

NORTHEAST TENNESSEE REGIONAL



National MRC: A national network of local groups of volunteers committed to improving the public health, emergency response and resiliency of their communities.

Hello, Northeast Region MRC Volunteers!

The Carter Count Disaster Animal Response Team (DART), a focused team within our MRC unit, is pleased to be the recipient of a one-time \$10,000 award from the National Association of County and City Health Officials (NACCHO). This will aide in getting the program set up with resources and plan for our first annual set of tabletop and walk-through sheltering exercises for animals. We are thrilled and thankful! This increases out capacity to plan for the future in a meaningful way.

This month I am sending out a special appeal to volunteers, their family members and friends. We have determined a need to establish a non-profit that can focus on fundraising and accept donations under the name "Friends of Carter County DART." This is a complicated process and we need assistance. If you are a lawyer or know of a lawyer who would be willing to help us get a 501c3 established, please contact me.

In the past month, many of you joined for the various trainings taking place. **Please check out the opportunities for training and events at the end of the newsletter. There is always something to learn along with sharing experiences with old and new friends!** Let me know if you would like training about specific topics.

Finally, the Northeast TN Healthcare Preparedness Coalition has updated its website. Check out the page for the MRC units in our region: [MEDICAL RESERVE CORPS – NETennHCPC \(nethealthcoalition.org\)](http://nethealthcoalition.org)! This newsletter will be posted here, so please bookmark the page to stay current.

All the best,
Jayne Harper

Gratitude & Impact

Please acknowledge everyone who has given generously of their time and expertise during February 2024 on behalf of our MRC unit. We had MRC volunteers from Sullivan County join too:

James "Mike" Agan Misty Agan Hayley Alvis Stephen Anderson Renee Bailey Mary Dave Blackman Dottie Blades Shelby Blevins Kim Bordeaux Gladys Bolawa Bill Bridgforth George Bridwell Linda Christiansen Christine Denny	Larry Denny Tonia Eads (Sullivan) David Edwards Margaret Gall (Sullivan) Tanya Gibbs Jenn Grigoryev Karen Hampton Billy Harrell Steven Hartley Wanda Henley Eddy Hogan Norma Hogan Deanna Irick Kathy Kelley	Frank Liebe (Sullivan) Kat Latham Susan Lodal (Sullivan) Allison Lundy James Mason Henry Miller (Sullivan) Leanne Miller (Sullivan) Mark Moody (Sullivan) Kevin Morrell (Sullivan) George Odom Natalie Olsen Lynne "Petey" Peters Donald Pfaefflin Matt Pollock	Amy Poore Shannon Posada Diana Reece Rhonda Roberts Joneen Sargent (Sullivan) Angie Sybert (Sullivan) Amy Thurman Kristy Tipton Peter Torok Wesley Walker (Sullivan) Anita Weiss Tyler Wright
			<i>Thank You!</i>

Thanks for all the community activities and participation in training!

Here is what MRC Unit #1340 has been doing:

- **Orientation Virtual Session at RHOC:** January 31, 2024
- **Disaster Mental Health Strike Team Deployment, Hawkins County:** February 1, 2024
- **CPR BLS Certification for MRC Volunteers at RHOC:** February 5, 2024
- **DART Needs Assessment Committee Mtg, Carter County EMA:** February 5, 2024
- **FEMA ICS-700 Certification Class, RHOC:** February 6, 2024
- **CERT (Community Emergency Response Team) & Terrorism Training, NERO/Conference Room:** February 8, 2024 (Thanks Kat Latham & Matt Clark!)
- **CERT Academy, Crossroad Church:** February 17, 2024
- **Assist staffing overflow shelter for unhoused people, Johnson City American Legion Post #34:** February 17, 18 & 19, 2024
- **Annual MRC identification cards:** February 2024



Matt Clark, CERT Volunteer sharing during CERT & Terrorism Seminar in Johnson City; 2.17.2024



Wanda Henley, MRC Volunteer & Michelle McNabb, TDH CPR Instructor, at NE Regional Health Office; 2.5.2024

Northeast Region MRC Unit Golf Shirts



There are some men's and women's Northeast Region MRC golf shirts available in select sizes. Please contact Jayne Harper (Jayne.Harper@tn.gov or 423.979.4596) if you have not already received one of these shirts. **Supplies are limited and they are yours at no cost to you.**

Carter County DART Clothing, Decals & Patches - Taking Orders Until 3.9.24

Clothing Item	Size	Cost
<i>Short Sleeve T-Shirt</i>	S-XL	\$14.50
	2XL	\$17.50
	3XL-6XL	\$20.50
<i>Long Sleeve T-Shirt</i>	S-XL	\$18.50
	2XL	\$21.50
	3XL-4XL	\$24.50
<i>Crew Neck Sweatshirt</i>	S-XL	\$17.00
	2XL	\$20.00
	3XL-4XL	\$23.00
<i>Zip Up Fleece Sweatshirt</i>	S-XL	\$32.00
	2XL	\$35.00
	3XL-4XL	\$38.00



Patches and Decals of the DART Logo are available: Patches are \$4.50 and Decals are \$2.75

We are taking clothing, patch, and decal orders for DART until Saturday, March 9, 2024. The order will be put in on Monday, March 11, 2024. We are taking cash or checks. If you would like to write a check, please make it payable to Jayne Harper or Kim Bordeaux. We will cash them and put the money together for the order. You can bring your order form and payment to Billy Harrel at the EMA office, or you can call Kim Bordeaux to plan a meet-up. Kim's phone number is 423-342-5406.



Northeast Region MRC Unit Fast Facts

On 3.1.2024 there were 427 volunteers in our unit.

Between January 31st and February 29th: MRC volunteers donated 327 hours during 102 "shifts" for a total worth of \$12,859.00!



Larry Denny, Billy Harrell, Christine Denny, Kim Bordeaux & Irene Hepler; DART Training 2.28.2024

Opportunities for Education & Service

TEEX Classes in Mid-Cumberland Public Health Region – TEEX is the Texas A&M Engineering Extension and is an internationally recognized leader in emergency response training and technical assistance. The following TEEX classes will be **held at the Mid Cumberland Regional Health Office at 710 Hart Lane in Nashville, TN 37216 from 8:30 am to 4:30 pm (CST) each day**. If you register for any TEEX class, you must attend both days to receive a completion certificate. Classes are free. Lunch will be provided, and seats are limited. If you have questions or are interested in enrolling, please contact Glenda Williams: Glenda.d.williams@gmail.com

- **March 13 & 14, 2024: TEEX PER 319 Medical Counter Measures, POD Planning & Response**

Click to

register:[https://urldefense.com/v3/https://my.teex.org/TeexPortal/Default.aspx?MO=mCourseCatalog&D=FP&C=MGT319&S=534;!PRtDf9A!vGntJRvO2sdyu_GQd9R3S8CY51delgIE22ussgUH939IRDuJF03qf-ITmLwm_w5G908xNi76Gv9v4uDv3N8D0fXWI3blwgdPoAV6AZY\\$](https://urldefense.com/v3/https://my.teex.org/TeexPortal/Default.aspx?MO=mCourseCatalog&D=FP&C=MGT319&S=534;!PRtDf9A!vGntJRvO2sdyu_GQd9R3S8CY51delgIE22ussgUH939IRDuJF03qf-ITmLwm_w5G908xNi76Gv9v4uDv3N8D0fXWI3blwgdPoAV6AZY$)

Mental Health First Aid -- This training is free and provides a 3-year certification. Please send an email to Melissa Taylor (Melissa.A.Taylor@tn.gov) to let us know of your interest and we will begin an online registration process through the National Council for Mental Health.

- **Wednesday, March 20th from 8:00 am to 4:30 pm at the Regional Health Operations Center in Johnson City.** Contact Melissa Taylor by March 11th to secure a seat in the course.

Stop The Bleed Instructors Needed -- Have you ever wanted to become a Stop The Bleed instructor? Check the link here to see if you qualify: [stopthebleed.org - \(bleedingcontrol.org\)-Virtual Training](https://stb.org/virtual-training). We are seeking instructors to assist with the MRC Conference on May 18th. **If you have approval from Stop The Bleed and have watched the online video, join us in person Friday, March 22 at ROHC from 9am to 11am.** Contact Jayne Harper to register if you plan to join (P: 423-979-4596; E: Jayne.Harper@tn.gov)



Karen Hampton learning about Washington County Ambulance at CERT Academy 2.17.2024



CERT Academy participants observing automated CPR device; 2.17.2024

Northeast Region MRC Unit Leadership Academy – We learned during last year’s Annual Full-Scale Hospital Surge Exercise and during the Jonesborough Water System shutdown that our unit needs strong leaders to ensure MRC volunteers feel confident in their role and responsibilities as well as complete the paperwork for insurance coverage. Our MRC Leadership Academy is ready for rollout ahead of this year’s Annual Hospital Exercise. There is a foundational seminar (approximately 45 minutes) for anyone who becomes an MRC leader takes followed by the topical seminar related to the leader role(s) a volunteer plans to assume. For this pilot test rollout, the topical seminar will be for leaders of the Annual Hospital Exercise. Some of you will receive email invitations to join based on responses to your MRC Volunteer Skills Assessment. If this interests you and you do not receive an email invitation, please contact me: Jayne.Harper@tn.gov or 423-979-4596.

- **Wednesday, March 20th at 6:00-7:30 pm at the Regional Health Operations Center in Johnson City.** This will be an in-person session with a light meal provided. Contact Jayne Harper by March 15th to secure a seat in the course.
- **Monday, March 25th at 12:00-1:30 pm for a virtual seminar.** Contact Jayne Harper by March 24th to obtain the link for the Academy.

The Readys! Emergency Preparedness for People with Access and Functional Needs -- Come join us if you have not yet attended a Readys! class. This is our MRC community education seminar for community groups. It’s great for beginning to get prepared as an individual or family. If you are familiar with the Readys!, come join and help out as a volunteer.

- **Thursday, March 21st at 9 am-10 am at the Roby Fitzgerald Adult Center in Greeneville located at 203 N College Street.** Contact Jayne Harper to register if you plan to join (P: 423-979-4596; E: Jayne.Harper@tn.gov)
- **Thursday, March 28th at 2 pm-3 pm at Plaza Towers Apartments in Greeneville located at 224 Thornwood Drive.** Contact Jayne Harper to register if you plan to join (P: 423-979-4596; E: Jayne.Harper@tn.gov)
- **Thursday, April 25 at 9:15am to 10:15am at Adult Day Care of Greeneville, 431 E. Bernard Ave.** Contact Jayne Harper to register if you plan to join (P: 423-979-4596; E: Jayne.Harper@tn.gov)

National Public Health Week, April 1-7, 2024 -- Saturday, April 6th focuses on Emergency Preparedness. Here are ideas for this topic: nphw.org/Themes-and-Facts/2024-Emergency-Preparedness

- **Our MRC unit will be teaching Readys! classes in Hawkins County during the week to honor National Public Health Week.** If you would like to be involved, please contact Jayne Harper (P: 423-979-4596; E: Jayne.Harper@tn.gov)

March brings the “It’s Not Luck!” campaign by Ready.gov

Check it out: [It’s Not Luck! | Ready.gov](https://www.ready.gov/its-not-luck)



TEEX Classes in Abingdon, Virginia – TEEX is the Texas A&M Engineering Extension and is an internationally recognized leader in emergency response training and technical assistance. The following TEEX classes will be held at the **Southwest Virginia Higher Education Center 1 Partnership Circle, Abingdon, VA. 24210 from 8:00 am to 5:00 pm (EST) each day**. If you register for any TEEX class, you must attend both days to receive a completion certificate. Classes are free. If you have questions or are interested in enrolling, please contact Monica McCullough: mmccullough@vaems.org

- **April 3 & 4, 2024: TEEX MGT 439 Pediatric Disaster Response and Emergency Preparedness** Click to register: [Pediatric Disaster Response and Emergency Preparedness Course](#)
- **May 20 & 21, 2024: TEEX PER 211 Medical Management of CBRNE Events** (CBRNE = Chemical, Biological, Radiological, Nuclear and Explosive events) Click to register: [Medical Management of CBRNE](#)



Anita Weiss, George Odom & Shannon Posada
at Carter County DART Training; 2.28.2024



Frank Liebe, Renee Bailey & Morgan (Intern for WA
County/Johnson City EMA); CERT Academy 2.17.2024

Annual Full-Scale Hospital Surge Exercise – We need volunteers to act as victims! MRC units in Northeast Tennessee participate in this exercise by acting a victim volunteer at area hospitals.

- **Tuesday, April 9th from 8 am-1 pm at Ballad Hospitals throughout Northeast Tennessee.** If you are interested in being an MRC lead at one of the hospitals or being a victim volunteer, please contact Jayne Harper (P: 423-979-4596; E: Jayne.Harper@tn.gov) to register by April 22nd. **We need approximately 100 more people from all counties in northeast TN!**

Community Health Fair – The Washington County Health Department is holding a health fair in the parking lot. The MRC will have a vendor booth to raffle a go-bag and educate the public about being prepared for disaster or emergency. **We need two volunteers to help staff the table.**

- **Tuesday, April 9th from 4:30-7:00 pm at Washington County Health Department** at 219 Princeton Avenue in Johnson City. We need to set up around 3:30 pm. Please contact Jayne Harper (P: 423-979-4596; E: Jayne.Harper@tn.gov) to volunteer.

Mental Health Committee of the Northeast Tennessee Healthcare Preparedness Coalition --

If mental health is something you want to address in our communities, come join this meeting. The committee members are planning exercises and events this year.

- **Thursday, April 11th at 1:30-3:00 pm at the Regional Health Operations Center (RHOC)** at 185 Treasure Lane in Johnson City. Please contact Jayne Harper (P: 423-979-4596; E: Jayne.Harper@tn.gov) to join the meeting.

Transporting Farm Animals Training for the Disaster Animal Response Team --

The Carter County DART is holding its bimonthly training. Come check out what we are up to and consider joining the team!

- **Saturday, April 13, 2024 at 9 am-11 am at Richie Farms in Elizabethton.** Contact Kim Bordeaux at bordeauxka94@gmail.com or 423-342-5406 to register and coordinate transportation.



Carter County Local Emergency Planning Committee Meeting --

If you live or work in Carter County and want to be part of the planning process for emergencies and disasters, please attend this meeting. Open to the public.


- **Tuesday, April 16, 2024 at 9:00-10:30 am at Carter County Emergency Management Agency** at 525 S Sycamore Street in Elizabethton. Contact Jayne Harper at Jayne.Harper@tn.gov or 423-979-4596 to let us know you plan to join.

IS-100, IS-700, IS-200 & IS-800 are needed to officially deploy during an emergency or disaster! Please complete these "one-and done" classes. They are available online at <https://training.fema.gov>; Sign in with your SID number and submit your certificates to Jayne.Harper@tn.gov. Certificates prove knowledge of class content and eligibility for deployment. Contact Jayne (Jayne.Harper@tn.gov; P: 423.979.4596) if you have any issues or questions about the online system. You do not need to take classes in any particular order although many people take them as 100, 700, 200, 800...

- The Carter Emergency Management Agency (EMA) and our MRC Unit offers in-person sessions of these four ICS classes in this format to support members in earning certificates. Contact Jayne Harper [(423) 979.4596 or Jayne.Harper@tn.gov] to register for an upcoming class is listed below:
 - **ICS-200: Basic Incident Command System for Initial Response** on **Tuesday, May 7th at 6-10 pm** (longest of the courses) at the Regional Health Operations Center in Johnson City.
 - **ICS-800: National Response Framework, An Introduction** on **Thursday, August 8th at 6-9 pm** at the Regional Health Operations Center in Johnson City.


NOTE:

- Registered and vetted Unit #1340 Volunteer qualifies for Level 4.
- Completion of MRC Unit Orientation qualifies for Level 3.
- Completion of IS-100 and IS-200 qualifies for Level 2.
- Completion of IS-200 and IS-800 qualifies for Level 1.



Northeast Tennessee MRC Orientation & POD Training -- This 90-minute seminar is required of all MRC volunteers. Participants learn about the MRC, roles and responsibilities of volunteering and basics about Point of Dispensing Sites (PODS). The class is offered virtually and in-person.

- **Wednesday, May 15th at 12:00-1:30 pm Virtual Session** – no maximum number. Contact Jayne Harper at 423-979-4596 or Jayne.Harper@tn.gov to register.
- **Wednesday, May 15th at 6:00-7:30 pm In-Person Session** – held at the Regional Health Operations Center at 185 Treasure Lane in Johnson City. A light meal is provided. Contact Jayne Harper at 423-979-4596 or Jayne.Harper@tn.gov to register.



Registration for the 2024 MRC Conference: Where Superheroes Hangout is open! Use the link above to complete the brief form and save a seat for yourself and a friend. We are always recruiting! You know how easy it is to register as an MRC volunteer online: [Medical Reserve Corps \(tn.gov\)](https://www.tn.gov/medical-reserve-corps) 😊

See next page for link to Registration...

MRC Annual Conference

May 18
Save the Date!



Mini Massages



Interesting
Training Topics



Food and Drinks

Networking



Fun!



Bristol Regional Medical Center

Click here: <https://tdh.readyop.com/fs/4ekW/071511ab>

8:00 am - 5:00 pm

Where Superheroes Hangout!

Thank you for being part of the Medical Reserve Corps!
You make a difference in your community!