

2019 Quarter 2



The KC MRC Responder

Official Newsletter of the Kane County Medical Reserve Corps

In this latest issue, you will find highlights from the Kane County MRC volunteers during the second quarter (April—June) of 2019.

In active partnership with the community, the Kane County MRC improves the well-being and safety of all residents by organizing and utilizing public health, medical, and other volunteers. The Mission of the Kane County MRC is in line with the Mission of the Kane County Health Department and the National Medical Reserve Corps

Social Media: *See us, Like us, Follow us!*

<https://www.linkedin.com/company/kane-county-medical-reserve-corps/>

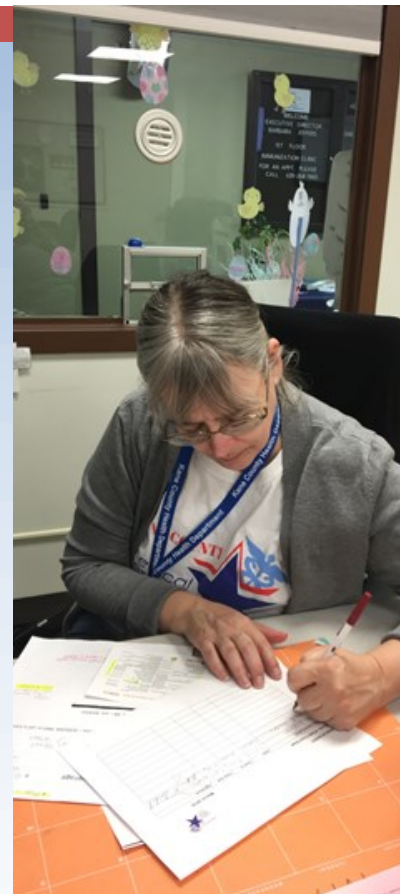
<https://www.facebook.com/KaneCountyMedicalReserveCorps>

https://www.instagram.com/kane_county_mrc

Twitter: <https://twitter.com/KaneCountyMRC> /MRC123@kc

Links for prospective volunteers

If you are interested in becoming a volunteer or knowing more about Kane County MRC, go to <http://kanehealth.com/Pages/Medical-Reserve-Corps.aspx>



For questions regarding the Kane County MRC, contact:
Claudia Reginato,
MRC coordinator

Kane County Health Department
Division of Community Health Resources
1240 N. Highland Ave., Aurora, IL 60506
(630) 444-3362
reginatoclaudia@co.kane.il.us

Aaron Stevens, KCHD Emergency Response Supervisor

Barbara Jeffers, KCHD Executive Director

Upcoming events & trainings

Volunteer Recognition

Hours worked last quarter:

Jan Fulfs— 27.5 hrs.

Cathy Schmitt—18.25 hrs.



POD Training and Drill

July 19, 9am to 12:30pm

Spartan Events Center (Building J)
Elgin Community College

This training event is comprised of four modules total. The first three modules will be conducted in a classroom environment facilitated by our consultants. The fourth module will be a hands-on training at various POD stations also led by our consultants. We will end the day with a live walkthrough in which staff and MRC volunteers will have an opportunity to perform as POD staff on the job.

Safety Day

August 3, 10am to 2pm

Mooseheart Field House.

We will be educating on the importance of immunizations, promoting and recruiting for the MRC, and supporting staff with assembling gift bags.

Additionally, we will provide basic training in *Stop The Bleed* and providing education on the importance of immunizations.

General Session and Better Impact/ Volunteer Management System Training

September 14

Kane County Health Department
9 to 11:30am

The Kane County MRC has a new platform to manage volunteer profiles, qualifications, interests, availability, activities, hours, and communications. The new software, Better Impact/ Volunteer Impact, is the same system that is utilized across all partners in the Northern Illinois region (Northern Illinois Public Health Consortium). We are working on setting up the system, creating accounts for all volunteers, and uploading available information from each volunteer. We are planning to launch the new system by late August or early September. For this reason, we are encouraging volunteers for a training session on how to utilize Better Impact's main features.

New Volunteer Management System!



SAFETY DAY

SATURDAY - AUGUST 3, 2019

10:00 am- 2:00 pm

Mooseheart Field House, Mooseheart, IL
(Enter off Mooseheart Rd. west of Rt. 31)

Special Features:

- Car Seat Inspections
- Fire and Rescue Demonstrations
- Over 40 Participating Agencies
- Interactive Safety Booths
 - Take Home Prizes
 - Touch a Truck



*Don't miss this fun, **FREE** event!*



Kane County Safety Coalition is a non-profit 501(c) 3 organization whose mission is to provide a collaborative network of injury prevention activities throughout the Kane County Area to reduce the risk of injury and death to all children.

KCHD/ KC MRC POD Exercise

September/October 2019

Details TBD

What we do...

KC MRC volunteers can participate in a variety of activities throughout the year, trainings and exercises, assisting our communities with public health emergency preparedness needs. We meet every second Saturday of the month, at the Health Department, to discuss current issues, projects and upcoming activities.

Notification drills

One of the key competencies that volunteer agencies have to develop, strengthen and exercise, is the ability to communicate effectively in the event of an emergency happening within our jurisdiction and/or in the neighboring area. For this reason, Kane County MRC conducts monthly notification drills to make sure that we can timely and effectively reach our volunteers, and that they know how they should respond in case they are called to help during a public health emergency.

Kane County MRC Response	April	May	June
% acknowledged message	80%	75%	80%
% able to report	55%	55%	60%

Volunteer Profile— Joan Ahlman



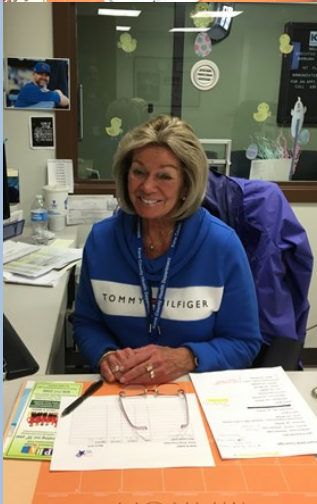
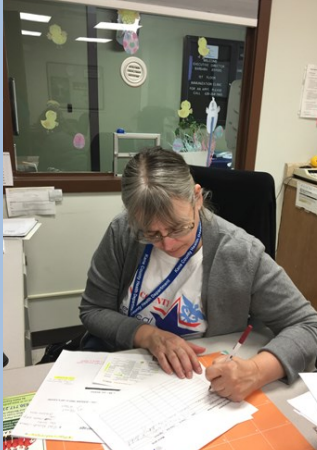
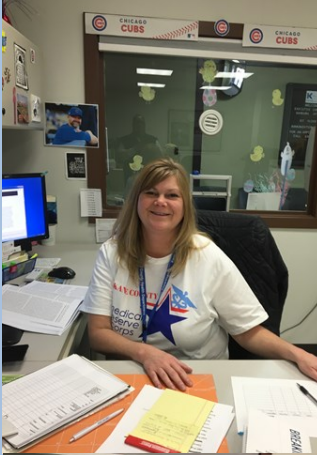
Why Do I Volunteer?

Joan Ahlman - Retired elementary school secretary, living in West Dundee.

“I joined the MRC with my husband Bill to do something useful out in the community. I have enjoyed the training we have received, which will be crucial in the case of an emergency in Kane County. Meanwhile I have participated in a couple of immunization projects and community events promoting the MRC and distributing various health and safety information to the community. By far the most rewarding was the opportunity to participate in Young Hearts for Life giving free EKGs to high school students. I hope to do this many more times, as each screening produced two or more young people needing follow up care. That’s the reward.”

Activities, Trainings & Exercises:

Staffing the KCHD front desk



Volunteers top to bottom:

Anne Dickinson, Denise Linke, Mary Ellen Goebel

Staffing the KCHD Front Desk

MRC volunteers represent a fantastic resource for public health not only during emergencies, but also in non-emergency activities. Volunteers help promoting health through education in community events and public health initiatives. Our volunteers were a great asset also by helping staff the Health Department's front desk during one week in March, answering telephone calls, and greeting and directing the public seeking for services and information.

Weather Spotter Training

The Severe Thunderstorm and Tornado Spotter Training, or Weather Spotter Training, is an initiative developed by local emergency response teams to train the lay population to recognize signs of weather conditions that may pose a threat to the population, and to know how and to whom report those observations. On April 8, the Kane County MRC participated in one of these trainings at the DuPage County Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Management.



Left to right: Claudia Reginato, KC MRC coordinator, with volunteers Peggy Courser and Rebecca Bretana

Animal Control/General Session

On April 10, volunteers had a meeting with our furry friends from Kane County Animal Control. While meeting for our monthly general session, we had the opportunity to attend a training with KCAC supervisor, Brett Youngsteadt, the training provided volunteers with a perspective of the history of KCAC and the programs held by the organizations. Volunteers had a tour by the agency and learned about basic handling tips and animal safety topics, and principles of emergency evacuation operations involving pets and animals.



Left to right, volunteers Nancy Murphy, Peggy Courser, Mary Ellen Goebel, Cathy Schmitt, Jan Fulfs, Terri Burdelak and Suzane Rozycki by KCAC entrance



Volunteers attend a training with KCAC staff

Distracted Driving Awareness Week Press Conference

KC MRC actively participated in this important initiative supported by Kane County law enforcement and by the Kane County Safety Coalition, which aimed to reduce the number of accidents and deaths caused by distracted driving by promoting a mass campaign to increase awareness to the problem. The initiative culminated with the High Visibility Enforcement Campaign, when police officers conducted an ostensive enforcement and education campaign to reduce the use of cell phones while driving. Local, state and national authorities were present, and local TV and radio channels transmitted the press conference, announcing the campaign kickoff.



Wellness Fair at St. Charles North High School

Volunteers participated in the annual event, promoting the MRC, and providing safe driving education to around 300 high school students, targeting the teen population for education on distracted driving and informing about new legislation on the topic to be enforced this year.

Distracted Driving Fact:

*At 55 mph, sending or reading a text takes your eyes off the road for about 5 seconds, long enough to cover a football field.**

Hepatitis A Immunization Clinic/ IDPH Summit of Hope

As the outbreak of hepatitis A continues to hit specific populations (homeless, incarcerated people, men who have sex with men, injection drug users, and people who deal with these groups routinely), the Kane County Health Department continues to invest in immunization of these vulnerable groups. On April 23, volunteers Cathy Schmitt, Jan Fulfs and Mary Ellen Goebel helped the Health Department during IDPH Summit at the Painter's Council, in Aurora.



Above: KC MRC Coordinator Claudia Reginato and Montgomery Rotary Club President Jeanette Caul

Left: MRC Volunteer Jan Fulfs, Lise Hauser KCHD Public Health Nurse and MRC Volunteer Cathy Schmitt.

**Source: https://www.cdc.gov/motorvehiclesafety/distracted_driving/index.html*

Activities, Trainings & Exercises:

Volunteer Appreciation Event

The Kane County Health Department recognizes the huge asset represented by volunteers and their essential role in advancing goals in public health. During the year of 2018, Kane County MRC volunteers participated in 27 activities, driving over 700 miles in the process, and have worked 513 hours, thus aggregating more than \$13,000 in financial benefit for the county. Volunteers received certificates, awards and prizes, while celebrating during a lunch offered by the Health Department. During the appreciation event, our volunteer had the opportunity to meet and change impressions with the Health Department's Executive Director, Barbara Jeffers. Aaron Stevens, Emergency Response Supervisor, and Stacy Zeng, Community Health Planner, also joined us in this celebration.



MRC volunteers talk about their experiences with KCHD's Executive Director, Barbara Jeffers



Left to right: KCHD's Executive Director, Barbara Jeffers, volunteer Jan Fulfs receiving the 2018 MRC Service Award and KCMRC Coordinator Claudia Reginato

I-HELPS Statewide Drills

In addition to our monthly notification drills with the Health Department, KC MRC participated in two additional notification exercises with the MRCs of Illinois (MRCIL) and with MRC units from the Chicago Healthcare Coalition for Preparedness (CHSCPR), both using the I-HELPS platform. Ninety and seventy five percent of the volunteers, respectively, responded to those drills.

WellBatavia Festival

Again, this year, the KC MRC participated in this fun local event, aimed to highlight features of the Batavia community, celebrating with fresh and locally produced food, engaging physical activities and a variety of programs to promote health and safety of its residents. Our volunteers helped the Health Department with a survey on Vaping and with providing education on mosquito and tick safety. We also provided education on measles and on the importance of keeping immunizations up-to-date, especially for children and older adults. As usual, we also used the opportunity to promote awareness and recruit for the MRC.

Volunteer Management/Communication

If you need to communicate with Kane County MRC, just send an email to reginatoclaudia@co.kane.il.us, or text (224) 605-0453

Measles Case in Kane County

By the end of May, Kane County had to face a relevant public health problem, when a resident was diagnosed with measles. Before the diagnosis, the sick individual had spent two days going to the work setting, and visiting commercial business facilities, representing exposure to hundreds of residents. The Health Department had to work around the clock to identify these people, interview them and initiate quarantine procedures and symptom follow up for those who were not immunized against measles, in a great effort to contain disease spread. Our volunteers Suzanne Rozycki and Jan Fulfs donated many hours working on calling contacts, providing information and entering data in IDPH outbreak investigation system, summing almost 20 hours worked over a weekend. It was public health emergency response at its best, showing the difference that trained volunteers can make to protect the public's health from a threat.

Can Measles Be Prevented?

Measles is a serious, highly contagious disease caused by a virus. The virus is spread easily through the air when an infected person coughs or sneezes or by direct contact with infected nose or throat secretions. There are no anti-viral drugs for treating measles.

Measles can be prevented with measles vaccine. The vaccine is recommended for children at 12 months of age. This shot is given as measles, mumps, rubella (MMR) vaccine. A second shot of measles vaccine, usually MMR, is now required in Illinois for all children kindergarten through 12th grade. Anyone born after January 15, 1957, who has not had at least one dose of measles vaccine after 12 months of age or who has not had the measles should be immunized.

All persons working in health care settings should receive two doses of measles vaccine (MMR) unless they have had the disease and, therefore, are immune. **Anyone planning to travel internationally, should make sure they are protected against measles and other dangerous diseases before they go abroad.** Women should not get the vaccine if they are already pregnant or if they plan to get pregnant within three months after getting the vaccine. Acquired immunity after illness is permanent.

It is important to know your immunization status. KCHD recommends that you talk to your primary care doctor to make sure you are up to date and receive a copy of your record.

KCHD held a FREE vaccination clinic for MMR on July 18th. Future clinics are being planned. Stay tuned to the KaneHealth.com website and KCHD Facebook page for more information.

Funding for the immunizations comes from a grant from the Illinois Department of Public Health. For more information about immunizations, visit the Kane County Health Department website at KaneHealth.com/Pages/Immunizations.aspx

Source: <http://www.dph.illinois.gov/topics-services/diseases-and-conditions/diseases-a-z-list/measles>

2019 Measles Cases By County

County	Cases
Champaign	4
Chicago	1
Cook (Suburban)	1
DeKalb	2
Kane	1

June General Session Sexual Harassment/ Exposure Prevention Training

Volunteers met, as usual, at the Health Department, to discuss MRC topics, training opportunities and new projects. Sexual Harassment Training and Exposure Prevention Training, both part of the required trainings for KC MRC volunteers, were also provided after the general session for those who had missed previous sessions.

MRC Volunteer communication

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KANE COUNTY

medical
reserve
corps



Claudia Reginato
KC MRC Coordinator



<https://www.linkedin.com/company/kane-county-medical-reserve-corps/>



<https://www.facebook.com/KaneCountyMedicalReserveCorps>



https://www.instagram.com/kane_county_mrc



Twitter: [KaneCountyMRC / MRC123@kc](#)

If you are interested in becoming a volunteer or knowing more about Kane County MRC, go to: http://kanehealth.com/medical_reserves.htm

Kane County Health Department

Kane County MRC
1249 N Highland Ave.
Ste. 28
Aurora, IL 60506
Phone: (630) 444-3362
E-mail: Reginatoclaudia@co.kane.il.us

PLEASE
PLACE
STAMP
HERE

Kane County Resident

