

New York City



New York City Medical Reserve Corps



August 2014

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Progress Report:

NYC MRC Self – Assignment Application

We have now finished the Beta Testing of the Self-Assignment Application and are completing the final tweaks before the application goes live. Thanks to all of the NYC MRC Advisory Board members who participated in the testing.

Once the application is live, we will begin to use this tool For training and exercise registrations. Our goal is for all MRC members to be familiar and comfortable with this tool before we use it for a deployment.

This application will allow you to choose your own shifts during activations.



Why I Volunteer



Barbara Cohen, Ph.D
Psychologist

How many years have you been a member of NYC MRC?
Since 2008

What is your profession?
Psychologist

What MRC activities have you participated in lately? (trainings, exercises, etc.)?
Recent trainings on Resiliency, Geographical Information Systems, CPR. Participated in preparedness exercises at Downstate, Coney Island Hospital, and Brownsville Clinic. I am a member of the Resiliency and Emotional Support Team (REST).

Why do you volunteer for NYC MRC?
I am very grateful to our country for the safety and opportunity provided to my family , and I equally love New York City. It is a great feeling to be of service and to be part of the MRC community.

Volunteers Needed!



August Public Health Events:

Health First is sponsoring three Health and Wellness Expos in underserved locations in NYC. They expect over 2,500 visitors per Expo and they need our help.

MRC members have been invited to conduct blood pressure screening and educational services to the attendees.

The Health and Wellness Expos are held on **Saturdays from 10am to 5pm** at the following:

The Dr. Greene Playground, Brownsville, Brooklyn NY – August 2, 2014 has been **CANCELLED**



- Gouverneur Playground, Claremont Village, Bronx, NY – August 9, 2014
- Adam Clayton Powell State Office Building Plaza, Harlem, NY – August 23, 2014
- Dr. Greene Playground, Brownsville, Brooklyn, NY—September 20, 2014

Also, GOLES (Good Old Lower East Side) has invited MRC to participate in an event on **Friday, Aug. 8th, from 2:00—6:00 pm** at the East River Dance Oval, East River Park by the Houston St. Entrance. We will be providing blood pressure screenings, education, and simple first aid.

If you are willing to participate in any of these events, please send an email to: healthmrc@health.nyc.gov

Please include your name, location you would like to serve, profession, phone number and email

Veterinarians Needed! Save the Dates!

Our rabies vaccination clinic for pets, in conjunction with DOHMH Bureau of Veterinary Services, was such a great success that the bureau is planning on offering free rabies vaccinations in underserved communities—one in each of the five boroughs. MRC veterinarians will be crucial to the success of these free pet clinics. We will need 6 veterinarians at each event.

All will be held on weekends in September:

Sat, Sept. 6,

Sat., Sept. 13,

Sun., Sept. 14, Salt Marsh Nature Center, Brooklyn

Sat., Sept 20 Blue Heron Nature Center, Staten Island

Sun., Sept. 21

Please mark your calendars! We will provide more details as soon as we have them.



National Preparedness Month

National Preparedness Month is a national initiative that occurs every September when organizations and agencies across the country host events throughout the month to promote community preparedness.

This year NYC MRC will partner with OEM and other agencies to kick off the month on **Friday, September 5th** at transportation hubs throughout all five boroughs (approximate 6AM-6PM). This is always a fun event that volunteers for many different organizations get involved with. If you are interested in volunteering for a shift at one of the sites this year please sign up through Eventbrite at the below links.

Volunteers Needed:

Help package and hand out Ready New York materials to commuters and other pedestrians

Answer any questions that people may have about emergency preparedness/OEM

Assist in set up/breakdown of site

Shifts are from 6-12 and 12-6 at each of these locations.

OEM is coordinating this event

Kickoff Sites (subject to change)

CLICK ON THE LINK TO REGISTER TO VOLUNTEER:

Brooklyn - Borough Hall <http://npmbrooklyn.eventbrite.com>

Manhattan - Herald Square <http://npmmanhattan.eventbrite.com>

Queens - Jamaica Center <http://npmqueens.eventbrite.com>

Bronx - Fordham Plaza <http://npmbronx.eventbrite.com>

Staten Island -TBD <http://npmstatenisland.eventbrite.com>

Please wear your MRC shirt and show your MRC pride!



Upcoming MRC Trainings



Really Cool Radiological Stuff or Why You Should Volunteer During Radiological Events

Date: Tuesday, August 5th

Location: The Churchill School, 301 East 29 St, (betw.1st & 2nd Aves), Manhattan

Time: 6:00pm – 8:00pm

5:30pm – registration and light supper

To register, go to: <http://bit.ly/1lzZd0b>

Andy Karam, PhD, CHP tells all about radiation, its dangers, and what you can expect if you volunteer in a Community Reception Center. Radiation seems to worry people much more than it should, primarily because people don't know much about it. In reality, while we do have to be careful when working with it, we can work with it safely if we know what we're doing. We will be spending a few hours learning about radiation – what it can (and can't) do, how we can detect it, and how to work with it safely – to help clear up some misconceptions about radiation. We will also talk a little about what might happen during a radiological emergency and how you might be able to help out, while not putting yourself at risk.

MRC Orientation

Date: Monday, July 14th

Location: 125 Worth St., 3rd Floor Boardroom, Manhattan

Time: 6:00pm – 8:00pm - training

5:30 – registration and light supper

To register, go to: <http://bit.ly/1hmNVKN>

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 covers 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.



Radiation Injury Treatment Training

Date: Tuesday, September 23

Location: Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center

1275 York Avenue, Room M107, Manhattan (Between 67 & 68th Street)

Time: 6:00—8:00 pm

5:30—6:00pm registration and light supper

The Radiation Injury Treatment Network (RITN) will share their treatment plan for NYC in the event of a radiological event. The RITN provides comprehensive evaluation and treatment for victims of radiation exposure or other marrow-toxic injuries. This training will be given by Larry Dauer, Ph.D who is the Radiation Safety Manager and Chair of Memorial Sloan Kettering's Emergency Management Committee as well as a member of RITN. With over 25 years in the field of radiation protection and health physics, Dr. Dauer will discuss the role of RITN and how it fits into a response, what a victim profile would look like, and what treatments would be appropriate.

This training is especially targeted for members of MRC Radiological Response Corps, but is open to all members of NYC MRC.

To register, go to: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/nyc-medical-reserve-corps-radiation-injury-treatment-training-registration-12445856893>

Civic Corps Members Honored at Gracie Mansion

Rain did not dampen the celebratory spirit of the Civic Corps Recognition Ceremony held at Gracie Mansion on Tues., July 15th. Civic Corps members, including MRC's Renat Epelman and Alane Golden (pictured below with MRC staff) enjoyed a barbecue at the mansion. Mayor Bill di Blasio welcomed the group to "the people's house" and praised the work done by Civic Corps members as essential to the well being of this great city.

Renat and Alane were our first Civic Corps members serving with NYC MRC, and they set a high bar. During their ten months with us, Alane created a social media presence for MRC including designing and launching both Facebook and Twitter accounts. She also catalogued all of our MRC photographs, and took some really amazing photos, too! Renat created the NYC MRC Member Manual (coming to you in September) as well as writing the NYC MRC newsletter each month and helping to organize all the trainings, exercises and public health outreach. They have been invaluable and theirs will be hard shoes to fill.

We wish Renat and Alane all the best in their future endeavors.

Thank you Renat and Alane!!



UPDATE YOUR RECORD!

We rely on the data in ServNY to reach you in times of emergency or disaster, so it's very important to keep your record up to date. You can do this in three ways:

•go to: <https://apps.health.ny.gov/public/publogin.html>

and update your own record,

•send your new data to: healthmrc@health.nyc.gov

•call us at: [347-396-2689](tel:347-396-2689) or [347-396-2713](tel:347-396-2713)

Thank You!



ILI Sentinel Influenza Surveillance Project

The New York City Department of Health and Mental Hygiene is currently **recruiting providers throughout the five boroughs to participate in an active surveillance system for influenza-like illness (ILI)**. An influenza sentinel provider conducts surveillance for ILI in collaboration with local and state health departments and

the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Data provided by sentinel providers are combined with other influenza surveillance data to provide a national picture of influenza virus and ILI activity in the U.S. Approximately 3200 providers in 46 states were enrolled in this network during the 2013-14 influenza season.

Physicians, nurses, nurse practitioners and physician assistants of any specialty (e.g., family practice, internal medicine, pediatrics, geriatrics) **currently** working in any type of practice (e.g., private practice, public health clinic, urgent care center, emergency room, student health center) are eligible to be influenza sentinel providers.

For more information on Influenza Sentinel Provider Surveillance, please contact Beth Nivin, New York City Department of Health and Mental Hygiene at: 347-396-2616 or Alice Yeung: 347-396-2608 or via e-mail to bnivin@health.nyc.gov or ayeung@health.nyc.gov.

Articles of Interest

[Three More Cases of Plague Identified in Colorado](#)

The Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment reported on Friday that three additional cases of plague have been diagnosed. The cases are related to a recent incident in which the owner of a dog who died also contracted the illness. To read more, go to:

http://www.denverpost.com/news/ci_26173210/three-more-cases-plague-identified-colorado

[“Faces of Austerity” Report Illustrates Impact of Budget Cuts on Local Emergency Preparedness](#)

The Coalition for Health Funding released a report last week entitled, *Faces of Austerity: How Budget Cuts Hurt America’s Health*. The report illustrates the impact of budget costs across public health programs.

To read more, go to: <http://nacchopreparedness.org/?p=2523>

[CDC Director Releases After-Action Report on Recent Anthrax Incident; Highlights Steps to Improve Laboratory Quality and Safety](#)

The CDC released a report this afternoon that reviews last month’s incident that involved the unintentional exposure of personnel to potentially viable anthrax at the CDC’s Roybal Campus.

To read more, go to: <http://www.cdc.gov/media/releases/2014/p0711-lab-safety.html>

