Overview of the Central New York Medical Reserve Corps

The Central New York Medical Reserve Corps (CNYMRC) is an eight-county regional volunteer program. Our mission is to recruit, train, and organize healthcare and support professionals to enhance existing public health and emergency response capabilities during times of crisis.

The CNYMRC is an active participant in preparedness and response activities in the Central New York region. The CNYMRC is housed within County Health Departments with the Onondaga County Health Department as the lead agency. The CNYMRC partners with Departments of Emergency Management, the American Red Cross, hospitals, and other community organizations in our region.

The CNYMRC provides training opportunities to its volunteers in the form of online, in-person, and in the field training. Trainings address all aspects of disaster preparedness with an emphasis on mass prophylaxis, hospital operations, and mass casualty events across the region. The goal is to increase the capability of CNYMRC volunteers to prepare for and respond to public health and emergency response needs within the region.

The CNYMRC’s participation in community events throughout our region enhances team building within the unit while assisting community partners with executing their events.

2014 CNYMRC Membership

As of December 31, 2014 the CNYMRC has 244 registered volunteers: 156 (or 64%) are healthcare volunteers and 88 (or 36%) are support volunteers. Forty-seven (19%) volunteers joined in 2014, 54 (22%) during 2012-2013, 61 (25%) during 2010-2011, and 82 (34%) volunteers joined in 2009. Almost all (226 or 93%) volunteers reside in the CNYMRC counties. The remaining 18 reside in contiguous counties or attend college in our region while permanently residing elsewhere.

Professions Represented:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Profession</th>
<th>Count</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Physician</td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Physician Assistant</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nurse Practitioner</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nurse</td>
<td>80</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dentist</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pharmacist</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Respiratory Therapist</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EMS Professional</td>
<td>16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mental Health/Counselor</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Veterinarian</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other Public Health/Medical</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Support</td>
<td>88</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL MEMBERSHIP:</strong></td>
<td><strong>244</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Volunteers by County:

- **Cayuga**: 33
- **Cortland**: 18
- **Jefferson**: 15
- **Lewis**: 22
- **Madison**: 1
- **Onondaga**: 36
- **Oswego**: 95
- **Tompkins**: 18
- **Other**: 15
The CNYMRC has four membership levels. Seventy-one (or 29%) unique volunteers participated in unit activities in 2014, keeping or achieving Level 4 Full Membership. Volunteers at Levels 1 and 2 are encouraged to complete required training within the first year of enrollment. Those who were unable to complete the required training in the first year of membership must recommit to the unit and complete training within the second year. Any volunteer who has not completed training within the first two years may be removed from the roster. All the above steps are communicated to volunteers in writing.

### 2014 CNYMRC Unit Activities

During 2014, CNYMRC volunteers participated in 39 unit activities in our region. Volunteers amassed 719 hours valuing $19,413 (based on Points of Light Foundation values).

Administration activities included Leadership Committee meetings.

Community Events included the Special Olympic Winter Games, blood pressure checks at BNY Mellon, the NYS HOSA Competition, Komen Race for the Cure, personal preparedness education at the Madison-Bouckville Antiques Festival, the First In Foundation 5K Run, and the Salvation Army Christmas Bureau.

Exercises included Point of Distribution (POD) exercises with the Onondaga County Health Department, Syracuse University and Ithaca College, the Radiological Reception Center, and Mock Ebola Patient exercises by our Health Departments.

Public Health activities included rabies and flu vaccination clinics.

Training included required courses training days, special medical needs shelter training, the annual capacity building conference, pet first aid, and mobility assistance training.

### Required Training

All CNYMRC members are asked to complete the following training: 1) Unit Orientation, 2) Personal Preparedness, 3) Psychological First Aid, 4) IS-700, National Incident Management System (NIMS), and 5) IS-100, Incident Command System (ICS). All healthcare volunteers are asked to complete CPR/AED or its equivalent. Required courses are available online or as part of training day classroom instruction. Of the 244 volunteers, 184 (or 75%) have completed required courses allowing these volunteers to assist in emergencies as well as participate in drills and exercises in accordance with their healthcare licenses.
Communications Drills
Not included in the unit activities listed above are the three times a year ServNY Communications Drills. These drills prepare volunteers by exercising the notification system used by the CNYMRC during times of crisis. The notifications come as phone calls and/or emails.

The percent of volunteers confirming receiving the notification and the type of notification were as follows:

February 2014: Phone, 61.62%
June 2014: Phone and Email, 68.64%
October 2014: Email, 50.93%

2015 CNYMRC Unit Activities

Below are some upcoming unit activities for 2015:

Administration:
- CNYMRC County Leader Program
- Updating CNYMRC Unit Manual
- Unit “Meet and Greet” sessions

Community Events:
- Lake Effect Half Marathon
- Komen Race for the Cure
- Salvation Army Christmas Bureau
- Other community events as partnerships develop

Exercises:
- Point of Distribution (POD) exercises with Health Departments
- POD exercises with partners
- Radiological Reception Center exercise
- Other exercises as partnerships develop

Public Health:
- Rabies Vaccination Clinics, when requested
- Influenza Vaccination Clinics, when requested
- Ebola Mock Patient, when requested
- Preparedness Education
- Other public health activities, when requested

Training:
- Required Courses Training Days, through partnership development and as needed
- Capacity Building Conference
- Finger Lakes Regional Training Center courses, when offered
- POD Training
- Mobility Assistance Training
- Other training courses, when offered