Medical Reserve Corps—Voices from the Field

ASPR TRACIE-MRC Speaker Series

November 2026

The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services' (HHS) Administration for Strategic Preparedness and Response (ASPR) Technical Resources, Assistance Center, and Information Exchange (TRACIE) and Office of Medical Reserve Corps (OMRC) present a speaker series focused on how MRC units are boosting healthcare emergency preparedness, response, and recovery efforts in communities across the nation.

Rhode Island Disaster Behavioral Health: A National Scalable Model to the Brown University Active Assailant

Brooke A. Lawrence, Executive Director, Rhode Island MRC & Training, Innovation & Leadership Institute (TILI) describes the RI Behavioral Health MRC Trauma Response team, including how it leveraged existing factors and applied lessons learned to strengthen MRC planning, coordination, deployment readiness, and post-incident recovery support.

Minnesota HOSA Medical Reserve Corps Camp

Tristen Rothrum (Event Operations Manager) and **Summer Hagy** (State Director) discuss the three day, in-person, hands-on, intensive camp that takes place at Camp Ripley (Minnesota National Guard) and helps high school MN HOSA members explore careers in the emergency medical field.

APP MRC's Story of Resilience during Hurricane Helene

Nadia Chauhan (Program Manager), **Caroline Nunnally** (Team Lead), **Cynthia Baker** (First-year Intern), and **Olive Thompson** (First-year Intern) share how the Appalachian Medical Reserve Corps (APP MRC) supported the Hurricane Helene response. In addition to establishing a nonemergency call center with 24/7 availability and developing a related training program for APP MRC volunteers, the team managed a significant surge in volunteers who were deployed to help unload trucks of supplies for hospitals and clinics in the region, supporting more than six shelters in the area with MRC clinical providers as needed.

Team Rubicon and Medical Reserve Corps

Deb Wetherill (BSN, RN)**, Eric Hill** (MD, FACEP, FAEMS)**, and Jessica Ryder** (MD, MPH) discuss the history of Team Rubicon and their Medical Reserve Corps pilot program, whose goal is to deploy medical teams that can fill gaps in healthcare in times of crisis.

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Disaster MRC Telehealth Strike Team

Stephanie Payne, MBA, LSSGB (Disaster Telemedicine Project Manager) and **Suleima Salgado**, MBA (Principal Investigator and Puerto Rico/US Virgin Islands Liaison) discuss the background and recent experiences of the Southern Regional Disaster Response System's Medical Reserve Corps telehealth strike teams in this recording.

REVIVE! Virginia's Opioid Overdose and Naloxone Education Program

Larry Turner (Substance Use Education Specialist, Virginia Department of Behavioral Health Developmental Services), **Adreania Tolliver** (State MRC Coordinator for the Virginia Department of Health), **Alyssa Lewis** (Richmond and Henrico Local Health Emergency Coordinator) and **Kate Bausman, CVA** (the Eastern Region MRC Coordinator for Virginia) describe the REVIVE! Virginia's Opioid Overdose and Naloxone Education Program, whose goal is to empower communities across the Commonwealth to take proactive steps in combating the opioid crisis and saving lives.