

Your local government has been working for several years to improve disaster preparedness and coordination; but there is always work to be done.

It is essential we have a functional plan ready to implement in a disaster. This is where the North Central MS Medical Reserve Corps need your help. NCM-MRC is in the process or recruiting and training volunteers.

The American College of Emergency Physicians and the National Association of EMS Physicians have published

Policy on Unsolicited Medical Volunteers that states that the organized approach is needed for all medical volunteers in a disaster. They advise that medical personnel should not respond to an emergency unless officially requested by the jurisdiction's EMS agency. The question then is: how can physicians and other medical volunteers organize and train for major disasters? Join a Medical Reserve Corp.

A Medical Reserve Corps (MRC) is a community-based network of volunteers who join together in a disaster to provide assistance to those affected. The MRC brings volunteers together to assist the existing local Emergency Management Service. In order to effectively assist these emergency agencies, volunteers must be trained and organized. The MRC is designed to provide an organizational structure and appropriate training.

Members of the MRC also volunteer throughout the year to promote community public health and education.

## We are seeking the following volunteers:

Physicians Nurses Dentist Veterinarians EMT's and paramedics Pharmacists and Pharmacy technicians Mental Health Professionals Phlebotomists Mortuary service professionals Security Staff Communications Experts Interpreters Health Care Educators Clerical support/data entry staff Child Care Workers Transportation General laborers YOU !!!!

If you would like to volunteer please contact our office at 662-232-2476 or email jwarren@oxfordms.net.

Please visit the Federal Medical Reserve Corps website at <u>Http://www.medicalreservecorps.gov</u> for general information.

One of the primary goals for the North Central MS MRC is training volunteers so they will be ready to respond if and when the need arises. All applicants accepted into the North Central MS MRC will undergo regular emergency response training from both MRC and our response partners. Volunteers are required by federal mandate to comply with National Incident Management training standards as the condition of receiving federal grant funds. MRC volunteers must successfully complete the following three online self-study courses:

IS-100 Introduction to Incident Command System IS-200 ICS for Single Resources Initial Action IS-700 National Incident Management System

## What the North Central MS Medical Reserve Corps Expects from its Members:

Members must keep NCMS MRC updated on contact information, including mailing address, phone number and e-mail addresses.

Members must be willing to complete training in core competencies appropriate for their field.

Members must be willing to work as part of a specialized team and regularly attend membership meetings and training events.

Members must be willing to respond to an emergency in the North Central Mississippi area on short notice, both during and after non-work hours or on weekends.

Members are provided with a distinctive uniform and must conduct themselves in a manner that instills the trust and confidence of the public and emergency service community.

## Benefits of volunteering with the North Central MS Medical Reserve Corps:

Be part of a team trained to provide medical, public and mental health support during an emergency

Participate in initiatives that strengthen public health –Health Fairs

Network with other medical and public health professionals , as part of a specialized team

Free training and continuing education credits

Serve your family, friends and neighbors in your community and beyond

## <u>There will be an information meeting on October</u> 26, 2010 at 9:00 AM at the Oxford Activity Center.