

# NORTHEAST TENNESSEE HEALTHCARE PREPAREDNESS COALITION

Serving Northeast Tennessee and Sullivan County

## The Medical Reserve Corp

In addition to a strong group of stakeholders, the MRC is supported by volunteers from across the region. If you know someone who might be excited to serve, encourage them to email [jayne.harper@tn.gov](mailto:jayne.harper@tn.gov) or [smahaffey@sullivanhealth.org](mailto:smahaffey@sullivanhealth.org) to find additional information. We will have more about the MRC in future editions of our newsletter.

## Mental Health

Did you know our region led the charge for a state-wide Disaster Mental Health Team? Our model is being spread far and wide. In addition, an incredible amount of work has gone into building a team of instructors for the Mental Health First Aid course. Join our Mental Health Disaster Committee meetings to learn more about what we are doing to support those who suffer from mental illness. For more information, email [melissa.a.taylor@tn.gov](mailto:melissa.a.taylor@tn.gov).



## People...Our Greatest Resource

It may sound cliché, but it really is true. The most valuable and powerful resource we have are our people. When you are part of the Northeast Tennessee Healthcare Preparedness Coalition, you are part of a community within a community. The leaders of the coalition concern themselves with the general welfare of the people across our region. They truly care about the health and welfare of each and every person.

In this first issue of our new newsletter, we wanted to take a moment to recognize the real strength of our coalition. These individuals are leading professionals in their fields and bring a wealth of knowledge and experience to our coalition.

Interested in becoming a part of the coalition? Visit [nethealthcoalition.org/contact-us](http://nethealthcoalition.org/contact-us) and complete the contact form. We will get back with you ASAP.

## Upcoming Meetings

|                                  |                    |
|----------------------------------|--------------------|
| Licensed Care Subcommittee       | 08/08/2023 @ 09:00 |
| Advisory Committee Meeting       | 10/12/2023 @ 09:00 |
| Mental Health Disaster Committee | 10/12/2023 @ 13:30 |
| Quarterly Coalition Meeting      | 11/02/2023 @ 09:00 |

## Are You OPEN?

Did you know that FEMA host a website to help your organization make sure you are ready for emergencies? OPEN stands for...

### Organizations Preparing for Emergency Needs.



OPEN includes both a web-based, self-guided training, and a downloadable instructor kit that will guide participants on how to identify risks, locate resources, and take preparedness actions. When Community-Based Organizations, such as food pantries, daycares, and non-profits, are unable to sustain operations during an emergency incident, individuals who rely on them are exponentially impacted. Because of their importance in keeping the community going, OPEN is designed to empower these organizations to better prepare for incidents.

Visit [https://community.fema.gov/PreparednessCommunity/s/open-training?language=en\\_US](https://community.fema.gov/PreparednessCommunity/s/open-training?language=en_US) today to discover the many resources

## Vanderbilt Program in Disaster Research and Training

The Vanderbilt University Medical Center comprehensive emergency preparedness training program designed to assist **Tennessee long-term care** (LTC) and **skilled nursing** (SN) facilities. We provide long-term care and skilled nursing facilities with the tools and skillsets to meet and exceed the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) emergency preparedness “**Final Rule**” requirements.

The dedicated to further enhancing the preparedness level of all Tennessee facilities through training and technical assistance (TA). These trainings are designed with Tennessee LTC and SN facilities in mind but are available free to use by any long-term care providers nationwide.



VANDERBILT PROGRAM IN  
DISASTER RESEARCH AND TRAINING