



# Medical Reserve NEWS

Spring 2009

“Life is a succession of lessons, which must be lived to be understood.”

– Ralph Waldo Emerson

## Choose Your Level of MRC Involvement

In a few months, existing and new Medical Reserve Corps (MRC) volunteers in Nevada will be provided the opportunity to choose their level of involvement/commitment based on their personal availability and preference. Nevada’s four MRC unit coordinators and the Nevada State Health Division are currently developing the details of the level options. Following are the proposed levels, as of the date of this newsletter:

### **Option 1: State or Federally Declared Emergencies ONLY\***

*This option applies to licensed/certified health care professionals only.*

### **Option 2: State, Federal and Local Responses**

- State or federally declared emergencies\*
- Local/regional emergencies
- Local public health initiatives (i.e., immunization clinics)
- Community events (i.e., health fairs, first aid support)

### **Option 3: Local Responses Only**

- Local/regional emergencies
- Local public health initiatives (i.e., immunization clinics)
- Community events (i.e., health fairs, first aid support)

Keep in mind that state and federally declared emergencies afford professional liability coverage beyond the volunteer’s personal coverage or the Worker’s Compensation and civil liability coverage provided by the Southern Nevada Health District to MRC volunteers.

Call Paula Martel, MRC Coordinator, at (702) 759-0877 with any feedback and/or suggestions.

*\*FEMA Declaration Process Fact Sheet*

# Congratulations Graduates!

*"Education is not the filling of a pail, but the lighting of a fire."  
– William Butler Yeats*

Please join me in congratulating the following MRC volunteers who are graduating this spring:

- Andrea Avruskin, Public Relations – UNLV
- Ilene Bautista, Master's in Public Health – UNLV
- David Byun, DO – Touro University
- Ben Fasbinder, DO – Touro University
- Leslie Feth, APN – UNLV
- Celena Gillespie, RRT – Apollo College
- Travis Hailstone, DO – Touro University
- Jeff Hirschi, DO – Touro University
- Robert Horton, Master's in Public Administration – University of Oklahoma
- Mindy Hsu, Pharmacist – University of Southern Nevada
- Bradley Iverson, City of North Las Vegas Fire Department Academy
- Katrina Miller, Public Health – UNLV
- Theresa Sheridan, DO – Touro University
- Michelle Wilson, Bachelor's – University of Phoenix

If *you* are graduating at another time, please let us know so we can recognize your accomplishment.

## Respirator Fit Testing for Volunteers

When responding to natural or manmade disasters, responders at times are required to wear respirators to prevent exposure or inhalation of harmful fumes or particles.

As a registered volunteer with Medical Reserve Corps, you need to be "fitted" for a N95 mask. The Southern Nevada Health District's public health preparedness nurse, Dale Klabacha, performs fit tests on employees and



volunteers with respirators through our respiratory protection program. The health district stocks two types of respirators for its employees and volunteers: N95 masks and PAPR (Powered Air Purifying Respirator) hoods (*modeled in photo*).

In a situation requiring responders to wear a respirator, employees or volunteers will be required to wear the PAPR hood unless they have been fitted with an N95 mask.

The annual fit testing takes about one -and-a-half hours and is done at the health district. If you would like be fitted with an N95 mask, call Dale at 759-0870 to schedule an appointment. Be sure to mention that you are an MRC volunteer.



## Meet the Staff: *Deborah Moran* *Administrative Assistant*

Deborah joined the health district's Office of Public Health Preparedness in February 2007 as administrative support to the Medical Reserve Corps of Southern Nevada (MRC), as well as the Education & Outreach and Employee Health programs. MRC program coordinator, Paula Martel, considers Deborah the MRC Co-Coordinator because of her knowledge of and commitment to the mission of the local MRC unit.

Deborah is technologically proficient in multiple computer applications including DisasterHelp.Net, the volunteer management system utilized by the MRC. She also has experience in real estate lending, construction, printing and food service.

Deborah is originally from Southern California and has lived in Las Vegas for 16 years. She is married and enjoys cooking, boating and gardening in her spare time.

# 2009 First Quarter Events

The following is a list of MRC meetings and events supported by MRC volunteers the first quarter of 2009:

- MRC Annual Recognition Meeting
- 12-Hour Adventure Race
- MOB in Mojave Mountain Bike Event
- Veterinary Technician Fair
- American Lung Association's Scale the Strat
- 6-Hour Mountain Bike/Trail Run
- LDS Church Preparedness Fair
- Rainbow Library "Petstacular"
- Sandstorm III 1/2 Marathon/5K
- St. Patty's Day Feast Mountain Bike Event
- SNDH Childhood Immunization/Flu Clinic



# New Volunteers

Please welcome our new volunteers:

- Pavel Aubuchon-Mendoza, EMT-I
- Marie Beach-Jeter, RN
- Dan Callahan
- Stephanie Campbell, Medical Student
- Jennifer Carlin, Veterinary Tech
- Virginia Cavallaro, RN
- Jason Clinton, Paramedic
- Alan Croft, Public Health
- Michael Ginsburg, Lab Tech
- Moises Gomez, RN
- Alessandra Henderson, Nursing Student
- Chekesha Johnson, MA
- Kim Kandt, RN
- Shelly Lagomarsino, MA
- Margaret McNamara, RN
- Carrie Midby, MA
- Katrina Miller, Public Health
- Aury Nagy, MD
- Claudia Nunez, RN
- Jo Ann Pelaez-Fisher, RN
- Pedro Reyes, MD
- Jimsheed Shahriar, PharmD
- Deborah Stone, Nurse Practitioner
- Tod Story
- Ashley Swanger
- Mike Thompson, EMT-B
- Melody Tillman, RN
- Rommel Timbal, Phlebotomist
- Mary Wieber



## POD Demonstration

Wednesday, May 20 and Wednesday, May 27  
8:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m.

(Hourly walk-throughs begin on the half hour)

Southern Nevada Health District ~ Auditorium  
625 Shadow Lane, Las Vegas

The Southern Nevada Health District (SNHD) will set-up a mock point of dispensing (POD) to help employees and volunteers become familiar with the layout and station positions where they may be assigned during a public health emergency.

This event will be especially helpful for volunteers who have not yet participated in a SNHD public health preparedness exercise.



## Become Part of the MRC Team

### For local information, contact

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[www.MRCNevada.com](http://www.MRCNevada.com)

### For national program information, go to

[www.MedicalReserveCorps.gov](http://www.MedicalReserveCorps.gov)

