

January 2009



# MEDICAL RESERVE CORPS VOLUNTEER NEWSLETTER

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Madison County  
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## A NEW YEAR

**Debra M. Tscheschlok, R.N., B.S.N.**

It is the start of another new year, a time for reflection and rededication. As I look back, I find that the Medical Reserve Corps continues to evolve. I hope getting better at what we do here will allow us to better support you, as you support us in meeting community needs.

We are setting up some Orientation Training dates so, please, if you have not been to an Orientation Training, plan on attending one. We are working hard to ensure that we have completed application and oaths on everyone that wants to remain a MRC volunteer. I cannot stress enough that filling out these forms is one of the most important things you can do in order for us to be able to identify you with our program at a time of crisis. And, please, remember that in an emergency event, we will try to put you in a position where your expertise and ability is an asset, but all of us will have to do whatever needs to be done to make sure the public gets life saving medication.

There is a new online registration procedure called ESAR-VHP that is unrolling in the state of Illinois this year. The main purpose of being in this data base is so the state can do a background check on volunteers at the time of the crisis. It will run only at the time of an event since the state cannot afford to check out each volunteer ahead of time. I will keep you updated on enrollment information.

Thank you, again, for your recommitment to your community.

*“As each unit grows stronger and better able to provide support through their initiatives, trainings, and events, a community’s ability to bounce back from disaster increases. The MRC is making a tremendous impact on the resiliency of communities across the country.”*

**Steven K. Galson, M.D., M.P.H. RADM, USPHS  
Acting Surgeon General**

## TRAINING

**A Volunteer Orientation Training Session will be held at the Madison County Health Department on Monday, February 9, 2009 from 5:30—7:30 P.M.** Pizza will be served. Additional information will be mailed shortly.

Attending an Orientation Training Session is mandatory for all MRC volunteers. You will be provided with the essential information you need in order to perform effectively in the event of a public health emergency and learn about the key components of the Strategic National Stockpile, Incident Command System, etc. Hope to see many of you there.

## FLU CLINIC VOLUNTEERS

The Madison County Health Department held flu clinics in October and November. The clinics were open to all Madison County residents. A total of nine volunteers, which included Medical Reserve Corps members and

others, assisted with check in during twenty-four clinics. The Volunteers donated 75.5 hours of their time helping our clinic staff. The MCHD would like to thank the Volunteers for their time and service to the community.

## RECRUITMENT

We are still seeking volunteers for the Madison County Medical Reserve Corps. We currently have 162 volunteers; far away from our overall goal of 1000 volunteers. In the event of a bioterrorism emergency or other type of public health disaster, the Madison County Health Department has been designated as the agency to provide medication to the public to prevent disease. If you know anyone, who wishes to participate and become a volunteer, please, have them call me, Cathy Paone, Volunteer Coordinator, at 618-296-6096. Thank you.

**ARE YOU READY TO HELP ???**

Thank you for volunteering to assist The Madison County Health Department in a public health emergency. Since we will need your immediate help in the event of a crisis, please, review the following check list to determine if you are ready to help.

**COMPLETED**

**I Have Completed/Updated My Documents**

All volunteers need to complete a Volunteer Application and an EMA Oath form. Prior to an event, professional volunteers may bring their licenses into the Madison County Health Department offices to be copied and filed. Updated information should be sent to the Madison County Health Department, MRC, 101 E. Edwardsville Rd., Wood River, IL 62095 or call 618-296-6059.

**I Have Completed My Training**

Volunteer training classes will continue to be held by the health department and others so that all volunteers will be properly trained.

**I Have The Proper ID**

All volunteers must be photographed for an ID badge to wear in the event of a public health emergency. If a badge was not made at Orientation, a volunteer may come in to the Madison County Health Department offices Monday through Friday (except holidays) between the hours of 8:30 A.M. and 4:30 P.M and have their picture taken and badge made.

**I Have Talked To My Family**

Volunteers should talk to their family prior to an event to explain what they are volunteering for and to make sure their family is ready to manage on their own as volunteers will not be readily available. Volunteers and their families will, also, receive medication, vaccinations, etc. **when applicable** prior to reporting for duty.

## Helpful web sites

[www.medicalreservecorps.gov](http://www.medicalreservecorps.gov)

[www.ready.gov](http://www.ready.gov)

[www.cdc.gov](http://www.cdc.gov)

[www.idph.gov](http://www.idph.gov)

We're on the web  
[madisonchd.org](http://madisonchd.org)

## HELLO

Hi! My name is Cathy Paone and I am the new MRC Volunteer Coordinator for the Madison County Health Department. This month, I will be sending you a packet, which may contain information about the Orientation Training Session on February 9, 2009 (if you haven't attended a session) and flyers (to help us recruit new volunteers for the MRC). Please, also, continue to send any updated addresses, phone numbers, or e-mail information to me: Catherine M. Paone, M.S.P.H., Madison County Health Department, 101 E. Edwardsville Road, Wood River, IL 62095, 618-296-6096, [cmpaone@co.madison.il.us](mailto:cmpaone@co.madison.il.us). Thank you!

Madison County Health Department  
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