

**Upcoming
Events:**
SEPT. 28, 2019
OCTOBER 5, 2019

NEXT MEETING:
SEPTEMBER 10, 2019
6:00-8:00 p.m.
CONTRA COSTA EMS

Please Update
your DHV
account!

<http://disasterhealthcarevolunteers.ca.gov/>



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Contra Costa County
Medical Reserve Corps

MRC UPDATES

National Preparedness Month

2019'S THEME: BE PREPARED NOT SCARED

It's time to kick off National Preparedness Month. This is a campaign promoted by FEMA and Ready.gov to promote personal, family and community preparedness. Much of what we do as MRC members is provide education, guidance and subject matter expertise to our friends, family and community to ensure they take the steps needed to be more resilient during emergencies.

As we see the damage from disasters increase, it's more important to explain to the community why it is important to be prepared. We as responders need to share our experiences, tell stories and paint the picture they cannot see. We have learned over the years many of the issues that come into play with a person's health and wellness during the events that have affected our surrounding communities. In addition to the basic preparedness messages we provide the community, MRC members can focus on as it relates to medical needs include:

- Prescription medication management
- Ensuring durable medical equipment charged and has backup batteries
- Keep a list of your doctor's names/contacts, prescriptions and pertinent medical history with your insurance cards
- Preparedness kit needs to include your health needs, medications, supplies and equipment, dietary restrictions, and even mental health support.
- Work with friends and family to create evacuation plans if you need assistance leaving your home

Please help in promoting Prepared Not Scared for the month of September. Resources can be found at: <https://www.ready.gov/september>



Week 1: Sept 1-7
Save Early for Disaster Costs

Week 2: Sept 8-14
Make a Plan to Prepare for Disasters

Week 3: Sept 15-21
Teach Youth to Prepare for Disasters

Week 4: Sept 22-30
Get Involved in Your Community's Preparedness

What are ECL Levels in the DHV?

The Emergency System for Advanced Registration of Volunteer Health Professionals (ESAR-VHP) is a federally sponsored program which allows states to establish a volunteer registration process which is standardized, verifies health professional credentials and identities so volunteers can be vetted and respond rapidly when the need arises. The Disaster Healthcare Volunteer System, also known as the DHV, is California's ESAR-VHP program. This system allows both MRC units and each county to register their volunteers, conduct on-demand license verification and conduct messaging and notification through a web-based platform. The DHV can verify more than 20 different medical professional licenses or certifications within the state system. Volunteers who register as a **medical** will be assigned an *Emergency Credential Level or ECL level*. This is based on the information you enter regarding your occupation details. MRC members need to ensure they verify and update this information on a routine basis and with any changes. The ELC categories are as follows:

Thank you for registering to volunteer your services during a disaster in California. Your expertise will be invaluable in caring for our citizens.

We are updating volunteer registrations and find that we require additional information from you as marked below.

Professional License No. _____ Exp. Dt _____

Place of Practice (Hospital, Hospital Privileges Clinic, Private Practice, etc.)
Please provide the name, address & phone number.

Miscellaneous _____

Please send your responses as soon as possible. This information is vital to properly categorize the level of service you may provide. If you have questions, please contact me as shown below. Thanks again for your assistance.

ECL 1- Have hospital privileges or active experience in the hospital/acute care setting

ECL 2- Are clinically active, working in their respective role

ECL 3- Have a license that is active (in good standing)

ECL 4- Student, or licensed in another state

No ECL- No valid license, or not able to check

Those with licenses that are verified in the system are

automatically placed in an ECL-3 level. **In order to be assigned ECL 1 or ECL-2, employment verification must occur.** This is completed by the personnel response unit at EMSA. You will receive an email requesting information on your place of employment, they will verify this information with your supervisor.

Commit to your Community



Do you know someone who would be interested in joining the MRC?

Invite them to a meeting or connect them with the MRC coordinator

lisa.vajgrt-smith@cchealth.org

(925) 313-6608

If you receive an email requesting this information, please complete it in a timely manner. This helps the MRC Coordinator ensure we are assigning appropriate resources to mission needs. For instance, if we have a hospital that requests RNs, they may only accept ECL 1 and ECL2 level RNs. The Coordinator would then search the DHV for the appropriate personnel to send to this facility. The screenshot provided below, is an example of what will be emailed to you by EMSA. It is important all MRC members have access to their DHV account and keep updated information. Additionally, all medical personnel who may feel the desire to respond to a disaster (MRC or not) should pre-register in the DHV. Not only should we be actively recruiting new MRC members, but MRC can help to inform potential medical responders of the need to register [here](#).

Welcome to the MRC

We are happy to welcome aboard 5 more members to the MRC. Kim Liddy MA student, Cheuk Kwan Siu MA Student, Tom Underwood EMT, Melissa Meighan RN, Dr. Gary Pace. Be sure to introduce yourselves and welcome these new members to our unit at the next meeting or event.

Upcoming MRC Events

Rossmoor EPO Safety Fair | September 28, 2019, 0730-1300 | Hillside Clubhouse | EP education & Training

Training Corner Year-end Training Calendar

The training calendar for the remainder of 2019 will be as follows:

- Tuesday, September 10, 2019 6:00-8:00p.m. Opioid Treatment Programs and Medication Assisted Therapies| Dr. Ori Tzvieli (The training portion of the meeting will start at 6:00 p.m. followed by team business)
- Saturday, October 12, 2019 9:30-11:30 a.m. MRC Admin Resources: Tools and resources to successfully complete MRC missions.
- Saturday, November 16, 2019 9:00 a.m. -4:00 p.m. HAM Cram: Amateur Ham Radio Course (fees for MRC members will be paid) More details to follow.
- Tuesday, December 10, 2019 6:00-8:00 p.m. Topic TBD

NACCHO Launches Deployment Readiness Guide

The National Association of County and City Health Officials (NACCHO) has released the 2019 MRC Deployment Readiness Guide. As part of a pilot project, Contra Costa County MRC contributed to this suite of resources for MRC Units which includes training standard, volunteer tier recommendations and capability Mission Sets. This guide can be accessed on their website:

<https://www.naccho.org/programs/public-health-preparedness/medical-reserve-corps>

As part of the training standards and tier recommendations, they have updated available training resources that can be found on MRC-TRAIN and NACCHO University. Based on these changes, we will be reviewing the content and updating our training tiers and policies by January 2020. Two new e-learnings were created, *MRC Pre-deployment and MRC Deployment and Post Deployment* (Ctrl+Click the title above) current MRC members are encouraged to review these and offer any feedback. Thank you to all the MRC members who contributed to this project, we look forward to your input.