learning about emergency management at DOHMH.

MRC in Action

Full-Scale PECO Exercise

FDNY Block Party

BP Screenings in Brownsville

BP Screenings in Hollis

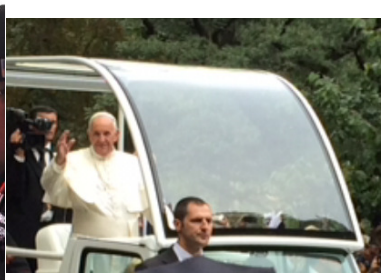
FDNY Block Party

Councilman Ydanis Rodriguez Gets A BP Screening at an FDNY Block Party

Pediatric BP Screenings in Inwood

MRC in Action

BP Screenings at Our Lady of Perpetual Help



NYC MRC Provides First Aid at the Papal Visit in Central Park

Upcoming Public Health Events

BLOOD PRESSURE SCREENINGS

In collaboration with our community partners, the MRC has been asked to provide volunteers to help with blood pressure screenings at several locations throughout the city:

St. Elizabeth's 268 Wadsworth Avenue, Manhattan
Sunday, October 4th — 9:00am—2:00pm
Language: Spanish
Please note that we will also do Pharmacy reviews

Salvation Army 520 50th St, Brooklyn
Tuesday, October 13th — 10:00am—2:00pm
Language: Spanish, Chinese
Please note that this event will include BMI Screenings

Our Lady of Refuge 2020 Foster Avenue, Brooklyn
Wednesday, October 7th & October 21st — 10:00am—12:30pm
Language: Creole

Our Lady of Perpetual Help 526 59th St, Brooklyn
Sunday, October 25th — 10:30am—1:00pm
Language: Spanish

Mt. Gilead 1682 Morris Avenue, Bronx
Sunday, October 25th — 1:30pm—4:00pm
Language: Spanish

Latino Family Health Awareness Day

Join us at the East Harlem Asthma Center of Excellence for the 7th Annual celebration of Latino Family Health Awareness Day! This annual health fair has a special focus on HIV/AIDS in the Latino community, but seeks to provide a variety of general health screenings. This year the MRC needs volunteers to provide blood pressure screenings.

East Harlem Asthma Center of Excellence, 161-169 East 110th St
Friday, October 16th — 2:00pm—7:00pm
Language: Spanish and English

Articles of Interest

Abigail Zuger, M.D., "When the Influence of a Former Doctor Lingers," *The New York Times*, June 8, 2015. What do we do when a patient's prior prescriptions and health routines don't seem right?

Susan Cutter and Christopher Emrich, "A Tale of Two Recoveries: 5 Lessons from Hurricanes Katrina and Sandy," Emergency Management, June 25, 2015. What do Sandy and Katrina tell us about the role of geography and social factors in recovery?

Gloria L. Krahn, Deborah Klein Walker, and Rosaly Correa-De-Araujo, "Persons with Disabilities as an Unrecognized Health Disparity Population," American Journal of Public Health, 105.S2 (2015): S198-S206, doi: 10.2105/AJPH.2014.302182. What issues need to be considered when addressing healthcare access and emergency preparedness for disabled populations?