



MRC NEWSLETTER

FALL EDITION



POD OPERATIONS TRAINING

We are happy to host MRC Volunteers again by providing this essential basic training. All our “in-person” trainings were placed on hold during the pandemic. We are delighted to host and train our MRC volunteers once again. We are also so happy to meet you all in person. Many volunteers deployed during COVID-19 without receiving our basic POD training or orientation. We are so happy to meet every one of you.

(continued on page

TABLE OF CONTENTS

POD Ops Training • P. 1 - 2

MRC STRRONG Grant • P. 3

State vs County Registration •
P. 4

MRC In Person Training •
P. 5 - 6

NDMS & Airport Exercise •
P. 7 - 8

Holiday Safety Tips • P. 9 - 10

Coming Soon • P. 11

New Website • P. 12

New MRC Shirts • P. 13

Help at our Schools • P. 14

MRCs National Network
Profile • P. 15

In Memoriam • P. 16

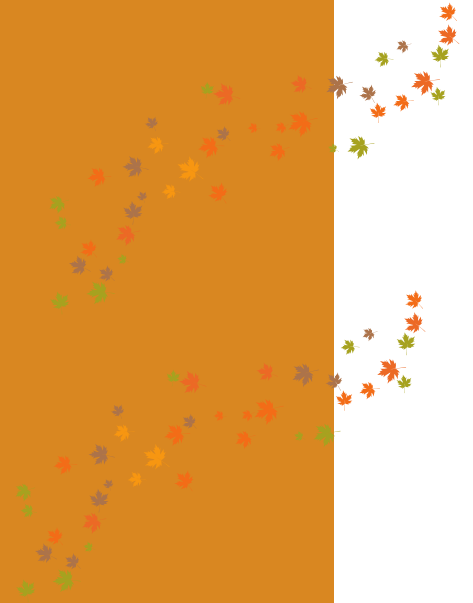
POD Operations Training

Speaking of PODs...

December 16th, 2020, will mark 3 years since our first vaccine rollout in Maricopa County. Shortly after, we embarked on distributing vaccines to the public on a mass scale, AKA a POD. That was our first experience working in a POD for many of us. Shortly after Maricopa County Public Health stood up many PODs. Many of you remember helping our MRC during COVID response at the following locations:

- Sun City West
- State Fairgrounds
- Abrazo
- GCU
- Chandler Community College

(Please NOTE if you worked at the Glendale Stadium or Metro Center, you were not volunteering or deployed with MCDPH-MRC, but we are happy you are with us for our future response efforts)





MRC STTRONG GRANT - Update

The Maricopa County Medical Reserve Corps is actively participating in the STTRONG Grant, a collaborative initiative involving State and County Medical Reserve Corps throughout Arizona. Arizona will be receiving \$2 million dollars from this grant to help build MRC capacity throughout the state. This grant is a result of the great success of MRC response during COVID-19. This concerted effort aims to elevate emergency preparedness and response capabilities within local communities. The project assembles volunteers, fostering engagement in activities that empower them to respond proficiently to potential challenges in their respective areas. The overarching objective is to fortify, reinforce, and amplify the capacity of the Medical Reserve Corps, ultimately leading to enhanced outcomes for the community.

As the lead entity for the grant, Maricopa County plays a pivotal role in providing support to MRC units in their initial stages of establishing as an MRC unit or offering valuable insights to other MRCs seeking to gain experience and expertise. Throughout the grant duration, all participating MRCs will collaborate to form a coalition, standardizing practices to ensure continuity and effectiveness across the entire spectrum of MRCs in the state. This cohesive approach is geared towards creating a unified and robust front in addressing emergency situations and contributing to the overall resilience of Arizona's communities.

ESAR-VHP state registration system vs. MCDPH Volunteer Registration

During the pandemic response, some of our volunteers deployed through the statewide volunteer registration called “ESAR-VHP”. This is the Arizona Emergency System for the Advance Registration of Volunteer Health Professionals. We would like our MCDPH MRC folks to know that if you are deployed or sign up through that system, you are not covered by our “Risk Trust” liability for injury, malpractice, or workers comp. In order to be covered under the Maricopa County Risk Trust, you must sign up through our Sign Up Genius for our MCDPH opportunities via our MCDPH website or via Sign Up Genius link. For questions or clarity, please contact Cindy.Bitcon@maricopa.gov.

[MCDPH-Medical Reserve Corps \(signupgenius.com\)](https://signupgenius.com)

[Volunteers Building Strong, Healthy, and Prepared Communities | Maricopa County, AZ](#)

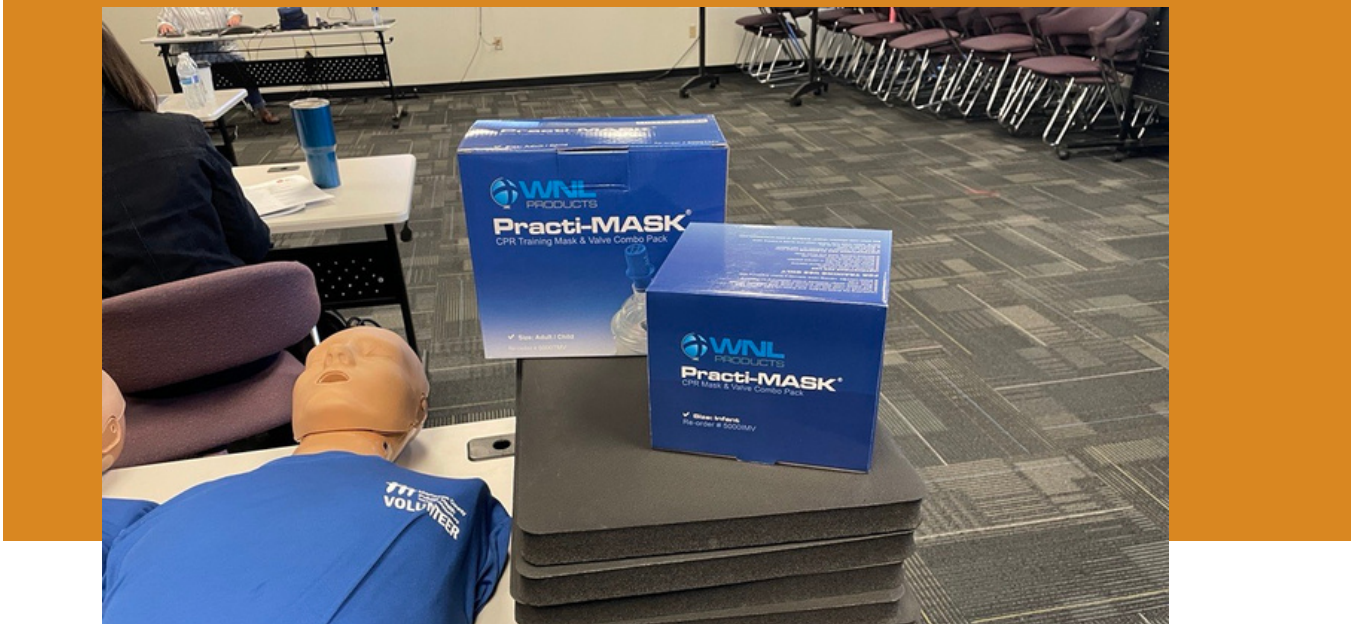
[Go to getinvolvedmaricopa.org](https://getinvolvedmaricopa.org)

MRC In-Person Training

The Medical Reserve Corps is under the Office of Preparedness and Response within the Maricopa County Department of Public Health. Our purpose is to be prepared in case of a public health emergency. To do so, we must invest in our volunteers and ensure they are trained and have the correct tools to help serve the public. We offer the following in-person trainings:

CPR
BLS
POD Operations Training
Mental Health First Aid
ILIVED Active Shooter Training
Stop the Bleed
Cultural Competency
Vaccine Hesitancy
Health Equity
Immunization Trainings
Incident Command FEMA
Trainings
And so much more...

MRC In-Person Training

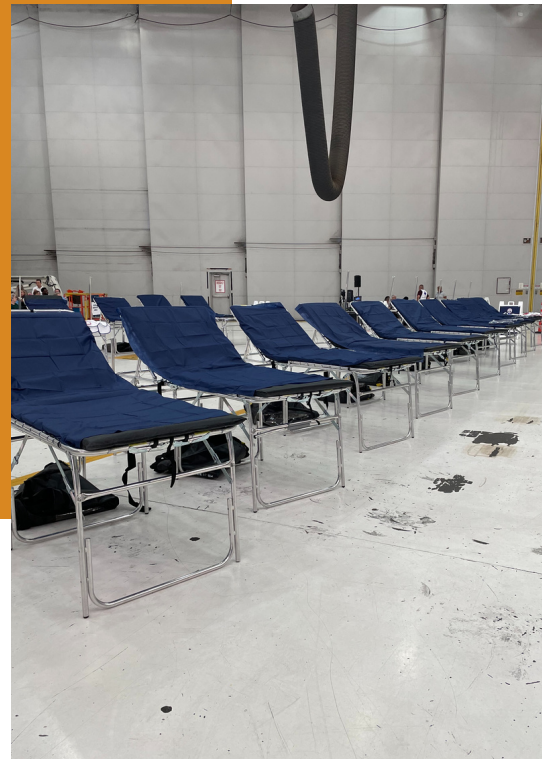


National Defense Medical System and Tri-Annual Airport Exercise

We want to thank the over 130 MRC volunteers who participated in this two-day event, which only occurs every three years. Both exercises were well attended, and if we could, we would have added more slots! If you could not attend, the first exercise was a scenario where people were evacuated by aircraft from another city to Phoenix. The second exercise was in the evening, and that scenario was a plane crash. Sounds dramatic? Sure does, but they are all very possible scenarios that can happen. Here are some pictures from the exercise.



National Defense Medical System and Tri-Annual Airport Exercise



Holiday Safety Tips from the Red Cross

Check all holiday light cords to ensure they aren't frayed or broken.

1. Don't string too many strands of lights together—no more than three per extension cord.
2. If you are buying an artificial tree, look for the fire-resistant label. When putting it up, keep it away from fireplaces, radiators and other sources of heat.
3. If getting a live tree, make sure it's fresh and water it to keep it fresh. Bend the needles up and down to make sure no needles fall off.
4. If using older decorations, check their labels. Some older tinsel is lead-based. If using angel hair, wear gloves to avoid irritation. Avoid breathing in artificial snow.



Holiday Safety Tips from the Red Cross (continued)

5. When decorating outside, make sure decorations are for outdoor use and fasten lights securely to your home or trees. If using hooks or nails outside, make sure they are insulated to avoid an electrocution or fire hazard.
6. If using a ladder, be extra careful. Make sure to have good, stable placement and wear shoes that allow for good traction.
7. Don't use electric lights on metallic trees.
8. Don't forget to turn off all holiday lights when going to bed or leaving the house.
9. Keep children, pets and decorations away from candles.
10. If hanging stockings on the fireplace mantel, don't light the fireplace.



Coming Soon...

Volunteer Orientation Video

We are excited to announce our upcoming Volunteer Orientation Video premiering in early 2024. This video has been months in the making as the camera crew tries to capture all of our events, training, and outreach. In the meantime, here are some pictures of your MRC team as they prepare for their part...Ready, Lights, Camera, Action...



MRC has a new look... Website, that is.

Come check out the new website. We have made it easier to engage, learn more about MRC, and sign up for our events.

Go to getinvolvedmaricopa.org

The screenshot shows the homepage of the Maricopa County Medical Reserve Corps website. At the top left is the Maricopa County logo. To its right are navigation links: "I Want To...", "Services", and "Departments". A search bar is located on the right side of the header. The main heading reads "VOLUNTEERS BUILDING STRONG, HEALTHY, AND PREPARED COMMUNITIES". Below this is a welcome message for public health volunteers and a brief description of the MRC. To the right of the text are two logos: the "medical reserve corps" logo featuring a blue star and the Maricopa County Department of Public Health logo. Three main action buttons are displayed in a row: "Join the Maricopa County MRC" with a group icon, "Volunteer Opportunities for Active Members" with a document and person icon, and "Download the Volunteer Handbook" with a document and download arrow icon. A section titled "Who should sign up?" follows, containing a list of criteria for volunteers and a note about age requirements. A photograph of two people, one wearing a face mask, is shown to the right of the text. At the bottom right, there is a "Select Language" dropdown menu and a Google Translate icon.

MARICOPA COUNTY

I Want To... Services Departments

Search

VOLUNTEERS BUILDING STRONG, HEALTHY, AND PREPARED COMMUNITIES

Welcome Maricopa County Public Health Volunteers

The Medical Reserve Corps (MRC) is a community-based, civilian, volunteer program that helps build the public health infrastructure of communities nationwide. Each MRC unit is organized and trained to address a wide range of challenges from public health education to disaster response.

medical reserve corps

Maricopa County
Department of Public Health
Office of Preparedness & Response

Join the Maricopa County MRC

Volunteer Opportunities for Active Members

Download the Volunteer Handbook

Who should sign up?

The Maricopa County Department of Public Health Medical Reserve Corps (MRC) is recruiting **medical and non-medical volunteers** to assist our community and aid in our mission to make healthy lives possible.

- If you are medically certified to provide routine vaccinations (RN, MD, EMT, Paramedic, etc.) with a current license in good-standing and would like to assist, [please register to volunteer](#).
- If you do not have medical certification and just want to HELP us during this time, we have plenty of opportunities for non-medical general support. For examples of volunteer roles, see the sign-up link above.

You must be 18 years or older to volunteer with us. Once you have completed your volunteer registration and it has been processed, you will receive an email with instructions on how to volunteer and our current volunteer opportunities.

If you have questions about volunteering and need further assistance, please contact: 602-506-6767 or email MRCVolunteer@maricopa.gov.

Select Language

Google Translate

NEW MRC Shirts

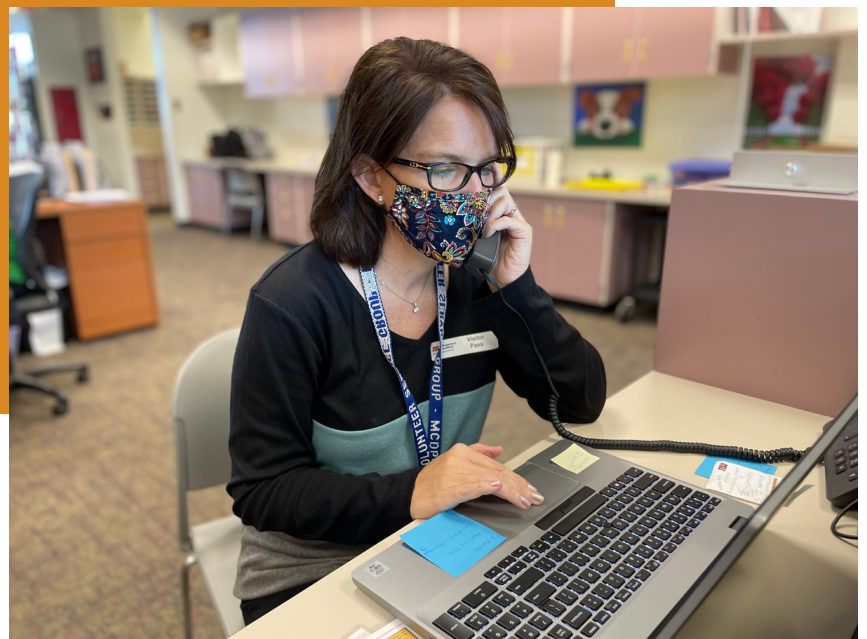
MRC has new shirts. You may have noticed that Maricopa County has updated its logo. When an organization changes its logo and moves to a new branding, there is a trickle-down effect to identify every item needing an updated logo. One of those items is our volunteer shirts. If you have a shirt with an old logo, please do not donate to any organization. We ask you to return the old one for a new shirt at 4041 N Central, 8 th Floor, and we will give you a new one. Don't forget to bring your parking ticket so we can validate it.



Help At Our Schools

As schools lean on volunteers to assist them with data entry, immunization outreach, and organizing we are so grateful to all those volunteers that have stepped up to help.

If you do not have a current fingerprint clearance card and wish to help, we do have a signup for those schools that do not require them. Please click our “Volunteer Opportunities for Active Members” to check out the latest schools that you can help at.



HOT OFF THE PRESS

MRC's National Profile

This report highlights all of the grant work MRCs are doing all over the nation. Click [here](#) to see our amazing volunteers featured on page 22.

2022 NETWORK PROFILE
20TH ANNIVERSARY

YOU ARE HEROES

**THE MEDICAL
RESERVE CORPS**
**TWO DECADES
OF SERVICE**

medical
reserve
corps

NACCHO
National Association of County & City Health Officials

In Memoriam

Tracy Hook 1949 - 2023

The MRC Volunteer management staff are deeply saddened by the passing of one of our dedicated volunteers. Ms Tracy Hook has been an active member of our MRC since 2018 and has assisted us with everything from HEP A response to COVID PODs and beyond. We will miss her sunny disposition and her deep commitment to our community.

