

Region 4A MRC

Progress Report for December 2010

Communities Covered by MRC:

Acton	Lincoln	Sudbury
Ashland	Littleton	Walpole
Bedford	Marlborough	Waltham
Boxborough	Maynard	Wayland
Carlisle	Medfield	Weston
Concord	Millis	Wilmington
Dover	Natick	Winchester
Framingham	Norfolk	Woburn
Holliston	Sharon	Wrentham
Hopkinton	Sherborn	
Hudson	Southborough	
Lexington	Stow	

Contact Name: Liisa Jackson, Region 4A Coordinator
Date Submitted: 1-15-2010

MRC Membership

Current Active Volunteers: 4,599

Categories of Volunteers:

Physicians	533	Physician Assistants	24
Nurse Practitioners	45	Nurses	1198
Pharmacists	58	Dentists	45
Veterinarians	93	Mental Health Professionals	224
EMS Professionals	235	Respiratory Therapists	11
Other Public Health/Medical	630	Non-Public Health/Medical	1,503

Increase/Decrease from Previous Report: + 21

MRC Recruitment & Training Activities

Psychological First Aid Course: Thursday December 2, 7PM Littleton

Orientation or Recruitment Meetings Held:

Most of Region 4A MRC training is open to the public to recruit more MRC volunteers:

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Deployments:

Region 4A MRC aided in staffing shelters in Methuen during the gas leak issue that shut down heat for 2 days

December 2010 Snow Storm:

We had a wonderful response to the call for volunteers over the over the December 2010 snow storm we put the call out for our volunteers and we had 178 volunteers give us their availability over a 4 day period to help with Shelter

As always I am so grateful for our wonderful MRC volunteers who always step up to the plate to help even if it is the day after Christmas and for the local Health Departments who support the MRC activities locally and statewide.

Please make it a priority to keep yourself, your household, and your neighbors prepared and safe with their [72 hour kit](#) ready, too (if not, here is a [shopping list](#)).

Thank you all so much~

MRC Activities and improvements:

We are working to develop our data base and always adding to our training schedule please see the web-page for classes <http://www.region4a-mrc.org/schedules>

Shelter Simulation class:

Please attend the Mass Support Network Table Top Exercise on January 11th From 10 AM to 1 PM at MEMA Headquarters – Framingham (Operations Room) TO TEST OUR NEWLY DEVELOPED MASSUPPORT NETWORK FOR DISASTER BEHAVIORAL HEALTHMUTUAL ASSISTNACE AND STANDARD OPERATING PROCUEDURES PLAN.

TO REGISTER AND SIGN UP TO PARTICIPATE GO TO: [HTTP://WWW.REGION4A-MRC.ORG/SCHEDULES](http://www.region4a-mrc.org/schedules)

1. Player: This means you are participating on behalf of your agency as either a Cooperative or Assisting Agency Partner in the MassSupport Network to test your involvement in a behavioral health response as part of the partnership.
2. Facilitator: You are assisting to run the tabletop exercise.
3. Observer: You have been invited to participate as an observer of the exercise and help the facilitator(s) to grade it and provide feedback.

Additional Instructions: We encourage you to bring anyone additional from your agency who may also be lead or supportive personnel for the response. We encourage participation of at least two people per agency to attend. You should be prepared to bring any communication and/or notification procedures and tools you have developed.

This is an official FEMA HSEEP exercise for behavioral health response.

Region 4A web-page improvements:

We have developed a Deployment tool for the web-page.

MA responds system:

The state wide data base, Region 4A MRC signed the MOU with DPH; any town in the region can participate in the program but is not required to do so, if you want to participate in the program Doris Moore has been trained on how to upload your MRC data into the system, please let us know if you would like us to help you.

This link explains the product from Collaborative Fusion to set up the new database, Mass Responds.

http://www.collaborativefusion.com/docs/cf_RMS_productSheet_20090204.pdf

Region 4A H1N1 Sheltering Team:

We have recruited over 380 MRC volunteers that are willing to help out state wide with the shelter operations during the spring floods we have compiled a list of additional staff that can assist inside and outside of their communities, it is worked very well during this recent deployment. We will use this team to drill our new sheltering class simulation a regional shelter.

Local Reports:

Framingham MRC Activities for December 2010

Ongoing	Flu vaccines for ages 6 months and up, daily during nursing clinic hours
Dec 3	Site activation drill done
Dec 7	Personnel call down drill done

Carlisle – The Carlisle Board of Health and Carlisle Medical Reserve Corps organized two seasonal flu clinics, one for seniors and a second for the general public. Volunteers enjoyed “dressing up” in their

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new vests and practicing their EDS jobs. Both clinics utilized many of the lessons learned from last year's H1N1 Clinics and provided an opportunity to test out the town's EDS preparedness.

Linda Fantasia
Health Agent
Town of Carlisle
66 Westford Street
Carlisle MA 01741
(978) 369-0283

MRC Regional Trainings

Psychological First Aid Course Thursday December 2, 7PM in Kiva Room at LHS: Littleton is offering a course open to all of 'MRC Region 4A' on how to handle the emotional needs in the event of an emergency or disaster. This will be taught by one of our Executive Committee Members, Charleen De Stefano, who serves on Massachusetts DMAT and has responded to a number of large scale disasters. Charleen has served during the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina and the earthquake in Haiti earlier this year.

Please take Incident Command Systems 700 or 100 online if you have not already done so. Please get on to the MRC website listed below, or FEMA.gov website and you can take the course at your PC and get the certificate sent to your PC. Due to problems with sent in final exams we will not be having this training as a class option this year. Take 700 first, then 100:

For NIMS 700:

<http://training.fema.gov/EMIWeb/IS/is700.asp>

For ICS 100:

<http://training.fema.gov/EMIWeb/IS/IS100a.asp>

Enjoy the fall,

Ann Loree
Chair
Littleton Volunteer Corps/MRC and CERT

Acton:

Please check out the video Acton made during their Drive through EDS site drill, it is excellent!

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<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gH6ZgN7JQsY>

MAYNARD CITIZEN CORPS/ MEDICAL RESERVE CORPS
REPORT TO REGION 4A NOVEMBER 2010

- CPR class --was held on November 3, 2010. 6 volunteers attended and received their first time certification. We try to hold this training semiannually to encourage volunteers to obtain certification and remain current.
- 6 volunteers completed ICS 100 and NIMS 700 on line. 4 were new volunteers this year; the other 2 have been with us a little over a year.
- Planning is ongoing to be prepared should Maynard need to open a shelter this winter. We are working closely with our Fire Chief and Animal control officer to fine tune our plans.
- We continue to evaluate our Neighborhood Captain model and are currently exploring alternative models.

Respectfully submitted,
Mary Hilli, Chairperson

Woburn MRC assisted in the Senior Center Flu Clinic 11-10-2010 and 11-18-2010 flu clinics as well.

Karen DaCampo PHN Woburn

MRC Collaboration

Participation in Regional Coalition Meetings (Coalition name/date attended/Attendee):

On November 12th Liisa Jackson had the opportunity to meet Dr. Regina Benjamin the US Surgeon General:

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Please see the letter below:

Dear MRC Leaders and Volunteers,

As the 18th Surgeon General, it is an honor and privilege to know that I can count on our Medical Reserve Corps (MRC) for support as we build a stronger, healthier, and better prepared nation - one community at a time. As "America's Doctor," I am responsible for the health of 300 million patients. This is a big task, but I am inspired by each of you, who give so generously of yourselves to serve others, knowing you are there to help.

Like many of you, I was an MRC volunteer. I was also on the board of our local organization that helped establish our MRC unit in Southwest Alabama. The inspiration I received from my fellow MRC volunteers – men and women like you – is something that continues to give me strength and pride. The willingness of MRC volunteers to give their best efforts to help make our communities safer and healthier reflects a determined, generous spirit that I believe is our nation's richest resource.

You continue to provide assistance and depth to our local emergency response systems. All of us - individuals, family members and communities - need to be better prepared. To accomplish this, we must continue to forge partnerships among emergency management, law enforcement, health professionals, and the uniformed services. Everyone needs to be aware of potential health threats, and we need to be trained to meet those threats in an effective, coordinated manner.

In addition, prevention is the foundation of our public health system and it is the foundation of my work as Surgeon General. I hope you will use your skills and enthusiasm to help promote our public health initiatives in your community, especially those that address prevention. Some of my prevention priorities include: obesity and overweight, violence (youth, domestic, gender and workplace), mental health, HIV/AIDS, tobacco use, and health disparities.

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Again, I thank you for your service and commitment. Each of us has a role to play in helping America meet its challenges. I look forward to working with you to help us become a Healthy and Fit Nation.

With sincere thanks,

Regina M. Benjamin, MD, MBA
VADM, USPHS
United States Surgeon General

We presented our HSEEP compliant Sheltering Simulation table top Exercise at the Region I and II Annual Training Summit, November 15-17, 2010 in Saratoga New York.

Coalition EC and visioning workgroup meeting attend November 18th Liisa Jackson and all the Members from the MRC Committee



Norman Mineta former Secretary of Transportation for President Bush and Chairman of Safe America

Region 4A MRC was awarded the “top 10 drillers award at the USA today headquarters in VA, please see acceptance letter:

Dear Len Pagano (CCed), the CEO of the [Safe America Foundation](#)~

Date: 11-01-10

We are so pleased to that your organization has chosen honor the MA Region 4A Medical Reserve Corps for the leadership necessary to become a "Top 10 Driller for Safety" at a program Safe America is hosting on Wednesday, December 1st.

We are so pleased that Safe America would like to present us with a certificate as being a 'Top 10' participant and to have the opportunity to pose with Norm Mineta and Len Pagano for a photo.

Region 4A MRC would like to take this opportunity give you some background on our Medical Reserve Corps that has close to 5,000 trained volunteers. We have responded to many state wide disasters and responses, some of our successes are:

- 2008 Ice Storm by staffing shelters across the commonwealth of Massachusetts over a 12 day period right before Christmas
- 2,000 MRC volunteers in the H1N1 response
- MRC volunteers to staff the shelters during the 2 spring floods in 2010
- MRC volunteers staffed several MWRA water distribution centers during the water main break

We would have not had these great successes without our robust communication plan, in each of our 33 communities there are volunteers that serve locally on the MRC Executive Committees working under the local Board of Health departments. When we put a call out to volunteers needed to respond, each of the Local Health departments and MRC executive committees exercise their call down drills to reach out to the volunteers in their communities and without this structure we would not be as effective as we are during a disaster and in our call down drills.

With all of that said we would to recognize all of the partnerships that have been involved in our drilling success. All the way from the Office of the Civilian Volunteer Medical Reserve Corps at the National level , the CDC who supports and funds our MRC program through the Massachusetts Department of Public Health, the Region 4A Public Health Coalition, local Health Departments and the Medical Reserve Corps volunteers.

Without all of these partnerships we would not be able to continue to serve our communities by promoting and protecting Public Health and working for the greater good of our citizens in our Region, state and country.

Thank you so much for the opportunity to participate in your program~

Liisa Jackson
MA Region 4A MRC Coordinator
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Date: 11-01-10

MSAR promotion activities: We promote MSAR when we do MRC Orientation and trainings.

Issues *[this could include funding questions; liability; problems with collaboration; etc*

Disclaimer:

This report is a compilation of the most up to date information provided by the local health departments and the MRC Executive Committee and may not include all activities within the Region.