



Office of the Surgeon General
Division of the Civilian Volunteer Medical Reserve Corps
Quarterly Progress Report
FY2011 Quarter 4 (July 1 – September 30, 2011)

MRC Status and Activity Highlights:

The Medical Reserve Corps (MRC) is a national network of local groups of volunteers, with a mission to engage the volunteers in activities that strengthen public health, emergency response and community resiliency. MRC volunteers include medical and public health professionals, as well as others interested in improving the health and safety of their local jurisdictions. MRC units identify, screen, train and organize volunteers, and utilize them to support routine public health activities and augment preparedness and response efforts.

We are pleased to welcome 29 new MRC units that were registered with the Office of the Surgeon General during this quarter:

Region/Unit

- | | |
|--|---------------------------------------|
| 1 Cumberland County Maine MRC (ME) | 5 Blue Earth County MRC (MN) |
| 2 Cumberland MRC (NJ) | 5 Morrow County MRC (OH) |
| 3 Howard University MRC (DC) | 5 Fayette County MRC (OH) |
| 4 Satilla MRC (GA) | 6 Marion County MRC (AR) |
| 4 Todd County MRC (KY) | 6 Baton Rouge Area MRC (LA) |
| 4 Person County MRC (NC) | 6 Payne/Noble County (OK) |
| 5 Elk Grove Village MRC (IL) | 6 University of TX at Austin MRC (TX) |
| 5 Schuyler County Health Dept MRC (IL) | 7 Osage County MRC (KS) |
| 5 Henry & Stark Counties MRC (IL) | 7 St. Charles County MRC (MO) |
| 5 Hancock County MRC (IL) | 8 Colorado Veterinary MRC – West (CO) |
| 5 Jefferson County MRC (IL) | 8 Colorado Muslim Society MRC (CO) |
| 5 Hamilton County MRC (IL) | 8 Albany County WY MRC (WY) |
| 5 Michigan Veterinary Corps (MI) | 9 Tulare MRC (CA) |
| 5 Isabella County MRC (MI) | 10 Municipality of Anchorage MRC (AK) |
| 5 Huron Township MRC (MI) | |

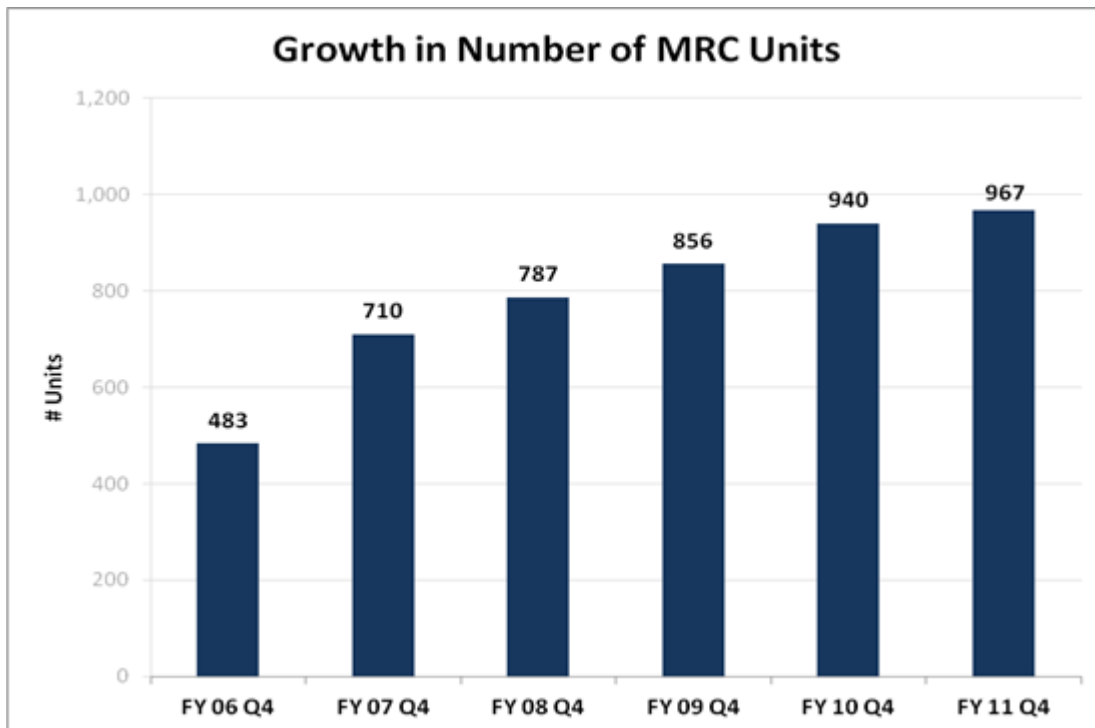
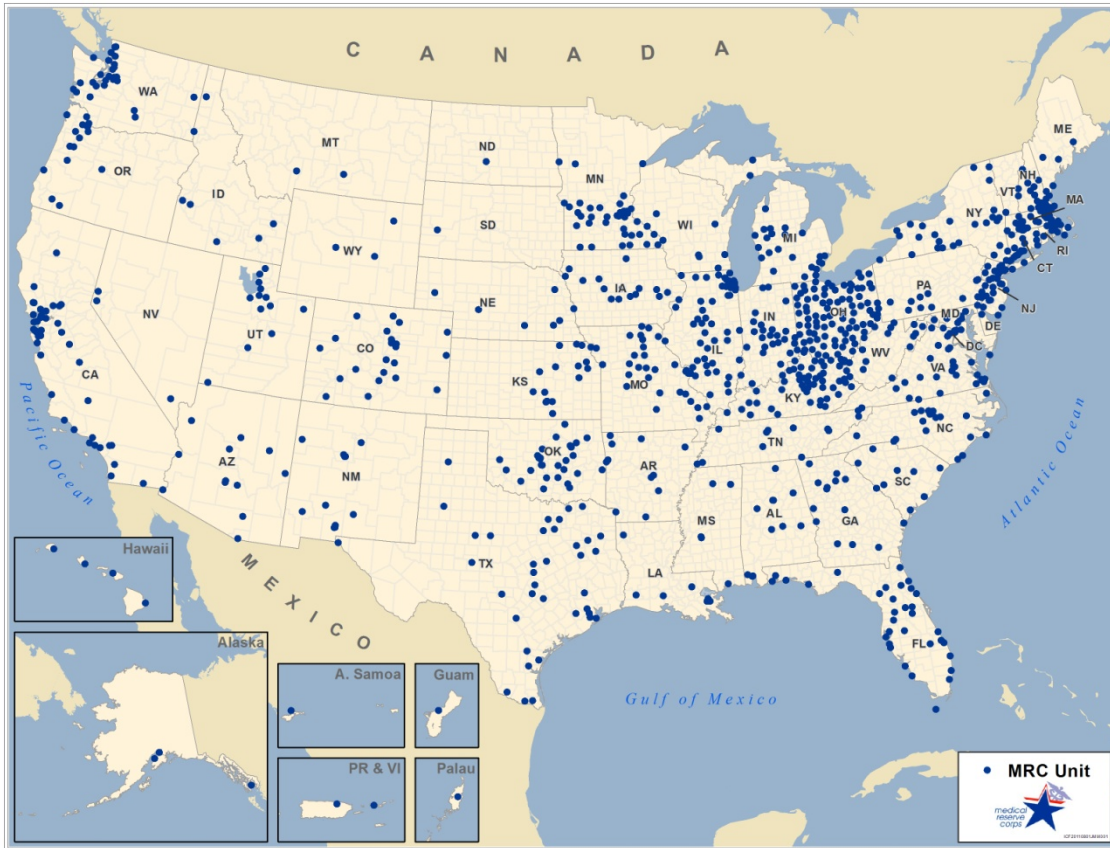
At the end of the reporting period there were 202,385 volunteers enrolled in 967 MRC units in 50 states, the District of Columbia, Guam, the U.S. Virgin Islands, Palau, American Samoa, and Puerto Rico. (Note: the number of volunteers is collated from the information provided by MRC units as part of their profiles on the MRC website).

During this period, nine MRC units were de-registered.

The following map and charts give a quick snapshot of MRC growth, the number and regional distribution of MRC units and volunteers, and the categories of MRC volunteers:

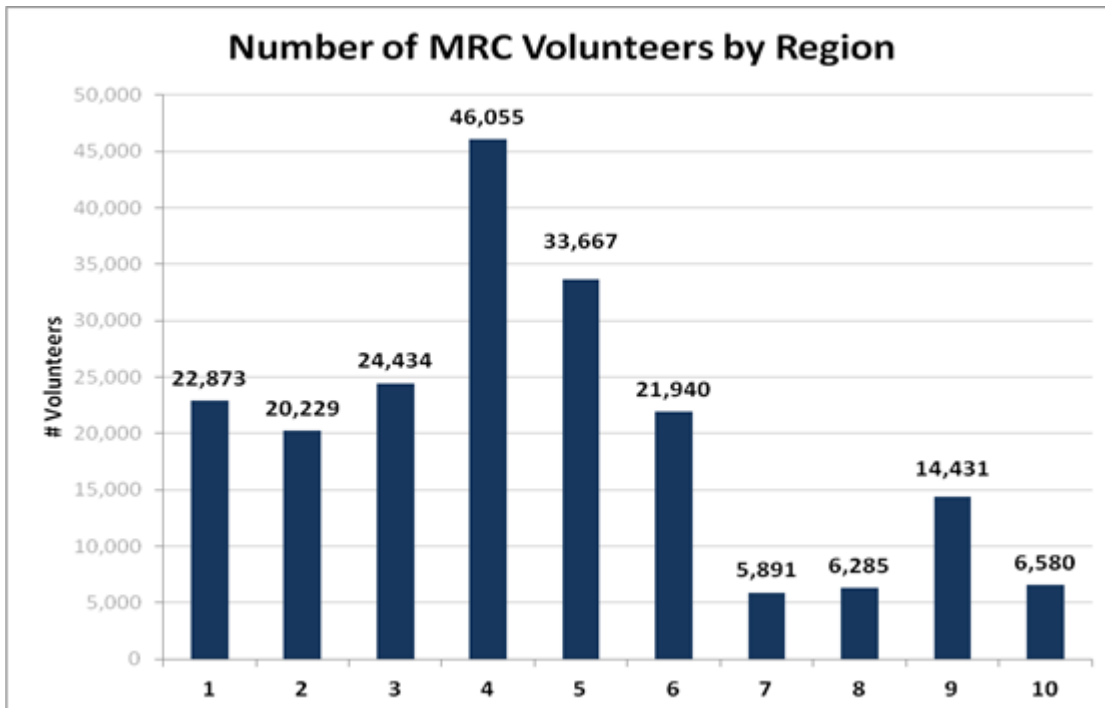
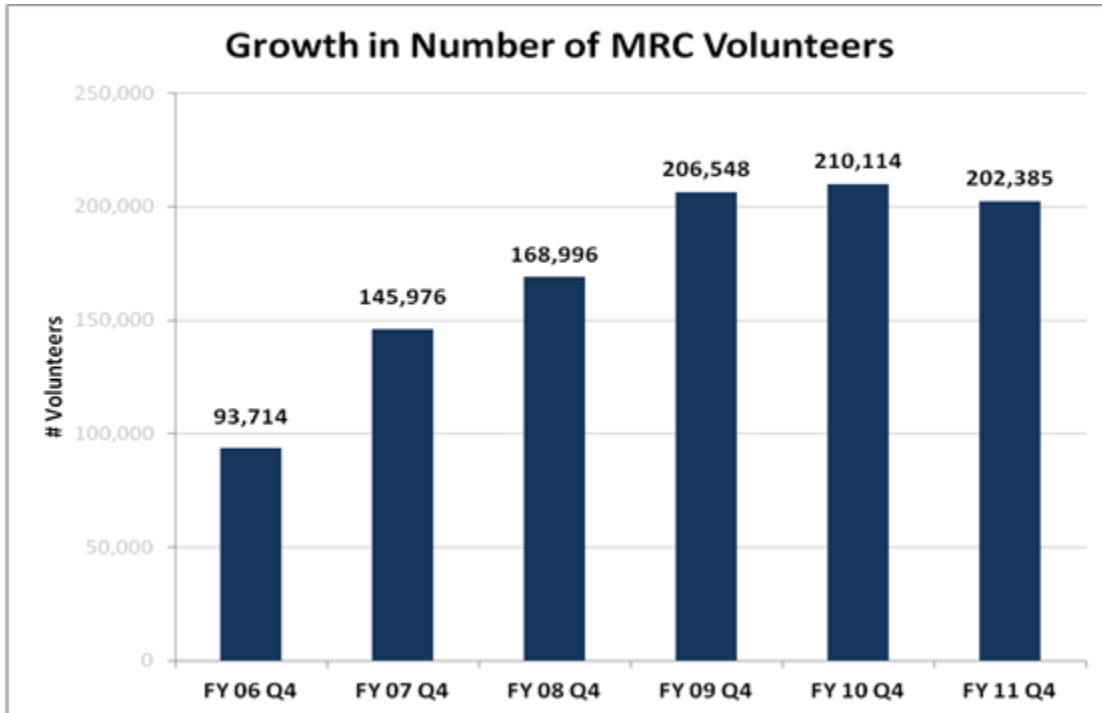


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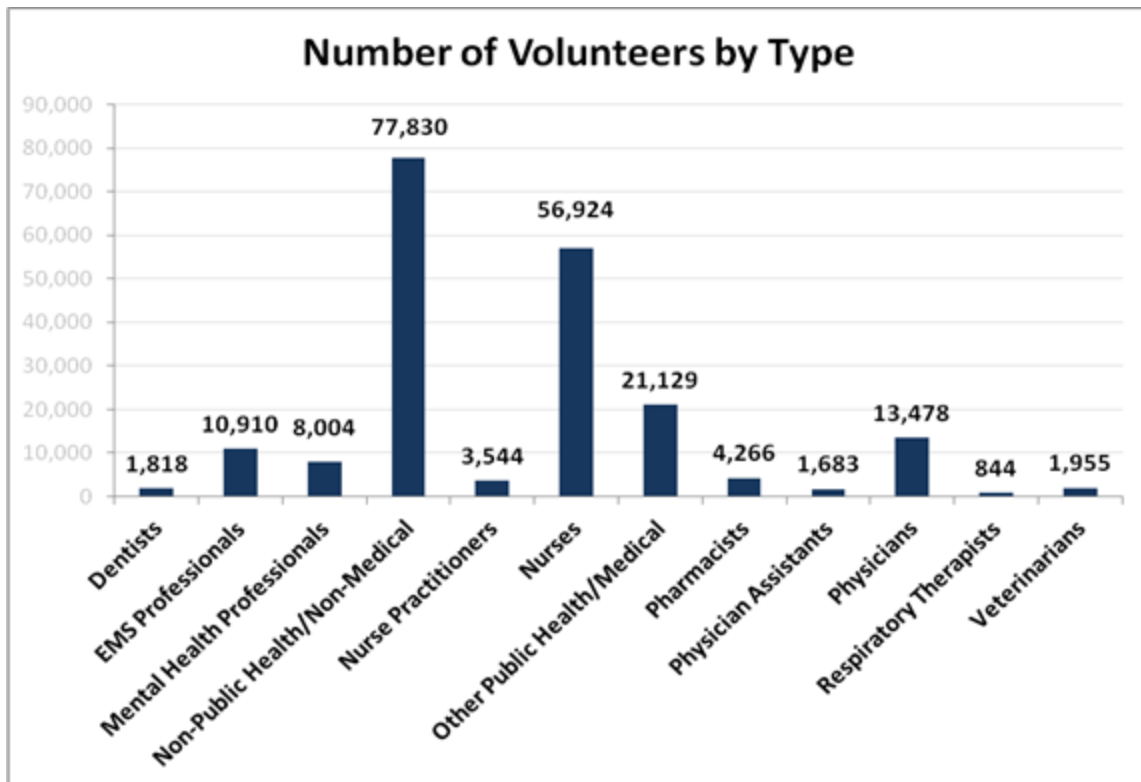
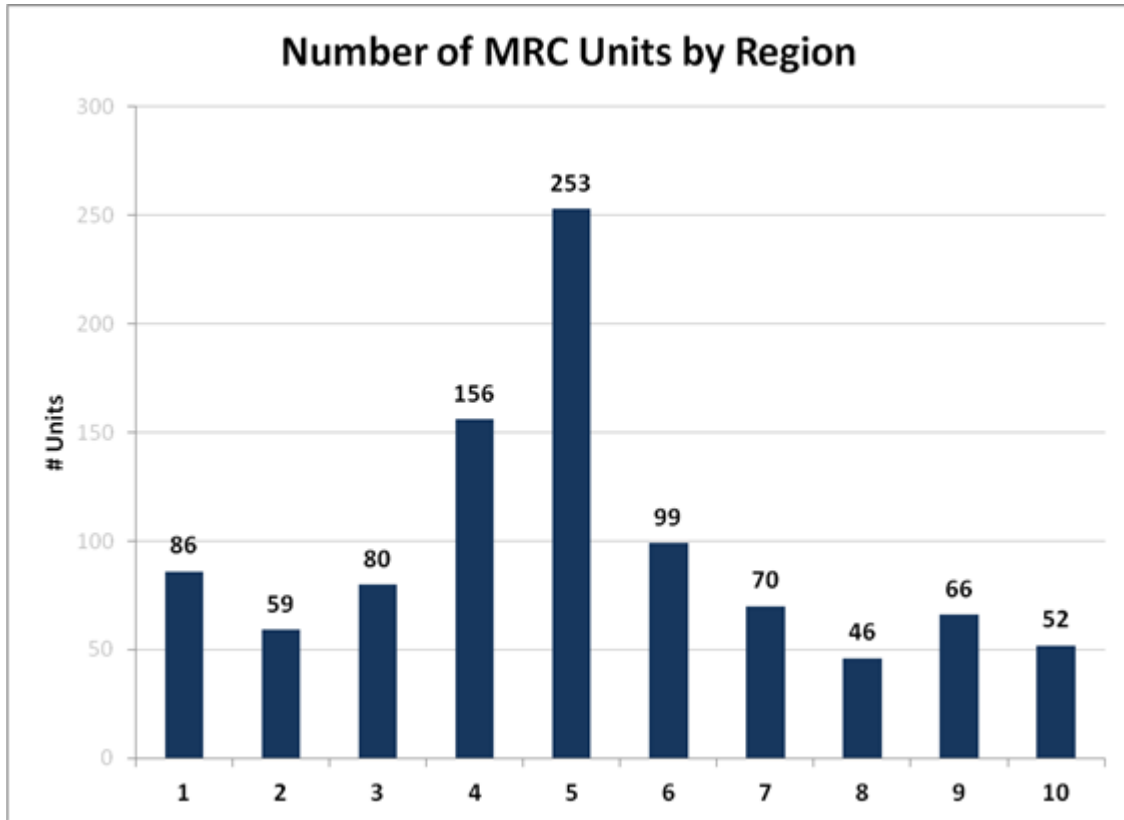


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During this quarter, 580 (59%) units reported a total of 1,979 activities: 430 administrative, 430 preparedness, 340 public health, 283 emergency response, and 496 training. Samples of the activities that MRC units have been involved in during this reporting period include:

Public Health

- The Cape Cod MRC (Barnstable, MA) conducted a Sun Safety Project at a local beach that provided sun safety education and incentives to people of different age brackets.
- The Paterson MRC (Paterson, NJ) conducted 22 disease prevention and wellness workshops for youth attending summer day camp, focusing on promoting healthy lifestyles.
- Twelve Suffolk County MRC (Yaphank, NY) volunteers provided medical screenings and clinic referrals during Suffolk's "Stand Up for the Homeless" event, which was designed to provide comprehensive outreach to homeless.
- The Alexandria MRC (Alexandria, VA) assisted the local health department with vector control field work by picking up and placing mosquito traps for mosquito surveillance requirements.
- The Eastern Panhandle MRC (Martinsburg, WV) provided blood pressure screenings and medical advice at a local soup kitchen.
- The Duval MRC (Jacksonville, FL) performed back-to-school physicals for children who cannot afford required physicals.
- Osceola County MRC (Reed City, MI) provided first aid during a National Canoe Race.
- The MRC of Dakota County (Apple Valley, MN) educated Women Infants and Children (WIC) program participants on nutrition, and distributed Farmers Market nutrition program coupons.
- The New Mexico Native Health Initiative (Albuquerque, NM) assisted with organizing and providing medical support for a mile run/walk at a local pueblo community for over 200 people of all ages.
- The Tarrant County MRC (Fort Worth, TX) held an annual back-to-school roundup that included free school supplies as well as medical, dental and vision screenings for children.
- The St. Francois County MRC (Park Hills, MO) held a free rabies vaccination clinic for dogs and cats.
- The Natrona County MRC (Casper, WY) partnered with Safe Kids of Natrona County to provide car seat checks to 30 individuals.
- The MRC of North Idaho (Hayden, ID) participated in the 2011 North Idaho Veterans Stand Down event. Medical volunteers assisted with health screenings and offered blood pressure checks. Non-medical volunteers assisted with registration, hospitality, and other services.
- Skagit County MRC (Mount Vernon, WA) provided medical and veterinarian services as well as acute care for 730 homeless individuals.

Preparedness/Training

- Numerous MRC units participated in National Night Out in their local communities.
- The Torrington Area Health District MRC (Norfolk, CT) conducted a flood mitigation and emergency trail access improvement project to improve drainage and allow improved access for emergency vehicles to hiking trails.
- The Greater Manchester MRC (Manchester, NH) provided materials promoting the MRC and public health preparedness to the community during the Annual New England African Caribbean Celebration.
- The Morris County MRC (Morristown, NJ) conducted disease investigation training to enhance volunteers' ability to assist their local health department in the event of an outbreak.
- The NYC MRC (Queens, NY) conducted a Building Cultural Competencies Skills workshop.
- Three Southern Alleghenies EMS Council-Cambria County MRC (Johnstown, PA) volunteers received scholarships to attend the PA Pediatric Emergency Care Symposium, which offered various trainings.
- The Virginia Beach MRC (Virginia Beach, VA) hosted an emergency water distribution exercise to test response plans in case an electrical outage disrupts the supply of water to homes in the community.



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- Six MRC of Escambia County (Pensacola, FL) volunteers participated in a Soft Target Awareness for Facility Personnel workshop.
- Six Central Georgia MRC (Macon, GA) volunteers participated in Building Emotional Resiliency for Georgia Disaster Response Workers training.
- Eight East Central Health District MRC (Augusta, GA) volunteers participated as mock-victims of a radiation mass casualty incident exercise in their community.
- Hopkins County MRC (Madisonville, KY) partnered with Kroger to promote National Preparedness Month by providing customers with preparedness shopping checklists.
- The Logan County MRC (Lincoln, IL) participated in a functional exercise to test SNS operations in response to an anthrax attack.
- The Franklin County and Columbus MRC (Columbus, OH) held a language team meeting to identify the roles and responsibilities for its bilingual volunteers during an emergency response.
- The Harris County Gateway to Care MRC (Houston, TX) provided emergency preparedness education to a local Federally Qualified Health Center.
- The Southeast Nebraska MRC (Lincoln, NE) participated in an Strategic National Stockpile (SNS) exercise and now has 10 volunteers fully trained to assist in an actual SNS scenario.
- The Southern Utah MRC (Price, UT) conducted helicopter operations training to include triage, loading patients, and landing zones.
- The Riverside County MRC (Riverside, CA) provided disease investigation training to MRC volunteers to assist with investigations of rapidly spreading diseases.
- The Oahu MRC (Honolulu, HI) volunteers were trained by a local organization in basic hearing screening practices and assisted with screening 4,700 elementary students for the upcoming school year.
- Thirteen Carnation-Duvall MRC (Carnation, WA) volunteers participated in the local Citizen Corps shelter drill by setting up a triage and treatment station with five cots.

Emergency Response

- Numerous MRC units were placed on alert and/or responded to Hurricane Irene. A separate report of these activities was compiled into the [Hurricane Irene – Final Report](#). The following are examples of the activities:
 - The Rhode Island MRC (West Greenwich, RI) had 25 volunteers activated to provide assessments at statewide American Red Cross (ARC) shelters. Volunteers supported 17 general population ARC shelters providing 420 total volunteer hours.
 - Two Greater Sullivan County MRC (Union, NH) volunteers were sent to New York via a mutual aid request to assist the Schoharie County MRC (Schoharie, NY). Volunteers provided assistance in shelters, door to door wellness checks in the field, as well as administering first aid and delivering food and water to areas hit hard by the hurricane.
 - The Nassau County Department of Health MRC (Uniondale, NY) activated volunteers to assist with special needs sheltering operations and at its county emergency operations center.
 - According to ServNY, there were an estimated 327 volunteers utilized for approximately 38 shelters with an estimated 2,953 hours during Hurricane Irene and Tropical Storm Lee in New York State.
 - The Peninsula MRC (Newport News, VA) volunteers distributed hurricane preparedness booklets to residents at a senior center, provided support at five shelters, and augmented the health department's operations center for a total of approximately 137 volunteer hours.
 - The Maryland Department of Health and Mental Hygiene (Baltimore, MD) assisted a state shelter opened at Towson University due to the evacuation of all foreign students working in Ocean City, MD.



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- The Mountain Regional MRC (Asheville, NC) volunteers assisted with communications to provide support to hospitals in the incident area by erecting antennas for radio communication and getting a MARS station and an amateur high frequency station operational.
- The South Carolina Edisto Savannah MRC (Aiken, SC) and Western Piedmont MRC (Anderson, SC) units conducted their yearly hurricane call down drills as an opportunity to remind volunteers of the importance of being ready and prepared before being called to assist, as well as to test their volunteers' availability for a response.
- The Holyoke MRC (Holyoke, MA) and Worcester MRC (Worcester, MA) units assisted with staffing daily cooling stations for a week during extreme heat.
- The Livingston County MRC (Mt. Morris, NY) volunteers assisted the ARC with staffing cooling stations during extreme heat.
- The Melrose Park MRC (Melrose Park, IL) opened a cooling center during a heat advisory and provided medical and blood pressure checks to residents.
- The Southeast Wisconsin MRC (Wauwatosa, WI) and Wisconsin Disaster Medical Response Team MRC (Appleton, WI) units provided first aid during a local air show with 14,000 attendees.
- The Montgomery County MRC (Conroe, TX) provided medical care to wild fire evacuees.
- The Eastern Nebraska/Western Iowa MRC (Omaha, NE) provided prophylaxis vaccination of public safety responders who had been exposed to working in flood waters.
- The Sacramento Regional MRC (McClellan, CA) provided firefighter rehab following a hazmat incident. As the incident escalated, additional volunteers were requested to respond.
- The Washoe County MRC (Reno, NV) provided 20 volunteers - 10 mental health counselors and 10 medical team members – to assist with remains recovery and to support a Family Assistance Center following the mass facility event at the Reno Air Races.
- The Public Health Reserve Corps of Seattle and King County (Seattle, WA) was asked by the local ARC to have RNs and EMTs support a shelter opened for people who lost their homes in a large apartment fire. Ten volunteers staffed the shelter, providing medical support over a four days period, totaling 80 volunteer hours.

Administration

- The Middleborough Area MRC (Middleborough, MA) provided materials to the 2011 Young Ladies Radio League of Boston, which utilizes amateur radio operators during a disaster event.
- The Rensselaer County DOH MRC (Troy, NY) held a recruitment and awareness event during a game at a local stadium, recruiting 14 new MRC volunteers.
- The Pinellas County MRC (St. Petersburg, FL) held the bagels and background checks meet and greet activity with a mobile background check company onsite to provide fingerprinting.
- The Garrard County MRC (Lancaster, KY) conducted recruiting activities at local schools during back to school night.
- The Minnesota Behavioral Health MRC (St. Paul, MN) is assisting in the creation of a Junior MRC and establishing them as youth trainers of the Disaster Readiness Actions for Teens! program.
- The Northeast Kansas Multi-county MRC (Hiawatha, KS) participated in a planning committee to create community and youth forums for the Healthcare Resource for a Health Community initiative.
- The Davis County MRC (Farmington, UT) disseminated its quarterly newsletter to volunteers and partners.
- The Marin MRC (San Rafael, CA) held a planning meeting with the National Park Service regarding the Healthy Parks-Healthy People “Modern-Day Mather Hike” event.



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Division of the Civilian Volunteer Medical Reserve Corps Activities and Accomplishments:

The mission of the Division of the Civilian Volunteer Medical Reserve Corps (DCVMRC) is to support local efforts to establish, implement, and sustain MRC units nationwide. DCVMRC is headquartered in the Office of the Surgeon General and functions as a clearinghouse for information and guidance to MRC units and other stakeholders. DCVMRC activities include strategic planning, intra- and interagency coordination, communications, policy development, program operations, grants management, contract oversight, technical assistance, and deployment operations. These activities are carried out by [DCVMRC staff](#), including the [MRC Regional Coordinators](#).

Major activities and accomplishments during the reporting period included:

- There were five replacement MRC State Coordinators appointed during the quarter, bringing the total to 51 MRC State Coordinators. They include:
 - Kentucky - Rebecca L. Hardin (rebeccal.hardin@ky.gov, 502-564-7243, x4592)
 - North Carolina - Peggy H. Handon (peggy.handon@dhhs.nc.gov, 919-855-4686)
 - Indiana – Amanda Stirratt (astirratt@isdh.in.gov, 317-234-3563)
 - Delaware - Claudia Coons (claudia.coons@state.de.us, 302-223-1720)
 - Louisiana - Sabrina S. Perkins (sabrina.perkins@la.gov, 225-763-3973)
- MRC staff participated, presented and/or exhibited at the following meetings and conferences:
 - National Medical Association Annual Convention in Washington, D.C.
 - DCVMRC Staff Retreat in Denver, CO
 - National Association of Community Health Centers' Community Health Institute in San Diego, CA
 - National Association of Local Boards of Health Annual Conference in Coeur d'Alene, ID
 - 5th National Emergency Management Summit in Brooklyn, NY
 - National Conference on the Natural Disaster Health Workforce in Washington, D.C.
 - Association of State Health Officers/Directors of Public Health Preparedness Meeting in St. Louis, MO
 - First National Conference on "Building Resilience through Public Private Partnerships" in Washington, D.C.
 - National Association of EMTs Annual Meeting and EMS EXPO in Las Vegas, NV
 - Region V Assistant Secretary for Preparedness & Response Burn Planning Meeting in Chicago, IL
 - Tristate (IN, KY & OH) Training Summit in Cincinnati, OH
 - Indiana MRC Quarterly Leadership Meeting in Indianapolis, IN
- The MRC was mentioned in at least 52 newspapers and other types of articles during the reporting period. See the "[News and Events](#)" page on the MRC website for links.