

# Medical Reserve Corps Newsletter

## September is National Preparedness Month

The goal this month is to increase public awareness about the importance of preparing for emergencies and to encourage individuals to take action. This year, National Preparedness Month will focus on four different areas of emergency preparedness:

- Back to school preparedness
  - Business preparedness
  - Multicultural preparedness
  - Home and family preparedness
- \*\* For more information go to [www.ready.gov](http://www.ready.gov)

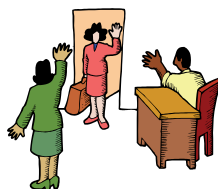


**Douglas County Preparedness Fair:** This is a community-wide preparedness fair. The fair will bring together key representatives from local law enforcement, fire and medical organizations, emergency planning and communication, not-for-profit, and disaster- and emergency-oriented voluntary organizations to educate and inform individuals and families to become better prepared for natural and man-made disasters. Spread the word and bring your friends and family to learn how you can better prepare yourself for a disaster or emergency. MRC Volunteers needed to help with our stockpile demonstration. Contact Kellie if interested.

## Hello and Goodbye

I want to take this opportunity to say goodbye. I have had a great experience here at the Health Department and especially coordinating the MRC volunteers. I have taken a position at Lawrence Memorial Hospital as a staff nurse. I hope to be able to work with all of you in the future as a volunteer. Thanks for all of your support and encouragement.

Regards,  
Cori Green



Greetings! My name is Kellie Worley and I will be the new Douglas County MRC Planner. I have been with the Health Department for one year now. In addition to MRC, I work for the Community Health Improvement Project as a Tobacco Prevention Specialist. We do education within the schools and work a lot of community events, which means I can find several opportunities for MRC volunteers to come help. I am excited to begin working with all of you and look forward to meeting you soon! I wish the best of luck to Cori as she



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**Kellie Worley**  
**MRC Planner**  
**200 Maine St**  
**Lawrence, KS 66044**  
**[mrc@ldchd.lawrence.ks.us](mailto:mrc@ldchd.lawrence.ks.us)**

### Upcoming Events Volunteers Needed!

- WIC Activity Day: Sept. 20, 2:30-6:30
- Lawrence Memorial Health Fair: Sept. 22, 7:30 am-11:30 am.
- Douglas County Preparedness Fair: Sept. 29, 10:00am-Noon at the Lawrence Visitors Center 402 N. 2nd street
- Handwashing Demonstration Sunset Hill Elementary: Oct. 3, 3:30 pm-8:30 pm.
- Handwashing Demonstration Prairie Park Elementary: Oct. 6, 9:00 am-Noon

begins her new career. She will be missed very much and I look forward to her visiting in the future! Thank you all.

Regards,  
Kellie Worley

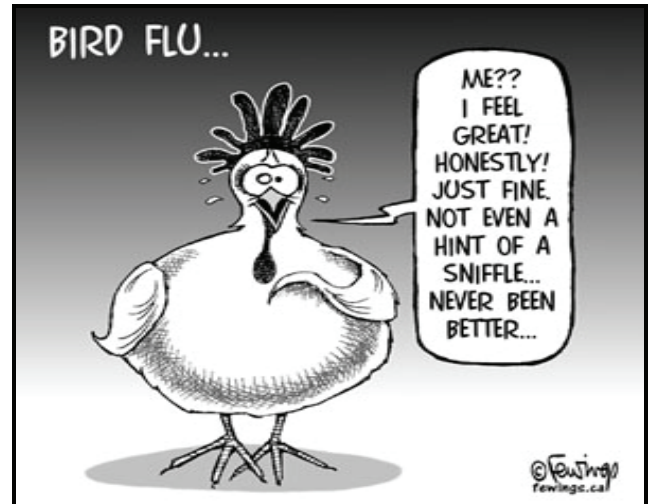
*Pass The Torch*



## Avian Flu Situation Update

On June 13, 2007, Michael O. Leavitt, Secretary, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, convened a Leadership Forum on pandemic preparedness, which brought together influential leaders from the business, faith-based, civic and health care sectors to discuss how to convince and help Americans prepare for a possible influenza pandemic. The Department hosted a short-term blog to expand the conversation leading up to and following the Leadership Forum. While comments are no longer enabled, the dialogue will remain available online as part of the Department's ongoing effort to help Americans prepare. This is a great site to visit, the web address is <http://blog.pandemicflu.gov>

Total Human Cases:	327
Total Human Deaths:	199
Mortality Rate:	60.8%



## MRC Update

- Amy Franklin performed a handwashing demonstration for Lawrence Parks and Recreation summer employees. Thank you Amy for taking the time out of your busy schedule to promote the importance of handwashing.
- Byron Edmondson and Donna Bergmann presented a stockpile demonstration at Berry Plastics Annual Safety Fair. Thank you for your time. We appreciate you!
- We would like to welcome 8 new members to our MRC unit. Welcome Connie Ruehlen, Julie Heatwole, Joleen Bechtel, Larry Schmitz, Debbie McQueeney, Catherine Holman, Peter Bock, and Deborah Marr. We look forward to working with all of you in the future!

## Digital Resources for Public Health Information: Podcasts

A podcast is a recording that is available online—like a radio show you can listen to at any time on your computer or portable media player. Podcasts are available from numerous organizations on a wide variety of topics, including medicine and public health. Check out podcasts from the following health-related organizations:

- Department of Health and Human Services: [www.hhs.gov](http://www.hhs.gov)
- National Institutes of Health: [www.nih.gov/news/radio/nihpodcast.htm](http://www.nih.gov/news/radio/nihpodcast.htm)
- University of Minnesota School of Public Health: [www.sph.umn.edu/podcast/](http://www.sph.umn.edu/podcast/)
- John Hopkins Medicine: [www.hopkinsmedicine.org/mediaII/Podcastsinstructions.html](http://www.hopkinsmedicine.org/mediaII/Podcastsinstructions.html)



## FYI: October is National Breast Cancer Awareness Month

Breast Cancer is the most common cancer among women, other than skin cancer.

About 178,480 women in the U.S. will be found to have invasive breast cancer in 2007. About 40,460 women will die from the disease this year.

The chance of a woman having invasive breast cancer some time during her life is about 1 in 8. The chance of dying from breast cancer is about 1 in 33. Breast cancer death rates are going down. This decline is probably the result of finding the cancer earlier and improved treatment.

~American Cancer Society

### Community Events

- September 12, Annual Oncology Fair  
5:30-8:30pm at Macelis
- September 22, LMH Health Fair, 7:30am-Noon
- September 29, "Walk for a Cure",  
Washburn University
- October 2, LMH Breast Cancer Seminar,  
5:00-8:00 pm
- October 27, "Stepping out against Breast  
Cancer Dance"  
Crown Toyota 3408 S. Iowa

