



An All Volunteer - Nonprofit Organization

Heroes aren't born. They volunteer!

Fun Facts About MRC....

- 820,000 Volunteer Hours between October 2019 - September 2020
- 82% of units provide community trainings
- 91% of units are integrated into their housing organization's emergency plan

QUICK LINKS:

- [GNR Health](#)
- [MRC GEM](#)
- [Emergency Planning for family](#)
- [Alerts and Warnings](#)
- [National MRC](#)

MRC GEM - Then and Now

Hope for the best, plan for the worst

By Sherwin Levinson, Executive Director, MRC GEM



When we formed MRC GEM 14 years ago, our philosophy was to "Hope for the best, plan for the worst".

We tried to envision the types of emergencies where public health would need surge capacity and to prepare ourselves to offer that support. While paid responders might be ready to deal with likely emergencies like floods or tornadoes, extra help might very well be needed during the early stages of a response. Similarly, while we might not be in the direct line of a hurricane, our help might be needed to support those who were forced by the hurricane to evacuate.

We also looked at low probability events, like a radiation incident, that would have extreme consequences if they DID occur. CDC personnel trained us in the public health response to a radiation incident. Now, we're widely known for our expertise in standing up and staffing a Community Reception Center (CRC) to screen the public for radiation exposure and contamination. We even had observers from Abu Dhabi's Department of Health at our last CRC exercise!

We have assisted with mass vaccination efforts (the prior pandemic, H1N1 in 2009), large-scale TB testing, and hurricane shelter evacuee support.

What we never anticipated was the need to provide ongoing support for two years and counting! It is a testament to our all-volunteer leadership and our members that we have been able to provide over 17,000 hours of volunteer support to the COVID-19 response.

Our challenge now is to overcome "COVID fatigue" and capitalize on what we've learned, to keep our nearly 1,300 vetted members engaged and ready to respond when needed. We will continue offering monthly learning opportunities, including our flagship Annual Weekend Training Summit (this year July 16-17, 2022). But it's equally important that we continue and enlarge our community outreach, both in terms of membership recruitment and financial support.

Increased donations and grants are needed to keep up with the cost of training our greatly-increased membership, and to help assure continuity in our leadership.

In the know:

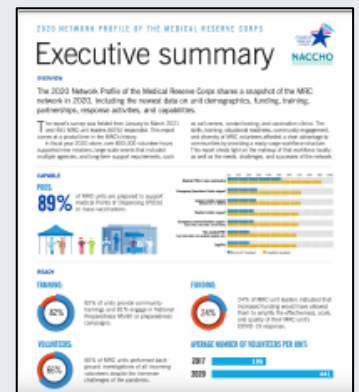
- January 15 - Family Disaster Planning
- February 19 - Mental Health During Emergency Response: before, during and after
- March 19 - Tour, Morgan Falls Hydro Plant
- April 23 - CPR/AED Certification Class
- May 21 - Advanced First Aid



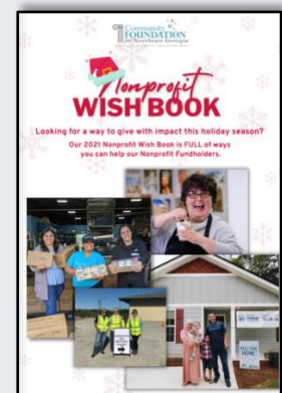
DID YOU KNOW?

2020 Network Profile of Medical Reserve Corps

Newest data on MRC unit demographics, funding, training, partnerships, response activities, and capabilities



Check us out on page 25



Good Samaritan Health Centers of Gwinnett Announces Five Good Neighbor 2021 Award Winners



2021 Good Neighbor Awards



Jill Edwards



Anne Patrick



Yamaly "Kati" Tait



Sherwin Levinson



MRC GEM

FEMA releases its 2022-2026 Strategic Plan

The plan outlines three bold, ambitious goals to meet this challenge. These goals position FEMA to address the increasing range and complexity of disasters, support the diversity of communities we serve, and complement the nation's growing expectations of the emergency management community.



FAMILY DISASTER PLANNING

January 15, 2022

A speaker will outline family preparedness measures in a disaster/emergency situation, plus a retired Fire Captain will discuss fire safety in your home.

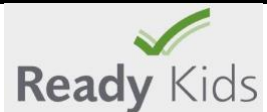


MEMBER SPOTLIGHT

A few of our wonderful volunteers at the Gwinnett Public Safety Festival, held Saturday, November 13, 2021.



We would like to spotlight a member each month in our newsletter. [Tell us a little about yourself.](#)



Disasters happen everywhere, and every member of the family can prepare. Preparedness for the future starts today.

Whether you're a kid or teen yourself, a parent or loved one, or work with youth, Ready Kids has tools and information to help before, during and after disasters.



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