

# Massachusetts Medical Reserve Corps



## Best Practices Conference

March 20, 2007 | Best Western Royal Plaza | Marlborough, MA

The Massachusetts Department of Public Health is sponsoring a statewide Medical Reserve Corps (MRC) **"Best Practices Conference"** on **March 20, 2007** at the Best Western Royal Plaza in Marlborough, MA from 9 AM to 4 PM. This conference is open to MRC unit directors, coordinators, volunteers and members of the Massachusetts public health coalitions.

This conference will provide a unique opportunity for MRC leaders to share techniques for volunteer recruitment, training, unit activation and volunteer retention. It will also allow MRC subcommittees that have been meeting throughout the year to share recommended standards on issues like badging, data management, training and credentialing with the larger group. The public health coalitions will learn more about the many skills and services that MRC units can offer in times of public health and community need.

*Space will be limited to three individuals per MRC unit. Please respond as soon as you receive your registration form, which was emailed separately. If you did not receive the registration form, please email Regan Checchio at [rcheccio@reginavilla.com](mailto:rcheccio@reginavilla.com).*

**Registration deadline is March 2nd.**

*"You'll receive more than you give and in the process you'll learn ways to assist in handling emergency situations in your community."*

– Trudy Cohen, member of the Brookline MRC

*"Medical professionals need all the help they can get from great volunteers."*

– Harriet "Belle" Dyer, member of the Franklin County MRC



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## PRELIMINARY AGENDA

- 8:15 AM Registration & Poster Display Setup
- 9:00 – 9:30 AM Opening Remarks – Special Guest Speakers
- 9:30 – 10:30 AM **KEYNOTE:** *Joseph J. Leonard, Jr., LCDR, USCG, Chief, Response Department, USCG Marine Safety Unit Galveston*
- 10:45 – 11:45 AM **MASSACHUSETTS MRC BEST PRACTICES PANEL:**
- Credentialing Recommendations
  - Badging Committee Recommendations
  - Data Management Committee Recommendations
  - Training Resources
- 12:00 – 1:00 PM **BREAKOUT SESSION 1:**
- MSAR—the Massachusetts System for Advance Registration of Volunteer Health Professionals—What is it? How Will it Work with MRCs?** *Amy Kirkwood, DPH*
- Forming an MRC** *Liisa Jackson, Region 4A MRC*
- Distance Learning Training** *Brad Cohen, DelValle Institute for Emergency Preparedness & Brian Mazmanian, Boston MRC*
- Community Investment: The Critical Nature of a Community Advisory Group in a Faith-based Model MRC**  
*Cheryl Bushnell, RN, MS, Cape Cod MRC; Lt. Peter Benson, Dennis Police Department; Mary Devlin, RN, Cape Cod Visiting Nurse Association; Terence Hayes, RS, CHO, Dennis Health Department; Mary Cachrie, Senior Corps; Moderator: Michael Whalen, Dennis Chief of Police*
- Liability Protections for Volunteers** *Priscilla Fox, DPH*
- Call-Down Procedures** *Scott Kenfield, DPH*
- MRC 101** *Jennifer Frenette, Medical Reserve Corps Program, Regional Coordinator*
- 1:00 – 1:45 PM Lunch
- 1:45 – 2:15 PM Poster Display
- 2:15 – 3:15 PM **BREAKOUT SESSION 2:**
- MSAR—the Massachusetts System for Advance Registration of Volunteer Health Professionals—What is it? How Will it Work with MRCs?** *Amy Kirkwood, DPH*
- Home Preparedness 101** *Alison Minkoff, Region 4B MRC & Garrett Simonsen, Region 4B MRC*
- The Basis of Sustaining a Successful MRC** *Liisa Jackson, Region 4A MRC & Dawn Sibor, Brookline MRC*
- Large Scale Drills** *Bryan Eustis, 4b Subregion 3 MRC*
- Partnering** *Chief Kevin Gallagher, Acushnet Fire Dept. & Louise Donaghy, RN, Greater New Bedford MRC*
- Katrina Response: Inside Scoop from Volunteer Leaders at the Cape Cod MRC** *Rev. Tom Clark, Cape Cod MRC (CCMRC); Ralph Marotti, CCMRC; Judy Scarifile, RPh, CCMRC; Rev. Connie Bickford, CCMRC; Judy Lavigniac, NP, CCMRC*
- State Behavioral Health Resources** *Liam Seward, DMH*
- 3:15 – 3:45 PM **LESSONS LEARNED PANEL:** *Cheryl Bushnell, Cape Cod MRC; Sandy Collins, Upper Merrimack Valley MRC; Dawn Josefski, Franklin County MRC*
- 3:45 – 4:00 PM Closing Remarks