

January 2010



# MEDICAL RESERVE CORPS VOLUNTEER NEWSLETTER

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## H1N1 FLU VACCINE CLINICS

**Ian D. McVey, AmeriCorps Member**

The Madison County Health Department (MCHD), utilizing its Medical Reserve Corps (MRC), undertook extensive measures to protect groups most at risk from H1N1 influenza this year. Each of the County's thirteen school districts had a clinic, with the result being County-wide geographical coverage.

A wide range of coalition partners united to help protect the health of the at-risk County residents. These partners, which included each of the County's school districts administrators and staff, Law Enforcement, MRC volunteers, the Madison County Buildings & Lands department, and MCHD staff members, worked together to administer 6,741 vaccinations to Madison County residents at school district clinics.

While these school district clinics achieved the goal of vaccinating those individuals who were most at risk from H1N1 infection, Public Health Emergency Response Coordinator Debra Tscheschlok emphasized that "In order to meet the surge capacity needed to increase personnel during these types of large scale events, continued recruitment efforts and training of volunteers are required. Our goal is 500 well trained volunteers functioning effectively under the Incident Command System to maximize community health during a public health emergency."

Currently, our MRC unit has 159 volunteers and we could use your help with our recruiting efforts. Please direct individuals to the MCHD web site or have them call us at 618-296-6096.

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

Get a Kit

Make a Plan

Be Informed

Get Involved



**MRC VOLUNTEER  
AT H1N1 FLU  
VACCINE CLINIC**

## ACTIVITIES

The last quarter of 2009 was a very busy one for our MRC unit with seven presentations and seasonal and H1N1 flu vaccine clinics.

Our MRC Unit Director, Debra Tscheschlok, R.N., B.S.N., gave a presentation on September 14, 2009 to 50 members of the Alton Community Service League and on December 8, 2009 to 43 faculty/staff members at the Southern Illinois University School of Medicine on Emergency Preparedness, H1N1 Flu, and the Medical Reserve Corps. Emergency preparedness and MRC recruitment packets were distributed.

AmeriCorps Member, Ian McVey (see article page 4), gave three presentations to Wood River and Alton VFW Board Members and Ladies' Auxiliary Board Members on the Madison County Health Department MRC. Recruitment packets were distributed. Ian, also, gave two presentations to 64 Collinsville High School students about the importance of emergency preparedness and the Madison County Health Department MRC. Emergency preparedness and recruitment packets were distributed.

Four members of the Madison County Medical Reserve Corps volunteered for a total of twelve hours in non-clinical positions at the September seasonal flu clinics held at the Madison County Health Department. Their time, efforts, and service to the community were greatly appreciated by all of the Madison County Health Department staff members.

Twelve MRC nurses volunteered at six H1N1 Flu Vaccine Clinics during the months of November and December for a total of 70.85 hours. MRC nurse assistance in dispensing, education, and registration played a significant role in the success of these clinics. Based on the Economic Impact of Volunteers Calculator, the value of the Medical Reserve Corps members' donated time was approximately \$2591.17.

**FLU CLINIC VOLUNTEERS**

A sincere thanks to all MRC members who volunteered to work at the seasonal flu clinics held at the Madison County Health Department and those volunteers who worked at the H1N1 Flu Vaccine Clinics at area schools. Seasonal flu clinic volunteers included Jill Roberts, Ellie Flick, Laura Carnes, and Starkey Sloan. H1N1 Flu Vaccine Clinic volunteers were Beth Allan (Highland), Gina Ashby (Highland), Cindy Buenger (Granite City and Alton), Marcia Custer (Granite City, Bethalto, and Collinsville), Dorothy Droste (Highland, Alton, and Bethalto), Karen Duckworth (Highland), Judy Green (Alton), Joan Henderson (Troy), Virginia Ilch (Alton), Jae Kuberski (Highland), Shirley McCune (Alton and Bethalto), and Rita Sander (Highland). Debra Knoll, MSN, CNS-BC, Personal Health Services Manager, said, "6,741 doses of H1N1 vaccine were administered in our school-based clinics. We could not have done this without the help of our MRC Volunteers. All of the nurses at Madison County Health Department greatly appreciate your hard work."

**ORIENTATION TRAINING SESSION**

**A Volunteer Orientation Training Session will be held at the Madison County Health Department on Monday, March 1, 2010, from 5:30—7:30 P.M.** Pizza will be served.

Attending an Orientation Training Session is mandatory for all MRC volunteers. You will be provided with essential information you need in order to perform effectively in the event of a public health emergency and also learn about the key components of the Strategic National Stockpile, Incident Command System, and emergency preparedness, etc. Additional information is included for those who still need to attend Orientation.

Hope to see many of you in attendance at this session. Even better, bring a potential recruit to the training session.

**Existing volunteers are the best recruiters!!!**

***"Now, with the arrival of widespread H1N1 transmission across the nation, MRC units are truly living up to their potential. They are engaged in their communities and are helping to make them healthier."***

***CAPT  
Rob Tosatto  
Director  
Office of the  
Civilian  
Volunteer  
Medical Reserve  
Corps***

## **MRC EMERGENCY RECALL SYSTEM TEST**

In the next couple of weeks, the Madison County Health Department MRC will be conducting a **test** of our MRC Emergency Recall System. You will be asked to return the email or call as soon as possible as this will be a timed exercise. If you need to update your email or phone number(s), please, let us know immediately so that we have the correct contact information. Thank you!

## **2009 –2010 AMERICORPS MEMBER**

Hello,

My name is Ian McVey, and I would like to introduce myself as the new AmeriCorps Member for the Madison County Health Department's Public Health Emergency Response Division. I have been a lifelong resident of Madison County, and am currently enrolled in Saint Louis University's School For Professional Studies, where I am finishing my Bachelor's Degree in Computer Science. I consider myself fortunate that I started my term as an AmeriCorps Member in time to help with the department's H1N1 Flu Vaccine clinics, and look forward to meeting you during the rest of my term. I can be reached at 618-295-6095 or [idmcvey@co.madison.il.us](mailto:idmcvey@co.madison.il.us).

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