

NH MRC Meeting  
February 12, 2010  
Meeting Minutes

Attendance: Curtis Metzger (HSEM), Alyson Cobb (CHI, recorder), Mary Reed (Capital Area MRC), Steve Allen (Upper Valley MRC), Jim Richardson (Franklin/Bristol MRC), Donna Quinn (Plymouth MRC), Garrett Simonsen (Derry MRC), Gene Heighton (Nashua MRC), Carlene Ferrier and Theresa Kennett (Carroll County MRC), Shawna Carpenter (Sullivan County MRC), Eileen Fernandes (Monadnock MRC), Brita Nettleton (Manchester MRC), Michelle Whiteneck (Lakes Region MRC), Rich Hanegan (Pelham MRC), Samantha Brann (Strafford County MRC), Jennifer Frenette (OCVMRC)

Phone attendance: James Sides (Exeter, URS), Bill Demers (Northern NH MRC), Mariah Capurso (Upper Valley MRC)

15 of 16 MRC Units represented- thanks to all those who participated!

**Meeting Minutes:**

**Jennifer Frenette- National Update** (Jen will be sending out talking points soon)

- **MRC organization**
  - MRC under Presidential Homeland Security Declaration 21
  - Within office of Surgeon General (Dr. Benjamin)- report to committee on homeland security
  - 873 units, 200,000 volunteers, 85% of population covered, 64% of geography covered
  - Not originally state based
  - 4 started, then state bought in and incorporated with PHN
  - State coordinators retrofitted in
  - Mission is still community based
- **Profile update**
  - Jurisdiction by town or county
  - Make sure name is consistent
- Branding- people are starting to recognize MRC
- National strategic plan on website, each unit should have their own
- HOSA (Health Occupation Students of America) annual event with MRC- competitions projects
  - Carroll County MRC is partnering with HOSA to present MRC info around county and ½ hour TV spot promoting both organizations
- **NACCHO cooperative agreement**
  - Originally 168 units were competing for MRC money
  - MRC became more popular, more units started, regional coordinators added → not enough money
  - Partnered with NACCHO- money for publicity, logistics, etc.
  - NACCHO grant- typically due mid-September
  - Travel stipends for regional and national meetings
    - Nashville in May (May 12-24 regular conference, May 15 post-conference trainings)
    - Regional conference in fall, probably in Massachusetts this fall
      - This year, will be coordinating with MMRS, ASPR, etc.
- **Sustainability**

- Need to make MRC units sustainable, never know when money will go away
- Units should eventually be able to fund themselves
- **H1N1 recognition**
  - Certificates and pins for those who reported activities
- **Future funding streams**
  - There will likely be money in smoking cessation and physical activity in the future
- **Haiti**
  - There are 123 MRC volunteers trained for deployment, but only within the country
  - Samantha knows of a non-medical group sending people if anyone is interested
    - Called Hands On Disaster Response (<http://hodr.org/>)
    - Based out of Boston
    - Focused on long-term recovery

## Unit Updates

- **Carroll County MRC**
  - Partnering with HOSA for publicity and ½ hour TV segment
  - Working on recruitment strategic plan- currently meeting with EMDs
- **Sullivan County MRC**
  - Looking for funding
  - Initiating partnership with HOSA
- **Strafford County MRC**
  - Teaching CERT as elective at local high school
    - Includes CERT training, ICS, Sheltering, public health response, visiting 911 call center
    - 18 students and 5 faculty are enrolled
- **Nashua MRC**
  - Met with Denise Krohl- sent out Communicator e-mail
  - Getting those who don't want on Communicator list, off MRC list
- **Derry MRC**
  - Working with National Kidney Foundation- screening health fair in May
- **Plymouth MRC**
  - New, few volunteers
  - MOA with Franklin/Bristol MRC (see below)
- **Franklin/Bristol MRC**
  - MOA with Plymouth for training, recruitment, and bulk purchasing
  - Do MRC and CERT orientation on same day- choose which one you join
- **Upper Valley MRC**
  - Orientation- 16 new members (RNs, LPNs, EMTs, logistics)
  - Formalizing organization structure
    - Partnering with hospital for 501(c)3 status and liability
    - Considering making LLC between MRC and hospital
- **Capital Area MRC**
  - Mary just started working with MRC
  - Goals: restructuring and recruitment
- **Pelham MRC**
  - Working on COAD with Ariel
  - February 18<sup>th</sup>- AHA CPR Anytime- can buy online (CD and mannequins)
    - Will be placing at public library to be checked out
    - Will be keeping records and statistics on it

- February 27, 9am-2pm
  - Event at Chunky's Cinema- movies showing, recruitment, anyone can have a booth
- **Lakes Region MRC**
  - Michelle is just getting up to speed
  - Working on recruitment
- **Manchester MRC**
  - Sent mailing to 3000 nurses (just RNs and NPs)
    - 400 registered on website
    - Brita will send out letter
    - Stuffed envelopes and gave to Curtis, Curtis got labels from board and sent out
  - Having orientation on Tuesday- 35 people registered
- **Monadnock MRC**
  - Had 27 members help at clinics, total of 250 hours of service
  - Sheltering and CERT trainings coming up
  - Table to women's health expo
- **Northern NH MRC**
  - Dozen new members through H1N1
  - Trainings for EMS and MRC- CPR and First AID- MOUR for 2 classes/year
  - Certificates with volunteer hours
  - HOSA students also helped out
  - Work with hospital for trainings
  - Trouble verifying some EMS licenses- national registry online does not actually indicate active license
    - From Alyson's license research this fall, have to get in touch with each individual agency
- **Exeter MRC**
  - Applied as a new unit
  - Developing website, manual, etc.

#### **Criminal Record Checks** (form attached)

- HSEM will be billed
- Individual form will need to be attached to criminal record request forms indicating they are MRC volunteers
- 1 or 2 people from each unit will be authorized to sign (should have already sent Curtis these)
- So three forms: record check request form, reduced fee form, and MRC form
- Motor vehicle checks? Curtis will look in to

#### **Getting Volunteers on the Communicator** (see attached Excel sheet)

- Get yellow info in excel sheet, Denise Krohl will e-mail volunteers for them to fill in rest of information
- Gene has sample e-mail with what he sent out to his volunteers

#### **Common Badging**

- Looked at sample badges (attached)
- Key elements?
- Color code to match ESAR-VHP system according to profession/training
- Those units with badges and Alyson will coordinate to discuss main elements/lessons learned and report back

## **MRC Training Conference**

- 2 will be help: Manchester and Plymouth
- Official dates TBD (now Manchester April 17<sup>th</sup> and Plymouth June 5<sup>th</sup>)
- Choose shorter schedule with short speaker, 1 2-hour training block, and 1 4-hour training block (with 2 and 4 hour trainings)
- Registration- paper and TRAIN
- Babysitters?