



News and Notes From the MRC

Winter 2010

The Franklin County & Columbus Medical Reserve Corps (FC&C MRC) is dedicated to establishing teams of professional and medical volunteers to contribute their skills and expertise during disasters, as well as throughout the year for community health promotion. More information can be found on our web site at www.volunteermrc.org.

MRC Volunteers Helped with H1N1 Response

MRC volunteers served in all of the county's large H1N1 clinics, and served in many Columbus City clinics as well. This was the largest public health response that any of us at the health department had participated in, and with the help of over 200 MRC volunteers and 50 volunteers from our partner agencies, the volunteer response in this county really helped make a response on this scale run smoothly. Every role at the clinics, from crowd control to vaccinator is an essential piece of a successful clinic. We really could not have done it without your enthusiasm and willingness to chip in where needed! H1N1 is a serious illness, and our Franklin County influenza immunization clinics helped lessen the impact of this illness locally. YOUR WORK helped to vaccinate tens of thousands of residents. We are still responding in the schools with a smaller group of trained volunteers, but when our response is finished and demobilization begins, we will host a thank you event in April. Be on the lookout for the announcement in your email box.

If you volunteered in the clinics, we would like your input about the experience. Please complete our survey at http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/Clinic_feedback. Didn't volunteer for H1N1? Let us know why and give us some important feedback about our MRC program at <http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/h1n1vol>.



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(upper left) Tawnya Lawson comforts one of Franklin County's smaller residents; (lower left) Screeners Terry Tucker and Garrett Guillozet are ready for clients at our Rickenbacker Airport Clinic on November 13th; (below) Ping Lu chats with Columbus Clippers mascot, Krash at the

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POD 102: The Next Big Step for MRC Leadership

With all the focus lately on H1N1 Clinics, we want to be sure we cover the basics of POD (Point of Dispensing for any type of medication) management and organization. We would like all MRC volunteers to serve on a POD Team if needed. This training will review the concepts of POD layout and organization, but will also cover set up, tear down, leadership and logistics. We have learned so much about POD structure and organization over the last few months, and have so many new ideas about how we can improve upon these systems in the future. We need a team of volunteers that can commit to support this type of response should it occur. Please plan to come to this training with the intent to put what you learn into action should the need arise.

POD 102 Training

March 9th 6-8pm

Franklin County Board of Health, 280 E. Broad

Looking for both Medical and Non-Medical Professionals

Sign up: <http://spreadsheets.google.com/viewform?formkey=dHIOY29YbHRkRzVCa0czeWdVaHAzbWc6MA>

MRC Animal Team to Support Public Health Rabies Clinics

Background

The Franklin County Board of Health and the Columbus Academy of Veterinary Medicine jointly sponsor low-cost rabies vaccination clinics for dogs, cats and ferrets throughout the year. These clinics are open to the public and held in various temporary locations throughout the county. The cost is \$5 per rabies vaccination and there are no appointments scheduled. These clinics vary in attendance from 100 animals vaccinated up to over 800 vaccinated at our National Dog Bite Prevention Week clinic in May of each year. Bringing in MRC and Emergency Preparedness volunteers allows us to practice our plans for responding to potential animal disasters. The logistics of a Rabies Clinic is similar to an animal POD, and we are working with Franklin County Emergency Management & Homeland Security to create emergency response plans for animals in our county.

Skills Needed:

- A great affection and love for animals, good animal handling
- Great people and communication skills
- Not intimidated chaotic situations- we are talking about an event with many animals!

Possible Job Assignments:

- Assist with the handling of animals on leashes or in carriers
- Assist with crowd control and directing pet owners
- Distribute and assist pet owners with paperwork
- Accurately complete rabies certificates prior to vaccination

EVENT DETAILS:

March 19, 2010

12:00pm-4:00pm

Capital Area Humane Society

3015 Scioto Darby Executive Court

Sign up: <http://spreadsheets.google.com/viewform?formkey=dGhoclJWaeU4a0pUak8xYUipbHRUbc6MA>

Please remember: if you sign up on this form, we have assigned you a role and are counting on you to be there. If you plans change, please email Robin at rxmartin@franklincountyohio.gov.





News and Notes from our Partners

- **E-Newsletter**. Follow this link to the Winter 2010 issue of *Ohio Citizen Corps E-News*, an online publication that brings updates on Ohio Citizen Corps programs. -



http://www.serveohio.org/News/Newsletters/ServeOhioNews_2010_Winter.html

- **Seeking Part Time Nurse**. The Central Ohio Trauma System (COTS) is seeking an RN or allied health professional for a process improvement coordinator position, 20 hrs/week. Flexible scheduling. Previous experience in an emergency dept, trauma unit or EMS agency required. Send resume to nbechtel@goodhealthcolumbus.org or to COTS, c/o Nancie Bechtel, 431 E. Broad St., Columbus, Ohio 43215. Thanks!
- **New NIMS PowerPoint**. For those of you that would like to brush up on the core principles of NIMS here is a short PowerPoint that was just released by FEMA. The NIMS PowerPoint briefing is now available on the Resource Center. The direct link to the briefing is: <http://www.fema.gov/emergency/nims/NIMSbriefings.shtm>
- **Looking for judges for Ohio HOSA State Conference**. HOSA is a high school student organization whose mission is to promote career opportunities in health care. The conference is a chance for youth from across the state to compete to be the best in their chosen medical field and go on to compete at the national conference. The organizers are looking for MRC volunteers to serve as judges in competitive events varying from CPR/First Aid to nursing assistant to job seeking skills. We need judges from all backgrounds, from public health to nursing, to EMTs and all other fields. Grading rubrics are supplied for each event. For more information about the events, log on to <http://www.hosa.org/natorg/sectb/index.html>. The pdf for each event includes the grading rubrics. Event details:
 March 25, 2010
 Fort Hayes Career Center
 Judging from 3pm-9pm
 (no need to stay the whole time; you will be told when your event is being held)
 Please contact Beverly Wolfe, bwolfe@mvctc.com, if you are able to volunteer
- **Flood Awareness Week - Be Flood Smart!** This LIVE webinar is scheduled for **Wednesday, March 3 at 2:00-3:00pm EST** and will provide information on FEMA's FloodSmart and Building Science programs, presented by FEMA's Mitigation Directorate. Webinar login will begin 15 minutes prior to the start of the webinar and **registration is not required**. A question and answer period will follow the presentation. Visit <http://www.citizencorps.gov/news/webcasts/floodwebinar.shtm> to attend the webinar.
- **MRC Accepting Award Nominations**. The Office of the Civilian Volunteer Medical Reserve Corps (OCVMRC) strives to recognize members of the growing MRC network on a regular basis, both formally and informally. The MRC volunteers and leaders, as well as the housing and partner organizations, and other key stakeholders, who have helped build and sustain the MRC program are worthy of being recognized. Go to <http://www.medicalreservecorps.gov/SummitAwardNominations> for more information.
- **Lifeline of Ohio** is hosting a candlelight vigil of Hope on April 11th for organ donation. More information at <http://www.lifelineofohio.org/news/events/vigilofhope.aspx>



FC&C MRC on Facebook

The Franklin County & Columbus MRC is on Facebook! Sign up as a fan of our site and refer colleagues and friends to our page. We will do our best to update the content regularly, but feel free to post on our wall about your volunteer experiences or link us to related groups and activities. To see what we are doing regularly or to find out if we have a current need for volunteers, use the Live Feed.
<http://www.facebook.com/pages/Columbus-OH/Franklin-County-Columbus-Medical-Reserve-Corps/69474239186?ref=ts>



JOIN OUR VOLUNTEER TEAMS

Animal Response Team

Any volunteer having a background, interest or licensure in animal care is welcome to join the Franklin County & Columbus MRC Animal Response Team (ART). This team seeks to protect the health and respond to the needs of animals involved in a disaster. This may involve containment of animal diseases, animal sheltering and rescue, distribution of medicine to animals and a number of other responses.

Behavioral Health Team

We currently have 79 mental health volunteers, and have just recruited a number of school counselors as auxiliary help. Our first agenda items include creating protocol sheets for responding volunteers.

POD Team

A POD, or Point of Dispensing, is a method of response in a public health crisis requiring the widespread distribution of medication. In the event of such an emergency, multiple PODs may be set up throughout the community to offer medication to many people. Clinical volunteers such as pharmacists, nurses, paramedics, mental health professionals and physicians are encouraged to join as well as non-clinical members of the community with traffic control, computer, data entry, management, reception and other skills.

Techie Team

Do you have audio visual or computer talents? If you do, then the MRC needs your help with the Mobile Joint Information Center. The trailer has TVs, satellite dishes, computers, generators and other communications equipment and we are looking for a few good volunteers with the interest and skill to be a part of our Techie Team. This team may also serve other technological needs at a medication center during a disaster. NEXT EVENT IS A TEAM MEETING TUESDAY, MARCH 2nd, 2-3PM. IF YOU ARE INTERESTED, PLEASE EMAIL ROBIN!

Language Team

Are you fluent in another language in addition to English? Are you willing to volunteer to help with language capabilities during a disaster? We would love to have you serve on a language team! We are focusing on Spanish, American Sign Language and Somali at this point, but please let us know about any language capability you may have.

Send an email to rxmartin@franklincountyohio.gov to join any of our teams.

Meet Your MRC Coordinator and Her Partner Coordinator During Responses

We met many of you face to face at the H1N1 clinics, but for those of you we haven't met yet, now you can put a face with the name. Check us out in action at one of our many H1N1 response clinics: Robin Martin is on the left, texting with a lost volunteer- trying to make sure everyone makes it to the site! And Jeff Gibbs, our H1N1 POD Staff Coordinator, is helping out in the Client Preparation position in one of our clinics.

