

# Department of Health and Human Services



# PRESENTER

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# WHAT IS AN MRC

NEIGHBOR HELPING NEIGHBOR

WHEN will you be needed

WHERE will you be needed

# Disasters

# Catastrophes

# Crises

September 11, 2001



Tsunami



H1N1 Influenza



Ice Storms

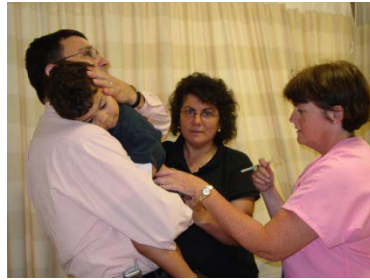


Tornados



Hurricanes

# LOCAL NEEDS



**Boston Marathon**

**Hepatitis A and H1N1 clinics**



**Local Flooding – May 2006**



**Shelter operations**

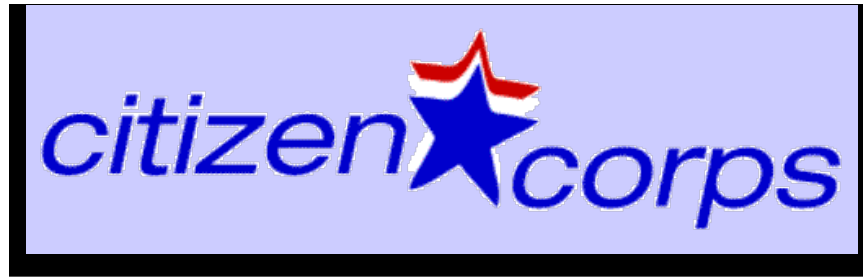


**Keyspan Gas  
Explosion-Outage  
2006**



*Promoting a culture of service,  
citizenship and responsibility*





**Charter Federal Partners**

**New Partner**



DOJ / NSA



DHS / State & Local



DHS / State & Local



DOJ / IACP



DHHS / OSG



# MRC - DEFINITION

- NEIGHBOR HELPING NEIGHBOR
- Community-based units
  - locally organized
  - utilize time and expertise of volunteers
  - to prepare for and respond to emergencies
  - to promote healthy living throughout the year
- MRC volunteers supplement existing emergency and public health resources



# MRC - MISSION

To establish teams of local volunteer medical and public health professionals who can contribute their skills and expertise throughout the year and during times of community need



# MRC - CONCEPT

- Organize medical, public health, and other volunteers in support of existing programs and resources that improve the health and safety of communities and the nation
- Use an all-hazards approach to strengthen and improve the public health infrastructure, including emergency response
- Credential, train and prepare these volunteers in advance of a public health event



# MRC - Benefits

- **Supplemental personnel to support existing public health and emergency response systems**
- **Mechanisms for information sharing and coordination among the community partners**
- **Enhances community preparedness through citizen involvement**
- **More autonomy in responding to community emergencies, with less reliance on state or national resources**



# MRC - Benefits

- **Enables communities to meet specific health needs**
- **Opportunity for private citizens to participate in developing strategies that make their communities healthier and safer**
- **Ongoing dialogue between emergency management and public health agencies**
- **National recognition of local public health and emergency response efforts**



# MRC – Web Sites

- **National MRC site** – includes: links to general implementation manuals; introductory brochure; Q & As  
<http://www.medicalreservecorps.gov>
- **State MRC site** – includes: list of all MRCs in the state; general information; forms, sample operating procedures; Q & As  
<http://www.mamedicalreservecorps.org>
- **Region 4A MRC site** – includes training opportunities; list of resource materials; general information  
<http://www.region4a-mrc.org>

# Thank you so much!

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