


MEDICAL RESERVE CORPS



IN THE BEGINNING...

- After “9-11”, a surge of “What can I do to help?”
- Pres. Bush – ’02 State of Union Address
- Called upon citizens to make life-time commitment to volunteer time/service
- Created USA Freedom Corps to organize volunteers
- MRC is component of Freedom Corps
- Over 800 MRC’s formed



“You have to become involved to make an impact. No one is impressed with the won/loss record of the referee.” --John Holcomb

USA FREEDOM CORPS

USA Freedom Corps



- **Citizens Corps**
 - **Medical Reserve Corps (MRC)**
 - Volunteers in Policing (VIP)
 - National Neighborhood Watch
 - Community Emergency Response Teams (CERT)
 - Terrorism Information and Prevention System (TIPS)
- **AmeriCorps** (created in 1993)
 - American Red Cross
 - Habitat for Humanity
 - Boys/Girls Clubs
- **Senior Corps**
 - Foster Grandparent Program
 - Senior Companion Program
 - Retired & Senior Volunteer Program
- **Peace Corps** (created in 1960)



MEDICAL RESERVE CORPS

Mission Statement

The mission of the Medical Reserve Corps (MRC) is to improve the health and safety of communities across the country by organizing and utilizing public health, medical and other volunteers.

WHAT IS AN MRC?

- Community-based, organized group of volunteers (medical and non-medical) intended to supplement existing community medical and emergency response systems
- Valuable asset for helping address on-going, significant public health concerns throughout the year
- Volunteers with interest in strengthening local public health system and providing help in emergencies
 - Organized and utilized locally
 - Identified, credentialed, trained and prepared in advance
 - Integrated with existing programs and resources

“The heart of a volunteer is not measured in size, but by the depth of the commitment to make a difference in the lives of others.”

DeAnn Hollis

WHAT IS THE ROLE OF A VOLUNTEER?

- **Support** local public health initiatives while advancing the priorities of the Surgeon General
 - Promoting disease prevention
 - Improving health literacy
 - Eliminating health disparities
 - Enhancing public health preparedness
- **Assist** local hospitals & health departments with surge personnel needs
- **Participate** in mass prophylaxis and vaccination exercises and community disaster drills
- **Train** with local emergency response partners

WHY VOLUNTEER?

- Give back to the community and make a difference in someone's life
- Share your abilities and develop new skills
- Obtain a sense of pride and accomplishment through Community service and involvement
- See a mission accomplished
- Network and interact with like-minded peers
- Be a local hero

*"The best way to find yourself, is to lose yourself in the service of others."
--~Ghandi*

PUBLIC HEALTH THREATS

- Bioterrorism

- Intentional release in aerosol, release in ventilation systems, in water, on food products, etc. potentially resulting in person-to-person transfer
- Biological agents associated with terrorism

- Anthrax
- Tularemia
- Pneumonic Plague
- Smallpox

- Natural biological events

- Infectious diseases have the potential to transfer from one person or species to another through liquids, food, body fluids, contaminated objects, airborne inhalation, or through vector-borne spread
- Examples of natural biological events
 - Pandemic influenza
 - Measles



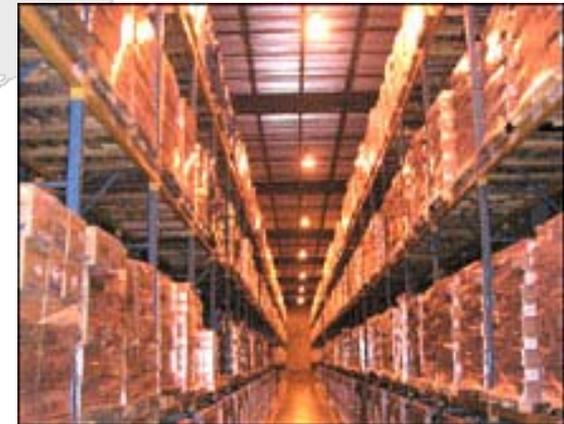
THE STRATEGIC NATIONAL STOCKPILE

- The CDC's Strategic National Stockpile (SNS) is a large cache of supplies used to augment depleted state and local resources
 - Drugs
 - Vaccines
 - Medical Supplies
 - Medical Equipment
- Response to terrorist attacks and other public health emergencies
- Stored in locations around the United States
- Once federal and local authorities agree that the SNS is required, it will be delivered to any state in the United States within 12 hours



THE STRATEGIC NATIONAL STOCKPILE: PUSH PACKAGE

- Antibiotics and medical equipment placed in reserve for public health emergencies
- 12 Twelve-Hour Push Packages
 - Each treats 300,000 people and must be received within 12 hours of the approved request
 - 35 tons, 135 containers of drugs and equipment
 - 3% of the federal inventory
 - Each Push Package can fill a Boeing 747



THE STRATEGIC NATIONAL STOCKPILE: PUSH PACKAGE



COLLIN COUNTY



WHAT IS A POINT OF DISPENSING (POD) SITE?

- Large scale clinics designed to rapidly administer vaccinations or give medications to County residents
- Activated when normal public health response system must be supplemented due to the severity of the disease outbreak
- Requires a community effort to run these clinics because public health is not staffed to handle such large scale events
- Must be placed close to where people live and staffed by local volunteers



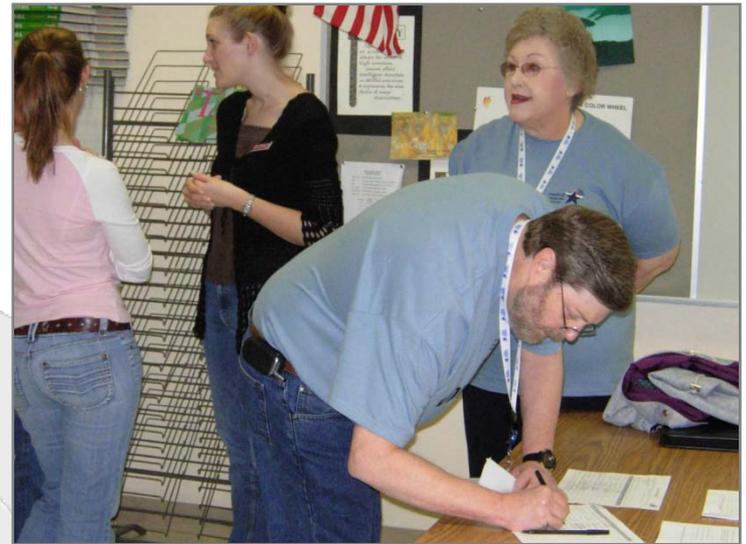
Volunteers organize POD Pack inventory and set up communications in Command Room





Volunteers prepare to see mock clients





Volunteers debriefing and POD break down



HOW MANY VOLUNTEER ARE NEEDED?

During a widespread biological event, the entire county will require prophylaxis. To provide for the 750,000+ persons in Collin County, nearly 4,200 volunteers will be needed. That is 100 people per 12-hour shift for 2 shifts at 21 POD Sites. If more sites are required or volunteers require shorter shifts, then the required number of volunteers will increase.



VOLUNTEER ROLES AT A POD SITE

Medical Roles: (Some roles may be filled by non-medical volunteers)

- Site Director
- Clinic Manager
- Triage Coordinator
- Triage Technician(s)
- Dispensing Coordinator
- Screening Technician(s)
- Dispensing/Vaccination Technician(s)
- Medical Evaluator
- Education Coordinator
- Education Technician(s)
- Translator(s)
- Mental Health Worker/Crisis Counselor



VOLUNTEER ROLES AT A POD SITE

Non-Medical Roles: (Some roles may be filled by medical volunteers)

- Safety Officer
- Security Manager
- Security Staff
- Logistics Manager
- Communications Coordinator
- Communications Technician(s)
- IT Technician(s)
- Inventory Coordinator
- Inventory Technician(s)
- Administrative Manager
- Documents Coordinator
- Documents Technician(s)
- Volunteer Coordinator
- Floater(s)
- Greeter(s)
- Transportation Coordinator
- Facilities Coordinator
- Crowd Control



VOLUNTEER ROLES IN PLANNING AND PREPAREDNESS

Leadership Roles:

- MRC Steering Committee
 - Administrative Subcommittee
 - Clinical Subcommittee
 - Logistics Subcommittee
 - Outreach Subcommittee
- Policies and Procedures Development
- Training and Volunteer Management

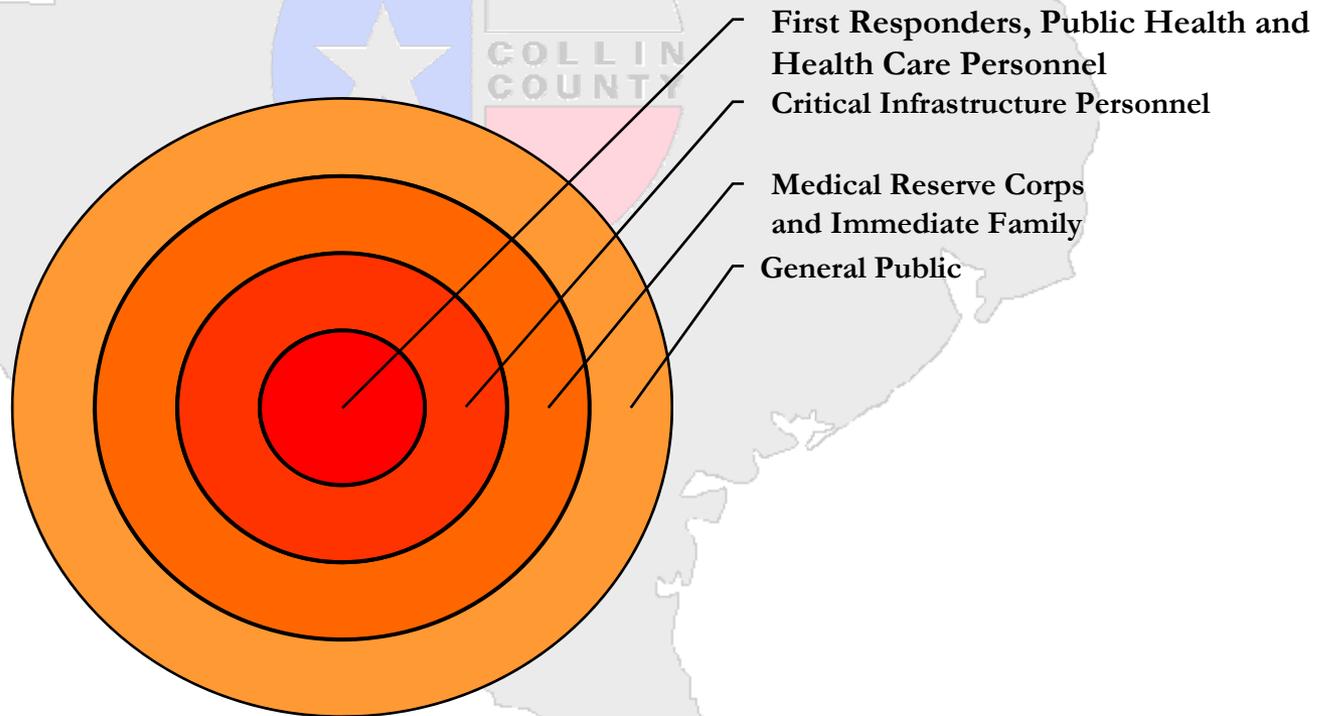
Community Roles:

- Community Outreach
- Public Health and Safety Expos
- Communications Development
- Newsletters and Publications
- Data Entry



VOLUNTEERS PROTECTED

In the event of a bioterrorism attack, all volunteers will be provided antibiotics or vaccinations before the beginning of their shift at POD sites and will receive antibiotics or vaccinations for their family at the end of their shift.



VOLUNTEERS PROTECTED FROM LEGAL LIABILITY

- Under the federal Volunteer Protection Act of 1997, people who volunteer for governmental entities cannot be held liable for any harm (except for a harm caused by operation of a motor vehicle or a harm caused by criminal conduct or gross or reckless misconduct) that they may cause while engaged in volunteer activity.
- The Collin County MRC is considered part of a governmental entity, so if you volunteer with the MRC you are not exposing yourself to additional legal liability.

OTHER ACTIVITIES VOLUNTEERS MAY HELP WITH...

- Community Education Campaigns
- Immunization Drives
- Volunteer Recruitment Efforts
- Medical/Mental Healthcare following a natural disaster
- Other requested activities as needed





BE A LOCAL HERO

Register for the MRC by completing these steps:

- Go to www.MetroplexVolunteers.com
- Select “**Collin County**”
- Select “**Register to Volunteer**”
- Accept the Liability Agreement
- Follow prompts to complete form

Additional information available at:

http://www.co.collin.tx.us/homeland_security/citizen/mrc.jsp

FOR MORE INFORMATION

Please contact:

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MRC Coordinator

Collin County Homeland Security

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Email: mstephens@collincountytx.gov

Additional information available at:

http://www.co.collin.tx.us/homeland_security/citizen/mrc.jsp