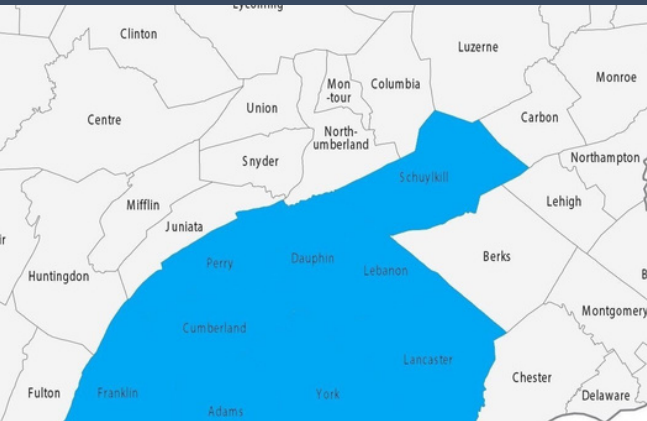


SOUTH CENTRAL PA MRC NEWSLETTER

31 JANUARY 2022



WELCOME TO OUR NEW NEWSLETTER!

We hope you find this monthly newsletter an engaging source of information about your Medical Reserve Corps. We plan to use this forum in addition to the ICS 201 (situation report) to provide updates and notifications of interest to our volunteer community.

2022 AT A GLANCE

- Number of Volunteers: 532
- Number of Deployments: 125
- Volunteer Hours: 4,000
- Economic Value: \$140,000

OUR MISSION

The MRC is designed to support existing Public Health, Healthcare and Emergency Medical Systems in South Central Pennsylvania and other areas of the Commonwealth. The MRC supports the efforts of existing agencies through the provision of trained/credentialed personnel when requested.



Brittney Fuhrman, MPH
SC PA MRC Unit Leader



Vaccine Clinic: Penn State University-Harrisburg
(Dauphin County)

The South-Central PA Medical Reserve Corps thanks its many volunteers who continue to support the nine-county region with a population of 2.4 million people. You are truly lifesavers!

The SC PA Medical Reserve Corps operates under the authorization and guidelines of the U.S. Dept. Of Health and Human Services for Strategic Preparedness and Response (HHS-ASPR). On July 1, 2022 the Emergency Health Services Federation (EHSF) became the official sponsor of the MRC and engaged its first permanent Public Health Specialist (Brittney Fuhrman, MPH) who assumed the role of MRC Unit Leader at the end of 2022.

SCPA MRC SPOTLIGHT: DR. JOSEPH COCCIARDI

The events of 9/11/2001 and subsequent anthrax attacks highlighted a need for coordinated cross-organizational cooperation and hence a federal MRC program was formed. Within 10 years, the MRC program had grown to 950 units across the USA, including a unit in Lancaster, PA. The South-Central Task Force had the foresight to request the MRC to expand this to an (then) eight-county service base, with the Task Force assuming fiscal responsibility for the expanded unit.

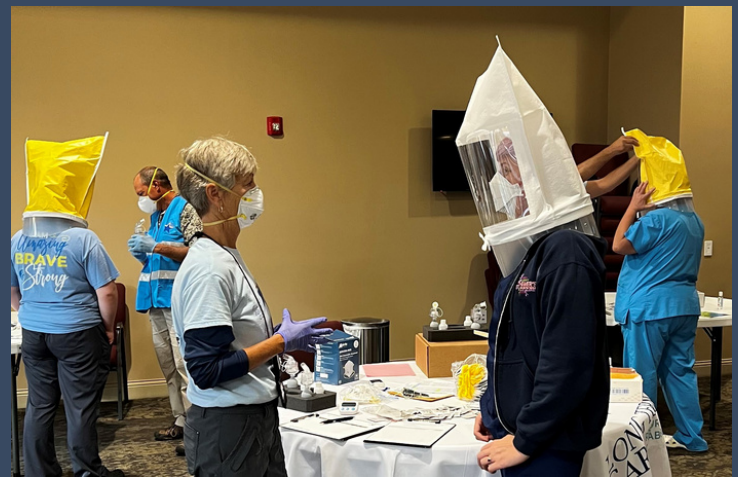
Adding to his distinguished career at national and regional levels, Dr. Joseph Cocciardi led our regional MRC from its infancy in 2012, growing the unit to its height of over 600 volunteers. Under his leadership, and thanks to generous grants from the PA Department of Health, National Association of County and City Health Officials (NACCHO), Pennsylvania Immunization Coalition (PAIC), and Penn State Research Innovation with Scientists and Engineers (RISE), the SC PA MRC expanded its scope to include Behavioral Health, Environmental Health, Service Access, along with traditional medical support.

Joe retired from his Unit Director role at the end of 2022 but continues to support our MRC as a consultant. We are profoundly grateful for his endless energy dedication to our region!



Dr. Joseph Cocciardi,
PhD, MS, CIH, CSP, REHS/RS

FEATURED 2022 ACTIVITIES



Respirator Fit Testing: Homewood at Martinsburg
(Blair County)



Vaccine Education: Fredericksen Library
(Cumberland County)

FEATURED 2022 ACTIVITIES



First Aid Tent: Canned Jam Music Festival
(Dauphin County)



Cooling Tent: York County Fair



Vaccine Education
(Lancaster County)



50+ Vaccine Clinic
(Lebanon County)

UPCOMING DEPLOYMENTS

Fit Testing

- 2/6 - Providence Place of Dover - York County (fully booked)

Vaccine Education

- 2/7, 2/14, 2/21 Lancaster General Health Vaccine Clinics (Times TBD)
- 2/10 - Fredrickson Library 10:00 to 11:00 AM
- 2/16 - East Shore Library 10:30 AM to 12:00 PM
- 2/16 - Burrows Elementary School Health Fair 5:30-7:30 PM
- TBD - Duke Street Library evening program

TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES

The following FEMA courses are required for all MRC volunteers:

- IS-700.B: An Introduction to the National Incident Management System:

<https://www.train.org/pa/course/1078831/>

- IS-100.C: Introduction to the Incident Command System:

<https://www.train.org/pa/course/1078825/>

After successful completion of these courses, please ensure the course is listed in the training section of your SERV PA profile:

<https://serv.pa.gov/profile>

A comprehensive training plan that will include First Aid/CPR/AED and Behavioral Health courses is under construction. Stay tuned for additional information, including training schedules and links.

NEW VACCINE COALITION!



The newly-formed South-Central PA Vaccine Coalition was created with the goal to improve vaccine education and vaccination rates in the seven-county region of South-Central PA.

Public health professionals at the Emergency Health Services Federation and the South-Central PA Medical Reserve Corps facilitated the formation of the South-Central PA Immunization Coalition, to include the following counties: Adams, Cumberland, Dauphin, Franklin, Lebanon, Perry, and York. Lancaster and Schuylkill Counties are covered by separate coalitions.

The next coalition meeting via Zoom is scheduled for 22Feb23 at 8:30. If you are interested in joining the coalition or need more information, please contact Alan Wirt at awirt@ehsf.org

USEFUL LINKS

- SERV PA: <https://serv.pa.gov>
- MRC Orientation Video: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jwmzum7W5X4&list=PLYVbq8oDgL9O9nhtOFnf4XfNhO074lgeK&index=4>
- TRAIN PA: <https://pa.train.org/pa/login>
- SCPA MRC mailbox: mrc@sctfpa.org



Vaccine Education: Dillsburg Farmers Fair
(York County)



Environmental Health Event at the Dauphin County
Canned Jam Music Festival