Rhode Island Disaster Medical Assistance Team’s Medical Reserve Corps

RIDMAT/MRC: IN-STATE, ALL VOLUNTEER, PUBLIC HEALTH EMERGENCY AND DISASTER RESPONSE MEDICAL TEAM
Presentation Objectives

- Describe the history and the mission of the National Medical Reserve Corps
- Discuss the activation systems in place for disaster response and public health emergencies both federally and in Rhode Island
- Discuss how the RI Responds System is used in the activation of RIDMAT/MRC volunteers
- Discuss examples of emergency and non-emergency deployments of RIDMAT/MRC
- Recognize the core competencies that are used to guide member training
- Review RIDMAT/MRC’s Naloxone and Overdose Prevention Education Program, NOPE-RI
The National Medical Reserve Corps program was formed as a direct result of lessons learned from the 9/11 attacks on the World Trade Center.

Health care professionals were among the first to volunteer, arriving at the site shortly after the buildings collapsed.

However, without a system in place to organize volunteers or check their credentials and training, well-intentioned health professionals were not efficiently used.
In the 2002 State of the Union Address, President George W. Bush called for all Americans to volunteer in support of their country.

“The mission of the Medical Reserve Corps is to improve the health and safety of communities across the country by organizing and utilizing public health, medical and other volunteers.”

Medical Reserve Corps allow states to create a mechanism to utilize local healthcare volunteers to respond and assist before federal assets are requested/needed.
National Medical Reserve Corps  
www.medicalreservecorps.gov

The National Medical Reserve Corps Office is headquartered in the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) under the ASPR (Assistant Secretary for Preparedness and Response) and the Office of Emergency management.

There are now nearly 2000 MRC units in the United States. These local MRC units help communities achieve their local visions for public health and emergency preparedness.
At approximately the same time that the national Medical Reserve Corps was being formed, a new federal program, called the Emergency System for Advance Registration of Volunteer Health Professionals (ESAR-VHP) was initiated.

The ESAR-VHP program requires every state in the nation to have a system in place to register healthcare volunteers willing to help during an emergency. ESAR-VHP establishes standards for registration, emergency credentialing of healthcare professionals, and activation and deployment requirements.

Rhode Island’s response to the ESAR-VHP requirement and the nearly simultaneous emergence of the Medical Reserve Corps was to establish RI Responds, a partnership of state Emergency Health Response Programs.
Volunteer Options

The RI Responds program supports a variety of personnel who may be utilized during disasters, all-hazard response efforts and public health activities. The system is used to register, credential, notify and inform willing individuals who are interested in volunteering when skilled volunteers are most needed.

There are three distinct options available to you as an interested volunteer in RI Responds;
- The Rhode Island Disaster Medical Assistance Team's Medical Reserve Corps (RIDMAT/MRC)
- The Statewide Emergency Registry of Volunteers (SERV-RI) and
- The Disaster Behavioral Response Team (DBHRT)

Learn more about each team below and make a choice that fits your interests.

www.riresponds.org

RI Responds is a managerial collaboration between the programs that assist with public health and emergency response.

RI Responds is sponsored by the RI Department of Health (RIDOH) and maintained by RI DMAT, Inc.

RI Responds provides registration and activation of volunteers associated with:
- SERV-RI
- RIDMAT/MRC
- DBHRT
Rhode Island Responds

Rhode Island’s Emergency System for the Advance Registration of Volunteer Health Professional (ESAR-VHP).

Used to credential ALL volunteers in SERV-RI (System for Emergency Registration of Volunteers and RIDMAT/MRC).

ESAR-VHP is a national requirement and credentials health professional volunteers to levels varying from 1 – 4 depending on hospital privileges and licensure.

All three organizations utilize this portal for credentialing and associated activation tool – T REX
Overview of RIDMAT/MRC

RIDMAT/MRC became recognized MRC Unit in 2003
  • Sponsored by RI DMAT, Inc; a 501 (c) 3 organization in Rhode Island

ONE MRC Unit in Rhode Island = RIDMAT/MRC

RIDOH contracted with RIDMAT/MRC to create and manage RI Responds to meet the ESAR-VHP requirements and credential and activate volunteers affiliated with RIDMAT/MRC, SERV-RI when necessary

RIDMAT/MRC is obligated to provide useful training to its registered volunteers.
With one State Department of Health, RI does not have a large public health work force; therefore, RIDMAT/MRC meets many of RIDOH’s deliverables.

3989 RIDMAT/MRC Members:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Members</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Registered Nurses</td>
<td>912</td>
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<tr>
<td>Non-Clinical</td>
<td>648</td>
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<tr>
<td>EMS</td>
<td>532</td>
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<tr>
<td>Allied Health Professionals</td>
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<tr>
<td>CNA's</td>
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<td>Students</td>
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<tr>
<td>Physicians</td>
<td>199</td>
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<tr>
<td>Behavioral Health</td>
<td>199</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>APRN</td>
<td>192</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pharmacist</td>
<td>133</td>
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<tr>
<td>Physicians Assistant</td>
<td>75</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dentist</td>
<td>32</td>
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<td><strong>Total:</strong></td>
<td><strong>3989</strong></td>
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</tbody>
</table>
The MRC was initially charged with assisting in emergency response efforts during emergencies and other disasters. **More recently, that mission has been broadened to include public health response in non-emergency settings,** supporting the community’s public health infrastructure and addressing ongoing healthcare needs.
Volunteer with RI DMAT/MRC

MRC members of all kinds are needed, including:

- **Healthcare Professionals** such as physicians, nurses, EMTs, pharmacists, dentists, nursing assistants, respiratory therapists, psychiatrists, and veterinarians

- **Public health professionals** such as nurses, health educators, environmental specialists, planners, and administration

- **Behavioral health & social service professionals** such as psychologists, social workers, counselors, interpreters

- **Individuals with no healthcare experience who can be called upon to assist with communications, administration and logistics, such as** clerical and data entry workers, greeters, traffic controllers, food service workers, supply staff, and IT and communications workers

Every MRC Unit is unique, so is each volunteer

- Each member decides on the level of involvement that fits their availability.
The Role of the RIDMAT/MRC Volunteer

RIDMAT/MRC volunteers are not first responders; rather, we supplement existing emergency and public health resources.

The RIDMAT/MRC volunteer serves a vital role by assisting their communities with ongoing public health needs.
RIDMAT/MRC Training

RIDMAT/MRC Prepares to be Prepared
Train how you Activate
RIDMAT/MRC Training

RIDMAT/MRC is a state-based 501 (c) 3 non-profit organization whose mission is to recruit, train, mobilize, manage and equip a volunteer response corps to enhance state capabilities. RIDMAT/MRC provides training opportunities to its volunteers in the form of field hospital operations at mass-gathering events across the state.

- RIDMAT/MRC provides treat and release capabilities via on-site providers or standing orders.
- Volunteers train in real-life events on real patients with the equipment that will be used in a disaster response.
- RIDMAT/MRC’s participation at these events lessens the strain on area hospitals and addresses surge issues for EMS.
Level of Care:

The Medical Aid Stations is designed, equipped and staffed specifically to treat patients who need medical treatment but do not require the advanced life support (ALS) provided in a hospital or medical facility. Patients who present with symptoms of a concurrent medical or surgical emergency, such as heart attack or major trauma, may need to be stabilized, but will be a priority for transfer to a hospital.

Scope:

1. This policy and its related protocols are intended for use only in public gatherings of groups of persons such as marathons, concerts and rallies, and in only those circumstances/situations covered by a Rhode Island Emergency Management Agency Mission Number as requested by RIDMAT/MRC leadership.
2. This policy is designed to give clear guidelines to RIDMAT/MRC providers and allow them the option of treating patients with minor injuries and or medical complaints without transporting the patient to a medical facility.
3. This policy will apply to any patient that meets the patient profile (below) that requires basic medical care only. RIDMAT/MRC providers are expected to use good clinical judgment and complete documentation. Providers may request transport to a medical facility for any patient regardless of the patient’s chief complaint, presenting symptoms or clinical assessment.
4. Any patient who asks to be transported to a medical facility, even if the RIDMAT/MRC provider feels that the patient could be treated and released under this policy, will be transported.
5. Any patient that exceeds the capabilities of the provider will be referred to local EMS and/or transported to closest hospital for more advanced treatment and care.

Inclusion Criteria:

**Patients Covered under this Policy**

1. Those patients with a reliable history and examination:
   a. Alert and oriented to person, place, time & events.
   b. No suggestion of drug, alcohol or other substance usage/abuse.
   c. No suggestion of psychological/psychiatric problems.
   d. No head injury (including loss of consciousness or altered mental status).
2. Patient is able to communicate adequately and to understand what is being communicated to him/her.
3. Injuries sustained where mechanism of injury is very low risk for significant injury.
4. Patient has no spinal injury, pain, tenderness or deformity on exam, and has a normal sensory/motor exam.
5. Patient does not exhibit any signs of chest pain or shortness of breath.
6. Patient will have vital signs within age specific normal limits.
Core Competencies

Focus of RIDMAT/MRC Training:
- **Health, Safety and Personal Preparedness**
  - Protecting the well-being of the DMAT/MRC member, the member’s family and the DMAT/MRC unit as a whole
- **Roles and Responsibilities of Individual Volunteers**
  - Introduce the volunteer to the on-the-ground practices they will encounter during an activation
- **Public Health Activities and the Incident Command System**
  - Incident Command System 100: An Intro to Incident Command
  - Incident Command System 700: An Intro to NIMS (National Incident Management System)
2019 DMAT/MRC Planned Training Events

- Events: 53
- Shifts: 447
- Hours: 3,770
- Economic Value: $95,020.63
Already A Member?

LOG IN HERE

Log in to your RI Responds My Account Page to sign up for training events, field hospital operation events and more.

LOG IN
TRAIN THE WAY YOU ACTIVATE

For the planned events, notification is normally provided via email and the sign-up process for training events is the same as it is for an emergent activation.

In an actual emergency, the most expedient forms of contact will be used, including email, phone, text and/or all three. Telephone contact will consist of emergency notification via RI Responds, which will broadcast an automated message to registered members. Listen carefully, as you may be asked to respond to the notification call by using the touch tone keypad on your phone or by calling back a designated number.

If for any reason you wish to decline the invitation to activate, you may do so. **You are always free to accept or decline the opportunity to respond.**
Shortly after you have agreed to participate in a training or activation, via online sign up, you will receive a system generated confirmation that will then be followed by Event Specific Instructions that include:

- Where and when to report, including where to park
- How long the event is anticipated to last
- What you should to bring with you
- Whether or not food will be provided

Remember to always bring your photo ID, your RIDMAT/MRC badge and your DMAT/MRC Team shirt:

- RIDMAT/MRC UNIFORM:
  - RIDMAT/MRC Team Shirt
  - RIDMAT/MRC Badge
  - Khaki Bottoms
  - Closed Toe Boots/Shoes

Anticipate security checks and traffic delays, even for some planned events.
Check-In

- When you first arrive at the site you will need to check in to ensure accountability and safety.

Just-In-Time Training / Incident Briefing

- Just-In-Time Training will cover information that is incident specific, and an event briefing will be provided to the group, along with a brief review of the Incident Command System. In addition, orientation to the site will be provided as well as a briefing on any specific details that pertain to the goals of the activation/training.
- If any disease - or agent -specific training is needed, that will also be provided.
- Finally, all volunteers with similar job duties will meet with a supervisor to review responsibilities, receive training if needed, and get answers to any questions they may have about their specific job.
Expectations

Be dependable, recognizing your commitment and responsibility to the volunteer assignment.

Respect the privacy of those being helped and maintain their confidentiality. Discuss concerns you may have only with a supervisor.

Treat all persons with a sense of dignity, self-respect and worth.

Follow safe workplace practices, including participation in applicable education sessions, using appropriate personal safety equipment and reporting accidents, injuries, and unsafe situations.

Work within your scope of practice.

Enjoy yourself.
Rhode Island statutes afford general protections to many categories of volunteers and some specifically address liability protection and workers’ compensation for DMAT/MRC volunteers called up at the request of the state EMA.

When activated in response to a disaster or public health emergency and in the training for disaster response, DMAT/MRC volunteers are treated like state employees for liability protection and for workers’ compensation (subject to caps which apply to all workers’ compensation awards)


SECTION 30-15-15
LOGISTICS RECRUITMENT

75% OF WHAT OUR TEAM DOES IS LOGISTICS

ALL VOLUNTEERS are considered logistics to the best of their abilities.

- SETTING UP TENTS / TAKING DOWN TENTS
- PACKING
- REHABBING
- CLEANING
- PREPPING
# RIDMAT/MRC Planned Events 2020

*Logistics Thursdays (1700-2100) and Saturdays (0900-1300) @RIDMAT HQ

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DATE</th>
<th>DAY</th>
<th>MONTH</th>
<th>EVENT</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>3/7/20</td>
<td>SAT</td>
<td>MAR</td>
<td>Irish 5k Pawtucket (1000-1400)</td>
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<tr>
<td>3/21/20</td>
<td>SAT</td>
<td>MAR</td>
<td>St. Pat's 5k Providence (1600-1400)</td>
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<tr>
<td>3/21/20</td>
<td>SAT</td>
<td>MAR</td>
<td>BoldrDash 5k Exeter (0800-1300)</td>
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<td>MAR</td>
<td>Shamrock Shuffle 5k North Kingstown (1000-1400)</td>
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<td>MON</td>
<td>MAR</td>
<td>RIDMAT/MRC New Member Orientation (1800 -1930)</td>
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<tr>
<td>4/22/20</td>
<td>WED</td>
<td>APR</td>
<td>RIDMAT/MRC New Member Orientation (1800 -1930)</td>
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<tr>
<td>4/26/20</td>
<td>SUN</td>
<td>APR</td>
<td>RI State Police Sc 0060 - 1600 Narragansett</td>
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<td>5/6/20</td>
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<td>MAY</td>
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<td>SAT</td>
<td>JUN</td>
<td>RIDMAT/MRC New Member Orientation (1000 -1130)</td>
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<td>6/14/20</td>
<td>SUN</td>
<td>JUN</td>
<td>Air Show Set-Up at Quonset, Time TBD</td>
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<td>6/19/20</td>
<td>FRI</td>
<td>JUN</td>
<td>Air Show Field Hospital Operations (0700-1700)</td>
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<td>6/20/20</td>
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<td>SUN</td>
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<tr>
<td>7/15/20</td>
<td>WED</td>
<td>JUL</td>
<td>RIDMAT/MRC New Member Orientation (1800 -1930)</td>
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<tr>
<td>7/4/20</td>
<td>SAT</td>
<td>JUL</td>
<td>Bristol 4th of July Parade (0830 - 1500)</td>
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<td>7/24/20</td>
<td>FRI</td>
<td>JUL</td>
<td>Blessing of the Fleet Road Race (1500 - 2200) Narragansett</td>
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<td>7/29/20</td>
<td>WED</td>
<td>JUL</td>
<td>Special Logistics Work Day (1000 - 1700) RIDMAT HQ</td>
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<td>7/30/20</td>
<td>THU</td>
<td>JUL</td>
<td>Set-Up Music Festival Field Hospital (1100 - 1700) Newport</td>
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<td>7/31/20</td>
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<td>JUL</td>
<td>Folk Festival: Shift 1 (0900-1500) Shift 2 (1500-2100)</td>
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<td>8/1/20</td>
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<td>8/7/20</td>
<td>FRI</td>
<td>AUG</td>
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<td>8/8/20</td>
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<td>SUN</td>
<td>AUG</td>
<td>Musical Festival Logistics Breakdown (1300 - 2100) Newport</td>
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<td>8/12/20</td>
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<td>TBD</td>
<td>TBD</td>
<td>SEP</td>
<td>APDA Optimism Walk TBD</td>
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<td>SEP</td>
<td>RallyRecovery Providence TBD</td>
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<td>SEP</td>
<td>RI Mission of Mercy TBD</td>
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<td>10/10/20</td>
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<td>OCT</td>
<td>Newport Marathon Field Hospital Set-Up (TBD)</td>
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<td>OCT</td>
<td>Scituate Arts Festival (0900 - 1700)</td>
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<tr>
<td>10/11/20</td>
<td>SUN</td>
<td>OCT</td>
<td>Newport Marathon (0900-1600)</td>
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<td>OCT</td>
<td>Scituate Arts Festival (0900 - 1700)</td>
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RIDMAT/MRC In-State Capabilities

- Robust in-state response capability
- Well-equipped medical cache housed in tractor trailer and team warehouse
- 5 Light Field Aid Station (LFAS) trailers
- Several rapidly deployable tents

- Communications trailer and satellite system
- Administrative trailer
- Logistics Support Unit trailers (LSU 1 & 2)
- Deployable emergency pharmacy cache
- Logistics Support Vehicles
- Medical gators
LIGHT FIELD AID STATION - LFAS
2015 Meningitis Vaccination Clinic

3060 VACCINATED IN 9 HOURS
Rhode Island Mission of Mercy Dental Clinic

MEDICAL TRIAGE
LFAS BOOTTED TO BASE-X 305
COMMAND POST
RANGER / GATORS
MASS CASUALTY RESPONSE UNIT
MEDICAL CACHE TRAILER
CONTACT INFORMATION

www.riresponds.org

WWW.RIMRC.ORG FOR MORE INFORMATION

INFO@RIRESPONDS.ORG or TRAINING@RIDMAT.ORG

(888) 549-3335