What kind of training is offered?

Medical volunteers learn how the MRC functions during an emergency and receive training for health-related emergencies. Trainings may include an understanding of biological agents, the MRC notification system; MRC core competencies, incident management; how the MRC fits in with the County’s emergency plans; working with special-needs populations; confidentiality, just-in-time trainings; mental health intervention.

Volunteers have the opportunity to participate in trainings held throughout the year. CEU’s may be available.

Related Links

http://www.sonoma-county.org/mrc/
Source: County of Sonoma

Disaster Healthcare Volunteers of California
Source: California Emergency Medical Services Authority

Medical Reserve Corps Resource Site

Contact

For more information, please contact:
County of Sonoma Dept. of Health Services
Public Health Preparedness
www.sonoma-county.org/phppreparedness
625 5th Street
Santa Rosa, CA 95404
Phone: (707) 565-4496

The primary mission of the Sonoma County MRC has been to staff mass dispensing sites in the event of a public health emergency. Its mission has broadened to include offering surge personnel to hospitals, alternate care sites, evacuation shelters, triage centers and other facilities in a large health disaster.
Who Can Volunteer?

The Sonoma County MRC has nearly 450 licensed health care professionals who desire to serve as health-related volunteers in our community during times of emergency.

Volunteers include nurses, physicians and pharmacists, as well as licensed mental health professionals (LCSW, MFT, psychologists and psych technicians); and many non-medical community members who are needed to be prepared to support emergency response efforts.

What positions are available?

Many skills and abilities are needed during a public health emergency. Volunteer positions with the Medical Reserve Corps include a few broad categories: the Nurse Volunteer, the Physician Volunteer, the Pharmacist Volunteer, the Support Staff volunteer, the Mental Health Volunteer. Multi-lingual skills are most welcome.

At mass dispensing sites, activities may include meeting & greeting; screening; first aid; triage; dispensing medications; line control; pharmacy and other services, and registration. At other sites volunteers may provide evacuation or surge assistance; patient education; mental health first aid; logistical support; and distribution of preparedness information.

What is the process for joining the MRC?

- Review the MRC Job Description
- Attend the Orientation and Training Assembly
- Show your medical license and/or certifications
- Complete the Volunteer Application
- Complete swearing-in and badging
- Register on the DHV (Disaster Healthcare Volunteers) website
- Prepare yourself and your family for emergencies
- Liability and worker’s comp are provided when you are deployed
- Official MRC polo shirt, cap and pin may be available.
- Participate in ongoing training, drills and exercises offered by Public Health and in community events. Get to know other MRC volunteers.