

Bristol-Norfolk

Serving the Communities of
Attleboro, Foxboro, North Attleboro, Mansfield,
Norton, Plainville, Rehoboth, Seekonk



What's It All About

The Medical Reserve Corps was founded after Presidents Bush's 2002 State of the Union Address, in which he asked all Americans to volunteer in support of their country. MRC units are community-based and function as a way to locally organize and utilize volunteers. The units function as part of local emergency preparedness teams supplementing existing public health resources, emergency agencies and other non-emergency activities in the community. The name is a little misleading because both medical and non-medical volunteers are needed!

MRC volunteers receive training in personal and family preparedness, incident command, pandemic planning, behavioral

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health, CPR and basic first and other skills known as core competencies. (see related article page 4). The goal is to have an organ-

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MRC Volunteers Deployed at the Boston Marathon

By Liisa Jackson, the MA Region 4A MRC Coordinator

The Medical Reserve Corps participation in the Boston Marathon was a huge success!

The 16 Medical Sweep Teams covering 13 blocks surrounding the finish line were comprised of medical personnel who worked in small groups of 6 to 10 members triaging runners who encountered difficulties after completing the race. If the runners needed additional medical care, there was a wheelchair portion of the Sweep Team which transported the runners needing additional medical assis-

tance - using wheelchairs and Boston EMS golf carts back to one of the medical tents.



There were over 900 runners treated in the Medical tents this year. We had 169 medical sweep team volunteers, most were MRC volunteers integrated with veteran Medical Sweep team volunteers.

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Volume 1, Issue 2

May 2008

Special points of interest:

- *What's It All About*
- *Boston Marathon Deployment a Success*
- *Core Competencies*
- *Regional Chapter Meeting May 6, 2008*

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What's It all About - continued

(Continued from page 1)

ized source of volunteers that have been pre-screened and trained before an emergency occurs.

The Bristol-Norfolk MRC is one of four units that make up the Bristol County Medical Reserve Corps. The other units are Greater Taunton Area, Greater New Bedford Area and Greater Fall River Area. Our unit, "The Bristol-Norfolk



North Attleboro High School gym
MRC volunteers at the Emergency
Dispensing Site drill
(regional flu clinic)

MRC" is comprised of eight area towns. Each town is considered a chapter and each chapter has a coordinator. The coordinators work together as a team to provide local trainings and deployment opportunities. However volunteers may train at any statewide MRC trainings that are offered. Volunteers may also choose to volunteer in their town only, in surrounding towns, statewide or even nationally.

Anatomy of The Bristol-Norfolk Medical Reserve Corps

Department of Health and Human Services/Surgeon General

U.S. Freedom Corps

Includes all national and international volunteer programs

Citizen Corps

CERT Citizen /Emergency Response Team	FIRE CORPS	MRC Medical Reserve	VIPs Volunteers in Police	Others
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National Medical Reserve Corps Program

www.medicalreservecorps.gov

Massachusetts Department of Public Health

www.mass.gov/dph

and the Massachusetts MRC Program

Currently there are 43 MRC programs in Massachusetts

Bristol County MRCs

www.bristolcountymrc.org

**Bristol-Norfolk
MRC**

Attleboro, Foxboro, Mansfield, North Attleboro, Norton, Plainville, Rehoboth, Seekonk

Greater Fall River
MRC

Fall River
Somerset
Swansea
Westport

Greater New Bedford
MRC

New Bedford, Fairhaven, Dartmouth, Acushnet, Mattapoisett, Marion, Rochester, Freetown, Wareham

Greater Taunton
MRC

Taunton, Raynham, Dighton, Lakeville, Berkley, Easton

BRISTOL-NORFOLK

Medical Reserve Corps

Volunteer Spotlight - Melvin "Mel" Korman

Mel Korman of North Attleboro, MA was born in Providence Rhode Island moving to North Attleboro in 1929. Mel and his wife Mary have four children, two stepchildren, seven grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.

He was a World War II U.S. Army veteran, serving in Europe, attaining the rank of sergeant.

He is a retired Manufacturing Engineer at General Electric Co. Wiring Devices Department and taught plastic engineering courses at Brown University and Rhode Island State. After retiring he was a Counselor for the Small Busi-



Melvin "Mel" Korman

ness Administration's SCORE organization and served as an arbitrator with the Better Business Bureau's Auto-Line program.

Mel has been a Program Director at the North Attleboro Council on Aging and a volunteer at Sturdy

Memorial Hospital. He is a member of the steering committee and web master for the Norton Institute for Continuing Education, Volunteer

He brings his expertise to be the web master with the North Attleboro Medical Reserve Corps and has been continuously training and volunteering with the MRC since the beginning.

In addition to volunteering he enjoys photography, computers and genealogy.

Thanks Mel for your time and commitment.

Volunteer Help Wanted

Newsletter Coordinator: Person to prepare newsletter and distribute. Work from your home computer updating this newsletter. Knowledge of Microsoft Publisher and e-mail required.

Volunteer Coordinator: Person to assist with mailings to our volunteers and coordinate contact with them.

Chapter Coordinators: Volunteers are needed to serve as the chapter coordinators in Foxboro, Mansfield, Norton and Seekonk. This person would meet with the other chapter coordinators on a monthly basis to discuss volunteer recruitment, training opportunities and other related duties. The chapter coordinator also collects and processes the volunteer applications and assures that each member is prop-

erly credentialed and has received the appropriate training.

CPR/First Aid Instructor: Person to volunteer their time to teach CPR/First Aid for the MRC volunteers. Must be certified to teach this class. Supplies will be provided by Bristol-Norfolk MRC.

All MRC Volunteers: Region 5 MA Southeast Regional Advisory Homeland Security Council requesting MRC volunteers participate in roles as victims at the second public safety full scale exercise in our region. More information will be forthcoming. The deployment is rescheduled to **October 19, 2008** to be located in the Mansfield area. We need between 100-200 volunteers. This is a **SAVE THE DATE**. Volunteers must be credentialed before deployment .

Boston Marathon - Continued

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I want to thank the entire MRC volunteers who worked the sweep teams, your professionalism and dedication was amazing and I am so grateful that you participated in this event. This was also an opportunity for the volunteers to get a glimpse of what a Mass casualty event may look like; the vast amount

of runners that need treatment in very short order replicates this situation. This has fostered a powerful partnership with the Boston Marathon and they are looking forward to our participation for many years to come.

Thank you all I feel so privileged to be working with such a wonderful group of people!

BRISTOL-NORFOLK

Medical Reserve Corps

Mission of the Month

Core Competencies: Depending on whether you are a medical or non-medical member, there are certain basic requirements and “Core Competencies” that every MRC member is required or encouraged to know.

Every MRC member must attend an orientation course (MRC 101) and have a written personal and family preparedness plan. In addition, it is strongly recommended that all members be trained in basic first aid and CPR. For members that wish to be in a “team leadership role”, Incident Command (IS 100) and National Incident Management (NIMS 700) knowledge is mandatory. However it is strongly encouraged that all MRC members be familiar with this training and IS 100 and NIMS 700 trainings can be found on-line free of charge at www.training.fema.gov/EMIWeb/IS/is100.asp and www.training.fema.gov/EMIWeb/IS/is700.asp.

All volunteers are also required to complete an application, sign an informed consent allowing the unit to verify credentials and to have criminal record checks, provide a government issued picture identification and for medical members provide documentation of qualification (i.e. licenses, certifications, etc.) to ensure a proper match with your skills for deployment.

Please come to the Regional Chapter meeting on May 6, 2008 at the South Attleboro Fire Station for Personal Preparedness training. Details are listed under “Upcoming Trainings”

CORE COMPETENCIES FOR MRC VOLUNTEERS

We encourage all active members of a Medical Reserve Corps unit, at a minimum, be able to:

- 1 Describe the procedure and steps necessary for the MRC member to protect health, safety, and overall well-being of themselves, their families, the team, and the community.
- 2 Document that the MRC member has a personal preparedness plan in place.
- 3 Describe the chain of command (e.g., Emergency Management Systems, ICS, NIMS), the integration of the MRC, and its application to a given incident.
- 4 Describe the role of the local MRC unit in public health and/or emergency response and its application to a given incident
- 5 Describe the MRC member’s communication role(s) and processes with response partners, media, general public and others.
- 6 Describe the impact of an event on the mental health of the MRC member, responders, and others.
- 7 Demonstrate the MRC member’s ability to follow procedures for assignment, activation, reporting, and deactivation.
- 8 Identify limits to own skills, knowledge, and abilities as they pertain to MRC role(s).

FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION PLEASE VISIT THE FOLLOWING WEBSITES

www.bristol-norfolkmrc.org
www.bristolcountymrc.org ←
www.mamedicalreservecorps.org
www.medicalreservecorps.org

Be Informed
Be Prepared
Be a Volunteer

Not a Volunteer YET

Please visit our website to
fill out an application
or call your local
chapter coordinator listed on the
back page



Upcoming Trainings, Deployments & Events

- **May 6, 2008** **Regional Chapter Meeting** 6:30 pm—8:30 pm
South Attleboro Fire Station "Personal Preparedness Training"
1476 West St, (Route 123 & corner of Read St)
Cheryl Bushnell, Bristol County MRC Coordinator will discuss what it takes to have a personal preparedness plan for MRC volunteers and their families. In addition we will discuss volunteer badging and future trainings, light refreshments will be available. Please bring a friend, this training is for all MRC volunteers and other interested people. MRC volunteers will be entered into a drawing to receive a free Personal Preparedness Kit, a \$50.00 value! All registered volunteers will receive a gift.
- **May 15, 2008** **Hot Topics in Public Health** 5:30—8:00 pm.
Morton Hospital, Taunton Pre-registration required See below for details
- **May 21, 2008** **Norton Health Fair** 2:30—6:30 pm
Norton High Cafeteria Open to all See below for details
- **Rescheduled to 10/19/08** **Regional Public Safety Exercise** All Day
Mansfield, MA Pre-registration required See below for details

Hot Topics in Public Health



Hot Topics in

A seminar addressing the public health hot topics of the day: MRSA, Pandemic Flu, healthcare associated infections as well as other current issues affecting public health response. Target audience is Medical Reserve Corps and MSAR volunteers, emergency management personnel, clinicians, and the general public. Continuing Education Credits available. Keynote speaker: Alfred Demaria, Jr., MD is the director of the Bureau of Communicable Disease Control for the Massachusetts Department of Public Health and State Epidemiologist for Massachusetts.

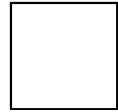
For information or to receive a conference brochure call Cheryl Bushnell, Bristol County MRC Coordinator at 508-367-7519 or email bcmrc.coordinator@comcast.net. Location for this training is Norton Hospital, Margaret Stone conference Room, Taunton. Registration required by May 1, 2008 for reasonable accommodations. Light supper will be served at 5:30 pm. Non-MRC member cost is \$10. MRC members attend at no charge.

Norton Health Fair

Stop by the Norton Health Fair on Wednesday May 21, 2008 between 2:30—6:30 pm at the Norton High School Cafeteria located at 66 West Main St (rte 123), Norton, MA. Cheryl Bushnell, Bristol County MRC Coordinator will be there to answer questions about the Medical Reserves Corps and becoming a Volunteer. In addition, there will be many booths on information including acupuncture, blood pressure, dental care, dermatology, diabetes, fitness, flu, hand-washing, massage, nutrition, smoking, west nile virus and much more. Also the Norton Fire Dept will demonstrate the use of AED (cardiac defibrillator). Lots of free giveaways and many raffles.

Regional Public Safety Exercise

Bristol County MRC's are invited to participate in a regional public safety exercise in Mansfield. VOLUNTEERS NEEDED to act as victims. This deployment is not your typical MRC role in an exercise or disaster. MRC volunteers gain an unique perspective from the eyes of victim. We need 100-200 volunteers to serve as victims in a scenario in Mansfield on October 19, 2008. This is an all day event. Take the opportunity to sign up now. For more information, contact Cheryl Bushnell, Bristol County MRC Collaborative Coordinator at 508-367-7519 or email cheryl.bushnell@comcast.net



Local Chapter Contact Information

www.bristol-norfolkmrc.org

Attleboro Chapter - Jacquie O'Brien
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508-223-2222, ext 3244

Foxboro Chapter - TBA
43 S. Washington St
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amfleming@north-attleboro.ma.us
508-699-0104

Mansfield Chapter - TBA
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North Attleboro, MA 02760
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508-699-0104

Norton Chapter - TBA
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North Attleboro Chapter - AnneMarie Fleming
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