



## Franklin County & Columbus Medical Reserve Corps

# FC&CMRC Quarterly Newsletter

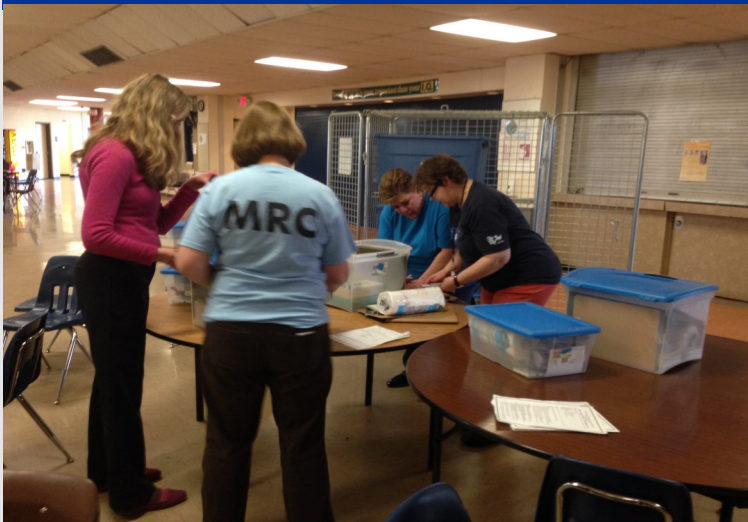
**T**he Franklin County & Columbus Medical Reserve Corps (FC&C MRC) is dedicated to establishing teams of professional and medical volunteers to contribute their skills and expertise during disasters, as well as throughout the year for community health promotion.

### 2015 Central Ohio Volunteer Training Summit Presentation Information

This year's volunteer summit is open to the 15 central Ohio region MRC units and will include 3 separate trainings. The first training will speak to working with individuals who have functional needs during a deployment. Representatives from the Clark County EMA and Clark County Health Department will present on this topic and will give advice from past exercises and real life events. The second training will have Columbus Public Health walk through a tabletop exercise on the events leading up the opening of a POD site during a biological incident. Traditionally the MRC has focused on activities post the decision to prophylaxis the community. This will be a fresh and unique perspective on public health and the MRC role. Lastly, per request from many volunteers, our afternoon training will have Franklin County Public Health discussing infectious diseases and the roles of the health department and MRC. Examples from recent real world events will be covered. Thank you to the MRC leadership team for their involvement in getting presenters and planning the summit!

### Public Health Outreach Grants

One of the ways the FC&C MRC stays active is to work with Columbus Public Health and Franklin County Public Health on public health outreach activities like farmer's markets, rabies vaccination clinics, seasonal flu clinics, health fairs and more. These daily opportunities help build capacity for the health departments, allow volunteers and staff to interact regularly and exercise activities that might also be needed during an emergency. The FC&C MRC is currently looking for grants to help assist in funding public health outreach. If you are interested in helping in this process or know of a grant that might be a good fit for the FC&C MRC please contact Tessa or Trent at [mrc@franklincountyohio.gov](mailto:mrc@franklincountyohio.gov)



### For Your Information:

- We will have our semi-annual call down drill this SUMMER. Look for more info to come in June.
- We will be re-credentialing and updating the database in JULY 2015. Please make sure your info is up to date by then.
- Teams (Mental Health and Language Team) will be begin to meet again starting this fall.
- National Volunteer Week will be April 12-18
- Tessa and Trent will be in Atlanta for the National Preparedness Summit from April 12-17th.



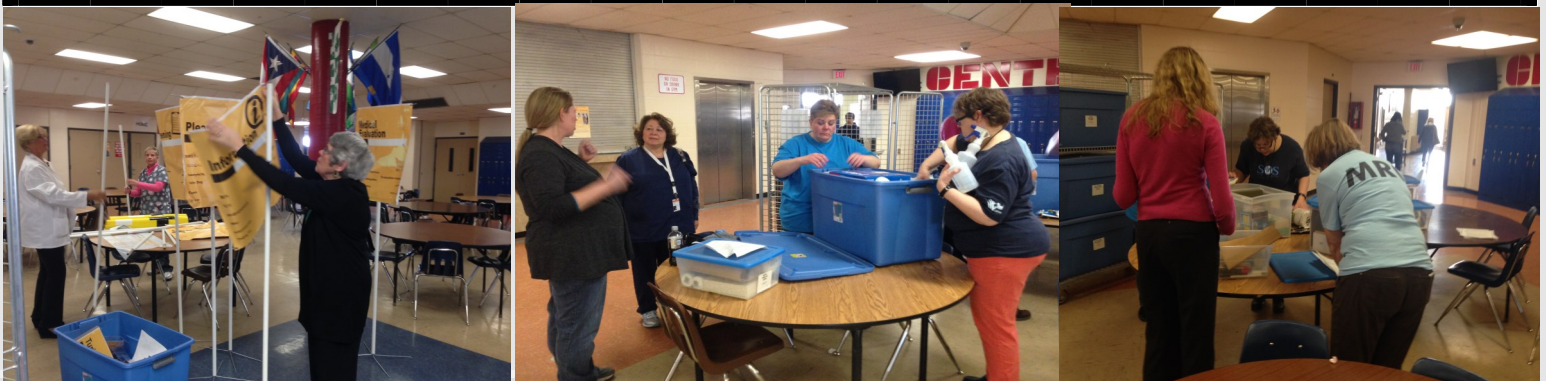
## Franklin County & Columbus Medical Reserve Corps

Heroes aren't born, they volunteer.

# Successful Trainings/Exercises and Opportunities

Below is a highlight list of events/exercises and trainings the MRC participated in during January-March 2015

- MRC Online Orientation
- POD101 Online Training
- Special Needs Online Training
- FCPH Rabies Vaccination Clinic
- Leadership Team Conference Calls
- MRC Orientation to OU Residents
- Semi Annual Call Down Drill
- Summit Planning Committee Meetings
- POD Set Up Drill
- Letter Stuffing
- Letter Delivery



## A Note From Your Coordinators

Hi MRC Volunteers,

Thank you to all those who took trainings, participated in drills and volunteered during the cold winter months. We are happy to be moving into spring! Spring and summer look to be BUSY with our summit, multiple full scale exercises, immunization clinics, farmer's markets, health fairs and more coming up. We look forward to seeing many of you soon!

Thanks again, Tessa Fite and Trent Daugherty, FC&C MRC Coordinators



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**Don't forget to check out our website at [www.volunteermrc.org](http://www.volunteermrc.org) for links to upcoming events and pictures!**

### Upcoming 2015 MRC Demographic and Volunteering Profile Survey

We will be conducting a short survey of all the registered MRC volunteers by the end of April. This will help our MRC unit in numerous ways. Our goals are to determine what our "typical" volunteer looks like (in regards to demographic characteristics), what motivations they have for volunteering, and what barriers are present to volunteering when opportunities are available. The results of this survey will allow us to identify weaknesses and gaps in our volunteer base, improve the volunteer experience during responses, as well as assist us in attempting to help remove obstacles to volunteering and improve our responses. Please keep an eye open for more information in the near future!

### What is: The Leadership Team

In an effort to give all volunteers a better understanding of what our volunteer TEAMS actually do, each newsletter will describe activities for one of the teams.

Our leadership team meets on a monthly basis (either in person or via conference call) and consists of just over 30 individuals. The team comes up with trainings for the unit, manages volunteer projects, assists with database activities, acts as leadership staff at all major full scale exercises, helps with special projects (including grants and plan writing) and helps plan and implement the annual central Ohio volunteer training summit. Leadership volunteers receive additional MRC identifying items including polo shirts and more. If this sounds like something you are interested please contact Tessa at [tessafite@franklincountyohio.gov](mailto:tessafite@franklincountyohio.gov)

### National Preparedness Month Committee

September is National Preparedness Month and this year the FC&C MRC would like to create a committee to oversee activities to promote personal and community preparedness . This group will begin to meet in July and decide what activities the FC&C MRC will be involved in this fall as well as manage those events during the month of September. We would like a variety of expertise and background on this committee. To sign up for the committee (or for more questions ) please contact Tessa or Trent at [mrc@franklincountyohio.gov](mailto:mrc@franklincountyohio.gov)

## The Numbers: Have it!

From January 2015-March 2015

- We participated in 11 different training and volunteer opportunities.
- We engaged over 450 volunteers
- We welcomed 10 new volunteers to our unit!