

June 2021



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MEDICAL RESERVE CORPS VOLUNTEER NEWSLETTER

MRC COVID-19 PANDEMIC RESPONSE

This has been a very busy eighteen months for our Medical Reserve Corps (MRC) unit. Volunteers have helped provide assistance to our Madison County Health Department staff as we mounted our response against the COVID-19 pandemic. For years, we have said that since we are such a small health department, we would need a lot of volunteer help in the event of a public health emergency. This has certainly held true during COVID-19. As we write our After Action Reports, I would like to share some of the MRC contributions with you.

From late January through mid-April, 2020, two MRC volunteers helped with social media monitoring and media monitoring and research. They contributed 39.5 volunteer hours.

From late April through mid-July, 2020, one MRC Volunteer helped provide guidance for Long-Term Care Facilities and businesses in Madison County. This volunteer contributed 40.5 volunteer hours.

During June, July, August, and October, 2020, eight MRC volunteers provided Check-In assistance at the Southern Illinois Healthcare Foundation COVID-19 Testing Site in Wood River, IL. They contributed 159.25 volunteer hours.

From mid-May through late October and from early to mid-December, one MRC Volunteer became a part of the Public

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MRC COVID-19 PANDEMIC RESPONSE (cont)

Information Team and conducted reviews of literature to help the team craft messaging for the health department. This MRC Volunteer contributed 130.5 volunteer hours.

From early January through late April, 2021, 124 MRC Volunteers provided assistance as Vaccinators, Educators, Observers, and Support Personnel at the health department's mass vaccination clinics. They provided 1211 volunteer hours.

To date, MRC Volunteers have contributed a total of 1580.75 hours!!! Thanks to your generous outpouring of support, we never waivered in our mission. We are so very grateful as are your fellow Madison County residents.

CONTACT INFORMATION

As you know, it is essential that we have your most up-to-date contact information so that we can reach you for routine matters and during our COVID-19 public health emergency response. You can ensure that we have your correct contact information by calling Justin Wilhite (618-296-6096) or emailing him at jmwilhite@co.madison.il.us. Please include your:

- Current name (include former name if your name has changed)
- Current mailing address
- Preferred email and
- Cell and home phone numbers.

Having current contact information is especially important at this time as we may need additional MRC Volunteer help in future pandemic response activities. Thank you!

IT'S BEEN AN HONOR

Dear Medical Reserve Corps Volunteers,

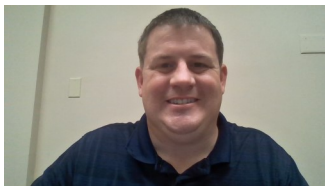
It has been an honor serving as MRC Volunteer Coordinator over the last twelve and one-half years. I am retiring and my last day at the health department will be July 16th. I have truly enjoyed the opportunity work with all of you and to grow our Medical Reserve Corps unit and expand our activities so that we are able to continue to help protect and promote the health and welfare of Madison County residents. Your support, dedication, and commitment are truly inspiring. I plan to join your ranks and become an MRC Volunteer upon retiring.



Please join me in welcoming your new MRC Volunteer Coordinator, Justin Wilhite.

With kind regards,
Cathy Paone, M.S.P.H.

NEW MRC VOLUNTEER COORDINATOR



I am beyond excited about the great opportunity to become the new Medical Reserve Corps Volunteer Coordinator for the Madison County MRC. I have fourteen years of experience as a health educator in the school setting and am very excited to transition over to public health.

I look forward to meeting you all as I transition into this new role and thank you all for what you do!

Respectfully,
Justin Wilhite, M.Ed.

"Those who

can, do.

Those who can

do more,

volunteer."

**Author
Unknown**

KEEP COOL

The official start of summer is June 20th and warmer temperatures are here!

The websites below are a great resource for summer weather safety!

<https://www.weather.gov/oun/safety-summer>

<https://www.ready.gov/thunderstorms-lightning>

<https://www2.illinois.gov/iema/Preparedness/Documents/severeweatherpreparedness.pdf>



For information about COVID-19 vaccinations in Madison County, go to <https://www.co.madison.il.us/departments/health/>



The **CodeRED**® system will be used to send critical communications, from evacuation notices to missing child alerts. Your contact information remains private and will only be used for community notifications. To join the database and make sure you receive notifications, please register at:

<https://www.co.madison.il.us/> (Scroll to the bottom and click the CodeRED box.)

OR

Text MadCoReady to 99411 from any mobile device to register.

Please call the Madison County Emergency Management Agency at 618-692-0537 if you need help registering or have any additional questions.



**Madison County Health Department
Medical Reserve Corps
101 East Edwardsville Road**