

GEORGIA EAST METRO MEDICAL RESERVE CORPS NEWSLETTER

IN ALL
Things
GIVE
Thanks

As we gather to give thanks this season, we want to express our heartfelt gratitude to each of you. Your time, skill, and compassion strengthen our communities and remind us what service truly means. Because of your dedication, MRC GEM continues to make a real difference, whether in times of calm or crisis. From all of us at MRC GEM, we wish you and your loved ones a safe, joyful, and peaceful Thanksgiving. Thank you for all that you do.

A Hero Among Us

MRC GEM Volunteer Spotlight Featuring:
Dr. Terry Eng

Dr. Terry Eng is a retired pediatrician, MRC GEM Board Member, and dedicated volunteer since 2018. Her husband, Tony Eng, is also an active member of MRC GEM.

She has earned recognition as a COVID-19 Hero,

Hall of Fame inductee, and recipient of the 2022

Maximum Volunteer Presence

award for her outstanding commitment and service. Her preparedness training includes Pediatric Disaster Management, Basic Disaster Life Support (BDLS), Advanced Burn Life Support, Stop the Bleed, and CERT Training.

Dr. Terry Eng's hobbies include learning about people and their cultures, traveling, architecture, photography, and being a lifelong student. She feels you are never too old to learn from others

We are proud to recognize her as the...



November 2025 MRC GEM Hero Among Us!

The Impact of the Government Shutdown
on Disaster Response

[Read Full Article](#)

Mission Ready:

MRC GEM Volunteers in Action

In October, MRC GEM members had the opportunity to learn from a representative of the 4th Weapons of Mass Destruction (WMD) Civil Support Team (CST). Based at Dobbins Air Force Base, this elite unit stands ready 24/7 to respond to threats involving weapons of mass destruction, accidental hazardous materials releases, or major disasters.

The presentation offered insight into the CST's critical mission, providing specialized expertise in chemical, biological, radiological, and nuclear (CBRNE) hazards.

Members also gained a deeper understanding of how the CST supports local and national efforts in radiation detection and response, strengthening our collective preparedness and resilience.



We are excited to welcome our new
Editor-in-Chief for
MRC GEM Newsletter,
Dr. Stacia Wilson

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. Our volunteers speak over 70 different languages and dialects, allowing us to serve Georgia's Gwinnett, Newton, and Rockdale Counties, a highly diverse population of well over 1.2 million people. COVID is a perfect example.

Heroes aren't born. They Volunteer!

The Preparedness Pot: Insight & Inside MRC GEM

Where we stir together timely updates, expert insights, and must-know information to keep you ready and in the know.

Training Matters for MRC GEM Members

As MRC GEM volunteers, staying trained isn't just helpful, it's essential. Whether you're responding to a real-world emergency or supporting community outreach, the more prepared you are, the better you can serve. And the best part? There are tons of free training opportunities available to help you grow your skills, on your own time.

Here is a list of top training resources:

FEMA Independent Study offers self-paced online courses through the National Disaster & Emergency Management University, offering topics such as Incident Command Systems, hazard management, and emergency operations. These are great for building foundational knowledge.

<https://training.fema.gov/is/crslist.aspx?all=true&lang=en>

FEMA's Emergency Management Institute (EMI) offers on-campus and virtual classroom training for responders and volunteers, with hands-on interactive learning. These trainings are great for building confidence in roles and response leadership.

<https://training.fema.gov/ndemu/schools/emergency-management-institute/>

The Center for Domestic Preparedness (CDP) provides advanced training like mass casualty response, incident management, and other high-stakes skills. Located in Anniston, Alabama, in-person trainings are conducted at no cost for state, local, tribal, or territorial government emergency responders. Web-based training is also available.

<https://cdp.dhs.gov/>

Lastly, be sure to keep your contact information current in emergency management systems, so you can be notified about training and response opportunities. With each new course, you increase your ability to help protect your community with knowledge, readiness, and strength.

Written By Dr. Stacia Wilson

Got a Story to Share?

We'd love to hear from you! If you would like to submit an article to be considered for the MRC GEM Newsletter, please email Stacia Wilson at stacia@mrcgem.com

Your contributions help keep our community informed, engaged, and prepared!

#MRCGEM #StayConnected

TRAINING CORNER: SHARPEN YOUR SKILLS

Emergency Response – Dealing with Pets November 15, 2025

Volunteer Recognition Holiday Luncheon (MEMBERS ONLY)
December 13, 2025

Cyber Security/Infrastructure Hardening January 17, 2026

Drug and Opioid Awareness/ Narcan Training February 21, 2026

Unless otherwise noted, programs are on the third Saturday of each month, from 9 AM to 12 noon, at
GNR Public Health
2570 Riverside Parkway, Lawrenceville, GA 30046.

Members' guests and prospective members are welcome to join us on a space-available basis for most programs.

Attention Please...
The 2026 training schedule is now available!

To add events to your calendar or to find out more about upcoming member events, Click the link below:



MRC GEM Schedule

Keeping you informed....

Plan & Prepare- Alerts and Warnings

Quick Links :

[NOAA Weather Radio](#)
[Emergency Alert System \(EAS\) & Wireless](#)
[Emergency Alerts \(WEA\)](#)

Why FEMA is essential in disasters, and how losing independent agency status hurt its ability to function

[Read Full Article](#)

Building a Resilient Nation Together: Reflecting on National Preparedness Month

[Read Full Article](#)

Did You Know?

Thanksgiving is one of the busiest days for home cooking and a key time to stay alert for carbon monoxide (CO) dangers. Carbon Monoxide Safety While Cooking CO is an invisible, odorless gas created when fuel is burned. High levels can cause dizziness, nausea, or even death.

Stay Safe This Holiday:

Check your CO and smoke detectors before cooking. Never use grills, generators, or gas ovens to heat your home. Keep kitchen vents clear and appliances well maintained. If anyone feels dizzy or nauseated, move outside and call 911. A few quick checks can keep your Thanksgiving both warm and safe!

Learn more: cdc.gov/co

November Preparedness

Stay prepared year-round with free tools from the U.S. Department of Homeland Security.

Click each link below for quick list of activities to keep you and your family ready.

Thanksgiving Cooking Safety -Stay alert in the kitchen, keep flammable items away from stovetops, and never leave cooking unattended. Review cooking safety tips and make sure your holiday feast stays memorable for all the right reasons.

<https://www.ready.gov/home-fires>

Holiday Online Shopping Safety - With more shopping moving online each year, cybersecurity is key. Use strong passwords, verify websites before entering payment information, and avoid clicking suspicious links in emails or messages. Protect your personal data and shop smart this season.

<https://www.ready.gov/cybersecurity>

#Winter Ready -Cold weather can bring power outages, icy roads, and other hazards. Prepare now by winterizing your home and vehicle, checking your emergency supplies, and creating a family communication plan. Share preparedness tips with neighbors and loved ones to help everyone stay safe this winter.

<https://www.ready.gov/winter-ready>

To find more resources and information shared during National Preparedness Month, please click the link below :

<https://www.ready.gov>

PUBLIC HEALTH EMERGENCIES Call 1-866-PUB-HLTH anytime, 24/7.

Heroes aren't born. They Volunteer!

Stronger Together:
MRC & Partners in Preparedness
COMMUNITY & CORPORATE PARTNERSHIPS

THANK
YOU



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. #JI419) and select us as your supported organization. Once you do, Kroger will donate a percentage of what you spend to MRC GEM.

Click each logo to learn more !



Support MRC GEM every time you shop. Donate spare change by automatically rounding up your orders to the nearest dollar at checkout. Go to [Walmart Spark Good](#) for more information and to enroll in the program.



"Empower our community's emergency preparedness—your donation today helps build a safer, more resilient tomorrow."

<https://mrcgem.com/donate>

We are pleased to recognize our valued donors
in these ways:

For a donation of \$ 1000 or more, the donor's name and logo will be displayed as a Principal Sponsor at all meetings as well as on the donor web page. Your donation will provide a weekend of in-depth training for 4 or more volunteers.

For a donation of \$ 500 – \$ 999, the donor's name and logo will be displayed as Sustaining Sponsor at one monthly meeting and on our donor web page. Your donation will provide a weekend of in-depth training for 2 – 4 volunteers.

Supporting (\$ 250 – \$ 499) and Preparedness (up to \$ 249) donors will be recognized on our donor web page. Your donation will help us provide regular monthly training sessions for our volunteers.

To verify us directly with the IRS, click the link below:
<https://apps.irs.gov/app/eos/>

Search for EIN 26-1280067.

Donate

If you prefer to mail a check, please make it out to
"MRC GEM" and mail to:
MRC GEM
2700 Braselton Hwy, Ste 10-193
Dacula, GA 30019-3262

Platinum
Transparency
2025

Candid.



<https://www.paypal.com/fundraiser/charity/63682>

Stronger Together

MRC GEM (East Metro Health District Medical Reserve Corps, Inc.) is a Georgia non-profit corporation with IRS 501(c)(3) approval. Donations are tax-deductible as provided by the Federal and State tax codes.

Your gift, no matter how large or small, helps us make our community a safer place for all of us. Since we are an independent nonprofit with no paid staff, we depend entirely on the generosity of donors like you. Every penny you donate goes directly to fulfilling our mission.

You can donate cash directly and conveniently through the PayPal giving fund using your credit card or PayPal account. The full donation amount comes to us; PayPal charges no fee for this service.

If you have any questions about donating, please email us at
donations@mrcgem.com

We appreciate your interest and support.

Heroes aren't born. They Volunteer!

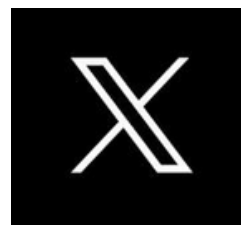
An All
VOLUNTEER
Organization

Visit our website to find out more about becoming a MRC GEM volunteer.
Become an MRC GEM HERO TODAY!

mrcgem.com/join



Find us on Social Media



Heroes aren't born. They Volunteer!