

2018 Quarter 4



# The KC MRC Responder

Official Newsletter of the Kane County Medical Reserve Corps

Kane County Health Department is launching the first ever Kane County MRC Newsletter. This issue highlights some of the many efforts of the Kane County MRC volunteers in 2018.

In active partnership with the community, the Kane County MRC improves the well-being and safety of all residents by organizing and utilizing public health, medical, and other volunteers. The Mission of the Kane County MRC is in line with the Mission of the Kane County Health Department and the National Medical Reserve Corps

## Social Media

<https://www.linkedin.com/company/kane-county-medical-reserve-corps/>  
<https://www.facebook.com/KaneCountyMedicalReserveCorps>  
[https://www.instagram.com/kane\\_county\\_mrc](https://www.instagram.com/kane_county_mrc)

Twitter: *KaneCountyMRC / MRC123@kc*

## Links for prospective volunteers

If you are interested in becoming a volunteer or knowing more about Kane County MRC, go to <http://kanehealth.com/Pages/Medical-Reserve-Corps.aspx>



For questions regarding the Kane County MRC, contact:  
*Claudia Reginato,*  
MRC coordinator

Kane County Health Department  
Division of Community Health Resources  
1240 N. Highland Ave., Aurora, IL 60506  
(630) 444-3362  
[reginatoclaudia@co.kane.il.us](mailto:reginatoclaudia@co.kane.il.us)

*Aaron Stevens,* KCHD Emergency Response Supervisor

*Barbara Jeffers,* KCHD Executive Director

New KCHD  
Employee—  
*Welcome!*

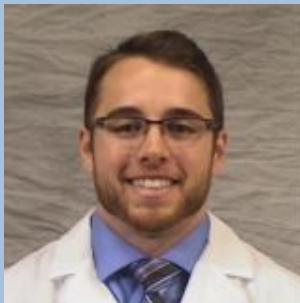


Aaron Stevens

New MRC  
Members—  
*Welcome!*



Anne Dickinson



Ben Hodges

## Kane County Health Department hires new Emergency Response Supervisor

Kane County Health Department welcomes Aaron Stevens as the new Emergency Response Supervisor. Aaron has 10 years of professional experience, with an emphasis in emergency management and program administration. Aaron started out with the Winnebago County Health Department planning logistics for H1N1 mass vaccination clinics and assisting with ICS coordination for the Health Department. As a Staff Sergeant in the Air National Guard Emergency Management section, Aaron served as a CBRNE specialist where he trained and instructed Air Force personnel in the fields of hazmat response, and Air Base CBRNE response. Aaron was employed as an Emergency Management Specialist for DuPage County OHSEM, where he designed and led HSEEP exercises, as well as wrote and reviewed Emergency Operation Plans for municipalities. Aaron then worked as a Planner/Project Manager for Tetra Tech EMI for several years writing plans, developing exercises, and serving as a responder on contracts with government agencies. Most recently, he led a community revitalization project for the City of DeKalb as the project manager. Aaron holds a Bachelors of Science in Emergency Management, a Master's in Public Administration and has been certified as Master Exercise Practitioner, and Certified Emergency Manager. Most importantly, he is happily married with two beautiful little girls, loves his Church, and is excited to be in his new role with the Kane County Health Department.

### Upcoming Trainings & Activites:

- **START/JumpSTART Triage System Training**  
January 28, 2019  
Kane County Health Department  
1240 N. Highland Ave.  
Aurora, IL 60506  
To register in this training, send an email to [reginatoclaudia@co.kane.il.us](mailto:reginatoclaudia@co.kane.il.us) or text (224)605-0453
- Animal Control- Animal Handling Principles (February 2019)
- **March into Health 2019**  
Saturday, March 2, 10 am – 1 pm  
Gail Borden Public Main Library  
270 N. Grove Ave., Elgin 60120
- MRC 101 (March 2019)
- Bloodborne Pathogen/Exposure Prevention Training (March 2019)

## Upcoming Events:

**PREPAREDNESS**  
SUMMIT

March 26-29 | St. Louis, MO  
2019

THE  
Evolving Threat  
Environment

[www.preparednesssummit.org](http://www.preparednesssummit.org)



New Orleans, LA - April 22-25, 2019  
<http://hurricanemeeting.com/>

## Articles of Interest:

Flood Insurance: Knowing When the Risk Justifies the Cost  
(NY Times, November 2018)

<https://nyti.ms/2FwDDi5>

Mass shootings as a public health crisis:

<http://newsmanager.commpartners.com/nacchomrc/issues/2018-11-14.html#0>

## Volunteer Profile—Peggy Courser



### *Why Do I Volunteer?*

Nursing is a second career for me. I got into it for the knowledge, experience and a means to support myself, but also I chose this path because it provided me a way to give back to the community. To give back in a meaningful way... As a student nurse, I was offered the opportunity to administer flu vaccinations to the community during the 2009 flu pandemic. I've stayed a volunteer for the Kane County Medical Reserve Corp since then. The safety and fitness of our public health should be a priority for all. I believe that sharing the things I've learned as a nurse and as a volunteer in the MRC help to keep our community safe.

### Volunteer Recognition

Hours worked last quarter:

*Jan Fulfs- 30.75 hrs.*

*Joan Ahlman- 28.25 hrs.*

Mileage driven:

*Suzanne Rozycki- 119.2 miles*

*Cathy Schmitt- 79 miles*





## Volunteers participate in Medical Countermeasures/POD/SNS training



*Maria Pergi, KC Emergency Response Coordinator, and volunteers during a POD training*

**Strategic National Stockpile (SNS)** is the nation's largest supply of potentially life-saving pharmaceuticals and medical supplies for use in a public health emergency severe enough to cause local supplies to run out.

When state, local, tribal, and territorial responders request federal assistance to support their response efforts, the stockpile ensures that the right medicines and supplies get to those who need them most during an emergency. Organized for scalable response to a variety of public health threats, this repository contains enough supplies to respond to multiple large-scale emergencies simultaneously.

ALICE ([Alert, Lockdown, Inform, Counter, Evacuate](#)) Training provides preparation and a plan for individuals and organizations on how to more proactively handle the threat of an aggressive intruder or active shooter event. Whether it is an attack by an individual person or by an international group of professionals intent on conveying a political message through violence, ALICE Training option based tactics have become the accepted response, versus the traditional "lockdown only" approach.

## Active Shooter/ALICE Training



*Officers of Aurora PD providing active shooter training to MRC volunteers and other members of the community at the Health Department*





*Shelter Operation Training (February 2018): Claudia Reginado, Maria Pergi, Jan Fulfs, Eileen Stocking*

### Shelter Operation Training

Although the main focus of the KC MRC is to support the Health Department in public health during emergency and non-emergency situations, it is instrumental that volunteers are prepared to fulfill roles that goes beyond typical capabilities, in order to be able to assist other emergency response agencies should an immediate need emerge. Through partnerships with Will County EMA and the American Red Cross, KC MRC volunteers were offered the opportunity to participate in a full-day training and exercise on Shelter Operation.

## Notification Drills

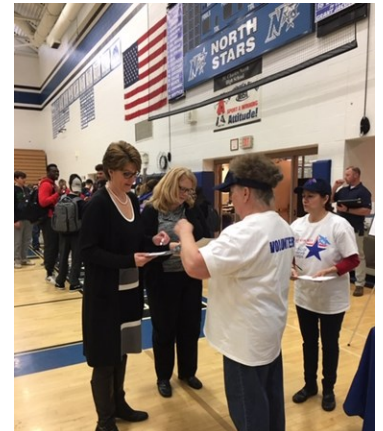
KC MRC volunteers can participate in a variety of activities throughout the year, trainings and exercises, assisting our communities with public health emergency preparedness needs. We meet every second Saturday of the month, at the Health Department, to discuss current issues, projects and upcoming activities.

*One of the key competencies that volunteer agencies have to develop, strengthen and exercise, is the ability to communicate effectively in the event of an emergency happening within our jurisdiction and/or in the neighboring area. For this reason, Kane County MRC conducts monthly notification drills to make sure that we can timely and effectively reach our volunteers, and that they know how they should respond in case they are called to help during a public health emergency.*

<i>Kane County MRC Response</i>	<i>October</i>	<i>November</i>	<i>December</i>
<b>% acknowledged message</b>	82.%	78%	100%
<b>% able to report</b>	53%	61%	63%

### 13th Annual Wellness Fair

This event, which was held in April, 2018, is organized annually to educate high school students on matters of health and safety. KC MRC volunteers participated educating students on how to make a family preparedness plan, communicating during emergencies and what a family needs for an emergency supply during these events. Students and school staff were surveyed by the volunteers regarding the level of knowledge and preparedness of their families. It was also an opportunity to promote awareness on our volunteer organization.



*Pictured above left to right: Joan Ahlman, Bill Ahlman, Jan Fulfs, Claudia Reginato and Mary Tebeau*



*Pictures right: MRC Volunteers survey participants on family preparedness*

### WellBatvia Festival May 2018

*Pictured right: Terry Burdelak and Mary Ellen Goebel give personal preparedness tips to the public*



*Pictured above: Cathy Schmitt, Jane Fulfs, and Terry Burdelak*



Plan Ahead for Disasters. Visit:  
[www.ready.gov](http://www.ready.gov)

- Be Informed
- Plan Ahead
- Take Action





**March Into Health** is an initiative supported by the City of Elgin to promote health and healthy living tips to the residents of Elgin. KC MRC participated in this event at the Gail Borden Public Library, providing basic education on basic principles of personal and family preparedness, as well as promoting the MRC and working on the recruitment of new volunteers. The public consisted mainly of library users and families with children of diverse ages.



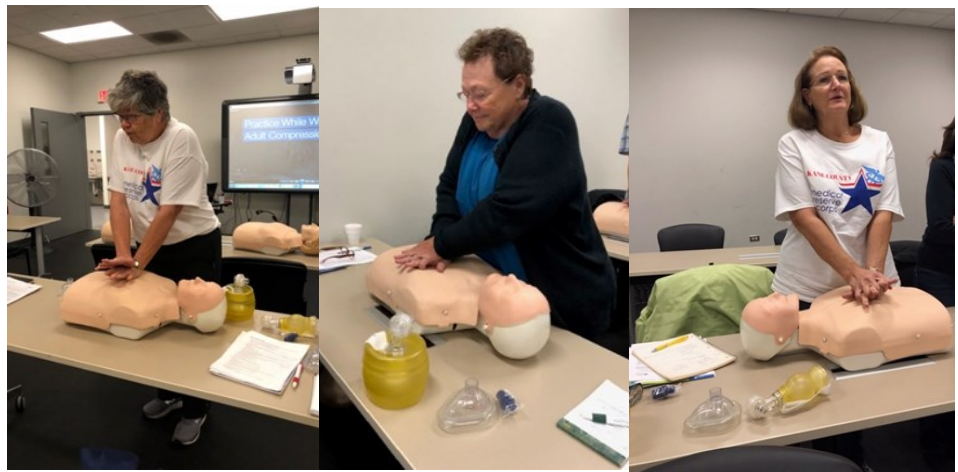
MRC Volunteer Jan Fulfs and MRC Coordinator Claudia Reginato



*According to 2014 data, nearly 45 percent of out-of-hospital cardiac arrest victims survived when bystander CPR was administered. - American Heart Association*

## CPR Training

Pictured are Kane County MRC volunteers participating in a CPR class, part of the MRC Basic Training. The class is provided by the Kane County Sheriff's Office.



MRC Volunteers: Mary Tebeau, Nancy Murphy and Teresa Burdelak

Health threats where POD may be activated:

**Exposure to Infectious Disease**

Hepatitis A in a food handler

**Infectious Disease Outbreaks**

Measles; Pandemic Influenza

**Natural Disasters**

Distribution of essential supplies (bottled water, food)

**Bioterrorism**

An intentional release (or claimed release) of a chemical or biological agent, such as Anthrax and Smallpox (and other Category A agents)

**Disease Surveillance**

A large number of ill persons or unusual illness; unexplained disease or deaths



**Hepatitis A** vaccine can prevent HAV infection. Two doses are needed six to 12 or six to 18 months apart, depending on which vaccine you get, to ensure long-term protection.

Source: National Foundation for Infection Disease

## Point of Dispensing (POD) Full Scale Exercise at Rush Copley

A Point of Dispensing (POD) is a place where vaccines, antibiotics, and other medications or supplies can be quickly dispensed to a large number of people.

A POD may be opened to prevent exposure to an infectious disease or treat an infectious disease outbreak. A POD may be used to respond to a range of public health events or emergencies (see examples to the right).

A POD is designed to:

- Dispense vaccine or medication quickly and accurately

- Maintain a safe environment for staff and the public
- Serve all clients, including those with functional needs (language and literacy barriers, physical and cognitive disabilities, elders and children)
- Expand or contract to the needs of the operation
- Provide adequate staffing for the duration of the operation.



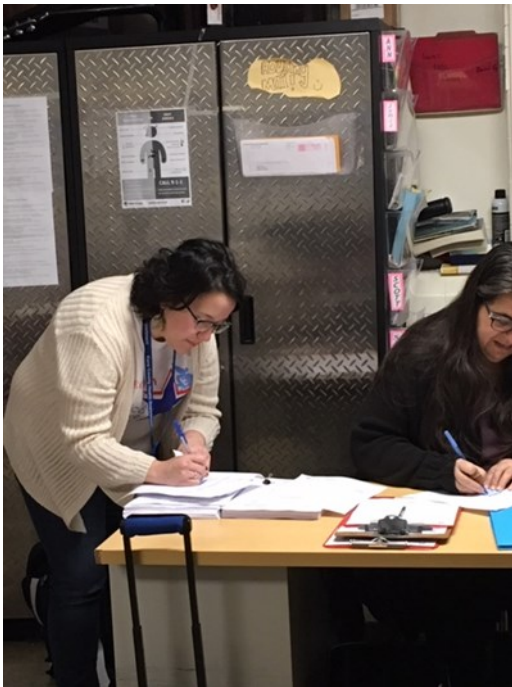
*KC MRC Volunteers help at the POD Full Scale Exercise at Rush Copley Medical Center, in Aurora*

## Hepatitis A Vaccination at Juvenile Justice Center



Top: Aayush Patel, Harsh Patel, Bartlett High School; bottom: MRC nurse volunteer Janet Fulfs giving a shot to JJC's employee Tracey Pedersen





## Hepatitis A Vaccination at Hesed House

In response to IDPH's push to Hepatitis A outbreaks in multiple states, KCHD initiated a mass vaccination campaign targeting high risk populations. Homeless people and individuals who live in homeless shelters, men who have sex with men, incarcerated populations, and injection drug users, as well as individuals who deal with these groups on a daily basis need to be vaccinated against hepatitis A. In October, 2018, KC MRC supported the health department in this initiative, helping in hep. A immunization clinics at Hesed House and at the Juvenile Justice Center.

MRC volunteer Rebecca Bretana helps with vaccination consents at Hesed House, Aurora

## Lead Project

Our volunteers actively supported Kane County Health Department with the research project to assess lead levels in the water of private wells within our jurisdiction; they delivered collection kits to participants, and trained them on how to collect water samples. Participating in this research project represents one of the many ways the Kane County Health Department works to fulfill its role in a core public health function, which is assessing the health of the population.



MRC Volunteer Cathy Schmitt picking collection kits at the Kane County Health Department



MRC Volunteer Suzanne Rozycki ready to visit households

## Flu Clinics

In 2018, the Health Department had the help of several MRC volunteers to assist them during the Open Enrollment flu clinics, aimed at vaccinating KC employees for flu. Five volunteers participating in seven clinics; nurses helped giving shots, while non-medical volunteers assisted with obtaining consents from the patients.

## Flu Clinics—September /October

MRC nurse volunteer Margaret Courser (right).



MRC volunteer Joan Ahlman, KCHD employees Olga Del Toro and Annette Julien



A Volunteer Recognition Party is being planned for **Saturday, April 27, 2019.**

SAVE THE DATE!

Details coming soon!

## Operation Santa Drop Exercise



This event, organized by Will County and Stickney County Health Departments, offered a valuable opportunity for our volunteers to gain a better understanding of the distribution process chain (RSS/RDC) in the SNS system.

Left to right, MRC volunteers Anita Wolf, Joan Ahlman, Suzanne Rzycki and Bill Ahlman ready to receive just-in-time training



## Operation Santa Drop Exercise

Continued...

Donated items collected by Will County, intended to be shipped to troops abroad, were used to provide an opportunity for volunteers to exercise inventorying, packing and picking capabilities. Six deployed troops, which would correspond to different PODs in this exercise, were assigned to receive over 16,000 inventoried items, packed in 107 boxes, in an operation that mimicked a Regional Distribution Center for medical materiel received through the SNS.



From left to right: MRC volunteers Bill Ahlman, Joan Ahlman, and Eileen Stocking help inventorying items

## MRC/HOSA

KC MRC supports two HOSA teams from local high schools, Bartlett High School and South Elgin High School. Students have the opportunity to gain a broader understanding of the concept of community health by working side by side with our volunteers, helping the MRC and the Kane County Health Department in their aim to address identified public health needs from our residents. In 2018, both teams were very successful in the competition, winning first and second place in the state finals.

2018 Advocate Sherman Emergency Preparedness Expo in October, 2018



Students from S. Elgin HOSA team help with family preparedness survey



Students from Bartlett HOSA team promoting the Lead-In-Well-Water Project





Claudia Reginato  
KC MRC Coordinator

### MRC Volunteer communication

If you need to communicate with Kane County MRC, just send an email to [reginatoclaudia@co.kane.il.us](mailto:reginatoclaudia@co.kane.il.us), or text (224) 605-0453



<https://www.linkedin.com/company/kane-county-medical-reserve-corps/>



<https://www.facebook.com/KaneCountyMedicalReserveCorps>



[https://www.instagram.com/kane\\_county\\_mrc](https://www.instagram.com/kane_county_mrc)



Twitter: [KaneCountyMRC / MRC123@kc](https://twitter.com/KaneCountyMRC)

If you are interested in becoming a volunteer or knowing more about Kane County MRC, go to: [http://kanehealth.com/medical\\_reserves.htm](http://kanehealth.com/medical_reserves.htm)

#### Kane County Health Department

Kane County MRC  
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