



New York City Medical Reserve Corps



February 2013

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Emergency Notification Drill

Thanks to all of you who participated in our quarterly Emergency Notification Drill on January 30th.

Sign up for Notify NYC

Notify NYC is the City of New York's official source for information about emergency events and important City services. Registration is free. Encourage your family, friends, and colleagues to sign up for Notify NYC, the City's Emergency Notification System. **Register** for Notify NYC or follow @NotifyNYC on Twitter.

Volunteer Opportunities

Tell Your Story Campaign - In the next few weeks strategic partners including EMMP, Mahila Partnership, and ProBonoEM will be setting up a **Tell Your Story Center** in Red Hook, Brooklyn. We will invite residents, small businesses owners, and patrons of the neighborhood to come in and share their stories about life in Red Hook before, during and after Hurricane Sandy. Storytelling at the center will be documented, recorded and/or photographed, culminating in a short documentary that will serve both as a history of this neighborhood and as a fundraising tool for the community.

We need volunteers to conduct the story telling interviews. We are looking for an Interviewing Pool of 20 or more social workers, community organizers, guidance counselors and/or mental health workers. You do not need to be licensed as there will be no clinical analysis or crisis counseling performed. However, the nature of the interviews and the sensitivity of the subject matter calls for a more understanding and informed ear. For this reason we will accept students, but ask that they are at least in the second year of their program.

Details: The center will run from Saturday March 2 through Saturday March 9. There will be an orientation on Friday March 1 in the evening. Hours

Why I Volunteer



Name: Nan Canter, LMSW

MRC Member since 2006

Profession: Social Worker

What MRC/CCC activities have you participated in lately?

REST team member

FDNY/Yankee Stadium exercise

Infection Control training

Skills for Psychological Recovery

BDLS

Hurricane Sandy: served 5 shifts (60 hours) in shelters.

Are you involved in any other volunteer activities?

CERT

Why do you volunteer? When disaster came to my hometown and I found myself working alongside my fellow New Yorkers as both a volunteer and a survivor of 9/11. I realized that my disaster mental health experiences demanded skills I sorely lacked. I took a couple of courses with the American Red Cross, but was unsatisfied. When I heard about NYC's Community Emergency Response Teams (CERT) and then about the Medical Reserve Corps (MRC) I knew I'd found the answers. The ongoing training and simulations with FDNY, NYPD, US Marines and NYC hospitals have been great learning experiences and have helped me understand how victims feel. Let's be honest. We "disasterholics" are always secretly wishing something will happen so we can test ourselves. Then along came Hurricane Sandy. And, I think we have risen to this challenge. It is clear by all the "hotwashes" and "focus groups" that many of us have participated in, that going forward CERT and MRC will be essential elements in any disaster plan. I would urge members of MRC to take any opportunity offered to train with CERT or even become a CERT member.

of operations will be 10am to 6pm; Work shifts are 2 or 4 hours Interviewers will be asked to work a minimum of 2 hours shifts on any day during the week they can commit to, and a maximum of 4 hours (no one will work more than 4 hours in a single day This work is pro bono, but all participants will receive a letter from EMMP and a certificate of appreciation **To Apply:** Anyone who is interested should email: Development@EMMP-Emergency.com The subject line should be: **Tell Your Story Interviewing Pool.** Send a note about why you want to volunteer and a copy of your resume. Everyone will receive a response – Interviews will be scheduled from Feb 10 – 16, 2013.

NY Cares Disaster Response Team

New York Cares is the largest volunteer organization in the city; last year we partnered with over 1,300 non-profits, public schools and city agencies to provide essential services to the neediest New Yorkers. We're still sending teams out every day to clean out hundreds of homes and buildings, distribute food and clothing, and provide other vital relief for affected communities throughout the city. There's an enormous amount of work to be done, and we need all the help we can get. If you or anyone you know are interested in volunteering in a non-medical capacity, please visit our website at <http://newyorkcares.org/volunteer/disaster/> or contact us at info@newyorkcares.org. Thank you for your ongoing service to the people of New York.

MRC Trainings

MRC ORIENTATION

Tuesday, February 12 – Baruch College

Time: 6:00 – 8:00pm training (5:30pm – registration and food)

To register, go to: <http://nycmrcorientation-es2002.eventbrite.com/?rank=1#>

Thursday, March 21 – The Churchill School

Time: 6:00 – 8:00pm training (5:30pm – registration and food)

To register, go to: <http://nycmedicalreservecorpsorientationmarch2013.eventbrite.com/#>

This training is an introduction to 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 MRC members will do, what protections are offered, and what you can do to be prepared.

ALL HAZARDS TRAINING FOR MENTAL HEALTH PROFESSIONALS

Wednesday, February 27 – DOHMH Gotham Center

Time: 9:00 – 5:00pm

Thursday, March 28th

Time: 9:00 – 5:00pm

Calling All Mental Health Professionals!

What is the REST Team? The MRC REST (Resiliency and Emotional Support Team) is comprised of a core group of qualified, trained mental health MRC professionals who, when activated, can be rapidly mobilized to provide on-site disaster mental health services. The REST team provides disaster mental health services such as information and referral, Psychological First Aid (PFA) and crisis counseling. These services might be provided on site within DOHMH and/or at City-designated response sites.

Who qualifies to be a MRC REST Responder? MRC orientation is a pre-requisite for this course. This training is for Mental Health professionals only. You must have:

- A NYS license or certificate (i.e.- SW, Psychologist or therapist)
- Master's degree and at least two years Experience or 1 year experience with those experiencing trauma or Disaster

Volunteers Needed

To create welcome packets for new members

When: Wed, Feb. 20th

Where: DOHMH, 42-09 28 St, LIC, NY

Time: 9:00 a.m. until we are finished

*Lunch will be served
To RSVP please email healthmrc@health.nyc.gov*

- Bachelor's degree and 2 years providing mental health services
- ****You only need to take this full day course once

To register, go to: <http://nycmedicalreservecorpsallhazardstrainingformental.eventbrite.com/>

POD TRAINING

Saturday, March 2nd - Church of St Paul the Apostle Church
Time: 9:00 – 5:00pm (8:30am – registration)

Wednesday, June 5th - Church of St Paul the Apostle Church
Time: 3:00 – 9:00pm (2:30pm registration and dinner will be provided)

To register, go to:

<http://nycmedicalreservecorpspodtraining.eventbrite.com/>

For those of you who find it difficult to attend weekday trainings, this Saturday POD training is for you! PODs are an integral part of preparation for disaster response for MRC.

Points of Dispensing or PODs are emergency clinics that are set up around the city in the event of a disaster or emergency to provide mass prophylaxis to all 8.2 million of NYC's residents. Learn how PODs are organized, set up and run. Participate in activities that will familiarize you with all the facets of these clinics. Volunteers told us after Hurricane Irene that this training helped to prepare them for sheltering operations, so the skills learned from this training are transferable to other emergencies.

Please make every effort to attend one of these POD trainings.



FIELD PREPAREDNESS

Wednesday, March 13th

Time: 6:00 – 8:00pm (5:30pm – registration and food)

To register, go to: <http://mrcfieldpreparedness.eventbrite.com/#>

Conducted by the OEM Training Unit, this course will walk you through the progression of an incident from pre-deployment through demobilization. Each phase includes information detailing how OEM Watch Command, Response and EPC support interagency coordination and communication and how the Citywide Incident Management System (CIMS) ties the whole operation together. This course then describes incidents that may require field deployment of non-operations personnel. It covers rules and guidelines for deployment, reporting structure, proper tools and equipment, what to expect and how to prepare yourself operationally and mentally for your role in the field response. **Limited seating available.**

Prerequisites: MRC Orientation, ICS 100a, ICS 200b.

Infection and Exposure Control in a Biological Emergency

Wednesday, April 24th

Time: 6:00 – 8:00pm (5:30pm – registration and food)

To register, go to: <http://nycmedicalreservecorpsinfectionexposurecontrol.eventbrite.com/#>

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 covers the basics of large scale, population based, infection and exposure control in our multifaceted and densely populated urban environment. Department of Health Infection Control Coordinator, Pamela Kellner, RN, MPH will give this presentation.



Citizens Corps Training – Home owner Insurance Issues After Sandy Workshop

Tues. Feb. 12, 6:30 – 8:30

Location: 165 Cadman Plaza East, Brooklyn, NY

Because Sandy was a storm with both high winds and flooding, NYC consumers and the agencies that serve them face a complex insurance situation involving multiple policies and coverages.

Grey areas for homeowners include which policies apply, which deductibles are in effect, the differences between actual cash value and replacement value, amid a multitude of endorsements and restrictions like loss of use and ordinance or law coverage.

In this workshop, Elizabeth Malone, Project Manager for the New York Mortgage Coalition, will provide expert and specific knowledge of insurance issues and the tools needed to deliver this information to our affected communities.

In addition to insurance basics, we will discuss the methods to improve our communities' risk management, resources for recovery, and the impact of insurance on the recovery.

To register, go to: <http://www.eventbrite.com/event/5260634700>

Free Workshop

Social Media And Response Management Interface Event –

Date: Thursday, Feb 28, 2013

Time: 8:30am-5:00pm

MCNY, 431 Canal Street, 11th Floor Conference Room, New York, NY 10013

Event Description: In preparedness for a new era in crisis communications, the MPA program in Emergency and Disaster Management at MCNY would like to invite you to attend a one day free event on Social Media and Response Management Interface (SMARMIE). Come spend the day with subject matter experts from around the world, as they share the new future of disaster response and discuss:

- **Digital Humanitarian Networks**
- The new crisis communications paradigm, a real time many-to-many information model.
- VOST- Virtual Operations Support Teams.
- Crowd-sourcing, Crowd-mapping, Crowd-fencing.
- Mining social media for crisis communication and forensic analysis.

Come to SMARMIE and get up to speed

For more information and free registration, go to: www.smarmie.com

Free Webinar

Emergency Preparedness: Understanding Physicians' Concerns and Readiness to Respond

Date: Tuesday, February 12, 2013

Time: 2:00 - 3:00 pm (Eastern Time)

Call Number: 888-233-9077 Passcode: 5070816

Webinar: <https://www.mymeetings.com/nc/join.php?i=PW4267068&p=5070816&t=c>

During this COCA call, a Harvard School of Public Health researcher will share findings from their physician preparedness poll, and representatives from two professional associations will discuss policy, practice, and operational tools and resources to assist physicians in All-Hazard emergency preparedness.

For more information on this call: http://emergency.cdc.gov/coca/calls/2013/callinfo_021213.asp

Articles of Interest

REST Assured – NYC's REST Team receives coverage in the National Association of Social Workers, New York City Chapter newsletter. Scroll down to the third article and read about MRC's

REST team response. To read the article, go to :

<http://www.naswnyc.org/displaycommon.cfm?an=1&subarticlenbr=391>

Extreme Weather, Extreme Outbreaks, and Extreme Science-based Preparedness and Response

Dr. Ali Khan discusses many of last year's disasters, and elements that were employed during response and recovery. He also points out a critical gap that still remains, which is compelling the public to get involved in preparedness. To read more about this, please go to:

http://blogs.cdc.gov/publichealthmatters/2013/01/extreme-weather-extreme-outbreaks-and-extreme-science-based-preparedness-and-response/?utm_source=BNT%2C+January+24%2C+2013&utm_campaign=BNT012413&utm_medium=archive

Southern Medical Journal – The January issue is all about Physician Preparedness. To read all about it, please go to: http://blogs.cdc.gov/publichealthmatters/2013/01/extreme-weather-extreme-outbreaks-and-extreme-science-based-preparedness-and-response/?utm_source=BNT%2C+January+24%2C+2013&utm_campaign=BNT012413&utm_medium=archive