March 2014

Dear U of M Medical Reserve Corps Member,

AHC Office of Emergency Response Staff (AHC-OER) as well as some MRC members participated in a multi-agency light rail emergency preparedness exercise this past week. MRC members served in the role of victims. AHC-OER staff took part in the Emergency Operations Center deliberations.

In campus incidents involving multiple casualties, the Medical Reserve Corps could be utilized in many ways, including providing psychological support to the victims as well as the family and friends of the victims.

Please check out the PsySTART training opportunity described below. This training will introduce MRC members to a psychological triage strategy used during disasters and emergencies.

Warm regards,

Kathy Hite Berlin RN, PHN
U of M MRC Coordinator

1. Safety on Campus

Do you know what you would do if you encountered someone with a gun on campus? A University Minnesota Police Department officer will talk about how best to respond to an armed assailant. The 5 OUT’s for Your Safety are described in the presentation.

Date: Thursday, March 27

Time: 12:00pm-1:00pm

Location: St. Paul Campus Animal Science/Vet Med Bldg, Room 135

Participants: Open to MRC members and all students, staff, and faculty with the AHC

To Register: Send an email to medicalreserve@umn.edu. Please RSVP by Tuesday, March 25. Preregistration required.
Additional Information: Light Lunch will be served.

OR

Date: Tuesday, April 1

Time: 12:00pm-1:00pm

Location: Minneapolis Campus-Moos Tower, Room 2-690

Participants: Open to MRC members and all students, staff, and faculty within the AHC

To Register: Send an email to medicalreserve@umn.edu. RSVP by Sunday, March 30. Preregistration Required.

Additional Information: Light lunch will be offered.

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2. Pharmaceutical Repackaging Team Training

The U of MN MRC is seeking additional members for its Pharmaceutical Repackaging Team. This team has been formed at the request of the Minnesota Department of Health. Antibiotics are stored in large bulk quantities for use during a public health emergency. Those antibiotics need to be repackaged into smaller individual regimens at the time of the emergency. That repackaging is the responsibility of this team.

We will review team member roles and responsibilities and practice repackaging. Membership on this team may be of particular interest to those MRC members who do not currently have a medical or health professional license.

MRC Pharmaceutical Repackaging Team video:

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CmWL_x57_ow&feature=youtu.be

Date: Wednesday, April 30

Time: 4:45pm-6:15pm

Location: Moos Tower, Room 1-451

Participants: Current Repackaging Team members who wish to practice their repackaging skills and those interested in learning more about this team.

To Register: Send an email to medicalreserve@umn.edu Please RSVP by Friday, April 25.
3. PsySTART Training: An Introduction to a new Psychological Triage System

PsySTART is a rapid mental health triage strategy used during a disaster or other emergency to quickly identify individuals who are experiencing a mental health crisis/emergency and are at risk for developing chronic mental health disorders.

Training Objectives

1. List the goals of PsySTART
2. Identify the differences between PsySTART and Psychological First Aid
3. Describe how Medical Reserve Corps members could use PsySTART during a disaster

Date: Thursday, May 1
Time: 4:45pm-6:15pm
Location: Mayo Building, Room 3-125

To Register: Send an email to medicalreserve@umn.edu, RSVP by Friday, April 25

Additional Information: A light meal will be offered.

Who should attend? All MRC members are invited to attend. May be of particular interest to members of the MRC Behavioral Health Response Strike Team.

Pre-requisite: Participants must have received Psychological First Aid Training (online or in person). You may access and complete an online course on Psychological First Aid at: http://www.naccho.org/toolbox/tool.cfm?id=1459&c=1344005014406

Class Instructor: Jonathan Bundt, MA, LMFT, Metro Hospital Compact Disaster Behavioral Health Coordinator
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