Why be an MRC Member?

In an emergency, the immediate deployment of emergency medical personnel is critical. However, such events can quickly overwhelm hospitals and health systems with individuals urgently in need of care. In addition, it is often difficult in the midst of a disaster to locate qualified volunteers and coordinate large volunteer efforts. The MRC was created after 9/11 to engage volunteers to strengthen public health and community resilience.

Members may be asked to assist the Jo Daviess County Health Department in the distribution of antibiotics, antivirals, or vaccines to members of the community. Members will be screened to determine their qualifications and to match their skills to needed roles.

MRC Happenings

The normal regularly scheduled quarterly meeting was put on hold this quarter due to an exciting training held at Crossroad Community Church on November 1st. The American Red Cross taught Psychological First Aid training for Medical Reserve Corps members and members of Jo Daviess Community Organizations Active in Disaster. This instructor led training consisted of defining what psychological first aid is, recognizing disaster-related stress, embracing principles of psychological first aid, making the appropriate referrals, and finally being able to practice what the participants learned. Thank you to the American Red Cross and everyone who attended this training.
Get to know the JDC HD MRC!

The current Medical Reserve Coordinator, Samantha Sanders, will be resigning from her role at Jo Daviess County Health Department on November 27th as she has accepted a new position at an assisted living facility. Sanders has really enjoyed her time with the Medical Reserve Corps and seeing the commitment members have to emergency preparedness with such a willingness to help in the time of need.

With Sanders’s resignation, Collette Hoagland will be taking over the Medical Reserve Corps Coordinator position once again. Hoagland started as a Public Health Nurse at Jo Daviess County Health Department in December of 2013 and took over the Medical Reserve Corps Coordinator position in February of 2014. From 2014 to late 2016 she did Communicable Disease Case Investigation, Immunizations, and Medical Reserve Corps. She helped train the Medical Reserve Corps members and to revise the handbook. Hoagland really enjoyed working with the diverse group of volunteers. She returned to Jo Daviess County Health Department in January 2018 to do Communicable Disease Case Investigation and Immunizations once again. She is really looking forward to working again with the Medical Reserve Corps as they are a loyal and diverse group of people with much life experience, which makes for a great team.

Winter Preparedness Car Emergency Kit

Winter storms can bring snow, sleet, and freezing rain, which can cause serious injury or even death. It is important this winter to be prepared for inclement weather.

- Jumper Cables
- Flares / reflective triangle
- Ice Scraper
- Car cell phone charger
- Blanket (s)
- Map
- Cat litter / sand
- Shovel
- Flash light
- First aid kit
- Water
- Snacks

IS YOUR VEHICLE WINTER READY?
What is happening?

The Medical Reserve Corps meetings and trainings for 2019 are February 21st at 10am, May 16th at 7pm, August 15th at 10am, and November 21st at 7pm in the Jo Daviess County Health Department Conference room.

The Medical Reserve Corps is a community-based and function as a way to locally organize and utilize volunteers, medical professionals and others who want to donate their time and expertise to promote healthy living throughout the year and to prepare for and respond to emergencies. MRC volunteers supplement existing local emergency and public health resources.

For information, contact Collette Hoagland, Public Health Nurse at (815) 777-0263 ext. 227 or choagland@jodaviess.org or visit the JDCHD website at www.jodaviess.org/health