

Douglas County Medical Reserve Corps Newsletter

Some Help from KU

The 2007-2008 school year has brought MRC and CHIP a little bit of extra help. We are happy to have the help of Kansas University Senior Catherine Holman. Catherine is a Community Health major with a minor in Health Sport and Exercise Science and plans to attend nursing school beginning in the fall. I have kept her busy with some fun events out in the community and with some not-so-fun stuff from behind a desk but she's stuck it out and been a great asset to the program. So far Catherine has worked with students from the Boys and Girls Club, assisted at health fairs, school events and with WIC Activity Day here at the Health Department. Her favorite experiences so far have been giving hand washing demonstrations and helping create new, valuable materials for our program. We appreciate Catherine's enthusiasm, flexibility and helpfulness. Thank you, Catherine.



Catherine Holman

MRC TRAIN

TRAIN is a learning management system with a centralized, searchable database of courses relevant to public health. Through *TRAIN*, users have access to hundreds of public health courses from nationally recognized course providers. These courses are offered in the form of web-based learning, on-site learning and satellite broadcasts. Training is offered in 42 subject areas. Through *TRAIN*, skills and competencies are built. I encourage all volunteers to visit the *TRAIN* web site and consider completing any courses relevant to your skill set. Watch the upcoming newsletters for suggested course trainings related to our core competencies that we are trying to meet. If you have any questions about *TRAIN* or the web site feel free to contact me.

www.mrc.train.org



- **More than 750 public health courses**
- **More than 270 course providers, including APHA, OSHA, CDC, PHTN, WHO, FEMA and Centers for Public Health Preparedness**
- **Half of all courses are free**
- **Three quarters of all courses offer CEUs for college credit and 80 percent of those courses are free**



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Kellie Worley

MRC Planner

200 Maine St

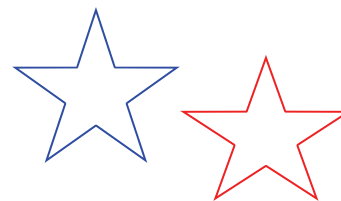
Lawrence, KS 66044

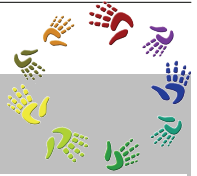
mrc@ldchealth.org

Upcoming Events

Volunteers Needed!

- **Healthy Hearts Fair at Lawrence Memorial Hospital on Saturday February 9th, 7:30 am-11:00 am. Volunteers needed to take blood pressures. Two non-medical volunteers needed to help with paper-work. Call Kellie if interested.**
- **Mass Dispensing Exercise. May 7, 2008 at the Douglas County Fairgrounds. More information to come.**





A Lesson (or 20) in Hand Washing

I know, I know, there's been a lot of requests for hand washing lately, here's why. I received an offer earlier in the semester to present to students who participate in the Boys and Girls Club After-School Program and of course I accepted it with excitement. When I received the schedule, that was another story! It had us booked to give demonstrations two to four days per week for six weeks in a row! It was definitely overwhelming but my cry for MRC Volunteers was heard and I was relieved to have booked several volunteers to conduct some of the demonstrations and I filled in the rest. Now that it's all said and done, I can finally breathe again and start looking for other volunteer opportunities. Fortunately, we were able to reach an estimated 500 kids through all of those talks! Furthermore, it was during cold and flu season; there couldn't have been a better time to reinforce good hand washing methods. The Elementary School programs are not the only place this valuable lesson has been taught, I sent a volunteer to a local business, DST Systems, where the employees were educated about proper workplace hygiene and hand washing. Also, some of the staff out at Community Living Opportunities (CLO) were recently spoken to about proper hand washing. We'll have cleaner hands throughout the community!

Avian Flu Update

A Gartner Inc. poll of information security and risk management professionals shows that most business continuity plans could not withstand a regional disaster because they are only built to overcome severe outages lasting up to seven days. The survey included 359 IT professionals from the U.S., Great Britain, and Canada and showed that 29 percent of organizations now have pandemic recovery measures in place, up from just 8 percent in 2005.

Total Cases: 350 Total Deaths: 217 Mortality Rate: 62.0%



MRC Update

- **Amy Franklin** conducted a hand-washing demonstration for the Boys and Girls Club after-school program at Woodlawn Elementary. Thank you, Amy!
- **Catherine Holman** conducted several hand-washing demonstrations for the Boys and Girls Club after-school program at the main site, Kennedy Elementary, and Woodlawn Elementary. Thank you, Catherine!
- **Aynsley Anderson** con-

ducted a handwashing demonstration for the Boys and Girls Club after-school program at Woodlawn Elementary. Thank you, Aynsley!

- **Janice Poull** conducted a handwashing demonstration for the Boys and Girls Club after-school program at Pinckney Elementary. Thank you, Janice!
- **Deborah Marr** conducted a handwashing demonstration for the Boys and Girls Club after-school program at Deerfield Elementary. Thank you, Deborah!

- **Melissa Farr** visited DST Systems and gave a talk about good workplace hygiene and conducted a hand-washing demonstration for their employees. Thank you, Melissa for your time and effort!
- **Margie Hinrichsen** gave hand washing demonstrations to students at Wakarusa Valley Elementary at their first ever health fair. Margie's husband, Doug accompanied her and helped. Thank you, Margie and Doug!

