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Northeast Missouri (NEMO) Medical Reserve Corp

Training & Placement of AEDs Saves Lives in NE Missouri

The Northeast Missouri (NEMO) Medical Reserve Corps (MRC) has been working to improve community health and resiliency by supporting the efforts of the NEMO Heart Health organization. NEMO Heart Health was formed in 2009 with a vision to inspire and motivate heart healthy living in northeast Missouri.

NEMO Heart Health is a not-for-profit corporation whose mission is to promote improved heart health through awareness, prevention and education, and by maintaining access to Automated External Defibrillators (AEDs).

The organization has raised almost \$160,000.00 to date, which has been used to support NEMO Heart Health's mission by purchasing 112 AED units and providing CPR/AED training to over 3,400 citizens in northeast Missouri. NEMO MRC Coordinator, Ron Stewart, reports that three lives have been saved due to availability of public AEDs in the region. This demonstrates the daily value of MRCs and underscores the importance of building strong partnerships in community health.

NEMO Drive-Through Flu Shot Clinic Exercises Mass Vaccination Plans

In October 2016, NEMO MRC participated in a drive-through flu clinic. There were two locations: at the NEMO Fair Grounds in Kirksville and the second location in Novinger.

The one day clinic involved 91 volunteers including: MRC., Fire, Law Enforcement, emergency medical services (EMS), CERT (Community Emergency Response Team) and 14 health department staff members. The group served 1300 residents. Below are a few pictures to show the great work being done with volunteers and local partners.



Continued



August 2016 Communications Exercise

During the week of August 22, more than 2,000 calls and emails were sent to Show-Me Response registered health professionals, including RNs, LPNs, physicians and licensed behavioral health professionals. These messages were part of Missouri's participation in the 2016 National Mass Care Exercise. Each message included an opportunity to respond to a fictional request for volunteers to assist survivors of a catastrophic earthquake in the New Madrid Seismic Zone.

One such message read, *"We are simulating a request for behavioral health care providers to assist in shelters. Shelters with 300 - 1,000 survivors would be taking in a large number of persons who would be experiencing stress due to the disaster. Licensed behavioral health professionals, especially those with Psychological First Aid training would be needed."* This was Missouri's first exercise focused on mass care. The response to these messages was encouraging. Of the nearly 2,300 volunteers contacted, 620 (27%) responded in some way, 341 (15%) reported they would serve if called and an additional 7% indicated they might be available. *Continued*

As a reminder, all calls from Show-Me Response will come from the following number: (866) 988-3678. Add this number to your contacts list so you will recognize calls from Show-Me Response.

Disaster Volunteers in Shelters

Many people think of disaster field medicine when they imagine the work that Show-Me Response volunteers would be asked to perform during a disaster. The kind of emergency medical treatment provided in the midst of a disaster's debris field is extremely important and demands rigorous training and exercise. The Missouri Disaster Response System (MoDRS) includes a disaster medical assistance team or DMAT, which is well prepared for this kind of work.

While there is a need for health care volunteers with field medicine training and experience, this will not be the only area of compelling need during a disaster. Many disaster survivors will seek shelter when their homes are threatened by storms, earthquakes, floods, fire or extreme temperatures. Shelter populations often include persons with chronic or acute health conditions and disaster-related injuries. The presence of nurses, physicians, behavioral health professionals and other providers in emergency shelters can lessen suffering and improve the quality of life for everyone who takes refuge in a shelter.

If you have emergency field medicine training and experience and are interested in volunteering those skills during an emergency, but have not provided that information in the Show Me Response system, be sure to sign in and update your profile accordingly. If you have questions about the different ways your healthcare expertise could be used during a disaster, contact Show-Me Response Program coordinator, Anne Kyle at Anne.Kyle@sema.dps.mo.gov.

Affiliation Enhances Volunteer Opportunity for Activity

Volunteers who choose to affiliate with one of the Show-Me Response organizations greatly increase their opportunities for participating in actual disaster events, as well as in different types of exercises and training opportunities. When considering an organization with which to affiliate, choose one with your interests, skills and area of employment and residence in mind. Show-Me Response includes organizations that serve local, regional and state-wide jurisdictions. There are more than 30 Medical Reserve Corps (MRC) organizations alone.

Other organizations include:

- Many city and county health departments
- The American Red Cross
- The Missouri Department of Mental Health
- The Missouri Volunteer Veterinary Corps

Continued

Volunteers may choose to affiliate with more than one organization. Upon adding an organization to the Show Me Response profile, the volunteer is listed as “pending.” That organization’s leaders will follow up by contacting the pending volunteer with more information about becoming an “accepted” member of the organization.

Show Me Response volunteers should follow these steps to add organization affiliations to their profile:
Log in at www.showmeresponse.org.

Click the **organizations** tab.

Click **all organizations**.

Click the **[+]** next to one of the organization types.

Click the **link** for a specific organization.

Click the **join** button on the upper right side of the box.

To assure a good affiliation fit with an organization, volunteers are encouraged to take a few moments to read the organization description before making a selection.

The Call is produced by the Missouri State Emergency Management Agency (SEMA).

If you have information you would like to share with the readership, contact Anne Kyle at

Anne.Kyle@sema.dps.mo.gov.

Show-Me Response is Missouri’s Emergency System for Advance Registration of Volunteer Health Professionals (ESAR-VHP) and is used by Medical Reserve Corps (MRC), Local Public Health Agencies (LPHAs) and other partners for the management of volunteers.

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