

MEDICAL RESERVE CORPS NEWSLETTER

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The Medical Reserve Corps was established in response to the outpouring of volunteer support in the days following September 11, 2001. MRC is a component of the USA Freedom Corps established by President G.W. Bush, and coordinated by the Office of the Surgeon General. By joining the Medical Reserve Corps you use your special skills to make our community healthier for everyone.

If you know of someone who would be interested in joining our MRC, please have them contact me by telephone, 785.843.3060

The MRC call-down is scheduled for the week of April 2nd. This will be a valuable test of our call-down procedure's accuracy. If your contact information has changed please notify Cori. Thanks for your cooperation.



Upcoming Events

- The 2007 Baldwin City and Baker University Community Wellness Festival is scheduled for March 31st, 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon. The Festival will include health screenings, educational stations, activities and giveaways. MRC will be staffing a booth for pandemic flu readiness and preparedness. Please call Cori if you are interested in helping.
- Lawrence Memorial Hospital is hosting a disaster first aid training for adults. This program will give participants the chance to perform real wound care, splinting, and bandaging on simulated victims before a disaster strikes. The training will be held at LMH, April 14th, Lower Level, Room A from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. Please call Cori if you are interested in the training. (Pizza and refreshments will be offered at the end of training and co-sponsored by MRC)

Our first annual MRC Recognition was on March 12th. We had two very special guests. Gary Brown, Regional Medical Reserve Corps Coordinator, talked with the group about how important the volunteers are to MRC, and how important it is to continue to recognize all of the hard work you do. Pat Roach Smith, Chief Operations Officer at Bert Nash Center, provided training on what to expect from yourself and those around you when responding in a disaster. She discussed the phases of a disaster, as well as, the emotional changes that accompany stress during a disaster. Thanks to both Gary and Pat for their time. For anyone that was unable to attend the recognition please stop by and see Cori for your gift and t-shirt.



FYI...

“Alcohol remains the most heavily abused substance by America’s youth. This Call to Action is attempting to change the culture and attitudes toward drinking in America. We can no longer ignore what alcohol is doing to our children.”

Acting Surgeon General Kenneth Moritsugu, M.D., M.P.H

Developed in collaboration with the National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism (NIAAA) and the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA), the Call to Action identifies six goals:

- Foster changes in society that facilitate healthy adolescent development and that help prevent and reduce underage drinking.
- Engage parents, schools, communities, all levels of government, all social systems that interface with youth, and youth themselves in a coordinated national effort to prevent and reduce underage drinking and its consequences.
- Promote an understanding of underage alcohol consumption in the context of human development and maturation that takes into account individual adolescent characteristics as well as environmental, ethnic, cultural, and gender differences.
- Conduct additional research on adolescent alcohol use and its relationship to development.
- Work to improve public health surveillance on underage drinking and on population-based risk factors for this behavior.
- Work to ensure that policies at all levels are consistent with the national goal of preventing and reducing underage alcohol consumption.



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AVIAN FLU UPDATE

- Laos announced the death of a 42-year-old woman and a 15-year-old girl from H5N1 infection. This is the country’s first two human cases. The two cases have no apparent connection.
- China confirmed H5N1 infection in a 44-year-old woman who is a backyard poultry farmer.
- Egypt confirmed H5N1 infection in a 4-year-old girls which had recently been exposed to domestic backyard birds.

Total Human Cases: 277 Total Human Deaths: 168