



I have recently been tasked by the President and the Secretary of Health and Human Services to launch a Surgeon General's Childhood Overweight and Obesity Prevention Initiative, "Healthy Youth for a Healthy Future." Children need education on making healthy lifestyle choices and they need role models to help them achieve success. You can be that role model in your community. I would like to see MRC units across the country working directly with school children on physical fitness and nutrition initiatives.

RADM Steven K. Galson
Acting U.S. Surgeon General

The **Medical Reserve Corps** Program Office is based in the Office of the United States Surgeon General. It functions as a clearing house for information and best practices to help communities establish, implement and maintain **MRC** units across the nation. The **MRC** Program Office hosts a website, sponsors an annual leadership conference, provides technical assistance and coordinates with local, state, regional and national organizations and agencies to help communities achieve their local visions for public health and emergency preparedness. **MRC** Regional Coordinators, stationed nationwide in the 10 HHS Regional Offices, also facilitate and encourage coordination between **MRC** units.



Galveston County

Medical Reserve Corps



Galveston County MRC Contact

Richard Pierce
MRC Volunteer Coordinator
409-938-2222
rpierce@gchd.org

Tyler Tipton
Public Health Planner
409-938-2275
ttiption@gchd.org

<http://www.gchd.org/bt/mrc.htm>

Strengthening the Public Health Infrastructure and Improving Emergency Preparedness

The **Medical Reserve Corps** program is sponsored by the Office of the Surgeon General, in corporation with the White House's USA Freedom Corps and the Department of Homeland Security's Citizen Corps.



Medical Reserve Corps

National Priorities...Meeting Local Needs

About the Medical Reserve Corps

❖ The Medical Reserve Corps (MRC) was founded after President Bush's 2002 State of the Union Address, in which he asked all Americans to volunteer in support of their country. MRC is a specialized component of Citizen Corps, a national network of volunteers dedicated to ensuring hometown security. Citizen Corps, along with the Corporation for National and Community Service, and the Peace Corps are all part of the President's USA Freedom Corps, which promotes volunteerism and service throughout the nation.

❖ **MRC** units are community-based and function as a way to locally organize and utilize volunteers – medical professionals and others – who want to donate their time and expertise to promote healthy living throughout the year and to prepare for and respond to emergencies. **MRC** volunteers supplement existing local emergency and public health resources.

❖ **MRC** volunteers include medical and public health professionals such as physicians, nurses, pharmacists, dentists, veterinarians, and epidemiologists. Other community members, such as interpreters, chaplains, office workers, and legal advisors, can fill other vital support positions.

Galveston County Medical Reserve Corps (MRC)

Mission

The purpose of the Medical Reserve Corps is to strengthen communities by establishing a system for medical and public health volunteers to offer their assistance throughout the year, as well as during times of community need.

Objectives

- Recruit citizens to join the MRC
- Provide regular training to enhance volunteer knowledge and skills in emergency preparedness and response
- Conduct exercises with response partners to assess and improve readiness
- Have volunteers ready to respond to incidents and participate in community health events

3 Tiers of Membership

- **Tier 1** Licensed Medical Professionals
- **Tier 2** Individuals with medical experience, but no medical license
- **Tier 3** Individuals without medical experience

What Can MRC Volunteers Do?

- ❖ Vaccinate patients
- ❖ Distribute medication
- ❖ Screen patients
- ❖ Provide medical/mental health referrals
- ❖ Perform office duties
- ❖ Answer phones
- ❖ Perform translations
- ❖ Assist with crowd control
- ❖ Data entry

Assist local hospitals and health departments with surge personnel needs.

Participate in mass prophylaxis and vaccination exercises and community disaster drills.

Train with local emergency response partners.

And more...

