



An All Volunteer - Nonprofit Organization

Heroes aren't born. They volunteer!

In the know:

- January 18 - Manhattan Project and BioLab Fire incident
- February 15 - Cultural Awareness
- March 15 - First Aid
- April 12 - AHA BLS CPR Training/Certification
- May 17&18 - 15th Annual MRC GEM Summit - Hazmat Training

[MRC GEM Full Schedule](#)

FUN FACTS

- The coldest temperature ever recorded in Georgia was -17°F on January 27, 1940.

QUICK LINKS:

- [GNR Public Health](#)
- [Healthcare Coalition - Region D](#)
- [Alerts and Warnings](#)
- [National MRC](#)



CELEBRATING OUR VOLUNTEERS

Annual Holiday Appreciation Luncheon



R Michael
MVP Award



Merlene Dyce & John Petay
Hall of Fame



Patty Thumann
MVP Award

MONTHLY MEETING

January 18 | 9:00am - 12:00pm

Beverly Puckett, daughter of one of "The Girls of Atomic City," will speak to us about [The Manhattan Project](#) and its place in nuclear history. After the break, Mark Reiswig, Director of Emergency Preparedness for GNR Public Health, will discuss the [BioLab Fire incident](#), and how Local, State, and Federal resources were deployed and utilized in the response.

Please go to <https://bit.ly/MRC202501> to let us know you plan to attend.

We'll be at the GNR Health District Office, 2570 Riverside Pkwy., Lawrenceville, GA 30046. We hope to see you there.

Honoring for a legacy of dedication and impact

Thank you for bringing us your insight, leadership, and compassion to our past Board Members:

Audrey Arona, MD
Roy Busby

Arnold Zwickel
Jerry Roets



A special thank you to **The Georgia Emergency Search and Rescue team** for coming and speaking to our group on the importance of search and rescue procedures especially for those in our family suffering from Alzheimer's disease. [Read a recent article in the AJC on this great nonprofit.](#)



MRC Units Engage Local Veterans

Across the MRC Network in 2024



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The Medical Reserve Corps is comprised of community members from all walks of life, including veterans. We recognize the significant contributions veterans bring to local MRC Units, as individuals who have "...valuable training and experience through the military, further improving our level of knowledge, expertise, and the ability to respond to more real-world events" (Ocean County MRC, NJ).

In 2024, MRC Units engaged and served veterans in a variety of ways. MRC Units shared a few examples of why they sought out veterans in their community, to include expressing heartfelt gratitude, ensuring veterans felt valued & supported, reducing barriers & extending available resources, and overall honoring their sacrifices and contributions to our country.

Activity Snapshot



100+ Activities



400+ Volunteers



65 Units



1,500 Hours

Upper Merrimack Valley MRC / Westford Health Department (MA) regularly partnered with the Chelmsford Senior Center to offer free hypertension screenings and health education for veterans who attend a monthly breakfast. They report good feedback as some veterans are "eager to continue these monthly screenings" and the town nurse entrusts the volunteers to "take charge" of everything, noting that "the program is in good hands!"

Many MRC Units staff tables at local veterans' events and centers, including Yavapai County MRC (AZ), Burlington County MRC (NJ), West Texas MRC (TX), Sacramento MRC (CA), Acadiana MRC (LA), Winnebago County MRC (IL), RespondDE MRC (DE), and Cameron County MRC (TX). MRC volunteers provided resources such as emergency preparedness information and supplies, health education, community partner information, as well as trained attendees on skills such as hands-only CPR.

Montgomery County MRC (TX) staffed a cooling station during a veteran's ceremony and event. Dutchess County NY MRC (NY) staffed a first aid station for a multi-day Veterans Traveling Vietnam Memorial Wall event in their community. Big Island MRC (HI) staffed a first aid station at an event called "The Wall That Heals," which includes a replica Vietnam Memorial Wall. They also staffed a first aid station during a Memorial Day ceremony, bringing peace of mind to the organizers who had an AED but no individuals trained on it.

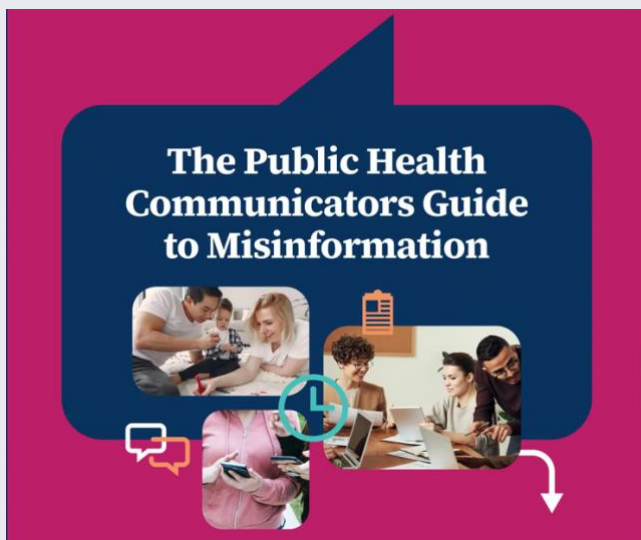
McHenry County Department of Health MRC (IL) supported Operation Dropbox, an initiative benefitting approximately 3,000 veterans and families. The initiative not only supports veterans but is an opportunity to manage large quantities of supplies, as would occur during a public health emergency. For example, through a local state-mandated exercise, they simulated the process of unloading and distributing medical countermeasures by collecting and distributing donations for veterans.

Acadiana MRC (LA), Denton County MRC (TX), and RespondDE MRC (DE) participated in local Stand Down events, which provide supplies and services to veterans, such as food, shelter, clothing, and health screenings. MRC volunteers administered influenza vaccines and provided resources to attendees.

Lake County MRC (IL) supported a 22km Ruck March, which increased awareness of veterans' suicide.

Atlantic County Public Health MRC (NJ) volunteers received training on Understanding and Interacting with Veterans. Central New Hampshire MRC (NH) volunteers received training on Veterans Depression. Southwest Lakes MRC (MO) attended a local Veterans Coalition meeting to present on MRC and updated their strategic plan to include recruiting efforts focused on several populations such as veterans. Ocean County MRC (NJ) provided educational and recruitment information to seven local Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFWs) within their county.

Distributed November 2024



Business RadioX Interview



Sherwin Levinson with MRC-GEM and Kristi Gorinas with Healthy Coverage for Life | Business...

Sherwin Levinson/MRC-GEM is an all-volunteer nonprofit whose mission is to augment community health operations during large-scale emergencies, aid response to pressing health care needs, and improve community emergency preparedness. They serve Georgia's Gwinnett, Newton, and Rockdale Counties, a highly-diverse population of well over 1.2 million people. COVID is a perfect example.



Your Kroger Plus Card can help support our programs at no cost to you. Go to [Community Rewards](#) to enroll your card in support of MRC GEM. After registering your Kroger Plus Card, search for MRC GEM (org. #J1419) and select us as your supported organization. Once you do, Kroger will donate a percentage of what you spend to MRC GEM.



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