Why I Volunteer

Donna Curran, RN

How long have you been a member of NYC MRC? 6 years.

What is your profession? Registered Nurse.

What MRC activities have you participated in lately? Recent training sessions that I have attended include: MRC Radiation Improvised Nuclear Devices (INDs); Fentanyl Outreach Training; and Core Competencies. Over the years I have been able to attend many interesting programs on diseases, health needs, resilience, bombs, Point of Dispensing, and emergency response with the MRC. In addition, participating in health outreach programs and volunteering at shelters has been a very tangible and rewarding way of reaching out to help my neighbors.

Are you involved in any other volunteer activities? I am involved in a number of cancer related volunteer activities for different kinds of cancer. I am also a member of the MRC Radiologic Reserve Corps.

Why do you volunteer for NYC MRC? My parents taught my brother and me that giving back to your community was important. 9/11 only made that so much more imperative. The feeling of helplessness on that day led me to join the MRC to be better prepared to respond to the needs of my community. An added benefit has been the friends that I have made within the MRC. It is truly a fantastic experience working with this group.

The NYC MRC Member Manual is a volunteer handbook that will orient new and current NYC MRC volunteers to the NYC MRC program and answer common questions.

You can visit the following page to see the full manual:

Follow NYC MRC on Facebook at

https://www.facebook.com/NYCMRC
It’s Wednesday: do you know where your MRC ID is?

We’ve been having a lot of interagency discussion about credentialing during disasters and emergencies, and what identification would allow you to travel during a travel ban issued during an emergency or disaster.

NYC MRC has been identified as potential essential responders, depending on the situation. To travel during emergencies, you will need to have your MRC ID as well as a photo ID.

DO YOU KNOW WHERE YOUR MRC ID IS?

Also, only valid IDs will be accepted. If you are a longtime volunteer, you may have an older version of the NYC MRC ID that has an expiration date. All of these cards have expired, and would not be acceptable identification. These are great souvenirs, but please contact us for a new ID card so that you will be able to serve in the event of an emergency.

American Diabetes Association Expo

Join us at the American Diabetes Association EXPO presented by Healthfirst Health Insurance for New Yorkers and learn how to be healthy, active and live well with diabetes. NYC MRC will be providing blood pressure screenings.

Date: Saturday, March 11th
Time: 10:00 am — 4:00 pm
Location: Jacob Javits Convention Center
655 West 34th Street, New York, NY
Registration: https://a816-healthpsi.nyc.gov/MRCSelfServe/

NY Road Runners: Medical Volunteers NEEDED!

The 2017 United Airlines NYC Half will take runners from around the city and the globe on a 13.1-mile tour of NYC. We are looking for MRC members holding certification in the specialty areas listed below to volunteer for this event:

- EMTs
- Paramedics
- Podiatrists
- Physical Therapists
- RNs
- Attending Physicians

Date: Sunday, March 19th
Time: 6:00am—1:00pm
Location: Water Street and Maiden Avenue
To Register, you must create an account at mynyrr.nyrr.org/login and choose the opportunity listed as “2017 United Airlines NYC Half Medical Volunteers.”

**All volunteers are required to attend a mandatory orientation on Saturday, March 18th from 10:00am-12:00pm at India House (1 Hanover Square, Manhattan) prior to Race Day.

** Coffee and light fare will be provided during both orientation and race day!
Upcoming Public Health Events

In collaboration with our community partners, NYC MRC continues to provide blood pressure screenings at several locations throughout New York City.

To participate in any or all of the following public health events, please go to:

https://a816-healthpsi.nyc.gov/MRCSelfServe/

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Language</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Masjid Al– Rahman Mosque, FOR MEN</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>333 86th Street, Brooklyn (basement)</td>
<td><strong>Friday, March 3rd</strong></td>
<td>1:30pm - 3:00pm</td>
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<td>English, Arabic</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Masjid Al– Rahman Mosque, FOR WOMEN</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>333 86th Street, Brooklyn (basement)</td>
<td><strong>Friday, March 17th</strong></td>
<td>1:30pm - 3:00pm</td>
<td></td>
<td>English, Arabic</td>
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<td><strong>Our Lady of Solace, 2866 W 17th</strong></td>
<td><strong>Sunday, March 5th</strong></td>
<td>10:00am - 1:00pm</td>
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<td>Spanish</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>St. Francis College Health Fair</strong></td>
<td><strong>Wednesday, April 19th</strong></td>
<td>10:00am - 3:00 pm</td>
<td>Remsen Street, Brooklyn</td>
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We need **2 male volunteers** for this event. Volunteers will have to remove their shoes before going inside. Safe place for shoes available at site.

We need **2 female volunteers** for this event. Volunteers will have to remove their shoes before going inside. Safe place for shoes available at site.

**Salvation Army, 520 50th** Street, Brooklyn

**Our Lady of Perpetual Help,**

60th Street and 5th Ave, Brooklyn

**Date:** Wednesday, April 19th

**Time:** 10:00am — 3:00 pm

**Location:** Remsen Street, Brooklyn
Upcoming Trainings

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:** Wednesday, March 8th

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

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

**Registration:** [https://a816-healthpsi.nyc.gov/MRCSelfServe/](https://a816-healthpsi.nyc.gov/MRCSelfServe/)

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Disabilities Awareness Training

Disability awareness incorporates sensitivity training so the audience can empathize with the challenges individuals with disabilities face. Videos, extensive materials and resources, federal guidelines, and current best practices will highlight the content and allow for attendees to best respond and interact with all citizens in their community.

**When:** Saturday, March 11th

**Time:** 9:00am— 3:00pm

**Lunch will be provided**

**Where:** CUNY Law School, 2 Court Square, LIC

**To register, go to:**
[https://a816-healthpsi.nyc.gov/MRCSelfServe/](https://a816-healthpsi.nyc.gov/MRCSelfServe/)

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SAVE THE DATE!

**5TH Annual NYC MRC Symposium**

*Globalization of Infectious Disease*

**Saturday, April 22, 2017**

8:30 am—3:00 pm

**Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center**

417 East 68 Street, Manhattan

**To Register, please go to:** [https://a816-healthpsi.nyc.gov/MRCSelfServe/](https://a816-healthpsi.nyc.gov/MRCSelfServe/)
Pet Preparedness

When disasters strike, the same rules that apply to people apply to pets: preparation makes all the difference. This training is designed to educate pet owners, and to assist in the following aspects of emergency preparedness:

1. Preparing a disaster kit for their pets
2. Ensuring the health and safety of their pets
3. Developing an emergency plan for evacuations
4. Understanding the emergency shelter system and policies regarding animals
5. Training pets to cope with emergencies
6. Understanding pet behavior and dangers pets face during emergencies

**Date:** Thursday, March 9th  
**Time:** 6:00 - 8:00 pm  
**Location:** NYCEM 165 Cadman Plaza East, Brooklyn  
**Registration:** [https://a816-healthpsi.nyc.gov/MRCSelfServe/](https://a816-healthpsi.nyc.gov/MRCSelfServe/)

Active Shooter: What Can You Do?

An "active shooter" is an individual actively engaged in killing or attempting to kill people in a confined space or other populated area. Typically, the immediate deployment of law enforcement is required to stop the shooting and mitigate harm to victims. This course provides guidance to individuals so that they can prepare to respond to an active shooter situation. By the end of this course, participants will be able to:

- Describe actions to take when confronted with an active shooter.
- Describe actions to take to prevent and prepare for potential active shooter incidents.
- Describe how to manage the consequences of an active shooter incident.

**Date:** Tuesday, March 28th  
**Time:** 6:00 pm - 8:00 pm, registration & light supper at 5:30pm  
**Location:** The Churchill School, 301 East 29 St, Manhattan  
To register, please go to: [https://a816-healthpsi.nyc.gov/MRCSelfServe/](https://a816-healthpsi.nyc.gov/MRCSelfServe/)
JOIN THE REST TEAM

The New York City Department of Health and Mental Hygiene (DOHMH) is charged with coordinating the mental health response to disasters and public health emergencies in New York City. The Office of Mental Health Disaster Preparedness and Response (OMHDPR) has organized a mental health response group known as the Resilience & Emotional Support Team (REST Team).

The REST Team is comprised of a core group of qualified, trained individuals who, when activated, can be rapidly mobilized to provide on-site disaster mental health services. The REST team provides disaster mental health services such as information and referral, psychological first aid (PFA) and crisis counseling. These services might be provided on site within DOHMH and/or at City designated response sites.

To become a member of the REST team, you must attend the ALL HAZARDS FOR MENTAL HEALTH TRAINING.

To qualify for this training, MRC volunteers must meet the criteria’s below:

- You must have attended an NYC MRC Orientation, and you must have taken the online ICS 100b and 700 trainings.

**AND YOU MUST HAVE ONE OF THE FOLLOWING:**

NY State License or Certificate as a (SW, Counselor, Therapist, Psychologist or Qualified Psychiatrist (NYSMHL))

- Master degree and at least 2 years of full time experience providing MH Services or 1 year of experience providing services to those experiencing traumas or disasters
- Bachelors degree and 2 years of experience providing MH services.

As members of the REST team you will receive free disaster related training and opportunities to participate in drills. As part of the REST team you will gain satisfaction from knowing that you are helping New Yorkers become better prepared to respond to and recover from the mental health implications of disasters and public health emergencies.

**When:** Wednesday, April 19th — 9:00am –5:00pm

**Where:** Gotham Center( 42-09 28th Street, room 18-25)

**To Register, please go to:** [https://a816-healthpsi.nyc.gov/MRCSelfServe/](https://a816-healthpsi.nyc.gov/MRCSelfServe/)
MRC in Action

MRC at Masjid Al-Rahman

MRC All Hazards Mental Health Pilot

MRC Dialysis Project Training

MRC Racial Equity: A Public Health Imperative Training
The NYC Department of Health and Mental Hygiene (DOHMH) is seeking motivated and committed volunteers to help manage Points-Of-Dispensing (PODs) during public health emergencies. PODs are temporary emergency dispensing sites set up and run by DOHMH to dispense life-saving medical countermeasures, including antibiotics and vaccines, as quickly as possible to prevent people from getting sick or dying of a disease.

The POD Responder Program (PRP) was created to provide the opportunity for volunteers to participate in this important work. The PRP manages the recruitment, training, and assignment of POD Core Team members from city agencies and partner organizations.

The POD Core Teams (PCTs) are leadership teams comprised of volunteers from the POD Responder Program and City staff. Each team is made up of six people who are responsible for managing the setup and operations of a POD. Each POD operates independently with support from the POD Operations Center (POD OC). PCT members are responsible for working together to make on-site decisions and manage POD Operations. During POD activation, PCT members may work long hours and odd times (12 hour shifts, overnight and/or weekends). PCT members should be willing and able to make their POD assignment a priority in the event of a POD activation. All PCT members will be pre-assigned to a POD site based on their residential address.

Ideal PRP members will process the skills and demonstrated ability to:

1. Work and make decisions independently
2. Lead and manage staff while working under pressure
3. Coordinate and delegate responsibilities
4. Effectively communicate instructions to staff and the public

PCT positions include: POD Team Leader, Administration Manager, Operations Manager, Screening Unit Leader, Dispensing unit Leader, and Flow Monitor Unit Leader. PCT candidates will be assigned to a PCT position based on their training and leadership experience.

If you’re interested in becoming a member of the POD Responder Program, please visit https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/podresponderprogram

For more information about PODs and the POD Responder Program, contact Kimberley Ricketts (PRP Administrator) at prpadmin@health.nyc.gov