

Kane County Medical Reserve Corps Meeting  
11-14-08

Attendees:

1. Terry Ostrander
2. Shelley Grafmyre
3. Dave Hoefener
4. Brett Simon
5. Carol Marnell
6. Belinda Guglielmo
7. Susan Ganey
8. James VonOlnhausen
9. Jim Guzzaldo
10. Chris Hoff
11. Claire Dobbins
12. Jennifer Jaquez

I. Introduction- Claire Dobbins/ Chris Hoff

The meeting started with a discussion on Kane County Health Department updates from Claire Dobbins, Director of Health Protection. Claire addressed the issues and budget cuts that the KCHD is going through and as a result of it many employees' positions were eliminated, hence Belinda's position being one of those position.

Chris Hoff, Emergency Response Coordinator addressed the direction of the MRC and its mission. He and Claire along with Paul Kuehnert, Executive Director will be meeting with Don Bryant, Director of Office of Emergency Management early this week to discuss the future plans for the activation and training of both Kane County volunteer groups. Claire and Chris will be working thoroughly on a plan to continue the energy and organization that Belinda has brought to the MRC. Chris had mentioned that the MRC volunteers would become public health community contacts and would reach out to the community on public health matters including preparedness.

II. MRC Exercise Overview- Belinda Guglielmo

Belinda was awarded with a Certificate of Achievement on behalf of the KCHD for her hard work and dedication to the MRC. A photo presentation was presented to show the many contributions Belinda has brought to the MRC as a volunteer and as a MRC coordinator. Belinda then discussed the overview of the MRC October 25 Exercise as a learning experience. Volunteers voiced that it was great to incorporate the NIMS into the exercise after having taken the training. They would like to see more hands on exercises after any future training.

### III. Updates- Jennifer Jaquez

I went over the results of the Kane County MRC survey that was sent out on November 7. There were a total of 19 out of 30 who completed the survey. There were 10 questions. Many of you were satisfied as MRC volunteers and have suggested providing more hands on training. The time commitment required as a MRC volunteer is just right and would like to incorporate training opportunities at the monthly meetings. I provided a very long list of trainings that you would be interested and many of you chose Bioterrorism, Pan Flu, Search & Rescue, Mass Dispensing and Triage as your top trainings. Having obtained this information we would like to incorporate most of these topics into our 2009 MRC training calendar and make it available to you into an online training, hands-on or presentation format. Some of the future trainings may not necessarily be a focus to the MRC mission but nonetheless we would like our MRC volunteer to be well rounded in all areas of disaster. We would like to have the training calendar made available as soon as possible so please continue to check your email.

We then distributed MRC 'Go Bags' to MRC volunteers who are considered "Responders." The bags contained many First Aid items. They were superb and I thank everyone who took the time to help Belinda in putting them together. Great Job!

### IV. Training- Jennifer Jaquez

I also introduced the integration of the MRC and Emergency System for Advance Registration of Volunteer Health Professionals (ESAR-VHP). Both the MRC and ESAR-VHP initiatives are to improve the nation's ability to prepare for and respond to public health emergencies under the U.S. Dept. of Health and Human Services. In doing so, ESAR-VHP will provide a program that will assist and develop a standardized State-based program for registering and verifying the credentials of volunteer in advance of an emergency. The program that we will register volunteer is called Credential Smart which derives from Healthcare Disaster Volunteers (HDV). I've attached the HDV brochure if you would like to learn more about it. I am currently getting familiar with Credential Smart program so that I may become a subject expert. I will then send an email with a link and instructions on how to register.

I presented a Winter Weather Preparation that reinforced the message of preparedness during the winter and identifying the warning systems. I've attached the presentation if you would like to read through it.

### V. Next Steps!- Jennifer Jaquez

The KCHD is planning for there next exercise in end of May-beginning of June 2009. I would encourage many of you to clear your schedules during those times to participate. The KCHD is part of the Chicago Metropolitan Statistical Area (Chicago MSA) which includes Illinois, Wisconsin and Indiana. The Chicago MSA will plan and

create a scenario that will lead up to a major exercise in 2010 with the National Guard. This exercise will include many players from across the region.

The next MRC meeting will be in January 2009. I will send out an exact date ahead of time. I would also like to ask if you have trouble in receiving emails or prefer another means of communication please send me your concerns.

If you have any comments please feel free to call or email me. Thanks again and have a safe Thanksgiving!

**\*\*\* Reminder for December 3 presentation on Pan Flu and You.\*\*\***

It will be held at:

Dec 3, 2008 Weds

6:30pm – 8:00pm

Kane County Health Dept office

115 S Grove, Second Floor Suite 209

Elgin, IL

**\*Please invite family and friends.\***