

Medical Reserve Corps

Harford County MRC



What is the Medical Reserve Corps?

The Medical Reserve Corps (MRC) was founded after President George W. Bush's 2002 State of the Union Address in which he asked all Americans to volunteer in support of their Country. The Harford County Medical Reserve Corps (HCMRC) was established in 2005 to organize and utilize volunteers, medical professionals and others, who want to donate their time and expertise to promote healthy living throughout the year and to prepare for and respond to emergencies. HCMRC volunteers supplement existing local emergency and public health resources.

What can MRC volunteers do?

- Assist local hospitals and the health department with surge personnel needs.
- Participate in mass prophylaxis and vaccination exercises and community disaster drills.
- Respond to natural or man-made disasters.
- Train with local emergency response partners.

Who can volunteer?

Volunteers can be anyone who wants to assist during a health or medical emergency in Harford County. You do not need to have any health education to volunteer.

However, the following volunteer skill sets are always needed: Clerical, Nurses, EMT's, Dentists, Clergy, Pharmacists, Social Workers, Mental Health, Administrative, Veterinarians, Morticians, Interpreters, Physicians, Security.

What can you expect from the MRC?

By being a part of the Harford County Medical Reserve Corps, you can expect:

- to serve the emergency public health needs of your community
- to receive training in emergency and disaster management through the state MD Responds program
- to be assigned volunteer duties that match your background, skills, and expertise

What does the MRC expect from you?

Volunteers must be willing to respond to an emergency in the Harford County area on short notice, both during and after normal work hours or on weekends. When deployed, volunteers should have their own transportation to the staging site and may have to work under stressful conditions and adverse environments. Volunteers must be willing to work as part of a specialized team and attend some training. Volunteers must conduct themselves in a professional manner that instills the trust and confidence of the public and the emergency services community.

Volunteer Recruitment Process:

- Open to anyone 18 years of age or older
- Visit the state MD Responds website to submit your application (mdresponds.dhmfh.maryland.gov)
- Successfully complete orientation training
- Keep your volunteer profile up to date
- Sign the state liability and confidentiality policies
- Follow procedures to obtain your ID badge
- Remain free of felony and serious misdemeanor convictions

For more information, contact Lisa Swank by phone at 410-877-1028 or by email at lisa.swank@maryland.gov.