

"The Medical Reserve Corps is one way that health professionals can volunteer during large-scale emergencies, such as an influenza epidemic, a chemical spill, or an act of terrorism. MRC volunteers also work to improve the overall health and well-being of their neighborhoods and communities."

Tommy G. Thompson

Former Secretary

U.S. Dept. of Health and Human Services

The Medical Reserve Corps (MRC) program was officially launched as a national, community-based initiative in September 2003. The MRC was formed in response to President Bush's 2002 State of the Union Address, in which he asked all Americans to volunteer in support of their country. It is a partner program with Citizen Corps, a national network of volunteers dedicated to ensuring hometown security.

Other Citizen Corps programs include Community Emergency Response Team (CERT), Fire Corps, Neighborhood Watch, and Volunteers in Police Service (VIPS). Citizen Corps is part of the USA Freedom Corps, which promotes volunteerism and service nationwide. Other USA Freedom Corps programs include Peace Corps, AmeriCorps, and Senior Corps.

MRC volunteers include non-medical, medical and public health professionals such as physicians, nurses, pharmacists, emergency medical technicians, dentists, veterinarians, epidemiologists, infectious disease specialists, administrative assistants, machinists, retired military personnel, security officers, etc.



Volunteers of the Northeast CT MRC are offered training opportunities that are specifically geared towards natural disasters, acts of terrorism, and field experience. Trainings include personal preparedness, Incident Command Structure, First Aid/CPR, Weather-Related Disasters and Sheltering, and Mass Vaccinations or Medical Dispensing.

Many lessons were learned after September 11, 2001 as well as after Hurricane Katrina. The response from the medical community was enormous. However, without any prior training in emergency response, and no mechanism for credentials to be checked on-site, many volunteers were turned away. The time for volunteers to become involved in emergency response is now - before an incident occurs.



## The Northeast CT Medical Reserve Corps



Strengthening  
Public  
Health  
Infrastructure  
and Improving  
Emergency  
Preparedness in  
Northeast  
Connecticut

## The Northeast Connecticut Medical Reserve Corps

[Serving: the towns of Brooklyn, Canterbury, Eastford, Hampton, Killingly, Plainfield, Pomfret, Putnam, Sterling, Thompson, Union, and Woodstock. ]

hosted at:  
Northeast District Department of Health  
69 South Main St., Unit 4  
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[www.nddh.org](http://www.nddh.org)

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## WHAT CAN MRC VOLUNTEERS DO?

**Assist** local hospitals and health departments with surge personnel needs.

**Participate** in emergency exercises and community disaster drills.

**Train** with local emergency response partners.

**Support** local public health initiatives through enhancing public health preparedness, while advancing the priorities of the Surgeon General.

**And more.....**

**The mission of the Northeast Connecticut Medical Reserve Corps is to support and supplement existing local emergency medical preparedness and public health capabilities in the towns of Brooklyn, Canterbury, Eastford, Hampton, Killingly, Plainfield, Pomfret, Putnam, Sterling, Thompson, Union, and Woodstock, CT. This organization will identify, train, organize, and credential local volunteers to help with emergencies and/or public health initiatives.**

For further information about your local MRC, go to our website at [www.nddh.org](http://www.nddh.org).

...or find us on Facebook under Northeast CT Medical Reserve Corps!

Derek May, the Northeast CT MRC Unit Director, may be contacted at 860-774-7350 or by e-mail at: [dmay@nddh.org](mailto:dmay@nddh.org)



Training drills can include several different areas of emergency personnel. MRC volunteers may also be included in many drills, since they could be used in an actual emergency situation.



## HOW DO I APPLY TO BECOME A VOLUNTEER?

If you are interested in applying, contact the Northeast District Department of Health (NDDH) by calling 860-774-7350. We will get you an application and schedule a time for you to attend an NECT MRC orientation session.

There are core competency trainings for all volunteers to complete, as well as additional trainings available for those interested. Once a volunteer has successfully completed the core trainings, they are cleared for participation in activation and drills.

Updates regarding meetings, trainings, events, etc. will be sent via e-mail. Information regarding training opportunities, personal preparation tools, safety, etc. are also posted on our website at [www.nddh.org](http://www.nddh.org). Click on the [Medical Reserve Corps](#) link to get more information.

U.S. Dept. of Health and Human Services  
Office of the U.S. Surgeon General

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