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MRC ★ In Touch

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Featured Article

MRC Units Respond to the Boston Bombings

On April 15, two explosions occurred during the 117th Boston Marathon, killing three spectators and injuring over 200. Fortunately, more than 250 volunteers from 14 MRC units in Massachusetts and New Hampshire were on the scene, volunteering on behalf of the Boston Athletic Association and the American Red Cross to support medical and non-medical functions during the event.

Prior to the explosions, the MRC volunteers provided first aid and other support along the route and the finish line to runners and other spectators. Following the blasts, volunteers delivered emergency first aid to those injured, including applying tourniquets to halt life-threatening bleeding, helping transport the injured, and staffing temporary shelters.

In Brookline (MA), 52 Brookline MRC and CERT volunteers staffed a runners' shelter at a temple, and volunteers came from both the race and other locations to staff the shelter. Volunteers from the Newton (MA) MRC worked at a location that became a reunification area and helped runners get to where they needed to go. A number of other local units initiated standby operations following the explosions.

The entire MRC network is grateful to these MRC units for their service and lifesaving support on this tragic day, and for their continued emotional support to the community following the incident.

MRC/NACCHO Connections

NACCHO's Public Health Preparedness Summer Webinar Series

Throughout the summer, NACCHO will host several free webinars to bring you the latest research and model practices in the field of public

health preparedness. Featured speakers will include federal partners, local and state health officials, and other experts discussing topics important to local public health.

Upcoming webinars will focus on whole community inclusion, incorporating older adults into preparedness planning, and the importance of effective storytelling. View the list of [upcoming webinars](#) and mark your calendars!

Announcements

Learn about the Strategic National Stockpile (SNS) in a Flash!

Want to learn about SNS in five minutes or less? This presentation of 12 five-minute [videos](#) illuminates the "story behind the story" for 12 SNS-related collaborative efforts across the country in a fast-paced, thought-provoking format. As an Ignite Presentation during the 2013 Public Health Preparedness Summit, this session was based on the Ignite and Pecha Kucha formats that are often used by the technology community to share ideas and pitches. Each presenter had five minutes and 20 slides to get their message across to the audience.

Prepare for Summer with the Extreme Heat Toolkit

Extreme heat has claimed more lives on average over the past ten years than any other severe weather event, according to the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration. What can MRC units do to prepare their communities for rising temperatures? The Minnesota Department of Health has put together the [Extreme Heat Toolkit and the Extreme Heat Training Module](#) to provide public health professionals with the information necessary to prepare for and respond to extreme heat events.

Atlantic Hurricane Season began June 1

Atlantic hurricane season is June to November. Take the steps to prepare your volunteers and communities for hurricane season; check out Ready.gov for [resources](#) to prepare for before, during, and after hurricanes.

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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