

CARING COMMUNITY NETWORK OF THE TWIN RIVERS

GREATER FRANKLIN-BRISTOL CERT/MRC



The *RESPONDER*

Serving the Communities of

Andover, Alexandria, Bridgewater, Bristol, Danbury, Franklin, Groton, Hebron, Hill, New Hampton, Northfield, Salisbury, Sanbornton, and Tilton



UPCOMING EVENTS

~June 23 COOP Training:

The Greater Franklin-Bristol All Health Hazards Region is sponsoring a Continuity of Operations training for agencies serving functional needs populations.

The training will focus on identifying organizational essential functions and critical systems and the resources needed to perform these functions, as well as, developing a Plan-of-Action to strengthen your organization's ability to withstand and recover from an emergency.

Location: Franklin Regional Hospital from 10:00-1:30.

Cost: FREE

~June 25 Medical Reserve Corp Overview Class

Interested in MRC? If you have any type of a medical background we would love for you to be part of our team. Join us for the overview of what the Medical Reserve Corp and how it can support our communities.

Location: Franklin Regional Hospital from 6:00-8:00 pm.

Cost: FREE

For more details or to register for a class please contact Donna Quinn 934-0177 X 136, or dquinn@ccntr.org.

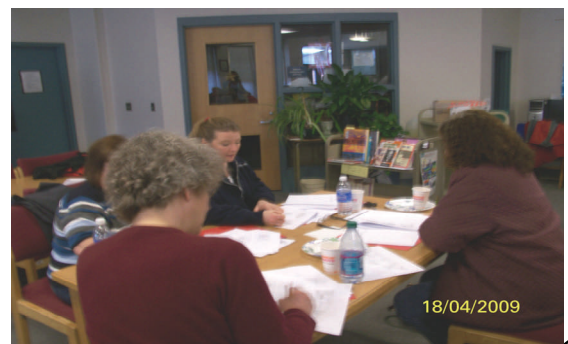
PREPARATIONS FOR STATEWIDE POD EXERCISE

On May 16, 2009 ten regions within the State of New Hampshire had planned to take part in a State-wide Point of Dispensing (POD) exercise. The exercise was designed to test our planning assumptions relative to opening a Point of Dispensing or a POD. A POD is a pre-designated area where community members would go to receive medications or vaccinations in the event of a public health emergency. To prepare for this exercise we held a workshop for all volunteers who would take part in this day. The workshop reviewed the purpose of a POD, discussion of key partners involved in that process and the reasons a POD might be opened. The day culminated with a walk-through of the POD site (Winnisquam Regional Middle School). As part of this exercise we were to be receiving a mock supply of medication from the Centers for Disease Control (CDC). The objective for our region was to have 200 community members pass through the POD to help us determine the rate at which we could dispense medication.

Just two weeks shy of taking part in this exercise we faced a public health event on a national level with the H1N1 Virus. Given the potential severity of this strain of flu a decision was made by the State of NH and the CDC to postpone our POD exercise. Despite this delay we had an opportunity to learn the process in real time for receiving assets from the CDC. There were many lessons learned by the Public Health Network, CCNTR and our key partners.

No new date has been established for this exercise at this time. If you are interested in being part of this public health exercise once rescheduled please contact Donna Quinn directly at 934-1077 X 136

CERT and MRC members take part in Point of Dispensing Workshop.



WHAT IS A PUBLIC HEALTH NETWORK?

In this region we have 14 communities that comprise what is known as the All Health Hazards Region 6. Since none of these communities have a full-time public health department they have entered into a memorandum of understanding with Caring Community Network of the Twin Rivers (CCNTR) to act as the fiscal agent and to build partnerships to prepare for and respond to all public health emergencies. Through this collaboration between the towns and CCNTR we have established a public health network. This network can provide trainings within the communities, disseminate information on a local and regional level and helps support programs and initiatives that are of interest to communities. In addition, both the CERT and MRC programs are sponsored through the Public Health Network.

Acronym

Alley

Ever wonder what all of the acronyms mean? Here is the code to figure some out. Look for new ones each month:

SNS: Strategic National Stockpile

PPE: Personal Protective Equipment

SOP: Standard Operating Procedure

ESF: Emergency Support Function

IAP: Incident Action Plan

WHAT HAVE THE CERT AND MRC BEEN UP TO LATELY?

While the CERT team has been in existence in this region for over two years the MRC is still a new program to us. We are very excited about having an opportunity to share both programs with our communities. We continue to have monthly training opportunities for both CERT and MRC. On April 18th we had a Point of Dispensing workshop attended by over 20 people. On April 23rd Bill Cote from the Local Government Center instructed our CERT and MRC on the basics of Traffic Safety Control. This is the second time that Bill has taught that class in our region, and it was once again very well received. On May 9th Jim Richardson, MRC Director and Donna Quinn, CERT and MRC Coordinator took part in "Choose Franklin" to recruit and market our programs. "Choose Franklin" is a day to celebrate the City of Franklin and the programs and businesses that are an integral part of the community.

Jim and Donna share information about CERT and MRC at "Choose Franklin."



CERT and MRC members attend a training on traffic safety sponsored by LGC (Local Government Center).

