

Washington State Public Health Emergency Preparedness and Response Program

AmeriCorps – Medical Reserve Corps Partnership

July 20, 2009



The PHEPR AmeriCorps Partnership

Overview.....

- A partnership between Department of Health and the Employment Security Department- which manages large AmeriCorps program in WA.
- 10 AmeriCorps*VISTA participants placed in local MRC units.
- AmeriCorps*VISTA members serve full time in local MRC units supporting day to day program management activities.
- AmeriCorps participants gain valuable career skills- including an understanding for the public health field.
- State Department of Health PHEPR program covers the cost for the local sites by providing cash match of \$5,000 per placement.

Partnership Goal: *“Increased Sustainability of Local MRC Units”*

Assisting local MRC Coordinators with program management priorities including.....

- Volunteer Recruitment
- Coordination of Training Events
- Development of Marketing Materials
- Strategic Planning and Special Events
- Volunteer Database Management- including ESAR-VHP



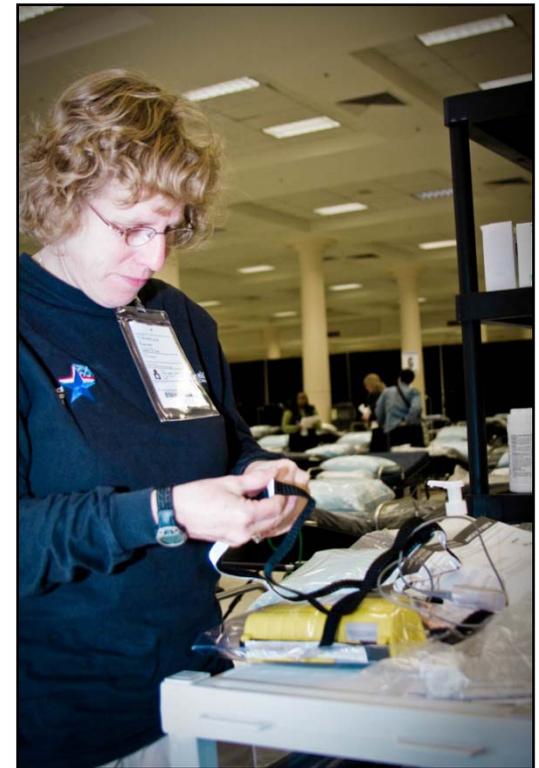
Accomplishments in the First Year

Mid Year Report Highlights (March 2009)

- Recruited 231 medical and non medical volunteers
- Coordinated MRC training for 142 volunteers
- Coordinated dozens of MRC volunteers at the annual “Project Homeless Connect” event at the Tacoma Dome – Oct. 14-16, 2008
- Assisted in operating the King County (Seattle) Alternate Care Facility during Pandemonium exercise

Volunteers Make the Difference!

The Olympian, Nov. 1, 2008



Continuing Activities...

- Entering hundreds of MRC volunteers into SECURES-our Washington State Health Alert Network
- Serving as liaison to Red Cross and other volunteer programs such as CERT
- Coordinating regional training activities for *tribal* based MRC participants
- Developing and updating MRC volunteer databases, including WAHVE, our Washington State ESAR-VHP system



AmeriCorps Program

AmeriCorps is service opportunity open to anyone 18 and over interested in gaining marketable “real world” skills or a career change.

- Participants serve for one full calendar year at the host site (MRC unit)
- Most participants have a bachelors degree or higher
- AmeriCorps program provides the following benefits:
 - \$833 - \$949 monthly stipend Health Insurance.
 - Student Loan Deferment Program.
 - Training and education.
 - Child Care Assistance.
 - Relocation Allowance.
 - \$4,725 Education Award upon completion of service year
- AmeriCorps participants receive a total \$15,000 - \$18,000 for their year of service.



More Information: <http://www.americorps.gov>

2008 – 09 MRC AmeriCorps Team



2008-09 MRC AmeriCorps Team

“I truly feel that the AmeriCorps and MRC partnership is beneficial to everyone involved. I am proud to see how the WA Region 3 unit has become stronger because of my service. I think this is a wonderful program, and hope that it will only expand in the future.”



Questions?

