

MRC SPOTLIGHT: STEVE LYLE, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR EMERGENCY HEALTH SERVICES FEDERATION

On July 1, 2022 the Emergency Health Services Federation (EHSF), directed by C. Steven Lyle, became the official sponsor of the SCPA MRC. The MRC reports into the EHSF's Public Health Division.

Steve Lyle plans to periodically provide relevant information to the MRC, beginning with this issue of the volunteer newsletter.

From Steve:

Hi everyone, I wanted to introduce myself and offer a few comments.

I'm Steve Lyle and for the last 20 years I've been the Executive Director for Emergency Health Services Federation (EHSF). I've been in EMS for over 40 years, as a 911 dispatcher, EMT/Paramedic, Operations Director, and now as Regional Director. Our organization is charged with maintaining and developing a system to handle emergency medical events for our eight counties: Adams, Cumberland, Dauphin, Franklin, Lancaster, Lebanon, Perry, and York (SCPA MRC also covers Schuylkill County).

Over the last 10 years we've taken a preventative posture in an attempt to reduce the number of individuals needing emergency treatment and transport to overcrowded Emergency Departments.

Our vision is to fill a gap that exists in South Central PA regarding Public Health to include nurse help lines at 911 centers,



use of Community Paramedics to visit patients before they call 911, and using interested Medical Reserve Corp members in numerous ways.

This is a very exciting opportunity to create something that does not exist elsewhere. We need to hear ideas from you all as we develop these things.

We will be reaching out through various ways to provide more information and seek your thoughts and ideas. I plan to provide more specific information in each of the upcoming newsletters.

Thank you for what you do for our citizens!

-Steve

NATIONAL HISPANIC HERITAGE MONTH

Each year, Americans observe National Hispanic Heritage Month from September 15 to October 15 by celebrating the histories, cultures and contributions of American citizens whose ancestors came from Spain, Mexico, the Caribbean, and Central and South America.

From hispanicheritagemoth.gov: “The observation started in 1968 as Hispanic Heritage Week under President Lyndon Johnson and was expanded by President Ronald Reagan in 1988 to cover a 30-day period starting on September 15 and ending on October 15. It was enacted into law in 1988. The day of September 15 is significant because it is the anniversary of independence for Latin American countries Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, and Nicaragua. In addition, Mexico and Chile celebrate their independence days on September 16 and September 18, respectively.”

Hispanic Americans are the largest minority group in the United States today. Hispanic heritage holds an indisputable place in the heart and soul of our Nation, and National Hispanic Heritage Month reminds us that the American identity is a fabric of diverse traditions and stories woven together. Since the beginning, our country has drawn strength and insights from Hispanic writers, scientists, soldiers, doctors, entrepreneurs, academics, and leaders in labor and government. Our culture has been enriched by the rhythms, art, literature, and creativity of Hispanic peoples.

Use this link to learn more: <https://latino.si.edu/hispanic-heritage-month>



COMMUNITY WELLBEING: FIRE PREVENTION



Did you know?

- A fire department responds to a fire every 23 seconds in America (NFPA).
- Unattended cooking is the #1 cause of home fires (NFPA).
- Almost 3 of every 5 home fire deaths resulted from fires with no smoke alarms or no working smoke alarms (NFPA).
- Carbon monoxide is the #1 cause of accidental poisoning in the US (CDC).

In the kitchen, do not leave burners or grills unattended. Make sure to use proper equipment and keep dish towels, clothing and other items away from heating elements and open flame.

Make sure your heating source is well maintained. Whether it's a fireplace, wood stove, a furnace or electric heat, check the equipment before using or have them serviced. Ensure draperies, furniture, and other combustible items are kept far enough away from a heating source.

Never leave a burning candle unattended. As an alternative, use battery-operated candles for ambiance.

Unattended cigarettes or overly full ashtrays start fires. Curious children might play with matches or lighters. Keep them well out of their reach.

Make sure smoke detectors and carbon monoxide detectors are working. Place a fire detector on every level of the home and test them monthly. Replace batteries annually. Get a fire extinguisher and make sure it's not outdated (most fire extinguishers have an expiration date). Place one on each floor of the house and in the garage, too.

Have an escape plan. Practice fire drills with your family and make sure everyone knows where to go depending on where the fire is in the home. Have at least two ways to get out of the house. Set a meeting place for everyone.

In the event of a house fire, do not try to salvage items before leaving the house. Personal effects can be replaced, but lives cannot. Instead, keep valuable documents in a fireproof box for recovery later.

UPCOMING ACTIVITIES

Vaccine Clinics

Licensed Vaccinators & Administrative Staff Needed

- 10/4 - Millersville University Breast Health Event (Lancaster County)
- 10/6 - Messiah University (Cumberland County)
- 10/9 - Downtown Daily Bread Kitchen & Shelter (Dauphin County)
- 10/11 - Cumberland County 50+ Expo
- 10/16 - HACC, Lancaster Campus (Lancaster County)
- 10/18 - Wilson College (Franklin County)
- 10/23 - Penn State, Mont Alto Campus (Franklin County)
- 10/25 - HACC, Harrisburg Campus (Dauphin County)
- 10/28 - Lancaster Women's Expo (Lancaster County)
- 10/31 - Penn State, Harrisburg Campus (Dauphin County)
- 11/1 - Elizabethtown College (Lancaster County)

Fit Testing

None currently scheduled.

***Interested in volunteering at
any of these events?***

Sign up at mrc.ehsf.org
in the Members Area

OR

Email vdestefano@ehsf.org



Training

10/6 - 8:00AM-4:00PM
Hazardous Materials Awareness
Training
(in person - Cumberland County)
Email vdestefano@ehsf.org for more
information

10/26 - 10:00AM to 2:00PM
Shelter Fundamentals (online)
<https://www.train.org/pa/course/1085489/live-event>

IMPORTANT ODDS AND ENDS

MRC CALL-DOWN EXERCISE

Thank you for responding to last month's call-down exercise.

198 of our 525 volunteers registered in SERV PA responded within two hours of the call down alert! This indicates that the South Central PA MRC is well-positioned to rapidly respond to an actual emergency event.

If you did not receive a call-down email from SERV PA, please check these two things:

- Does your SERV PA profile contain your current email address? To check, logon <https://serv.pa.gov> and click on the My Profile/ Contact tabs.
- Are SERV PA emails going to your email junk folder? If so, add SERV PA to your email contacts list.

If you need assistance, email mrc@ehsf.org



USEFUL SCPA MRC LINKS

Email Inbox: mrc@ehsf.org

Website: <https://mrc.ehsf.org>

LinkedIn page:

<https://www.linkedin.com/showcase/south-central-pennsylvania-medical-reserve-corps/>

SERV PA: <https://serv.pa.gov>

MRC WEBSITE: REGISTRATION FOR "MEMBERS AREA" IS OPEN

The volunteer-only site of the South Central Pennsylvania Medical Reserve Corps website is now active and ready for your enrollment! This site will serve as your "One Stop" to access information for upcoming events, register to volunteer for events, and access important reference materials.

Volunteer profiles in SERV PA are required by the State and therefore must be maintained. However, notification emails from SERV PA will now be restricted to required Call Down exercises and true emergency deployment alerts. You will no longer receive SERV PA notifications to register for events through Sign-up Genius.

To register and create your profile, please follow these steps:

- Click on this link (or copy and paste in your browser):
<https://mrc.ehsf.org/user/login>
- On the LEFT side of the webpage (entitled "Log In") Enter your email address as your username.
- Enter your full email address as your initial password.
- After your initial login, you will be prompted to change your password for future logins.
- Review the pre-populated profile information taken from SERV PA and edit/update as necessary.
- Remember to scroll down and click "Save" at the bottom of the screen.

Please email mrc@ehsf.org if you need assistance.