

LOS ANGELES MEDICAL RESERVE CORPS

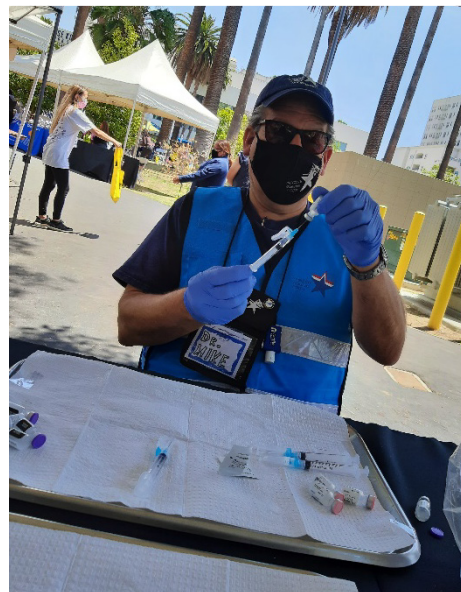


2021 has been an active and rewarding year for the Los Angeles Medical Reserve Corps (MRC) unit. From January to June 2021, Los Angeles MRC members donated close to 7,000 volunteer service hours to support COVID-19 vaccine response efforts through large-scale “drive-up” and “walk-up” Points of Dispensing (POD) sites for vaccine administration and vaccine distribution sites in partnership with local community organizations, pharmacies, and schools.

Los Angeles’ MRC unit serves one of the most diverse and populous counties in the nation. Prior to the COVID-19 pandemic, the unit had nearly 2,000 active members, and since then it has grown by nearly 40%, to 2,755 clinical and non-clinical members.

During the initial mass distribution of COVID-19 vaccines, Los Angeles MRC members assisted in clinical and non-clinical roles which included client registration, screening, vaccine administration, observation and monitoring for adverse reactions after COVID-19 vaccine administration, including support to the pharmacy team for vaccine distribution and vaccine preparation. Other roles included assistance with logistics, translation, line and traffic control.

One of the top strengths of Los Angeles MRC is its members who have been trained, exercised and deployed to enhance capabilities to serve the diverse and vulnerable population of LA County, and work cohesively as team in preparation of public health emergencies. Perhaps most important has been their willingness to assist during public health emergencies.





Every Los Angeles MRC member deployed to the field had a rewarding experience, and here are just a few testimonials.

“Volunteering was one of the highlights of the last 12 months and I’m so proud to have done so.”
- **Matteen**

“Over the past 2 months, I have been introduced to DPH and learned the value of this Department! The monumental effort to “vaccinate everyone” has required commitment and hard work from a team of dedicated public servants. It has been my honor to serve as a volunteer pharmacist on the Vaccine Response Team led by the LA County Department of Public Health. When the unexpected opportunity to volunteer arose, I was hesitant to sign up but now I’m thankful that I did.” - **Lorraine**

“It’s a hugely rewarding experience. Most people in the car line are extremely grateful for what you are doing. You realize that you are helping to get things back on track and are helping to save lives. I’d do it again when I have another day to spare.” - **Tom**

“I participated in the Vaccine response and it was an incredible experience. The site was extremely well run and I was truly impressed with the efficient manner in which the site was managed; DPH is doing a great job and I got several positive compliments from patients on how well-organized the site was and also how friendly staff were. One patient was so pleased, she said, “I may stay here all day!” - **Randall**

“This is the very best of America, of California, of Los Angeles. I’m so humbled, and proud to have the privilege of participating.” – **Susan**

For more information about the Los Angeles Medical Reserve Corps, visit <http://www.mrclosangeles.org/>.