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MRC In Touch

Volunteers Building Strong, Healthy, and Prepared Communities

September 2013

www.medicalreservecorps.gov

Featured Article

North Central Mississippi MRC Participates in a Statewide Exercise

On July 31, eight volunteers from the North Central Mississippi MRC participated in the largest simulation ever conducted in the state. The exercise brought together over 200 participants from state and local emergency management and public health agencies, students and representatives from the University of Mississippi, as well as local organizations including the Retired and Senior Volunteer Program, a faith-based organization, and the Boy Scouts. [Read More](#)



Volunteers apply moulage for the exercise

MRC/NACCHO Connections

Write a Winning Proposal for NACCHO's MRC Awards

NACCHO's MRC Awards application process opens on September 30! This year, NACCHO will offer two awards: a Capacity Building Award, which will provide funding to eligible MRC units to enhance their capacity, and the Challenge Award, which will ask units to develop a proposal for a project that aligns with one of four focus areas. Twenty-five Challenge Awards will be awarded after a competitive selection process. Units may find it helpful to keep in mind these key elements of a winning proposal. [Read More](#)

Announcements

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MRC Units Mark National Preparedness Month

National Preparedness Month 2013 is underway! MRC units play a critical role in encouraging their communities to be prepared for disasters, and Preparedness Month reminds us of all of the ways individuals and organizations can take the steps necessary to be prepared. [Read More](#)

MRC Hurricane Sandy Report

The DCVMRC's Hurricane Sandy Activities Report is now available. This report provides an overview of the MRC network's actions during the peak activity of this event. The report reflects MRC unit profile activities between October 24, 2012 -- January 11, 2013, and relevant emails and reports shared by state and local coordinators. [Read More](#)

Call for Nominations: Million Hearts Blood Pressure Control Champions

The 2013 Million Hearts Hypertension Control Challenge is underway! Submit your nomination for a clinician, clinical practitioners, or health systems working with patient to get blood pressure under control, or encourage high-performing, small and large practices to enter the Challenge. The Challenge is open through September 9.

[Read More](#)

Zombie Apocalypse Game

Luke Esquibel, Unit Director of the Albuquerque-University of New Mexico MRC, shared their unit's "Zombie Apocalypse Game" to help children prepare for disasters and to understand the importance of flu vaccinations. Play this game with children in your community during Preparedness Month to help them learn the importance of preparedness! [Read More](#)

[Blood Pressure Control Champions](#)

[Zombie Apocalypse Game](#)

Featured Training

[Building Resilient Communities: An Online Training](#) from the Rand Corporation is a self-guided training that shows how to strengthen your community's resilience. After completing this training, you will have a real action plan to help build resilience across your community, bolstering your capacity to respond and recover from a disaster.

Featured Resources

NACCHO's [Advanced Practice Centers](#) offer over 100 free preparedness resources developed by local health departments for local health departments. Visit the site today for preparedness resources you can use in your community.

Upcoming Events

- September is [National Preparedness Month](#)
- NEW DATE: [Telling Your Story: The Value of Stories from the Field](#) Webinar: **Friday, September 13**, 1PM EDT
- NACCHO Twitter Chat on the [2014 Preparedness Summit](#): September 20, 2PM EDT Use the hashtag **#ps14** during this time
- CDC Twitter Chat on Preparedness: September 27, 1PM EDT Use the hashtag **#CDCchat** during this time
- Register for the [Second Annual National Healthcare Coalition Preparedness Conference](#), December 11-13, New Orleans

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The mission of the National Association of County and City Health Officials (NACCHO) is to be a leader, partner, catalyst, and voice for local public health departments.

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Please contact Alyson Jordan, NACCHO's MRC Communications Specialist, with any questions or suggestions for the newsletter at 202-783-5528 or at ajordan@naccho.org.

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