

New York City



New York City Medical Reserve Corps



January 2017

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Porsche Martin and Christine Rollet during Sandy

Why I Volunteer Christine Rollet, LCSW

How long have you been a member of NYC MRC? I joined 8 years ago.

What is your profession? clinical social worker
What MRC activities have you participated in?

I took several very informative workshops such as nuclear radiation hazard at Indian Point, working in a POD in case of emergency, communication skills and was briefed on emergency systems in NYC. I participated in MRC's blood pressure program at a food bank in a church in Brooklyn; since I am a native French speaker I could communicate more easily with Haitians to encourage them to take their blood pressure. I also pretended to be a patient at a FDNY drill at a hospital simulating a situation where there are many patients rushing an ER after a disaster in NYC and in a Manhattan health center where I pretended to be a patient with symptoms of Ebola to help the NYC Department of Health assess the readiness of such centers to face a crisis. Earlier I was at the FEMA Far Rockaway center after Sandy to provide crisis mental health counseling/referring to mental health centers for those affected by Sandy who came to the Center.

Are you involved in any other volunteer activities? I provide emergency counseling on an as needed basis for the girls and staff of the Lower East Side Girls Club. I am also on the board of a group that promotes universal healthcare (Physicians for a National Health Program – NY Metro chapter)

Why do you volunteer for NYC MRC?

I have skills (mental health, languages – French, Spanish) that can be useful in case of an emergency hitting the City of New York that I love and that has been my home since 1965. I can make a small contribution and join wonderful, dedicated staff and volunteers united to ease the pain/suffering of my fellow New Yorkers.



We at NYC MRC, feel so fortunate to have each and every one of you as volunteers! All the success of 2016 would not have been possible without your help.

Thank you for your time, your support, and your continuous dedication and commitment to help the New York City Medical Reserve Corps accomplish its mission year after year.

We hope for a year full of growth , joy and love for all our members.

Have a Happy and Healthy New Year!



Follow NYC MRC on Facebook at

<https://www.facebook.com/NYCMRC>

NYC MRC members needed to test pilot Just In Time Training for PECO

PECO is in the process of creating a training for: Canvassers, and Strike/Assistant Strike Team Leaders called “Just in Time Training” (“JITT”). These trainings will be used to train volunteers.

PECO is looking to test the effectiveness of the two trainings (e.g.: will someone be able to effectively work and provide guidance on the handheld radio, tablet etc. in the 45 minute – 1 hour training) After each training session, PECO staff will conduct a hot wash to get a better understanding on how to improve the trainings for the future.

Here are the details:

PECO Pilot Just In Time Trainings

Date: Wednesday, Jan. 11th

Time: 9:00 am – 1:00 pm

Location: CUNY Law, 2 Court Square (across from Citibank), Long Island City, NY

Trains: G, 7, E, M to Court Square/Ely Ave

To register for this event, go to: <https://a816-healthpsi.nyc.gov/MRCSelfServe/>



NYC MRC Member Manual

Questions about NYC MRC and your role as a volunteer?

Check out the NYC MRC Member Manual.

To see the full manual, go to:

<http://www1.nyc.gov/assets/doh/downloads/pdf/em/nyc-mrc-member-manual.pdf>



NYC MRC Interactions with the Media during Events & Activations

As written in the NYC MRC Code of Conduct, found in the NYC MRC Member Manual,

NYC MRC members shall not:

- “Knowingly have any discussions with any media source(s) during an activation and/or exercise without prior approval and supervision of the NYC MRC Program and the DOHMH Public Information Officer.”
- “Take photographs, audio, or videotapes at an NYC MRC function without the prior authorization of the MRC program.”

Our main purpose is to support the work of the NYC Department of Health & Mental Hygiene (DOHMH). We rely on our Public Information Officer (PIO) to interface with the public and to handle all media relations, including print media, TV, etc. for developing and distributing accurate related information through media networks to the public. It is essential to our mission, both in emergencies and non-emergencies, that public messaging be clear, accurate and up to date.

If you are approached by any member of the press, please refer them to the NYC MRC staff, or the DOHMH Press Office.

To read more about the Code of Conduct, and to review the NYC MRC Member Manual, go to:

<http://www1.nyc.gov/assets/doh/downloads/pdf/em/nyc-mrc-member-manual.pdf>

Upcoming Trainings and Public Health Events



NYC MRC Orientation

This training is an introduction to the NYC MRC program. It is a great overview for both new members and longtime members, and is the prerequisite for our most popular trainings. NYC MRC Orientation explores how NYC MRC fits into the bigger emergency response picture, what NYC MRC members will do, what protections are offered, and what you can do to be prepared.

Date: Tuesday, January 19

Time: 6:00 pm — 8:00 pm, Registration & light supper at 5:30 pm

Location: 125 Worth St, 3rd Floor Boardroom, Manhattan

To RSVP go to: <https://a816-healthpsi.nyc.gov/MRCSelfServe/>

New York City



To register for any or all of the following Public Health events, go to: <https://a816-healthpsi.nyc.gov/MRCSelfServe/>

Our Lady of Refuge,

2020 Foster Ave, Brooklyn

Wednesday, January 4th — 10:30 am — 12:30 pm

Language: Creole



Our Lady of Solace,

2866 West 17th St, Brooklyn

Sunday, January 8th — 10:00 am — 1:00 pm

Language: Spanish



Coney Island Lighthouse Mission,

2114 Mermaid Ave, Brooklyn

Thursday, January 12 — 10:30 am — 12:30 pm

Language: Spanish, Chinese



Our Lady of Refuge,

2020 Foster Ave, Brooklyn

Wednesday, January 18th — 10:30 am — 12:30 pm

Language: Creole

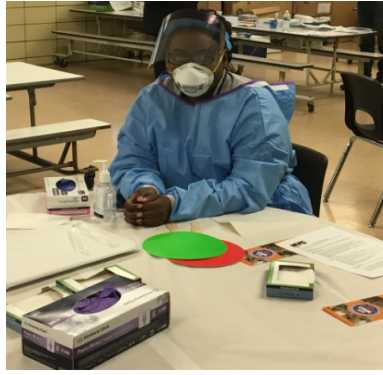




NYC MRC In Action!

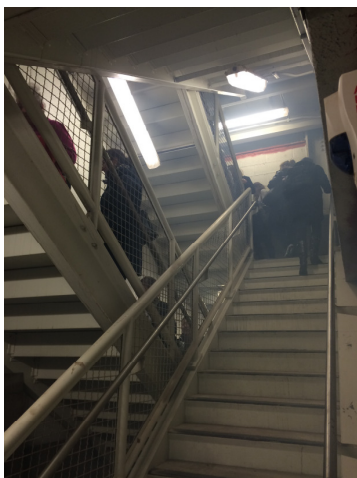
Influenza A virus (H7N2) Cat Outbreak POD

After a novel avian influenza (H7N2) outbreak among cats in an Animal Care Center in Manhattan, the Department of Health's response teams have been working together to determine whether animal-human transmission has occurred, provide treatment to any exposed individuals, and interrupt transmission among animals. A Point of Dispensing (POD) for shelter workers, volunteers and individuals who recently adopted a pet from the shelter was successfully established to accomplish our goals. **Thank you NYC MRC volunteers for responding to this emergency!**



MTA 2nd Avenue Subway Exercise

On Wednesday, Dec. 28th, 120 intrepid NYC MRC members walked past the orange barrels, climbed down a flight of stairs, and entered the 63rd St. station of the soon to be opened Second Avenue Subway. We participated in an evacuation drill managed by FDNY and MTA. NYC MRC members were escorted into the subway station just outside the platform, and when a smoke condition arose, were evacuated by emergency stairs and elevators. The exercise was a success: the subway is good to go!





HOPE 2017 - Volunteers Needed!

On **Monday, January 23, 2017**, the Department of Homeless Services (DHS) will conduct its annual Homeless Outreach Population Estimate (HOPE) count, as part of an ongoing effort to engage NYC's street homeless individuals. HOPE helps us best project services needs and allocate resources for our most vulnerable population.

We are calling on our fellow New Yorkers to help the Department of Social Services canvass parks, subways, and other public spaces to estimate the number of people who are street homeless.

HOPE 2016 found that 2,794 homeless individuals were living on the streets of New York City on the night of the count. This is a 12 percent decline from the 3,182 unsheltered individuals in 2015 and is the second annual decline in a row. There was a 20 percent decrease, the first in seven years, in subway system homeless, going from 1,976 in 2015 to 1,573 in 2016. With outreach teams mobilized in all five boroughs 24 hours a day, 7 days a week; specialized housing set aside for the street homeless; and targeted funding to ensure that adequate resources reach the individuals most in need, New York City continues to be a national leader in investing in and developing programs to serve people living on the street. But we need your help.

Volunteers assist from approximately 10:00 p.m. to 4:00 a.m. Just one night of your time will help us collect vital information for our outreach teams to help homeless people move from the streets to a more stable, safe environment.

We need 3,000 volunteers on January 23. As we work to combat street homelessness in all five boroughs, one person at a time, this is a unique opportunity to participate in an extraordinary citywide effort. If you have volunteered before, I encourage you to sign up again. If you have yet to experience how truly gratifying a night of HOPE can be, I invite you to join us for the first time.

Please visit www.nyc.gov/hope or [CityShare](#) to register. You can also contact the HOPE team with any questions at hope@dhs.nyc.gov.



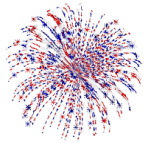
Articles of Interest

Glenn Blain, "[Rare bird flu strain infects 45 cats in single Manhattan shelter and may have spread to recently adopted felines](#)," NY Daily News, December 16, 2016. This is the first time H7N2 (avian influenza) is detected and transmitted among domestic cats.

Donald G. McNeil Jr., "[New Ebola Vaccine Gives 100 Percent Protection](#)," The New York Times, December 22, 2016. Although this experimental Ebola vaccine has not yet been approved by any regulatory authority, it is considered so effective that an emergency stockpile of 300,000 doses has already been created for use should an outbreak flare up again.



MRC in Action



2016 in Review

