



APRIL REGION 4A MRC NEWSLETTER

The Medical Reserve Corps participation in the Boston Marathon was a huge success!

The 16 Medical Sweep Teams comprised of medical personnel, covering 13 blocks surrounding the finish line. The teams worked in small groups of 6 to 10 members triaging runners who encounter difficulties after completing the race. There was a wheelchair portion of the Sweep Team which transported runners, needing additional medical assistance using wheelchairs and Boston EMS golf carts, back to one of the medical tents.

There were over 900 runners treated in the Medical tents this year. We had 169 medical sweep team volunteers. Most were MRC volunteers integrated with veteran Medical Sweep team volunteers. This was also an opportunity for the volunteers to get a glimpse of what a Mass Casualty event would look like the vast amount of runners that need treatment in very short order replicates this situation.

The Region 4A MRC Executive Board would like to thank the entire group of MRC volunteers who worked the sweep teams. Your professionalism and dedication was amazing and we are so grateful that you participated in this event. This has fostered a powerful partnership with the Boston Marathon and they are looking forward to our participation for many years to come.

Thank you all. We are so privileged to be working with such a wonderful group of people!

National MRC Leadership Conference - presentation - Oregon

MA Region 4A is very well respected in the National MRC arena. We have shared all of our documents posted on our web-page and Thumb drives were given to all the leaders at the MRC leadership conference

Liisa Jackson represented Region 4A MRC in Oregon and reported the following:

- Partnered with Jodie Silverman, MA Medical Foundation, to present a session on MRC development. The session was very well attended and evaluations came back very positive.
- Took the Psychological First Aid Train the Trainer class and will be able to teach this very comprehensive 8 hour class to our Region 4A MRC volunteers.
- Mentored other leaders to give information about the MRC program and conference.
- Discovered many more tools to enhance the MA Region.



Core Competency Pilot program:

- MA Region 4A was asked to participate in the Core Competency pilot program by the National Program Office for MRC. We are one of the 10 MRCs chosen to participate in the Nation. They asked Region 4A MRC to participate because of the large amount of training that we offer our MRC volunteers, and because we are one of the largest MRCs in the whole country. The Core Competency pilot group was very impressed with the amount of training that has been offered to our MRC volunteers, we offered close to 100 trainings in 2007.

MRC volunteer of the month:

Please join us in honoring **Michelle Kanavos** from Marlborough Branch of the MRC. Michelle was the Medical Sweep Team Captain for the Boston Marathon. The work that she has done to promote the MRC and Boston Marathon partnership has been a huge accomplishment. We are so grateful for her hard work, leadership and protectionism. Michelle also serves as the Chair of the Marlborough Executive Committee and works for Region 4A as a Deputy Coordinator. We want to thank her for all of her hard work and dedication to the MRC!

You can nominate a volunteer of the month from your community just send Liisa Jackson an email about why they should be nominated as the volunteer of the month. We know there is so many of you out there doing amazing work in your communities!

Training Spotlight: <http://www.region4a-mrc.org/Training.php>
Bioterrorism agents

This an overview of the Category A agents, including anthrax, botulism, plague, smallpox, tularemia, and viral hemorrhagic fevers

Make a preparedness plan for you and your family:
<http://www.ready.gov> or <http://redcross.tallytown.com/t doc.html>

See the class listings on our web-page:
<http://www.region4a-mrc.org/Training.php>



MRC Flix:

Please take advantage of the library of training DVD's for our MRC volunteers
(see <http://www.region4a-mrc.org/video>)

National MRC News:

Learn more about the National MRC program that MA region 4A is part of:
<http://www.medicalreservecorps.gov/HomePage>

Ask your friends and Family to volunteer for the MRC:

If you have a friend or family member that you think would want to be a MRC volunteer have them call the local Board of Health or contact Liisa Jackson. We would love to have them as part of our team and we are always looking for more volunteers!

Thank you so much for your time and most of all thank you for volunteering for the Region 4A Medical Reserve Corps.

Liisa Jackson
MA Region 4A MRC Coordinator
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