Manager’s Message
Patrick Lynch, RN
Manager, Response Personnel Unit

Since the last issue of the DHV Journal, we have experienced a couple of significant events. The more harrowing of which was the mandatory evacuation for the Oroville Dam incident. It was amazing to watch the local news helicopter’s live video shots of car lights streaming in long lines in the dusk, heading in either direction away from Oroville. Unseen were the patient / client evacuations that took place that were coordinated by medical/health officials and providers at the local, regional, and state levels. No small task, accomplished with little fanfare, but with good results. Even though my favorite program, Disaster Healthcare Volunteers, was not used for this incident, I wish to thank all those who worked hard to ensure the health and safety of our fellow citizens.

On another note, the EMS Authority hosted the MRC Coordinators Workshop 2017 on March 6th and 7th at the EMSA headquarters building in Rancho Cordova. It was a one and a half day event that brought together MRC Coordinators from across the state. The workshop had numerous presenters and presentations on topics of interest to Medical Reserve Corps Coordinators. We were honored to have CAPT. Patrick Denis, Executive Officer, National MRC office and also Katherine Defer from the National Association of County and City Health Officials, (NACCHO) both present at the workshop. Also featured were presentations on DHV/MRC volunteer
resource requesting from the viewpoint of the Medical Health Operational Area Coordinator (MHOAC); a panel
discussion of MRC/DHV volunteer response to the Lake County Valley Fire; and, a hands on presentation on
“Stop the Bleed.”

I will close by strongly recommending that you, personally, take the time to learn to Stop the Bleed! and learn,
too, that you can be the Help Until Help Arrives.

http://stopthebleedingcoalition.org/

https://www.fema.gov/media-library-data/1485448433094-
8015e2e40cad2afe41ce3b84b0ddd3ea/UHA_Presentation_Deck_508_COMP_01-26-2017.pdf

MRC Corner

By Lauran Capps

Sheila Martin, California State MRC Coordinator, is currently out of the office on
leave. As a result of her being out, I am writing this quarter’s MRC Corner
journal entry. I am very excited to say that I will be the State MRC Coordinator
for California at the start of the fiscal year, July 1, 2017. I am eager to take on
this new role and to work more with all of California’s 39 Medical Reserve Corps
(MRC) Unit Coordinators. To better prepare me for my new role, California
Emergency Medical Services Authority, sent me to the NACCHO (National
Association of County & City Health Officials) Preparedness Summit in Atlanta
Georgia April 25-28, 2017. I was so fortunate to be able to attend this wonderful
educational workshop and I want to share with you a small portion of my experience.

Upon returning, my manager Patrick Lynch, asked me what was the best thing I
took away from the workshop. Although this workshop was filled with great
presentations, knowledgeable presenters, exciting exhibits... I said without
hesitation NETWORKING!
I met so many great people at this workshop. Not only was I able to talk to many
California MRC Coordinators but I also spoke to local MRC Coordinators from
other states, public health officials, volunteers, MRC State Coordinators, etc. It is
so important to network and to build professional relationships. Networking gives
us a chance to share ideas, lessons learned, share material, especially as to not
reinvent the wheel.

I went to many powerful informative presentations, to name a few: Mission Ready Packages; A Strategic Look
at Managing, Maintaining and Engaging MRC Volunteers; Engaging Stakeholders to Enhance Readiness and
Response; Lessons Learned from Cascadia Rising 2016 Catastrophic Earthquake Exercise, etc. I also
attended Medical Reserve Corps Town Hall and Commander Skip Payne, Deputy Director of the MRC
Program, was the moderator. We were provided with an overview of the MRC Network, including shared
highlights of current efforts as well as a look over the past 15 years of the MRC Program. There was a
celebration as a farewell for Captain Robert Tosatto, who has been the MRC Program Director for over 13
years.

I am thrilled and eager to take on my new role of State MRC Coordinator for California and I am very excited to
work with my new MRC Family.
Go Bag (Bug out bag)

Do you have your kit ready so you can safely evacuate?
Everyone in your house should have a Go Bag or a Bug Out bag - a collection of things you would want if you have to leave in an emergency. There are no standard lists for a go bag, but generally speaking, you need food and water, cooking and fuel, lighting, First Aid Kit, power and communications, storage & tools and sanitation supplies for 72 hours. Add items you feel are important, or delete items as you wish. And lastly, don't forget the needs of your children and your pets!

You could consider the following items:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Medication !!!</th>
<th>3 Days water</th>
<th>3 Days food</th>
<th>Flashlight with batteries and light sticks</th>
<th>Emergency pack /backpack</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>First Aid Kit</td>
<td>Survival bottle (Whistle knife, nylon rope, etc)</td>
<td>Hand crank phone charger and Radio</td>
<td>Mobile phone, paper, and pen</td>
<td>Water treatment tablets/ filter</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Freeze dried food / Meals Ready-to-Eat (MREs) Box</td>
<td>Clothing, warmth items &amp; bandanas</td>
<td>Fuel &amp; waterproof matches</td>
<td>Disposable travel toilet bag</td>
<td>Hygiene Kit and Solar shower bag</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Toilet paper and disposable wipes</td>
<td>Tools: Wrench &amp; pliers, Cookware: Can Opener and utensils</td>
<td>Pets food, Bird feed &amp; Battery air pump</td>
<td>Towel, blanket or a sleeping bag</td>
<td>Work gloves, Dust mask Duct tape &amp; Tarp</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Waterproof folder/bag for recent family photos, copies of IDs, passports, insurance information, bank and credit card account numbers, medical history, emergency contacts and family plan.</td>
<td>Sunglasses, sunscreen, insect repellent</td>
<td>30 gallon plastic trash bag with ties for sanitation</td>
<td>Leisure (books, cards, games, etc.)</td>
<td>Small amounts of money such as coins, five dollar/ one dollar bills in case you are not able to use your credit/debit cards</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Disclaimer: Pictures are just for illustration only. EMSA does not endorse or recommend any brand name products shown above. Please note that this is NOT a complete list of items to pack.

Some useful links:
FEMA Ready Basic Disaster Supplies Kit: [https://www.ready.gov/kit](https://www.ready.gov/kit)

National Preparedness Calendar

April

*National Volunteer Week April 23-29, 2017*

EMSA would just like to say again: Thank you for volunteering!

May

*National Military Appreciation Month*

Congress designated May as National Military Appreciation Month (NMAM) in 1999 to ensure that the nation was given the opportunity to publicly demonstrate their appreciation for the sacrifices and successes made by our service members—past and present. Each year the president issues a proclamation, reminding Americans of the important role the U.S. Armed Forces have played in the history and development of our country.

*National Nurses Week May 6-12, 2017*

National Nurses Week begins each year on May 6th and ends on May 12th, Florence Nightingale's birthday. These permanent dates enhance planning and position National Nurses Week as an established recognition event. As of 1998, May 8 was designated as National Student Nurses Day, to be celebrated annually.

*National EMS Week May 21-27, 2017*

National EMS Week is celebrated during the third week of May. This awareness week is hosted by the American College of Emergency Physicians (ACEP) and it is a time to show your appreciation to the long hours and dedication that EMS workers endure to be on standby just in case an emergency arises.

*National EMS for Children Day May 24, 2017*

Many communities in the United States join in on raising awareness about the need for specialized emergency care for children on Emergency Medical Services for Children (EMSC) Day. It is held on the Wednesday of Emergency Medical Services (EMS) Week.

June

*National Pet Preparedness Month*

Important reminder to create an evacuation plan for the whole family!

*CPR and AED Awareness Week June 1-7, 2017*

During this week each year, CPR/AED classes and demonstrations are conducted, events are hosted and educational information is distributed on the importance of being trained in CPR and AED use. We encourage you to find out about local events in your area!
EMSA Hosts Medical Reserve Corps Coordinators Workshop

This past March, EMSA’s Disaster Medical Services division sponsored a workshop for California’s Medical Reserve Corps (MRC) at EMSA’s headquarters. Medical Reserve Corps is a national network of local groups of volunteers engaging in local communities to strengthen public health, reduce vulnerability, build resilience, and improve preparedness, response, and recovery capabilities.

The workshop featured CAPT. Patrick Denis, Executive Officer from the National MRC program and Katherine Deffer, Senior Program Analyst from the National Association of County and City Health Officials, (NACCHO).

Craig Johnson, Chief of EMSA’s Disaster Medical Services Division opened the workshop by thanking the MRC leaders for their participation, and congratulated and encouraged them on their continued efforts to build upon their successful foundation. Mr. Johnson recognized the group for their dedication in helping their local communities and being ready to respond to help others in the event of an emergency.

EMSA’s Chief Deputy Director, Mr. Dan Smiley, conducted an interactive training session with the attendees on the ‘Stop The Bleed’, campaign that was well received by participants.

The workshop also featured presentations on topics ranging from Medical Health Operational Area Coordinator utilization of MRC, including an overview of the requesting process, Hospital Preparedness Program grant funding and MRC responses to the 2015 Lake County Valley Fire and the San Diego MRC hospital integration project.
No Cost Pediatric Disaster Response and Emergency Preparedness Training

A Texas A&M Engineering Extension Service (TEEX) Pediatric Disaster Response and Emergency Preparedness (MGT-439) training was hosted at EMSA headquarters in Rancho Cordova on March 22 and 23, 2017. It was a two day course, (16 hours) and provided CEUs to the students. This course is presented at no cost to the local jurisdiction and is funded by the Department of Homeland Security/ Federal Emergency Management Agency (DHS/FEMA).

A 2010 report by the National Commission on Children and Disasters identified a training gap for emergency responders, first receivers, and emergency management personnel that reduced their effectiveness in responding to children and their unique needs/considerations. This course addresses pediatric emergency planning and medical response considerations through a combination of lectures, small group exercises, and a table-top exercise. [1]

You can find more information about this class at: https://teex.org/Pages/Class.aspx?course=MGT439&courseTitle=Pediatric%20Disaster%20Response%20and%20Emergency%20Preparedness


DHV Events

Quarterly DHV System Drills:

On Wednesday, April 5, 2017, EMSA conducted the Statewide Quarterly Drill with DHV System Administrators.

Administrators were instructed to search the DHV system for specific responders within their organization and provide a detailed report of the statistics to EMSA. 51 organizations joined in the drill/exercise play during a four (4) hour period. Among the identified organizations that participated, 92% achieved successful completion of the drill and reported their results to EMSA by the deadline.

The next drill is slated for July 5.

The Quarterly Drill was a statewide test of California’s ESAR-VHP notification/communications system. It is an opportunity for System Administrators to test their basic knowledge and to query the system to gain proficiency.

Quarterly Drills increase and maintain System Administrator competence with the system. Ongoing drills also provide an opportunity for System Administrators to achieve grant requirement deliverables.
Nuclear Energy in California

As of mid-2012, California had one operating nuclear power plant: Diablo Canyon (2,160 megawatts), near San Luis Obispo. The plant’s nuclear units use ocean water for cooling [2]. If you live within a radius of approximately 10 miles from a nuclear power plant, you will receive materials annually regarding the event of a nuclear power plant radiological emergency. Read the materials carefully and store them in a readily available location. U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) and other emergency management organizations work together to keep the public informed about such an unlikely event.

For more information to prepare yourself please visit:

Online Disaster Training Opportunity

Emergency Management Institute

The Emergency Management Institute’s (EMI) Distance Learning (DL) Section offers the Independent Study Program (ISP). This is a distance learning program which offers training, free of charge, to the nation’s emergency management network and the general public. It serves as both an alternative means to deliver valuable training to the professional and volunteer emergency management community, and an opportunity to improve public awareness and promote disaster preparedness nationally. The Independent Study Program offers over 185 training courses via the training website. There has been substantial growth in the program since 2004 due to the National Incident Management System training requirements. To learn more about training classes and many other training opportunities, visit FEMA’s Emergency Management Institute’s website: http://www.training.fema.gov/EMI/

IS-3: Radiological Emergency Management

Link: https://training.fema.gov/is/courseoverview.aspx?code=IS-3

Course Overview
This independent study course contains information on a variety of radiological topics, including:
Fundamental principles of radiation
Nuclear threat and protective measures
Nuclear power plants
Radiological transportation accidents
Other radiological hazards

Course Length: 10 hours  Prerequisites: None
DHV “User Tips”

To recover your DHV login password

**Case 1:** If you have a valid email in the system and have access to that email account

1. **Step 1:** Click “Forgot Username or Password” on DHV homepage: https://www.healthcarevolunteers.ca.gov/

2. **Step 2:** Enter your username in the box and click “Request Password”. 
   
   *If you forget your username, you need to retrieve your username first by entering your email address and click “Request Username”.*

3. **Step 3:** A “Success” banner will be displayed when you enter a correct username. An email will be sent with instructions for resetting your password.

**Case 2:** If your email used in DHV was changed or you no longer have access to that email account

1. **Step 1:** Click “Contact Us” tab on the top.

2. **Step 2:** Click “Yes” to select your organization, Click “Organization Selection” and select your unit. Click “No” if you don’t know your organization.

3. **Step 3:** Enter your name, and email in the box. Subject: “Forgot password”. In the Message, please include your username or your existing email addresses. Click “Submit” when you are done.

If you still have issues accessing your DHV account, please email to dhv@emsa.ca.gov.
DHV is California’s ESAR-VHP Program

The Emergency System for Advance Registration of Volunteer Health Professionals (ESAR-VHP) is a federal program created to support states and territories in establishing standardized volunteer registration programs for disasters and public health and medical emergencies.

Disaster Healthcare Volunteers (DHV), California’s ESAR-VHP program administered at the state level, verifies health professionals’ identification and credentials so that they can respond more quickly when disaster strikes. By registering through ESAR-VHP, volunteers’ identities, licenses, credentials and accreditations are verified in advance, saving valuable time in emergency situations.

Why Do We Need ESAR-VHP?

In the wake of disasters and public health and medical emergencies, many of our nation's health professionals are eager and willing to volunteer their services. In these times of crisis; hospitals, clinics, and temporary shelters are dependent upon the services of health professional volunteers. However, on such short notice, taking advantage of volunteers’ time and capabilities presents a major challenge to hospital, public health and emergency response officials. For example, immediately after the attacks on September 11, 2001, tens of thousands of people traveled to ground zero in New York City to volunteer and provide medical assistance. In most cases, authorities were unable to distinguish those who were qualified from those who were not - no matter how well intentioned.

There are significant problems associated with registering and verifying the credentials of health professional volunteers immediately following major disasters or emergencies. Specifically, hospitals and other facilities may be unable to verify basic licensing or credentialing information, including training, skills, competencies and employment. Further, the loss of telecommunications may prevent contact with sources that provide credential or privilege information. The goal of the ESAR-VHP program is to eliminate a number of the problems that arise when mobilizing health professional volunteers in an emergency response.

Disaster Healthcare Volunteers (DHV)

In accordance with federal mandate, California has developed the Disaster Healthcare Volunteers (DHV) Program to facilitate and manage the registration, credentialing and deployment of volunteer healthcare professionals (VHPs) in California. DHV uses a software system for the management of volunteers, including the registration, notification, communication and credentialing needs associated with volunteer management. The DHV Program is the single source system operated and administered by local, regional and state, public health and emergency medical services agencies.

DHV is administered by all system stakeholders and managed by the California EMS Authority in partnership with the California Department of Public Health (CDPH). DHV volunteers include healthcare professionals (medical, public health, mental health, EMS and other personnel) who are willing to be called upon in the event of an emergency or disaster. DHV volunteers are pre-registered and pre-credentialled. Deployment of volunteers will follow Standardized Emergency Management System (SEMS) procedures.

To register on the DHV system or get more information, visit our website, www.healthcarevolunteers.ca.gov
Have You Updated Your DHV Registration Information Lately?

We depend upon each of you to update your DHV profile with your correct information. It is important that you take a moment to update your DHV System information when your information changes. Have you moved? Do you have a new occupation or a new employer? Have your email or phone numbers changed?

Please take a moment to update your file. Just log into www.healthcarevolunteers.ca.gov and click on the "Profile" tab. From there you can navigate through your information. Click on "Edit Information" to make your changes and then be sure to click on "Save Changes" when you have completed your edits.

The DHV Journal is Published and Distributed Via Email

News and information for participants in the Disaster Healthcare Volunteers Program administered by EMSA and operated by System Administrators in local communities and Medical Reserve Corps Coordinators throughout California. This Journal is published and distributed periodically to the partners of the DHV Program.

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