



Portage County Medical Reserve Corps



First Quarter 2017

2016 NACCHO (National Association of County & City Health Officials) Grant

The Portage County MRC received grant money to plan, create, and staff a Volunteer Reception Center (VRC). The written plan has been completed and we are starting to order supplies. We will be presenting an overview of the plan to MRC members on Friday, March 10 from 10–11 am. This will be in the Community Room on the first floor at 705 Oakwood Street.

More detailed training and practice setting up the VRC will be scheduled next. We hope to include the set-up and activation of the VRC in a training exercise this spring.

SAVE THE DATE!

Our annual Emergency Preparedness Conference has been scheduled for May 18, 2017. More details to follow.

Point of Distribution (POD) Training Exercise

On Wednesday, April 19 from 7 am to noon, the Portage County Health District, Kent State University senior nursing students and any interested MRC volunteers will be exercising the set-up and staffing of a POD. A POD would be used in any disaster event where mass prophylaxing needs to be accomplished in a short period of time. The involved participants will be screened for need of prophylaxis, evaluated for the appropriate medication and dose, receive at least several days of medication and be counseled on the specifics of the event and follow-up recommendations. We would need clerical, medical, mental health, and set-up people if a POD were required. If you are interested in participating in this exercise, please contact Susie or Marianne.

Portage County Medical Reserve Corps
705 Oakwood Street
Ravenna, Ohio 44266

Contact us:
Susie—sforgacs@portageco.com; 330-298-4490, ext. 138
Marianne—mkitakis@portageco.com; 330-298-4490, ext. 117

Ohio TRAIN

Are you familiar with this on-line training resource? If this is new to you, go to <https://oh.train.org>. Create a username and password.

In each newsletter, we will select one training that we would like our MRC members to complete.

This quarter the focus is on personal and family emergency preparedness. This 20-minute video gives a lot of great information on preparing for a disaster and what items to you should have in a kit. Course ID is 1040540 and the title is "Disaster Plan and Kit Basics" Type the course number in the search box and hit enter. Click on the registration tab and then on launch. After watching the video, you can go back to the registration tab and mark the course as completed and evaluate the course.

Recap of some of last fall's activities:

- Thanks to the volunteers who helped take blood pressures at the Randolph County Fair
- We had several volunteers help out at Influenza Vaccination clinics—your assistance is always greatly appreciated
- We learned some great Winter Preparedness tips at the Workforce Wellness Conference in December

Mass Fatality Training Exercise

In September, the Health Department participated in a Mass Fatality training exercise.

One of the areas tested was the notification of the MRC Volunteers. An email message was sent via Ohio Responds website to 126 Portage County MRC members; 29 members responded that the message was received, which is a 19% response rate. I am hoping to improve the rate this year.

Many of you have not logged into the Ohio Responds site since you joined the MRC. This is the main method we have of contacting our volunteers.



When you get the chance, please go to <https://www.ohioresponds.odh.ohio.gov/welcome.php> and update your profile with current:

- Address
- Email
- Phone number
- Licensure/ certifications
- Roles

Thank You!