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SPRING, 2017



2017 Medical Reserve Corps Coordinators Workshop



Patrick Lynch

Manager’s Message

Patrick Lynch, RN  
Manager, Response Personnel Unit

Since the last issue of the DHV Journal, we have experienced a couple of significant events. The more harrowing of which was the mandatory evacuation for the Oroville Dam incident. It was amazing to watch the local news helicopter’s live video shots of car lights streaming in long lines in the dusk, heading in either direction away from Oroville. Unseen were the patient / client evacuations that took place that were coordinated by medical/health officials and providers at the local, regional, and state levels.

No small task, accomplished with little fanfare, but with good results. Even though my favorite program, Disaster Healthcare Volunteers, was not used for this incident, I wish to thank all those who worked hard to ensure the health and safety of our fellow citizens.

On another note, the EMS Authority hosted the MRC Coordinators Workshop 2017 on March 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> at the EMSA headquarters building in Rancho Cordova. It was a one and a half day event that brought together MRC Coordinators from across the state. The workshop had numerous presenters and presentations on topics of interest to Medical Reserve Corps Coordinators. We were honored to have CAPT. Patrick Denis, Executive Officer, National MRC office and also Katherine Deffer from the National Association of County and City Health Officials, (NACCHO) both present at the workshop. Also featured were presentations on DHV/MRC volunteer

resource requesting from the viewpoint of the Medical Health Operational Area Coordinator (MHOAC); a panel discussion of MRC/DHV volunteer response to the Lake County Valley Fire; and, a hands on presentation on “Stop the Bleed.”

I will close by strongly recommending that you, personally, take the time to learn to Stop the Bleed! and learn, too, that you can be the Help Until Help Arrives.

<http://stopthebleedingcoalition.org/>

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[https://www.fema.gov/media-library-data/1485448433094-8015e2e40cad2afe41ce3b84b0ddd3ea/UHA\\_Presentation\\_Deck\\_508\\_COMP\\_01-26-2017.pdf](https://www.fema.gov/media-library-data/1485448433094-8015e2e40cad2afe41ce3b84b0ddd3ea/UHA_Presentation_Deck_508_COMP_01-26-2017.pdf)

## MRC Corner



By Luran Capps



Sheila Martin

Sheila Martin, California State MRC Coordinator, is currently out of the office on leave. As a result of her being out, I am writing this quarter’s MRC Corner journal entry. I am very excited to say that I will be the State MRC Coordinator for California at the start of the fiscal year, July 1, 2017. I am eager to take on this new role and to work more with all of California’s 39 Medical Reserve Corps (MRC) Unit Coordinators. To better prepare me for my new role, California Emergency Medical Services Authority, sent me to the NACCHO (National Association of County & City Health Officials) Preparedness Summit in Atlanta Georgia April 25-28, 2017. I was so fortunate to be able to attend this wonderful

educational workshop and I want to share with you a small portion of my experience.

Upon returning, my manager Patrick Lynch, asked me what was the best thing I took away from the workshop. Although this workshop was filled with great presentations, knowledgeable presenters, exciting exhibits... I said without hesitation **NETWORKING!**

I met so many great people at this workshop. Not only was I able to talk to many California MRC Coordinators but I also spoke to local MRC Coordinators from other states, public health officials, volunteers, MRC State Coordinators, etc. It is so important to network and to build professional relationships. Networking gives us a chance to share ideas, lessons learned, share material, especially as to not reinvent the wheel.



Luran Capps

I went to many powerful informative presentations, to name a few: Mission Ready Packages; A Strategic Look at Managing, Maintaining and Engaging MRC Volunteers; Engaging Stakeholders to Enhance Readiness and Response; Lessons Learned from Cascadia Rising 2016 Catastrophic Earthquake Exercise, etc. I also attended Medical Reserve Corps Town Hall and Commander Skip Payne, Deputy Director of the MRC Program, was the moderator. We were provided with an overview of the MRC Network, including shared highlights of current efforts as well as a look over the past 15 years of the MRC Program. There was a celebration as a farewell for Captain Robert Tosatto, who has been the MRC Program Director for over 13 years.

I am thrilled and eager to take on my new role of State MRC Coordinator for California and I am very excited to work with my new MRC Family.

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# Go Bag (Bug out bag)



## Do you have your kit ready so you can safely evacuate?

Everyone in your house should have a Go Bag or a Bug Out bag - a collection of things you would want if you have to leave in an emergency.

There are no standard lists for a go bag, but generally speaking, you need food and water, cooking and fuel, lighting, First Aid Kit, power and communications, storage & tools and sanitation supplies for 72 hours. Add items you feel are important, or delete items as you wish. And lastly, don't forget the needs of your children and your pets!

### You could consider the following items:

<p>Medication !!!</p>	<p>3 Days water</p>	<p>3 Days food</p>	<p>Flashlight with batteries and light sticks</p>	<p>Emergency pack /backpack</p>
<p>First Aid Kit</p>	<p>Survival bottle (Whistle, knife, nylon rope, etc)</p>	<p>Hand crank phone charger and Radio</p>	<p>Mobile phone, paper, and pen</p>	<p>Water treatment tablets/ filter</p>
<p>Freeze dried food / Meals Ready-to-Eat (MREs) Box</p>	<p>Clothing, warmth items &amp; bandanas</p>	<p>Fuel &amp; waterproof matches</p>	<p>Disposable travel toilet bag</p>	<p>Hygiene Kit and Solar shower bag</p>
<p>Toilet paper and disposable wipes</p>	<p>Tools: Wrench &amp; pliers, Cookware: Can Opener and utensils</p>	<p>Pets food, Bird feed &amp; Battery air pump</p>	<p>Towel, blanket or a sleeping bag</p>	<p>Work gloves, Dust mask, Duct tape &amp; Tarp</p>
<p>Waterproof folder/bag for recent family photos, copies of IDs, passports, insurance information, bank and credit card account numbers, medical history, emergency contacts and family plan.</p>	<p>Sunglasses, sunscreen, insect repellent</p>	<p>30 gallon plastic trash bag with ties for sanitation</p>	<p>Leisure (books, cards, games, etc.)</p>	<p>Small amounts of money such as coins, five dollar/ one dollar bills in case you are not able to use your credit/debit cards</p>

Disclaimer: Pictures are just for illustration only. EMSA does not endorse or recommend any brand name products shown above. Please note that this is NOT a complete list of items to pack.

**PET EMERGENCY KIT CHECKLIST**

Stock up on items your pet may need during a disaster. Below are some items to help you get started.

- Pet first aid kit
- Food
- Water
- Bowls
- Extra collar
- Extra leash
- Medical records
- Two-week supply of medications
- Crate or sturdy carrier
- Blanket
- Recent photos of your pets (in case you are separated and need to make "Lost" posters)
- Toys and bones
- Disposable litter trays
- Litter or paper toweling
- Disposable bags for clean-up

U.S. Department of Health and Human Services  
 Center for Disease Control and Prevention

### Some useful links:

FEMA Ready Basic Disaster Supplies Kit: <https://www.ready.gov/kit>

CDC Pet emergency kit checklist:

[https://www.cdc.gov/phpr/readywrigley/documents/pet\\_emergency\\_kit\\_checklist.pdf](https://www.cdc.gov/phpr/readywrigley/documents/pet_emergency_kit_checklist.pdf)



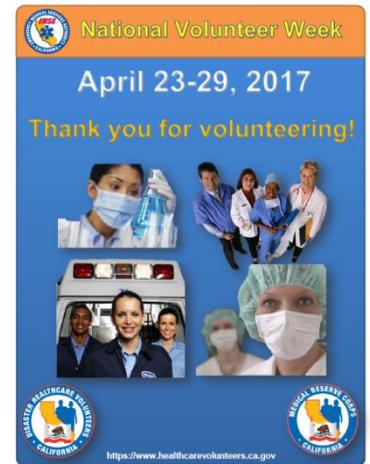
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# National Preparedness Calendar

## April

National Volunteer Week April 23-29, 2017

EMSA would just like to say again: Thank you for volunteering!



## May

National Military Appreciation Month

Congress designated May as National Military Appreciation Month (NMAM) in

1999 to ensure that the nation was given the opportunity to publicly demonstrate their appreciation for the sacrifices and successes made by our service members—past and present. Each year the president issues a proclamation, reminding Americans of the important role the U.S. Armed Forces have played in the history and development of our country.

National Nurses Week May 6-12, 2017

National Nurses Week begins each year on May 6th and ends on May 12th, Florence Nightingale's birthday. These permanent dates enhance planning and position National Nurses Week as an established recognition event. As of 1998, May 8 was designated as National Student Nurses Day, to be celebrated annually.



National EMS Week May 21-27, 2017

National EMS Week is celebrated during the third week of May. This awareness week is hosted by the American College of Emergency Physicians (ACEP) and it is a time to show your appreciation to the long hours and dedication that EMS workers endure to be on standby just in case an emergency arises

National EMS for Children Day May 24, 2017

Many communities in the United States join in on raising awareness about the need for specialized emergency care for children on Emergency Medical Services for Children (EMSC) Day. It is held on the Wednesday of Emergency Medical Services (EMS) Week.

National Dam Safety Awareness Day May 31, 2017

National Dam Safety Awareness Day occurs each year on May 31 to commemorate the failure of the South Fork Dam in Johnstown, Pennsylvania on May 31, 1889. The Johnstown disaster was the worst dam failure in the history of the United States, with over 2,200 lives lost.

## June

National Pet Preparedness Month

Important reminder to create an evacuation plan for the whole family!



CPR and AED Awareness Week June 1-7, 2017

During this week each year, CPR/AED classes and demonstrations are conducted, events are hosted and educational information is distributed on the importance of being trained in CPR and AED use. We encourage you to find out about local events in your area!

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# EMSA Hosts Medical Reserve Corps Coordinators Workshop



This past March, EMSA's Disaster Medical Services division sponsored a workshop for California's Medical Reserve Corps (MRC) at EMSA's headquarters. Medical Reserve Corps is a national network of local groups of volunteers engaging in local communities to strengthen public health, reduce vulnerability, build resilience, and improve preparedness, response, and recovery capabilities.

The workshop featured CAPT. Patrick Denis, Executive Officer from the National MRC program and Katherine Deffer, Senior Program Analyst from the National Association of County and City Health Officials, (NACCHO).



National MRC program's Patrick Denis hands microphone to EMSA's DMS chief Craig Johnson

Craig Johnson, Chief of EMSA's Disaster Medical Services Division opened the workshop by thanking the MRC leaders for their participation, and congratulated and encouraged them on their continued efforts to build upon their successful foundation. Mr. Johnson recognized the group for their dedication in helping their local communities and being ready to respond to help others in the event of an emergency.



Dan Smiley, Chief Deputy Director  
Stop the Bleed

EMSA's Chief Deputy Director, Mr. Dan Smiley, conducted an interactive training session with the attendees on the '[Stop The Bleed](#)', campaign that was well received by participants.

The workshop also featured presentations on topics ranging from Medical Health Operational Area Coordinator utilization of MRC, including an overview of the requesting process, Hospital Preparedness Program grant funding and MRC responses to the 2015 Lake County Valley Fire and the San Diego MRC hospital integration project.

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Miles Julihn, Marin County EMS Agency Administrator  
MHOAC Utilization of MRCs Overview of Requesting Process



Patrick Lynch, DHV Program Manager  
California MRC Overview

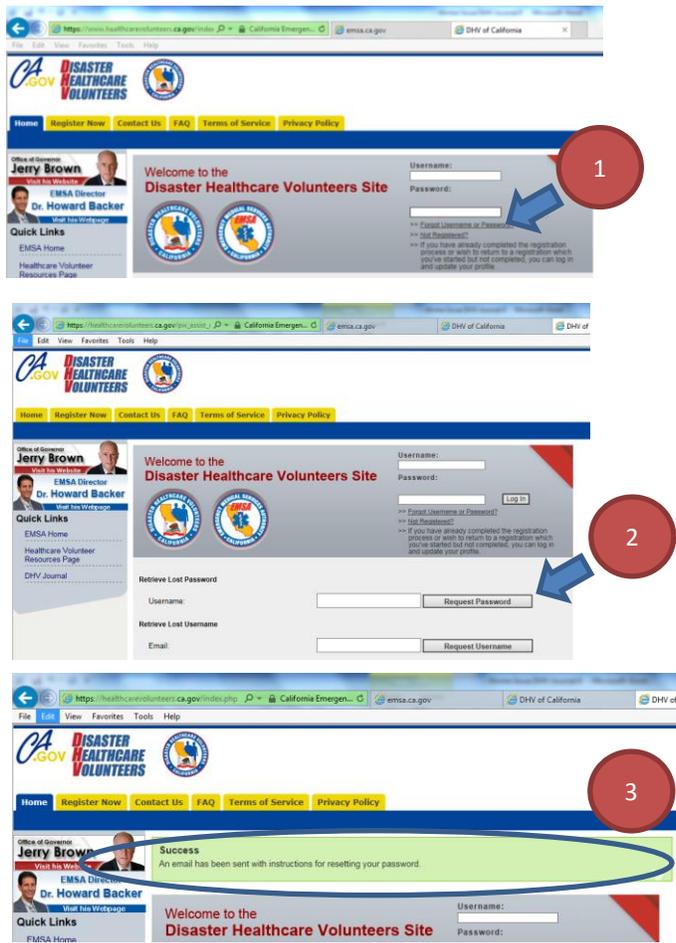




# DHV "User Tips"

## To recover your DHV login password

**Case 1:** If you have a valid email in the system and have access to that email account



**Step 1:**

Click "Forgot Username or Password" on DHV homepage:

<https://www.healthcarevolunteers.ca.gov/>

**Step 2:**

Enter your username in the box and click "Request Password".

*If you forget your username, you need to retrieve your username **first** by entering your email address and click "Request Username".*

**Step 3:**

A "Success" banner will be displayed when you enter a correct username. An email will be sent with instructions for resetting your password.

**Case 2:** If your email used in DHV was changed or you no longer have access to that email account



**Step 1:**

Click "Contact Us" tab on the top.

**Step 2:**

Click "Yes" to select your organization, Click "Organization Selection" and select your unit. Click "No" if you don't know your organization

**Step 3:**

Enter your name, and email in the box. Subject: "Forgot password". In the Message, please include your username or your existing email addresses. Click "Submit" when you are done.

If you still have issues accessing your DHV account, please email to [dhv@emsa.ca.gov](mailto:dhv@emsa.ca.gov).

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## DHV is California's ESAR-VHP Program

The Emergency System for Advance Registration of Volunteer Health Professionals (ESAR-VHP) is a federal program created to support states and territories in establishing standardized volunteer registration programs for disasters and public health and medical emergencies.

Disaster Healthcare Volunteers (DHV), California's ESAR-VHP program administered at the state level, verifies health professionals' identification and credentials so that they can respond more quickly when disaster strikes. By registering through ESAR-VHP, volunteers' identities, licenses, credentials and accreditations are verified in advance, saving valuable time in emergency situations.

### Why Do We Need ESAR-VHP?

In the wake of disasters and public health and medical emergencies, many of our nation's health professionals are eager and willing to volunteer their services. In these times of crisis; hospitals, clinics, and temporary shelters are dependent upon the services of health professional volunteers. However, on such short notice, taking advantage of volunteers' time and capabilities presents a major challenge to hospital, public health and emergency response officials. For example, immediately after the attacks on September 11, 2001, tens of thousands of people traveled to ground zero in New York City to volunteer and provide medical assistance. In most cases, authorities were unable to distinguish those who were qualified from those who were not - no matter how well intentioned.

There are significant problems associated with registering and verifying the credentials of health professional volunteers immediately following major disasters or emergencies. Specifically, hospitals and other facilities may be unable to verify basic licensing or credentialing information, including training, skills, competencies and employment. Further, the loss of telecommunications may prevent contact with sources that provide credential or privilege information. The goal of the ESAR-VHP program is to eliminate a number of the problems that arise when mobilizing health professional volunteers in an emergency response.

### Disaster Healthcare Volunteers (DHV)

In accordance with federal mandate, California has developed the Disaster Healthcare Volunteers (DHV) Program to facilitate and manage the registration, credentialing and deployment of volunteer healthcare professionals (VHPs) in California. DHV uses a software system for the management of volunteers, including the registration, notification, communication and credentialing needs associated with volunteer management. The DHV Program is the single source system operated and administered by local, regional and state, public health and emergency medical services agencies.

DHV is administered by all system stakeholders and managed by the California EMS Authority in partnership with the California Department of Public Health (CDPH). DHV volunteers include healthcare professionals (medical, public health, mental health, EMS and other personnel) who are willing to be called upon in the event of an emergency or disaster. DHV volunteers are pre-registered and pre-credentialed. Deployment of volunteers will follow Standardized Emergency Management System (SEMS) procedures.

To register on the DHV system or get more information, visit our website, [www.healthcarevolunteers.ca.gov](http://www.healthcarevolunteers.ca.gov)



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## Have You Updated Your DHV Registration Information Lately?

We depend upon each of you to update your DHV profile with your correct information. It is important that you take a moment to update your DHV System information when your information changes. Have you moved? Do you have a new occupation or a new employer? Have your email or phone numbers changed?

Please take a moment to update your file. Just log into [www.healthcarevolunteers.ca.gov](http://www.healthcarevolunteers.ca.gov) and click on the "Profile" tab. From there you can navigate through your information. Click on "Edit Information" to make your changes and then be sure to click on "Save Changes" when you have completed your edits.

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## The DHV Journal is Published and Distributed Via Email

News and information for participants in the Disaster Healthcare Volunteers Program administered by EMSA and operated by System Administrators in local communities and Medical Reserve Corps Coordinators throughout California. This Journal is published and distributed periodically to the partners of the DHV Program.



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