

New York City



New York City
Medical Reserve
Corps



October 2013

42-09 28 St., Queens NY 11101

347-723-1696

healthmrc@health.nyc.gov

Meet Our Civic Corps Members



Alane Golden and Renat Epelman

We are very fortunate to have Alane Golden and Renat Epelman join the NYC MRC team as Civic Corps members. They have made a 10 month commitment and will be with us through July 2014.

Civic Corps is a volunteer organization similar to Peace Corps, but it places members at service organizations within NYC.

Renat Epelman is a recent graduate from Stony Brook University where she studied Sociology as a major with a minor in music. Throughout her undergraduate career, she maintained a steady focus on community service. Last year, Renat served with AmeriCorps in response to hurricane sandy relief as well as various community service projects throughout the South. She is excited about working with MRC and hopes to enter into a Masters of Public Health Program next fall.

Fun Fact: Renat has played bass trombone for the last ten years. Although born and raised in the city, her favorite NHL team is the Islanders and skiing is by far her favorite thing to do.

Why I Volunteer



Starr Eaddy, PhD RN CHES

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

I became a member of NYC MRC in July 2013

What is your profession?

Associate Professor of Public Health Education and Registered Nurse

What MRC activities have you participated in lately?

FDNY Mass Casualty Exercise at Ft. Wadsworth
Disaster Olympics at SUNY Downstate
Disaster Triage
"Commodity Distribution Point" Training

Are you involved in any other volunteer activities?

Team Leader for New York Cares

Why do you volunteer for NYC MRC?

It is my pleasure to use my public health and nursing skills to support the wellbeing of my fellow New Yorkers.

For **Alane Golden**, volunteerism is a third-generation, family affair stretching back to her Grandfather's service in Roosevelt's original **Civilian Conservation Corps**. Ms. Golden, with Eastern Band of Cherokee descent, hails from a family of service professionals, including teachers; military service members, journalists and healthcare professionals who instilled in her the importance of community service as a cultural *norm*.

It should come as no surprise that Golden has volunteered with both the American and British Red Crosses, and is a third year AmeriCorps volunteer, having served as a **VISTA** with the National Society for American Indian Elderly (NSAIE) in *Phoenix, AZ* and as an **AmeriCorps** with the Oregon Trail Chapter of the Red Cross at the Native American Rehabilitation Association of the Northwest, Inc. (NARA, NW) in *Portland, OR*.

Golden holds a BA in *Journalism & Mass Communications* from USC with a double-major in English Literature & European History from the University of Teesside and is an experienced marketing, communications and events professional with 17 years working in communications for, not and nonprofit industries, *globally*. As a military brat, though she has lived inter/nationally, Alane calls NYC home and looks forward to working with the **NYC MRC** as well as meeting all the wonderful fellow volunteers!

FUN FACT: A self-diagnosed nerd, Alane is a champion of the underdog, purveyor of "junk" and a decent Round Dancer.

NYC MRC Notification Drill Postponed



Because of the Hepatitis A response, we have postponed the MRC Notification drill until the end of October. We will be using a different notification system called

Dialogics. The call will come from the 212 area code. You can only respond live to the phone notification. If you receive it on your voice mail you cannot respond. The message will come by phone and by email. Once you respond, no more messages will be sent. Please make every effort to participate in this drill.

Did you know...

All MRC members are **indemnified against malpractice** under Municipal Law 50 K when they are attending an MRC event or are deployed by MRC. You are not covered if you self-deploy, which is why it is important to receive an assignment from the MRC staff.



MRC TRAININGS

Building Cultural Competency Skills

Date: Tuesday, October 8th

Location: Churchill School, 301 East 29 St., Manhattan

Time: 5:30 registration and light dinner
6:00 – 8:00 pm

To register, go to: <https://nycmrcbuildingculturalcompetency.eventbrite.com/>

This training is given by Sujata Warrior, PhD from the NYS Department of Mental Health. This presentation will help you be better able to:

- Define the terms culture and cultural competency and enhance respect for the dynamics of difference.

- Identify ways in which culture is relevant in the every encounter.
- Recognize cultural misinformation and avoid assumptions about a person or the facts of a situation based on misinformation.
- Assess blinding preferences that are brought to various encounters that might influence demeanor or the interpretation of facts, or developing diverse messages and shaping outcomes.

Intro to ICS

Date: Wednesday, Oct. 23nd

Location: the Churchill School. 301 East 29 St, Manhattan

Time: 5:30 – registration and light supper

5:00 – 8:00 - training

To register, go to: <https://nycmrcintroductiontoics.eventbrite.com/>

The Incident Command System is essential to emergency and disaster response. It provides a structure for the collaboration and management of incidents among many agencies and organizations. Learn more about how ICS works and where you fall in the structure. ICS IS AN MRC CORE COMPETENCY. This training will be taught by Mike McCollum, Exercise Coordinator for the Office of Emergency Preparedness and Response.

MRC Orientation

Date: Tuesday, November 12th

Location: 125 Worth St., 3rd floor boardroom, Manhattan

Time: 5:30 – registration and light supper

5:00 – 8:00 - training

To register, go to: <https://nycmrcorientation2013.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.

Bystander Training

Date: Thursday, Nov. 21

Location: The Churchill School, 301 East 29 St. Manhattan

Time: 5:30 – registration and light supper

5:00 – 8:00 - training

To register, go to: <https://nycmrcbystandertraining.eventbrite.com/>

We often hear the term “first responders” where people mean police, fire and other emergency personnel. But the people most often first on the scene are people who just happen to be in the area: doormen, shoppers, business owners. Learn how to respond if you are near when a disaster or emergency occurs. This training will be given by Tom Mauro, Director of Education and Training, Office of Emergency Preparedness and response.

MRC In Action

Hepatitis A Response...Again! MRC assists with a Vaccination POD in the Bronx

When a Hepatitis A exposure in the Bronx was reported, the Department of Health jumped into action to vaccinate those who were exposed because they ate at a chinese food restaurant in the Bronx. DOHMH again asked for MRC's help in staffing a Point of Dispensing site at Lehman HS in the Bronx to vaccinate members of the community.

70 NYC MRC members served as:

40 vaccinators

18 flow monitors

12 screeners

Providing 546 hours of service

MRC staff contacted MRC members in the Bronx and Manhattan to request their help. Over the weekend of September 21 – 23, 70 MRC members reported to the Bronx to support the effort. Thanks to those who were able to volunteer.



If you didn't get a call, it's not because we don't love you. We were strategic about contacting those who were close to the site so we wouldn't create a travel hardship.

One question I received was: "I'm not a nurse or a doctor so I cannot vaccinate. Why was I called?"

Vaccination PODs need more than vaccinators in order to operate. We need people to act as Flow Monitors – making sure that people on the line are calm, answering questions and passing out forms. Flow Monitors are the ambassadors of the POD, and their work is essential to the success of the POD. We also needed Screeners. The Screeners review the forms filled out by members of the public to make sure there are no allergies to the medication. As you can imagine, this is really important for the safety of those who come to be vaccinated. We provide Just In Time Training when you arrive at the POD, so you don't need any special skills to perform these roles. But PODs cannot operate without Flow Monitors and Screeners.

Laarni M, who worked at the POD reported: "I went there tonight, it was busy; there was a long line but it was fast. It was a pleasant shift, well-organized, lots of people. Thanks for this opportunity." Thanks to all of you who were able to help. If you couldn't volunteer this time, never fear: there will be new opportunities in the future.

NYFD Mass Casualty Exercise in SI

Very early on Saturday morning, Sept. 28th 18 NYC MRC members participated in an exercise at Fort Wadsworth to simulate an IED explosion. MRC members were heavily moulaged, including shrapnel in wounds and amputations. MRC members simulated real life reactions for the first responders, crying, yelling and moaning. Our role as victims allows the FDNY and EMS to have a more realistic simulation of a disaster. It also allows MRC members to experience what it's like to be in the midst of a disaster.

Thanks for all those who participated!

Stay tuned for further exercises with FDNY and with hospitals.





Articles of Interest

Considerations for Anthrax Vaccine Adsorbed Post-Exposure Prioritization

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) has released “Considerations for Anthrax Vaccine Adsorbed (AVA) Post-Exposure Prioritization” which provides guidelines planning for the prioritization of vaccine distribution to affected populations following a worst-case-scenario anthrax attack. As there is a possibility for the demand for anthrax vaccine to exceed the available supply, public health and medical experts believe that priority for vaccination should be based on the risk of inhalation anthrax or systemic disease. This guidance presents a risk-based approach for anthrax vaccine given as post-exposure prophylaxis for the entirety of the affected community for state and local planners to consider. To read more, go to: <http://www.astho.org/Preparedness/AVA-Post-event-Prioritization-Summary-and-Guidance-9-20-13/>

Protecting Evacuees from Sexual Violence During Disasters Is an Important Priority

This article, which appears in the Emergency Management .com website, it discusses prioritizing personal safety during emergency responses. To read more about this, go to: <http://www.emergencymgmt.com/training/Protecting-Evacuees-from-Sexual-Violence.html>

How a City with Two Dozen Law Enforcement Agencies Handles a Huge Crisis

There are approximately 27 law enforcement agencies with overlapping jurisdictions in Washington, D.C. During the Navy Yard shooting, D.C.'s Metropolitan Police Department, the FBI, the National Park Police, and the Capitol Police, among others worked together to respond to the crisis. To read more, go to: <http://m.theatlanticcities.com/politics/2013/09/how-city-two-dozen-law-enforcement-agencies-handles-huge-crisis/7011/>

Free Conferences

The **2013 National Nurses Health Institute Speakers Series** will be held **October 11-12 at the Red Rock Resort and Conference Center, near Las Vegas.**

Nurses, Physicians, Fitness Coaches, Clinicians, Social Workers and anyone advocating for a healthier tomorrow are encouraged to attend. Information about the event, the speakers (looks like some great ones!) and an agenda may be found at <http://www.nationalnurseshalfmarathon.com/conference/>.

Noted highlights for this year's conference include:

Hearing from Edna Adan, a nurse trailblazer preserving the health of women and children in Somaliland.

Discovering the connection between health and fitness and incorporating practical strategies into your clinical practice by Charles Maka.

Learning from Dr. Elaine Doll-Dunn, PhD how her work translated into powerful solutions for women beginning exercise after age 40.

Exploring new ideas with Jill Kliethermes, MSN, RN, FNP-BC on empowering nurses to be professional, competent leaders in healthcare.

The event is **FREE** and open to the public. **There is no need to register if you are only attending the speakers series and not receiving CEUs.** There are ten (10) CEU credits available for nurses at \$10 each. For information about the CEUs, you may contact Sara Fry at sara@missourinurses.org.

RAPID~PSYCHOLOGICAL FIRST AID

The Johns Hopkins Preparedness and Emergency Response Learning Center and the DHMH Office of Preparedness and Response are pleased to offer the Johns Hopkins~RAPID Psychological First Aid Workshop. It is a 6-hour, interactive training that provides non-mental health professionals with the concepts and skills associated with Psychological First Aid. Utilizing the RAPID model (Reflective listening, Assessment of needs, Prioritization, Intervention, and Disposition), this specialized training provides perspectives on injuries and trauma that are beyond those physical in nature. Additionally, the RAPID model is readily applicable to public health settings, the workplace, the military, faith-based organizations, mass disaster venues, and even the demands of more commonplace critical events, e.g., dealing with the psychological aftermath of accidents, robberies, suicide, homicide, or community violence.

DATE: October 24, 2013

TIME: 9:00am - 4:00pm (registration begins at 8:00 am)

LOCATION: Best Western Grand Venice Hotel, Hagerstown, MD 21740

ACCOMMODATIONS: For those requiring overnight accommodations, a **room rate of \$65.90** is being offered.

REGISTRATION:

<https://trams.jhsph.edu/trams/index.cfm?event=training.catalogDisplay&trainingID=660>

Additional Details Can Be Found Here: <http://www.jhsph.edu/research/centers-and-institutes/johns-hopkins-center-for-public-health-preparedness/training/calendar/index.html>

CONTACT INFORMATION: Katurah Bland, [443-287-6735](tel:443-287-6735)/kbland@jhsph.edu

Johns Hopkins Center for Public Health Preparedness

615 N. Wolfe Street, Room E7037

Baltimore, MD 21205

prepared@jhsph.edu