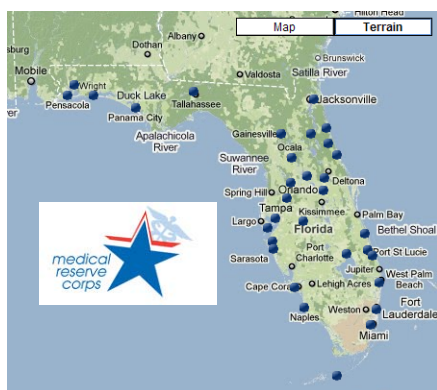




FLORIDA MEDICAL RESERVE CORPS NETWORK

The Office of Public Health Nursing is responsible for developing a statewide system of Medical Reserve Corps sites by coordinating efforts and providing resources, guidance, and technical assistance. Each local MRC site works strategically with community partners to meet local emergency needs. The Florida MRC Network provides the statewide connectivity necessary to build capacity and readiness. In Florida, there are 33 MRC units serving in 60 of the 67 counties. Volunteer membership is increasing steadily with the majority of our volunteers having health care licenses and the remainder being non-health care volunteers who are essential in supporting administrative functions. The map below identifies the location of Florida MRCs.



The mission of the Florida Medical Reserve Corps (MRC) Network is to augment local community health and medical services staff with pre-identified, trained and credentialed MRC volunteers.

- MRC units are community-based and function as a way to locally organize and utilize volunteers, health care practitioners and others, who want to donate their time and expertise to promote healthy living throughout the year and to prepare for and respond to emergencies.
- MRC volunteers supplement existing local emergency and public health resources. MRC volunteers include medical and public health professionals such as physicians, nurses, pharmacists, veterinarians, and epidemiologists.
- MRC volunteers also assist with public health community activities, such as school health screenings, vaccination campaigns, and public health preparedness presentations. MRC volunteers were instrumental during the H1N1 vaccination campaign assisting with education and vaccinations.
- Florida MRC volunteers have supported local hurricane response. MRC volunteers helped communities by filling in at local hospitals, assisting neighbors at local shelters, and providing first aid to those injured by the storms. Potential MRC volunteers can register at www.servfl.com
- The Florida MRC Network supports capacity development of local sites with resources, partnerships, and plans for effective all-hazards response.

The Office coordinates all preparedness activities with partners, including the Division of Emergency Medical Operations. The Medical Reserve Corps was founded in 2002 and is a partner program with Citizen Corps, a national network of volunteers dedicated to ensuring hometown security. For Florida-specific information or to learn how you can become involved in an MRC, visit www.floridamrc.com or contact the Office of Public Health Nursing at (850) 245-4746. To learn more about the national effort, visit www.medicalreservecorps.gov.

