



# MRC ★ In Touch

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## Featured Article

### North Carolina Baptist Men's Medical Reserve Corps Responds to Hurricane Isaac

On August 28, 2012, Hurricane Isaac made landfall on the Gulf Coast, exactly seven years after Hurricane Katrina struck the same area. While the City of New Orleans had invested in a new flood protection system that protected the city from widespread flood damage, regions outside of the city experienced more extensive destruction. Hurricane Isaac dumped over two feet of rain in the Louisiana coastal area, and left more than 700,000 people without power. The storm caused at least nine fatalities, and more than 4,000 individuals sought assistance from local shelters.

Following Hurricane Isaac, the North Carolina Baptist Men's Medical Reserve Corps Central Region was deployed to the Louisiana cities of Walker, Springfield, and New Orleans to engage in response efforts to serve affected residents. For several weeks in September 2012, the recovery team provided first aid and additional support to approximately 75 North Carolina Baptist Men Disaster Relief Recovery team members. The volunteers also removed debris from neighborhoods and assisted 47 homeowners in cleanup efforts.

Although the North Carolina Baptist Men's Medical Reserve Corps' recovery efforts were successful, eight volunteers and two survivors were treated for various medical emergencies from abrasions to major illnesses during their deployment. Months after Isaac made landfall, Gulf Coast residents are still in need, and recovery efforts continue in the region.

Please note: The North Carolina Baptist Men's Medical Reserve Corps was also deployed to New Jersey to provide similar aid to victims of Hurricane Sandy in October.

## MRC/NACCHO Connections

### Hurricane Sandy Response and Resources

NACCHO understands that many have suffered significant physical and

financial losses during Hurricane Sandy. During this period of recovery, NACCHO extends sincere appreciation to the local health departments, the MRC, and the community partners working tirelessly to respond to and help the people in their communities recover from the devastating effects of the superstorm.

NACCHO has compiled a list of various tools and resources to assist with the response of the hurricane. Tools and resources cover topics such as volunteer coordination, shelter management, community healthcare, environmental health, food and water safety, preventing and treating disease and injury, and more. [Click here](#) for more response resources.

Additionally, NACCHO has compiled tools and resources regarding mental health, flood cleanup, debris management, psychological first aid, and much more to help communities recover from a hurricane. [Click here](#) for more recovery tools.

## Announcements



### **REGISTER NOW: Upcoming Webinar: The Art of Health Promotion**

The American Journal of Health Promotion will host an upcoming webinar entitled, "The Art of Health Promotion: Wellness and Citizenship: Learning about Engagement from the Volunteer Service Movement," on Tuesday, November 27 at 1:00 PM EST. Michelle Nunn, CEO of the volunteer organization Points of Light Institute, will discuss how the intersection of volunteerism and wellness initiatives can create stronger communities.

[Register now!](#)

### **National Influenza Vaccination Week**

This year, National Influenza Vaccination Week (NIVW) will be observed nationally from December 2 – 8. NIVW was established to highlight the importance of continuing influenza vaccination, as well as fostering greater use of the flu vaccine after the holiday season into January and beyond.

Getting a flu vaccine is the first and most important step in protecting against this serious disease, and CDC recommends that everyone 6 months and older get a flu vaccine each year. To find a real-time influenza vaccination clinic at local health departments, pharmacies and other influenza venues near you, use the free online [HealthMap Vaccine Finder](#). View NACCHO's [immunization](#) and [influenza](#) resources.

## Public Health Preparedness Summit 2013

Registration is now open for the 2013 Public Health Preparedness Summit in Atlanta, March 12-15. The 2013 Summit will offer a strategic overview on the current state of public health preparedness and highlight research, technical, and practice-based perspectives on strengthening community preparedness while also building and sustaining healthcare coalitions. Visit [www.phprep.org](http://www.phprep.org) for more information and to register today for the early bird savings!

[Register Now!](#)

## County Health Rankings

More than 3,000 counties and the District of Columbia can now compare how healthy their residents are and how long they live with the 2012 "County Health Rankings."

We know that much of what influences our health happens outside of the doctor's office—in our schools, workplaces and neighborhoods. The County Health Rankings & Roadmaps program creates solutions that make it easier for people to be healthy in their own communities, focusing on specific factors that affect health, such as education and income. Ranking the health of nearly every county in the nation, the County Health Rankings illustrate what we know when it comes to what's making people sick or healthy. Roadmaps to Health shows what we can do to create healthier places to live, learn, work, and play. To see the latest County Health Rankings, please visit [www.countyhealthrankings.org](http://www.countyhealthrankings.org).

To submit information for either MRC: In Touch or MRC: In Focus, please contact Alyson Jordan at [ajordan@naccho.org](mailto:ajordan@naccho.org) or (202) 783-5528.



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