

West Texas MRC

Orientation Session



*West Texas Medical
Reserve Corps*



June 7, 2007 or June 9, 2007

WELCOME!!

**Thanks for Caring Enough to
Become Prepared to Assist Our
Community in the Event of A Disaster!**



*West Texas Medical
Reserve Corps*



Introductions



*West Texas Medical
Reserve Corps*



Activity Overview

- General Session
 - Announcements
 - Overview of West Texas MRC
- Breakouts
 - Computer Stations
 - National MRC Update
 - El Paso County Disaster Plan
 - Community Resources
 - Networking and Refreshments
- Conclusion



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Community Health & Disaster Preparedness

Objectives:

At the completion of this activity, you will be able to:

- Complete application and credentialing as a MRC member
- Discuss the key components of the plan for emergency response in West Texas
- Identify regional resources and partners for disaster response
- Discuss the role of the MRC in responding to emergency events.
- Identify emergency response needs in relating to disasters, terrorism, and pandemic events.



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West Texas MRC

Overview



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Mission Statement

- The mission of the West Texas Medical Reserve Corps is to enhance the regional response capabilities in the event of an emergency, disaster or disease outbreak by providing a coordinated response using locally recruited medical, behavioral health, public health, and health support volunteers. The Medical Reserve Corps will also work to improve the overall health, preparedness, and well-being of the region.



Medical Reserve Corps

- The Medical Reserve Corps program is sponsored by the Office of the Surgeon General, in cooperation with the White House's USA Freedom Corps and the Department of Homeland Security's Citizen Corps



West Texas MRC

- Approved and officially registered in November 2006
- Intent to form a collaborative with the Southern NM Medical Reserve Corps
- Geographic area: El Paso, Hudspeth, and Culberson Counties



Why West Texas?

- Hurricane events of 2005—Katrina/Rita evacuees
- Storm 2006
- Geographical isolation
- Border location



Credibility and Quality

- Based upon recent experiences, it was determined that West Texas needed an MRC that could integrate with two major components
 - Public Health
 - Emergency Management
- Yet be a community-based organization
 - Linkage with Far West Texas & Southern New Mexico Advisory Council on Trauma



Primary Goals

- Identify, train, and credential volunteers to assist in response to a disaster, including natural and man-made events (including bio-terrorism).
- Utilize the MRC members to educate the community on preparedness for both terrorist and naturally occurring events (natural disaster, pandemic flu, etc.)



Who is Included?

- Medical and public health professionals such as physicians, nurses, pharmacists, dentists, veterinarians.....
- Interpreters, chaplains, office workers, legal advisors.....
- Almost everyone can be included!



What can MRC Volunteers Do?

- Support local public health initiatives
- Advance priorities of Surgeon General
 - Promoting disease prevention
 - Improving health literacy
 - Eliminating health disparities
 - Enhancing public health preparedness
- Assist with medical surge
- Participate in mass immunizations
- Train with emergency response partners



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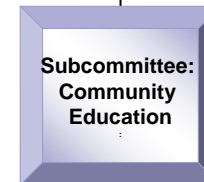
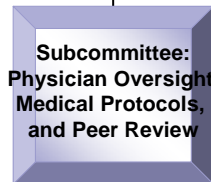
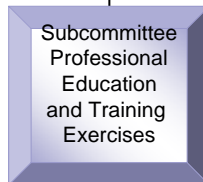
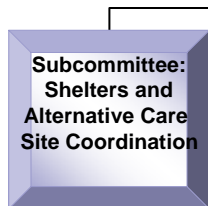
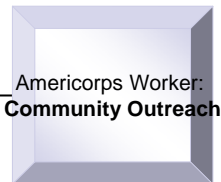
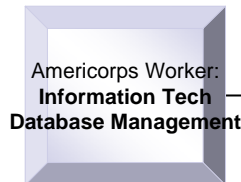


West Texas Medical Reserve Corps

MRC Coordinator
 EOM Director
 WT&SNMRAC Director
 EPCCHED Representative
 EMS Medical Director
 Subcommittee Chairs
 Liaison: Southern NM MRC



(Credentials Verification, General Oversight,
 Recruitment, Grant Project Oversight, Planning, Evaluation)



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Steering Committee

■ Role:

- Credentials Verification
- General Oversight
- Recruitment
- Grant Project Oversight
- Planning
- Evaluation

■ Members:

- MRC Coordinator
- EOM Director
- WT&SNMRAC CEO
- EPCCHED Representative
- EMS Medical Director
- Subcommittee Chairs
- Liaison: Southern NM MRC



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MRC Subcommittees

- Physician Oversight, Medical Protocols, & Peer Review
- Professional Education & Training Exercises
- Shelters & Alternative Care Site Coordination
- Resource Development/Grants
- Community Education
- Volunteer Integration/Strategic National Stockpile
- Recruitment



Activities

- Unit approval
- Information flyers, brochures
- Meetings with governmental, community, and professional agencies
- Participation in national and regional activities
- Working draft volunteer handbook



Activities (continued)

- Web site (www.westtexasmrc.org)
 - Calendar of upcoming related activities
 - Linkages
 - Information resources
- Unit information on national web site (www.medicalreservecorps.gov)
- National Association of City and County Health Officials grant
- United Way/AmeriCorps Disaster Preparedness Grant



Organizations/Agencies

- American Red Cross-El Paso Chapter
- El Paso City & County Emergency Management
- El Paso City-County Health & Environmental District
- El Paso County Medical Association
- El Paso Oral Health Commission
- El Paso County Sheriff's Office
- El Paso Community College
- El Paso District Dental Society
- Emergency Medical Services/El Paso Fire Department
- Far West Texas & Southern New Mexico Regional Advisory Council on Trauma
- Rio Grande Council of Governments
- Metropolitan Medical Response System
- Texas Tech University-El Paso
- University of Texas at El Paso
- United Way of El Paso
- And others ...hospitals, professional organizations, long term care facilities, and the community



Future MRC Activities

- Credentials—licensure verification and background checks
- Continued recruitment of volunteers
- Education of healthcare professionals—disaster preparedness, special terminology/acronyms
- Adoption of National Core Competencies
- Community education in disaster preparedness and preventative health issues
- Development of cooperative agreements with governmental and community agencies
- Clarify Liability Issues
- Training exercises/drills
- “Activation”—a real event that we hope never happens



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