

The MRC Hero



COLLIN COUNTY MRC NEWSLETTER



In Everything Give Thanks

Helpers Helping

During the months of August and September, our MRC members have been assisting with projects at Collin County Health Care Services (CCHCS). With proper social distancing precautions, our volunteers have dedicated time to supporting the Immunizations clinic with COVID-19 screening for the Back to School rush and organizing in both the McKinney and Plano WIC locations, as well as our warehouse. Everyone at CCHCS would like to express our gratitude to those who have given their time and efforts to helping.



Geoff & Betty Thomson



Cynthia Stewart



Wakana Hayashi-Brune



Greg Sturch



Sarah Hafer

Other members who have helped: Bharat Chaffar, Amanda Douthit, Jennifer Idley, Shannen Kelley, Steve Lamonte, Fletcher Sharp, & Sarika Singh



Bill Werner & Cynthia Stewart

A New Way of Meeting

Our MRC has had success with moving our trainings/meetings online with the use of Webex. So far, we have had four successful courses with great participation.

- 06/10/2020: **MRC COVID-19 Update**
- 07/18/2020: **POD Essentials: Support Roles Training**
- 08/29/2020: **MRC Urgent Events Call Center Training & COVID-19 FAQs**
- 09/16/2020: **MRC COVID-19 Update & Research Review**



With online meeting as an option now, we are able to connect, discuss, and learn without the barriers of location and disease exposure. Our volunteers are staying informed while staying safe!

Thank you to everyone who has participated in the trainings and completed time sheets! You are amazing, adaptable, and valuable volunteers!



New Faces at CCHCS

Greetings MRC Members,



My name is **Jeff Button**. I am a new member of the PHEP team as a MRC Coordinator. I have worked in healthcare the past six years in various positions, most recently at Methodist Hospital in Dallas in a Health Administrative Department. In addition, I have experience volunteering with the Collin County MRC in 2017 and 2018, and I completed my Master of Public Health Degree as of December 2019. I am excited to be part of the team and look forward to working with you all.

Hello, my name is **Christian Jimenez** and I am a native from Arlington, TX. I am thrilled to be joining the Health Department at Collin County! Prior to joining Collin County, I worked in federal legislative arenas including representing a national hospital trade association and working for Congress in Washington, D.C. It is truly an honor to be able to serve our community across North Texas and join the county's efforts in ensuring community readiness to public health emergencies. In my free time I enjoy hiking, playing guitar, and painting landscapes. Lastly, I am a proud Texas Tech alumni – Wreck'em!



My name is **Charles "Ryan" Russell**. I am a CRI Coordinator for the PHEP program within Collin County Health Care Services. I am a UNT alum and I hold a baccalaureate degree in Emergency Administration and Planning as well as an undergraduate certificate in Geographic Information Systems. I am an ever-constant student of emergency management and public health, with an avid interest in medicine and hospital operations. I hope to move more into medicine as a long-term career and I plan on attending medical school in the future. I'm happy to be a part of the MRC program and do my part in the response against COVID-19.



My name is **Leon Contreras** and I live in Carrollton. My background is 30 years in the Air Force. I worked in Aircraft Maintenance, Logistics, and toward the end of my career was embedded into FEMA Region VI in Denton, TX for 4 years as the Air Force Staff Officer. I retired as a Colonel. I have worked 5 Hurricanes, 1 Earthquake, and several severe weather disasters (Deep Freeze/Tornadoes). My last job was as the Emergency Management Coordinator for the City of New Orleans.



Call Down Drills

On August 7th, 2020, Collin County PHEP sent out a call down notification drill to all current and active MRC members, and had a great response rate!

In the event of public health emergencies, the Everbridge automated notification system will notify MRC volunteers via phone (office or cell phone), email, or text message.

Phone calls and text messages will always come from the number: 972-555-1234

It is extremely important that you respond to the Everbridge notification, regardless of your answer!

If any of your contact information has changed, please let us know so that we can update it.

Fall is the time for Flu Shots



Upcoming Training

Texas Ready

10/7/2020
6:00 PM - 7:00 PM

LifePath Mental Health

10/17/2020
9:00 AM - 10:45 AM

COVID-19 Update & Research Review

11/14/2020
9:30 AM - 10:30 AM

POD Essentials Module 1: Clinic Roles

12/5/2020
9:30 AM - 11:30 AM

Links to sign up and/or invitations to online meetings will be emailed to members who have completed all paperwork.

There are open spots for the online HIPAA and Bloodborne Pathogens courses.

Email mrc@co.collin.tx.us to sign up.

Collin County MRC Mission Statement

The Collin County MRC is a volunteer organization that protects and promotes the health and wellbeing of the residents of Collin County. MRC volunteers supplement existing emergency and public health resources.

"You are the Help Until Help Arrives."