

SOUTH CENTRAL PA MRC NEWSLETTER

28 February 2023



The South Central PA Medical Reserve Corps (SCPA MRC) 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 SCPA 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.



 Find us on Facebook!
[@South.Central.Pennsylvania.Medical.Reserve.Corps](https://www.facebook.com/South.Central.Pennsylvania.Medical.Reserve.Corps)

Our new email address is: MRC@ehsf.org



VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT: JEANETTE GANG

Each month we will highlight one of our superstar volunteers as a way of showing appreciation from the SCPA MRC leadership.

Jeanette Gang is the owner of JAG Consultancy, Inc., a small woman-owned business and IT consulting company. Jeanette has intentionally scaled her business to allow her flexibility to support volunteer programs including the South Central PA MRC.

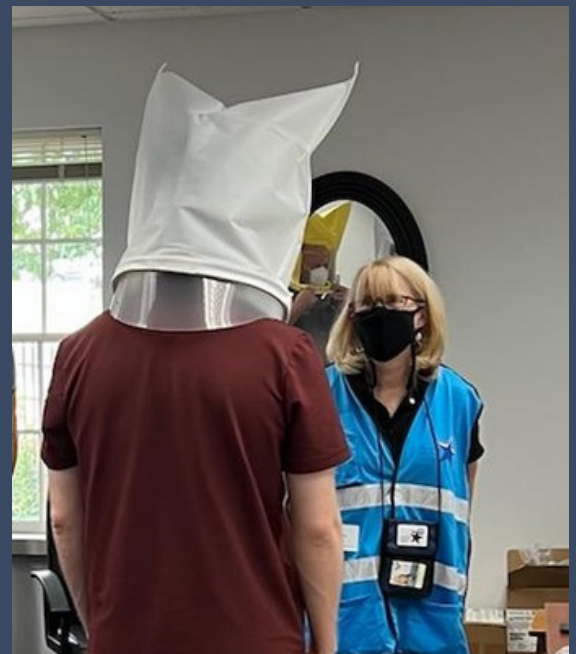
Jeanette joined the SCPA MRC at the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic in early 2020 and, in the past three years, has volunteered for many diverse deployments. Her first event was a mass COVID-19 vaccination clinic in Carlisle. She has since supported various additional vaccination clinics; greeting patients, gathering insurance and other information for intake forms, addressing concerns, and putting patients at ease. She also deployed to multiple respirator fit testing events at long term care facilities, conducting the seven-minute process to verify that a respirator is comfortable and provides the wearer with the expected protection.

Jeanette recalls that she especially enjoyed working on the COVID-19 information phone line, addressing caller concerns and scheduling vaccination appointments.

Please join us in thanking Jeanette for all of her contributions. She's truly a LIFESAVER!



Jeanette Gang



Fit Testing:
Poplar Run Retirement Living Community
Lebanon County

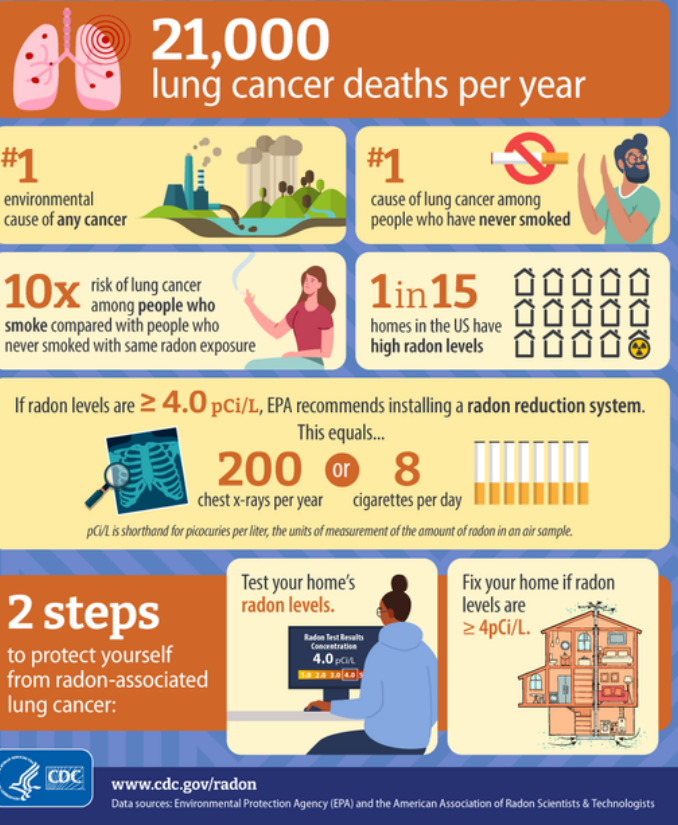
COMMUNITY WELLBEING: RADON

Radon is an odorless and invisible radioactive gas naturally released from rocks, soil, and water. Radon is a concern for homeowners because it can accumulate in indoor areas, and high levels of radon in the air can cause lung cancer. Pennsylvania has one of the most serious radon problems in the United States. Approximately 40% of PA homes have radon levels above Environmental Protection Agency's action guideline of 4 picocuries per liter.

The only way to know if you have unsafe levels of radon in your home is by testing. You can contact the PA radon office <https://www.dep.pa.gov/Business/RadiationProtection/RadonDivision> for testing or purchase a test kit in a hardware store or online. If your test shows that radon levels are above 4pCi/L or you are interested in reducing radon in your home, contact your state radon office to help you find a qualified or state-certified radon contractor in your area to fix your home.

Click on this link for more information: <https://www.cdc.gov/radon/radon-facts.html>

Radon by the Numbers



UPCOMING DEPLOYMENTS

Sign-up links will be provided through SERV PA messages

Fit Testing

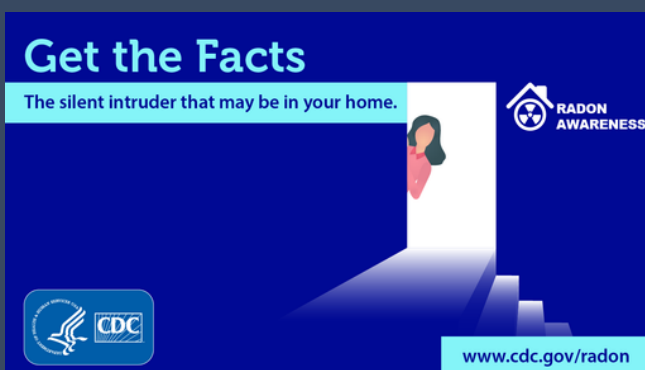
- 3/7 - Celebration Villa of York
- 3/8 - Middletown Home (Dauphin Co.)
- 3/13 - Messiah Lifeways (Cumberland County)
- 3/28 - Transitions Healthcare Gettysburg (Adams County)
- 3/29 - SpiriTrust Lutheran, The Village at Sprenkle Drive (York County)

Vaccination Clinic

- 3/20 - Franklin Terrace Community Building (Lancaster County)

Vaccine Education

- 3/16 - Walnut Street Library (Dauphin County)



TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES

Two online training courses are available for your consideration:

- Register by March 1: Underserved Populations Preparedness Planning for Rural Responders and Volunteers (online, course ID = MGT 403) Mar 9 – 10 <https://ruraltraining.org>.
- HIV Education and Training Series (online) starting Mar 14 www.maaetc.org.

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>

First Aid/CPR/AED/Blood Borne Pathogens and Behavioral Health courses are coming soon. Stay tuned!

COMING SOON: VOLUNTEER WEBINARS!

Quarterly webinars for volunteers will be scheduled for June 9, September 8, and December 8, 2023.

Look for announcements via SERV PA in the coming weeks!



USEFUL LINKS

- NEW SCPA MRC mailbox: mrc@ehsf.org
- SERV PA: <https://serv.pa.gov>
- MRC Orientation Video:
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jwmzum7W5X4&list=PLYVbq8oDgL9O9nhtOFnf4XfNhO074lgeK&index=5>
- TRAIN PA: <https://pa.train.org/pa/login>