Jim Steinme tz and Russell Donnell of the Saline County MRC stand in front of the Kubota RTV that the MRC was able to purchase from grant money from Monsanto.

The Marshall Monsanto Company has a lengthy history of philanthropy within Saline County, MO. Monsanto, like many other businesses and organizations throughout the county, continues to award grant monies to the county’s Medical Reserve Corps (MRC) unit.

Through Monsanto’s site grant initiative, funds are awarded to non-profit organizations to help address critical needs in rural communities. Monies received by companies like Monsanto are used to purchase things such as automated electronic defibrillators (AEDs), self-contained breathing apparatus equipment, portable decontamination tents, stretchers, air pack tanks, backboards, and portable radios. This stuff might not seem glamorous, but it is critical to the service of our communities!

The Saline County MRC relies on these generous grants and donations to survive. Many area corporations partner with the Saline County MRC, such as, Walmart, Cargill, Mid-Missouri Energy, Community Bank of Marshall and Wood Huston Bank.

You may be most familiar with the MRC unit by seeing them as they staff the local flu shot clinics, but this group provides many necessary services to the community. The Saline County MRC plays a role in staffing alternate care sites when the hospital is at capacity, they participate in active shooter exercises with law enforcement, they train and exercise for HAZMAT incidents with the fire department, they staff cooling stations during summer community events, and they participate in high-angle rescue training. The community has really come to depend on this group!

Just how do they do it you ask? Simple...by building relationships. The members of the Saline County MRC are dedicated volunteers from the community. Not only do Monsanto employees work with the MRC to serve the community on a day-to-day basis, but many employees volunteer with these organizations to provide relief for the residents of Saline County during emergencies.

Strategic partnerships with other organizations and businesses within the community can be vital to the success of your organization’s goals and initiatives. These partners help to concentrate the community’s focus on a particular problem, create alliances among organizations and businesses, and keep the community’s approach to issues consistent. Most importantly, partners can advocate for your organization’s goals while contributing their own contacts, skills, talents and assets. This will allow your organization to broaden its impact while accessing new audiences.

Recognizing the importance of partnerships is not difficult, but understanding how to build those partnerships can be tricky. Partnerships with other organizations and businesses take time and effort, but if managed well, they can help your organization achieve its goals more effectively.

Key steps to implementing a partnership include:

1. Identify and engage other organizations and businesses.
2. Establish personal relationships and begin to build trust.
3. Clarify the goals and objectives each partner wants to accomplish.
4. Choose and implement a partnership that is mutually beneficial.
5. Establish governance, procedures, ground rules, and decision-making structure.
Teen CERT

The Community Emergency Response Team (CERT), is a national program of volunteers trained in disaster preparedness and emergency response. Volunteers come from all ages and all walks of life, including teenagers!

Teen CERT training teaches you about the potential disasters that could affect your area and how to safely respond to them.

There are many benefits of taking teen CERT training, such as preparing and responding to disaster situations, learning about the importance of planning, and assisting others in the event of a widespread catastrophe in their community.

Missouri has a teen CERT program based in St. Charles County called MidAmerica Teen CERT (MATC). MATC trains anyone who is at least 12 years old through adulthood. It takes approximately 20 hours to complete the Teen CERT training, but the critical skills your child, grandchild or student will learn will last a lifetime.

Throughout the training, students will learn to: extinguish small fires, conduct light search and rescue, assist those who are injured, set up medical treatment areas, identify and anticipate hazards, reduce fire hazards and help reduce survivor stress.

Would your child, your grandchild or your student know what to do if a disaster struck their community? Their school? After a disaster, professional responders will be needed everywhere. In the chaotic aftermath of an emergency, what would your child do until help arrived? At home or school, they can direct friends/family to safety or help those who are hurt.

For more information about upcoming TEEN CERT classes or the MATC program, visit www.facebook.com/groups/MIDAMERICATEENCERT/ or contact MATC program director Mark Rosenblum at mark.rosenblum@outlook.com
MOTF-1 Participates in Full Scale Exercise

Members of the Missouri Task Force-1 participated in a regional disaster training in Columbia, MO, May 14-18, 2018, as part of the New Madrid Seismic Zone (NMSZ) exercise which was hosted by the Missouri National Guard.

The week-long, full scale exercise included a fully staffed State Emergency Operation Center (SEOC), Disaster Medical Assistance Team (DMAT), swift water rescue response, search and extraction missions and other disciplines within the participating organizations.

Being able to respond and train with our partners, like the National Guard, gives us the ability to be even stronger in response to what the people and communities are going to need in our state," said Chuck Leake, task force leader, Missouri Task Force One.

A catastrophic NMSZ earthquake would cause a significant public emergency, immediately straining the capabilities of local National Guard forces. Assistance from other state National Guard units, such as Utah and Colorado, would be requested to respond. The responding agencies must be able to integrate as seamlessly as possible for effective, efficient response to the community and region.

Show-Me Response stands ready to assist you with volunteer management and training!

Please contact Pat Curtis or Alyssa Borchelt with your suggestions and requests.

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2018 Children and Youth in Disasters Conference

Helping Children Cope with Disaster Trauma

October 29—30, 2018

Times:  
Day 1 — 7:30 - 4:00  
Day 2 — 8:00 - 4:30  
Times subject to change as the agenda develops.

Where:  Tan-Tar-A  
494 Tan Tara Drive,  
Osage Beach, MO

Phone:  800-826-8272

Who should attend?

This conference will appeal to a wide variety of partners who may be called upon to assist in disaster scenarios that impact children occurring anywhere in the state of Missouri.  
This includes but is not limited to:  
EHS Partners, COADs, VOADs, CERTs,  
Faith Partners, Medical Reserve Corps,  
Local Public Health Agencies, Schools, Child Serving Agencies, Child Care Facilities,  
Behavioral Health Agencies, and EMDs.