Featured Article

Seattle & King County Mega Clinic Treats 4,000

The Seattle & King County Public Health Reserve Corps (PHRC) has a robust group of volunteers. This year alone, they have dedicated more than 7,300 hours of their time working with at-risk populations in the community. The Director of the Seattle Center, recognizing a need in the community, brought together representatives from across the area’s healthcare industry, which included PHRC Coordinator Dave Nichols. These representatives worked with their respective organizations to put together a multi-day clinic to provide medical and dental care to the region’s underinsured and uninsured populations. The Seattle/King County Clinic would not have been possible without the community partnerships.

More than 3,800 health professionals, volunteers, interpreters and compassion K-9s across many organizations volunteered their time during the two-day clinic, where uninsured and underinsured patients were able to receive dental, eye, and medical care. The massive arena, usually home to sporting events and live performances, was completely unrecognizable after volunteers set up 117 dental chairs, 14 lanes of equipment for eye exams, and countless seating for more than 4,000 patients. Even the suites were transformed into 58 private medical treatment rooms. The PHRC volunteers were involved from the beginning of the event.

Volunteers could be seen helping out all over the arena. They ranged from doctors and nurses to interpreters and general support volunteers. Their work helped to serve 4,010 patients over the two day period. The Seattle & King County PHRC also has an active ham radio group that provided the communications support during the event. The PHRC has around 50 radios in their arsenal that were used to connect different sides of the arenas. Aside from being an incredible event that helped provide care for patients from more than 200 unique zip codes, the event gave the PHRC practice in running a full-scale medical clinic. If an emergency event arose, the volunteers are now even more prepared to successfully manage a similar shelter.

MRC/NACCHO Connections

Apply for the MRC Leadership Training at the 2016 Preparedness Summit

As part of a new Leadership Training Series for MRC unit leaders, NACCHO is hosting a leadership training for unit leaders at the 2016 Preparedness Summit in Dallas, Texas. This one-day training, taking place on Monday, April 18, will highlight best practices on volunteer management, discuss the funding climate, community partnerships, and several other topics of interest.

This one-day training, taking place on Monday, April 18, will highlight best practices on volunteer management, discuss the funding climate, community partnerships, and several other topics of interest. NACCHO will offer up to 50 leadership awards that will cover travel expenses (including registration to the 2016 Preparedness Summit).

Applications are now open until December 18 for this in-person training event. Apply here and contact the NACCHO MRC team at mrc@naccho.org if you have any questions.
Announcements

More Upcoming Training Opportunities from NACCHO

NACCHO is excited to announce the availability of a new Leadership Training Series for MRC unit leaders. This new learning series is designed to provide quarterly leadership training to the network in order to both strengthen the skills of unit leaders and to provide opportunities to network and learn from one another.

Over the next year, there will be a series of webinars, distance-learning products on varying topics informed by MRC unit leaders, as well as one in-person training event. More information about the webinar schedule and availability of distance learning products will be shared on the MRC listserv in the coming months.

Register for the 2016 Preparedness Summit!

Registration is now open for the 2016 Preparedness Summit. Early bird rates are available until February 19. The Summit will be held from April 19-22 at the Dallas Hilton Anatole. This year’s Summit will focus on the importance of building prepared and resilient communities that can recover quickly from disasters.

The MRC played a big role at the 2015 Preparedness Summit. MRC volunteers from across the country presented in more than seven sessions throughout the week. Almost 150 unit leaders joined the Preparedness Summit community on MRC Connect and the app was highlighted in a learning session.

Register today!

Community Preparedness Resources for Active Shooter Incidents

Our thoughts are with our friends and colleagues at NACCHO member San Bernardino County Department of Public Health, which was the location of last week’s shooting that left 14 people dead and 17 wounded. In the aftermath of recent active shootings, NACCHO remains committed to providing resources for organizations to help in their response to this ongoing public health challenge. To support its member public health departments, NACCHO provides resources, training, and guidance related to Suspicious Activity Training, Active Shooter and Explosive Device, Psychological First Aid, and Risk Communications.

View NACCHO’s compiled resources.

Awards Reminder: Check your Login Information!

As a reminder, the NACCHO MRC awards process will open on January 5, 2016. To get ready for the awards, visit http://mrncachcho.org to prepare your account before applications open.

Resetting your password for existing accounts

If you registered for the NACCHO MRC Awards website last year but have forgotten your password, click on the “Forgot Password?” link and enter your username (4-digit unit number) or the email address associated with your MRC Award website account. An email from the MRC awards website will be sent once that information is entered with instructions on how to reset the password. Depending on email filters, it may take 24 to 36 hours before the email is received. Contact mrc@naccho.org for assistance if you do not receive the email after this time.

Creating an account for first-time applicants

- If creating an account, please ensure that you use your 4-digit unit number as your username for the account. If your unit number is not four digits long, add zeros (0) to the front of your unit number until it reaches four digits (0001, 0010, 0100, or 1000)
- The email address you enter should belong to a representative of your unit who can receive and respond to information as it pertains to your unit’s MRC Award.
- You can create a password of your choosing.
- Please note: Any accounts that are created with alpha characters or are not a 4-digit unit number will be deleted without notice.

NACCHO has also updated the learning resources to help you get ready for the awards. View the “Proposal Writing Tips for the MRC Awards” video to get an overview of how to write a winning proposal. As a reminder, all units must have updated their unit profile on www.medicalreservecorps.gov by December 31 to be eligible for the awards.

Stay tuned to the MRC listserv for more information about this year’s awards. If you have additional questions, please email mrc@naccho.org.
Please contact Alyson Jordan, NACCHO's MRC Communications Specialist, with any questions or suggestions for the newsletter at 202-783-5528 or at ajordan@naccho.org.