

Fairfax Medical Reserve Corps Needs Volunteers

Are you willing to help your community during a public health emergency? Here is an opportunity!

The Fairfax County Health Department, in cooperation with the Fairfax County Citizen Corps Council, is recruiting volunteers for the Fairfax Medical Reserve Corps (MRC). To date, approximately 3,600 medical and non-medical volunteers have signed up and are receiving training on emergency preparedness and response.

The all-volunteer MRC is designed to augment the capacity of the public health system in response to large scale events related to bioterrorism or natural, widespread epidemics. During a public health emergency, MRC volunteers will staff dispensing sites where vaccinations or medications will be provided to the county's 1.2 million residents, usually at a local high school. To accomplish this, many volunteers are needed. Despite the name of the program, the majority of the volunteers needed for the Medical Reserve Corps are individuals without a medical background.

Especially needed are seasoned, experienced managers to fill MRC leadership positions, including Incident Coordinator, Deputy Incident Coordinator, Branch director, Logistics Section Chiefs, and Safety Officers. All volunteers will receive the necessary training to fulfill their responsibilities.

Representatives of the Fairfax MRC are available to present information about the program and Fairfax County's public health emergency response plan to community organizations. To request a presentation, please contact Dianne Quebral, MRC Coordinator, via e-mail at Dianne.Quebral@fairfaxcounty.gov or by calling on 703-246-8641, TTY 703-591-6435.

Those wishing to volunteer may register directly online at www.fairfaxmrc.org, or by calling 703-246-8641, TTY 703-591-6435.