



## An All Volunteer - Nonprofit Organization

*Heroes aren't born. They volunteer!*

### FUN FACT

- SEPTEMBER IS DISASTER PREPAREDNESS MONTH

### QUICK LINKS:

- [National Hurricane Center](#)
- [Shelter Status](#)
- [GMR Health](#)
- [MRC GEM](#)
- [MRC GEM Calendar](#)
- [Alerts and Warnings](#)
- [National MRC](#)

### In the know:

September 18 - Annual Volunteer Picnic

October 15 - Stroke Awareness

November 19 - Opioid Crisis & Narcan Training

December 10 - Annual Holiday Luncheon



## MRC GEM's ANNUAL VOLUNTEER RECOGNITION PICNIC



**Question:** What can you get FREE from MRC GEM, besides your T-shirts and refreshments?

**Answer:** A fun afternoon at the Medlock Pavilion of Pinckneyville Park.

We hope you and your immediate family can come out and join us. Come ready for a yummy lunch, catered by Cue's Bar-B-Q, food, fun, and fellowship.

### Don't miss our annual member appreciation picnic!

4758 S Old Peachtree Rd, Norcross, GA 30071  
Sunday, September 18th, 12:30pm - 2:30pm.

**RSVP:** <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/MRCGEMpicnic>

**Thank you all so much** for your support during the COVID-19 pandemic. Your volunteerism truly transformed our response and saved thousands of lives. We are calling on you again for support. Monkeypox is a national public health emergency and Georgia is #5 in the nation for cases. Our community needs us to help stop the spread of monkeypox, and we need you. Helping us with our vaccination clinics, especially the large ones, will go a long way in helping stem the spread of monkeypox. We're really fortunate to have a vaccine and treatment available for monkeypox. This gives us a leg up from where we were at the beginning of addressing COVID-19.



Please sign up for a shift if you're available. Let's rally and show the community the power of public health once again. At GNR Public Health, we keep our communities and the individuals that live, work and play here healthy, protected, and prepared. With the support of our MRC GEM, we're able to take that service to the next level.

Thank you!

Audrey Arona, MD, District Health Director, GNR Public Health

## DID YOU KNOW?



### GNR Public Health

Started Monkeypox vaccinations in July 2022. Approximately **40** of our MRC GEM volunteers have put in over **300** hours so far.

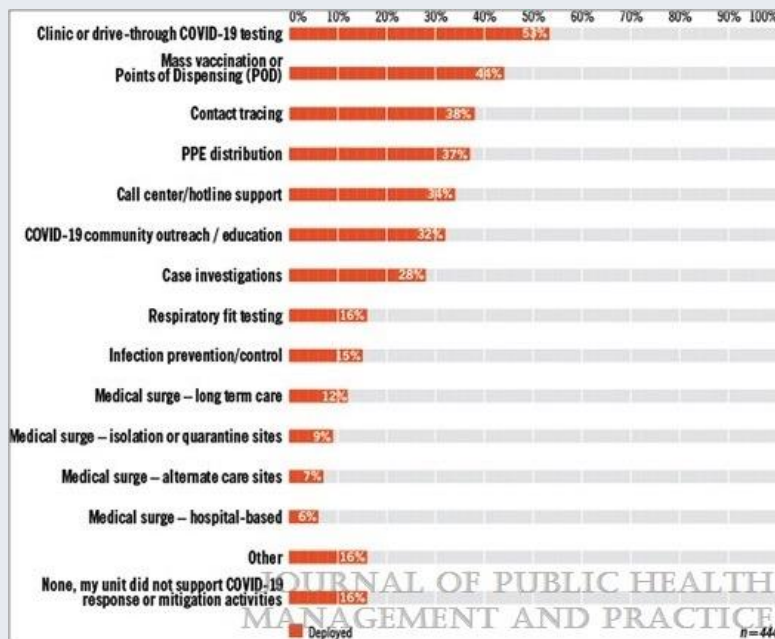
With the vaccination changing to intradermal, our volunteers have had to receive additional training to be verified by GNR Public Health. We are grateful for the outpouring of assistance our members are always willing to give of themselves and their time. As many of you know working with Covid and now Monkeypox, public health is the first line of defense, and without us supporting them in major emergencies they would not be able to respond as great as they do now!

# Rising to the Challenge: How Medical Reserve Corps Volunteers Serve as a Scalable Workforce for Local Health Departments in Response to COVID-19 and Beyond

(reprint from *Journal Public Health Management & Practice* - [read full article](#))

## MRC Answers the Call in Unprecedented Times

In the 2020 Network Profile of the Medical Reserve Corps, 84% of MRC units reported supporting COVID-19 response efforts. From January 1 to December 31, 2020, MRC volunteers contributed to a variety of local COVID-19 response efforts to total approximately 840,000 hours including approximately 330,000 hours to testing, 86,000 hours to call centers, and 142,000 hours to contact tracing. As Local Health Departments (LHD) prepared for the delivery of COVID-19 vaccines, 89% of MRC units reported being prepared to support mass vaccinations through Point of Dispensing events, with 82% of units providing community public health emergency preparedness and response trainings to their volunteers. Based on the 2021 volunteer value developed by the Independent Sector, MRC volunteers are estimated to have saved local health jurisdictions an estimated \$85 million through the provision of both medical and support services from an estimated 3 million hours of donated volunteer service in response to the COVID-19 pandemic.



MRC Unit Activities in Response to the COVID-19 Pandemic Abbreviations: MRC, Medical Reserve Corps; PPE, personal protective equipment.

## Investing in Community Preparedness

The integration and expansion of the MRC network throughout the nation have consistently proven to be effective in fostering the growth, resilience, and safety of the communities where they are embraced. In addition, MRC utilization has directly translated to impressive workforce savings and remarkable returns on investment. The expanded utilization of MRC units at the local, state, and federal levels through funding and resource partnership with NACCHO is expected to lead to even greater public health and emergency response outcomes into the future. By building upon past successes, communities that prioritize the MRC in their emergency public health planning are ensuring that their jurisdictions build a sustainable, trained, and ready workforce capable of surging to meet any challenges while ensuring the resiliency of their communities.

## MEMBER SPOTLIGHT

**Jim Newell** has been a member since January of 2009. He's learned a lot of very interesting things such as Radiation Response, Stop the Bleed, CPR/AED training, Hazardous Materials training, and various ways to take care of his family and himself in the event of an emergency. Jim says, "By volunteering, I've been able to meet a lot of like-minded people."



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



## QUOTE OF THE MONTH

"Government has a role, but its role is to empower the grass roots by giving them data."

Attributed to Dr. Charity Dean, a California public health official who is credited with forcing California and the US to recognize what a storm COVID-19 was going to become.

## SUPPORT MRC GEM



By shopping with Amazon or Kroger, at no cost to you, they will donate a portion to MRC GEM. Little acts like this can mean a lot to nonprofits like ours.

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