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MRC ★ In Touch

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Featured Article

Detroit MRC Participates in the National Prevention Strategy Meeting

On October 11, 2012, the Detroit MRC participated in the Detroit Town Hall National Prevention Strategy Meeting. Apryl Brown, the Detroit MRC Coordinator, attended on behalf of the MRC, and was one of 127 community leaders in attendance. The meeting included representatives from the medical and public health fields, educational institutions, and nonprofit and public sectors.

U.S. Surgeon General Dr. Regina Benjamin and HHS Region V Head Administrator Dr. James Galloway spoke about The National Prevention Strategy, the Surgeon General's plan to increase the number of Americans who are healthy at every stage of life. At the meeting, Dr. Benjamin and Dr. Galloway discussed the importance of engaging community leaders in furthering preventive public health initiatives and using creative methods to achieve these goals. They stressed the critical importance of exemplifying healthy lifestyles in large metropolitan areas like Detroit, which face poorer health outcomes compared to other cities across the nation.

The National Prevention Strategy Meeting inspired the Detroit MRC to become more active in addressing local obesity issues and in partnering with the American Diabetes Association. Thirty-four percent of the population in Wayne County, Michigan, home of Detroit, is obese (2012 County Health Rankings). The unit also identified potential partnerships with the Skillman and Robert Wood Johnson Foundations. "The meeting was an excellent learning experience to observe how leaders of various agencies work together to create healthier communities throughout the nation," Apryl said.

The Detroit MRC has participated in health promotion events in the past, and is looking forward to continuing their work supporting a healthier Detroit. In June 2009, the Detroit MRC sponsored the event "Look Good! Feel Good! The Presidential Way" as part of President Obama's "National Health Care Day of Service." The Detroit MRC took the opportunity to partner with Change Detroit to engage health care and public health professionals to educate the public on how to take charge of their health through activities such as aerobic exercising, healthy meals and gardening

tips.

MRC/NACCHO Connections

Resolve to Increase Awareness of Your MRC Unit This Year!

NACCHO invites you to resolve to make 2013 the year that you increase awareness about the great work of your MRC unit! Last month, NACCHO announced two videos that can be used to spread the word about the work of the MRC in communities across the country. Sharing these two short videos is a strong first step in reminding your community about the role of the MRC in building strong, healthy and prepared communities.

The [first video](#) is a short public service announcement that can be used to recruit volunteers and is perfect for local television and public broadcasting stations. To submit the PSA to your local television stations, call and ask for the public service director or community affairs director. State that the PSA should be considered for the station's public service rotation since the MRC protects the health of the community, and share a reason why your MRC unit has been critical to your community. For local media contact information, visit: <http://www.mondotimes.com/1/world/us>.

The [second video](#) is a longer overview about the scope of the MRC's volunteer activities and is great to share with your community's political and business leaders, partners, and stakeholders. Send a letter or email to your local leaders with a link to the videos and briefly describe a recent community event where the MRC played a significant role. Reaching out to your community leaders reminds them of how the MRC will continue to be a critical organization in 2013 and beyond.

Unit leaders attending the February Seasonal Leadership and Training Summit in Leesburg, Virginia, are invited to meet with Alyson Jordan, NACCHO's MRC Communications Specialist, to share some memorable stories from your unit. Your stories could be featured nationally in upcoming MRC publications, issue briefs and more. Photos and videos are strongly encouraged.

Announcements

Tell Us More!

NACCHO, through our cooperative agreement with the DCVMRC, is conducting a very exciting research and evaluation comprehensive study of the MRC network. This spring, you will be asked to take part in the very first nationwide survey of MRC for the "MRC Network Profile." The data

collected will be a powerful resource tool help shape strategic direction, drive policy, justify funding, and lead the MRC toward greater capability and efficiency. Following the completion of the profile, you will be able to garner statistics and talking points that demonstrate the strength and value of the MRC network and the critical roles you fill at the local level. Stay tuned for more information!

Agenda Announced for the 2013 Public Health Preparedness Summit!

Join us for another exciting summit March 12 – 15 in Atlanta! The agenda for the 2013 Public Health Preparedness Summit is now live and features all of the Summit's workshops, interactive and ignite sessions, plenary sessions and town halls. Register now for early bird savings and view the full agenda at www.phprep.org/.

January 28 Webinar on Federal Plans for Medical Countermeasures

NACCHO and HHS' Office of the Assistant Secretary for Preparedness and Response will host "Working Together: Federal Plans for Medical Countermeasure Use in Public Health Emergencies and Their Impact on the Public Health Community." The webinar will be held on January 28 from 1 PM to 2 PM EST. This webinar is designed to increase knowledge about the Public Health Emergency Medical Countermeasure Enterprise (PHEMCE) and its recently released 2012 PHEMCE Strategy and Implementation Plan. To register for the webinar, click [here](#).

Jobs, Jobs, Jobs!

NACCHO is looking to immediately hire a Senior Analyst to work directly on the MRC project. The ideal candidate will be a driven individual with knowledge and understanding of the MRC and 5-7 years of professional experience. To view the full job description and to apply, click [here](#). In addition to the MRC Senior Analyst position, NACCHO has a number of job openings in the Preparedness field and with other public health projects. For a listing of open positions with NACCHO, visit <http://careers.naccho.org/jobs/>.

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



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