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Why I Volunteer



Mark Laster, Social Worker

How long have you been a member of NYC MRC? Since June 2014

What is your profession?

I have been a social worker for thirty five years. I have worked in Geriatrics, Behavioral Health and with survivors of Traumatic Brain Injury

What MRC activities have you participated in lately?

I have recently gone through the training for being a volunteer leader and assisted in coordinating my first Blood Pressure screening in Co-ney Island. I am also a proud member of the REST. team.

Are you involved in any other volunteer activities?

I am a member of Community Board # 6 in Queens and the Co-Chair of the National Association of Social Workers Nominations Committee. I am also on the planning committee for the Columbia University School of Social Work Alumni Conference.

Why do you volunteer for NYC MRC?

I became a social worker to save the world. As I have grown older, I have realized that saving the world is a little unrealistic. Therefore, my focus has been on saving individual worlds. The MRC allows me to help individual people and to help build resiliency in communities.

Welcome to our new Civic Corps member

Giuseppe Mercuri!



Hi all,

My name is Giuseppe Mercuri. I am a young graduate in International Relations with an Italian-American dual citizenship. I moved to the US recently and have begun this very interesting experience with the NYC Medical Reserve Corps, as a Volunteer Civic Corps member. I am interested in politics, human rights law, social and economic justice and most recently, public health. I enjoy running, playing soccer and going to the gym. Due to my Italian origins I am struggling to find a good place to eat and to have a real espresso in this city.



Follow NYC MRC on Facebook at
<https://www.facebook.com/NYCMRC>

Upcoming Trainings and Events

Save the Date— Fentanyl Training and Outreach

Fentanyl has become a major cause of opioid overdose in NYC. DOHMH has launched an initiative to educate people about the dangers of fentanyl. MRC members will learn about fentanyl, and then do outreach in communities hardest hit by overdoses.

Date: Tentatively Tuesday, Dec. 6th

Further information will follow by email.

**YOU CAN
STOP
OVERDOSE
DEATH**

Blood Pressure Training

Would you like to learn to conduct blood pressure screening and education? Here is your opportunity. This training is being given by DOHMH experts.

Date: Part 1: Monday, November 7, Part 2: Monday, November 21

You MUST attend BOTH parts to successfully complete the training.

Time: 6:00 pm—9:00 pm, Registration and light supper at 5:30

Location: 125 Worth street, Room 315

To RSVP go to: <https://a816-healthpsi.nyc.gov/MRCSelfServe/>



NYC MRC Orientation

This training is an introduction to the NYC MRC program. It is a great overview for both new members and longtime members, and is the prerequisite for our most popular trainings. NYC MRC Orientation explores how NYC 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, November 16

Time: 6:00 pm — 8:00 pm

Registration & light supper at 5:30 pm

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

To RSVP go to: <https://a816-healthpsi.nyc.gov/MRCSelfServe/>



Upcoming Public Health Events

In collaboration with our community partners, NYC MRC continues to provide blood pressure screenings and Zika information at soup kitchens, food pantries, and churches throughout the city.

We look forward to seeing you at one of these recurring events!

We have indicated what language is primarily spoken at each site, but English speakers are welcome as well.

To register for these events, go to: <https://a816-healthpsi.nyc.gov/MRCSelfServe/>

Our Lady of Solace, 2866 West 17th St, Brooklyn

Sunday, November 6 — 10:00 am—1:00 pm

Language: Spanish

Salvation Army, 520 50th Street, Brooklyn

Tuesday, November 8th — 11:00 am—2:00pm

Tuesday, November 22nd — 11:00 am—2:00pm

Language: Spanish, Chinese



Coney Island Lighthouse Mission, 2114 Mermaid Ave, Brooklyn

Thursday, November 10th— 10:30 am—12:30 pm

Language: Spanish, Chinese

Our Lady of Perpetual Help, 5th Avenue and 60 St., Brooklyn

Sunday, November 27th 10:30—1:30

Language: Spanish

Birch Family Services 5K and Family Day

Birch Family Day First aid/BP screening

Date: *Saturday, November 5th*

Time: *11:30 am- 3:30 pm*

Location: Pier 64 - West 24th Street and the Hudson River

Rain or shine!

Thanks for all who have volunteered for this event!



MRC in Action



Improved Nuclear Devices in NYC Training



Our Lady Of Perpetual Help/Our Lady of Solace BP Screening



POD Core Team Members NEEDED !



POD CORE TEAM MEMBERS NEEDED!

The NYC Department of Health and Mental Hygiene (DOHMH) is seeking motivated and committed volunteers to help manage Points-of-Dispensing (PODs) during public health emergencies. PODs are temporary emergency dispensing sites set up and run by DOHMH to dispense life-saving medical countermeasures, including antibiotics and vaccines, as quickly as possible to prevent people from getting sick or dying of a disease.

The POD Responder Program (PRP) was created to provide the opportunity for volunteers to participate in this important work. The PRP manages the recruitment, training, and assignment of POD Core Team members from City agencies and partner organizations.

The POD Core Teams (PCTs) are leadership teams comprised of volunteers from the POD Responder Program and City staff. Each team is made up of six people who are responsible for managing the setup and operations of a POD. Each POD operates independently with support from the POD Operations Center (POD OC). PCT members are responsible for working together to make on-site decisions and manage POD operations. During a POD activation, PCT members may work long hours and odd times (12 hour shifts, overnight and/or weekends). PCT members should be willing and able to make their POD assignment a priority in the event of a POD activation. All PCT members will be pre-assigned to a POD site based on their residential address.

Ideal PRP members will possess the skills and demonstrated ability to:

1. Work and make decisions independently
2. Lead and manage staff while working under pressure
3. Coordinate and delegate responsibilities
4. Effectively communicate instructions to staff and the public

PCT positions include: POD Team Leader, Administration Manager, Operations Manager, Screening Unit Leader, Dispensing Unit Leader, and Flow Monitor Unit Leader. PCT candidates will be assigned to a PCT position based on their training and leadership experience.



If you are interested in becoming a member of the POD Responder Program, please visit <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/podresponderprogram>

For more information about PODs and the POD Responder Program, contact Kimberley Ricketts (PRP Administrator) at prpadmin@health.nyc.gov.