

Okaloosa-Walton Medical Reserve

**Volunteers Strengthening Our Community's
Emergency Preparedness and Response**

Okaloosa-Walton MRC Newsletter



January-March 2015

Inside this issue:

P-2:- OWMRC Application
Policy Change

P-3: Influenza in Florida:
A note from FDOH-Okaloosa
FDOH-Okaloosa, Director Dr.
Karen Chapman

P-4: Project Preparedness:
FDOH-Okaloosa/OWMRC
Joint Training Event

P-4: Pathogen-X, What's
Next:
Florida 1 SMRT/DMAT and
OWMRC Joint Training Event

P-5: Commentary:
"Don't Bring One Home"
By
Frank L. Goldstein, PhD

P-6: Game Time

ANNOUNCEMENTS!

Upcoming Events MEETINGS

Board of Advisors
13 January @ 5:00pm

General Membership Meeting
24 January 2015 @ 9:00 am

Semi-annual Meeting
28 February @ 9:00am

All meeting locations:
FDOH-Okaloosa
221 Hospital Dr. NE
Fort Walton Beach, FL 32548

FIELD TRIP

Our unit had a lot of fun this past quarter with our tour of the water treatment plant and the joint training with FDOH-Okaloosa and FL-1 SMRT. If you have ideas for outings/events please let us know.

What Happens to Your Wastewater?

People flock to the Emerald Coast each year to bask in the sun and take in the crystal clear waters of our shores. This paradise would not be the pristine oasis we love if our wastewater was not properly treated. Have you ever wondered what goes into treating our wastewater to ensure it does not create a Public Health hazard for our communities nor negatively affect our environment.

On December 13th, members of the OWMRC toured the Arbennie Pritchett Water Reclamation Facility in Fort Walton Beach to learn and see first hand how the reclamation team manages this multi-million dollar process each day.

The team at this facility takes pride in their ability to make sure our waste water is safely processed and returned to the environment. This process is accomplished by using naturally occurring microorganisms to "eat" the waste and other toxins in our waste stream. The entire process is accomplished in 1-2 days when it would normally take "mother-nature" months or even years to complete. According to Mr. Darren Alford, Wastewater Operations Manager, the microorganisms can even neutralize/destroy deadly pathogens such as Ebola.



Mr. Darren Alford explains the process to OWMRC Volunteers



Waste taking a 4 million gallon microorganism bath.



Getting an up-close look at the microorganisms in action.

The team at this facility really takes pride in what they do and we are thankful for their dedication and attention to detail.

The OWMRC would like to thank Mr. Darren Alford, Wastewater Operations Manager, for taking time out of his Saturday to lead us in this educational tour.

3rd Quarter Volunteer Activities

The second quarter of Fiscal Year 2014-2015 was active. This organization donated over **66** hours of community outreach, training and recruitment efforts. Some of these events include Project Preparedness (Joint FDOH-Okaloosa and OWMRC Training), Pathogen X, What's Next? (Disaster Medical Assistant Team/State Medical Response Team Joint Training), Phlebotomy Class, OWMRC Board of Advisors Meeting, FWB Water Treatment Plant Tour, as well as initial MRC orientation training. The total value of your donated time equates to **\$3,328.44**. Thank you to the following OWMRC members for taking time out of your schedules to support our Corps and the Okaloosa-Walton community.

TIFFANY SOMMERS
ROBERT MAXWELL
DR. FRANK GOLDSTEIN
JAY BROSNAN
SANDIE BROSNAN
CRAIG BOYDSTON



ESTER MOLDER
BRANDON HOLLIS
MELISSA WALKER
DARRIN GOODING
PEGGY MCDEAVITT
GERALD BATTON



Okaloosa-Walton Medical Reserve Corps



January-March 2015

OWMRC Leadership Changes

Our organization has gone through a lot of organizational changes over the past several months. Katie Holbrook has assumed the responsibilities as OWMRC Director, Dave Brinkley is now the OWMRC Coordinator, Laura Brazell and Danielle May (FDOH-Walton) will be the Assistant Team Leaders and will help facilitate events and responses in Walton County.



New to our team is Sterling DeVerter. He will be taking over the reigns as the OWMRC Team Leader and will be overseeing the day-to-day operations of our corps.

Sterling is a recently separated Air Force veteran. He has spent the last four years as an emergency management specialist, HazMat technician, and counter CBRN responder. He has a MA in Emergency Management. We are happy to welcome him to our team!

Katie Holbrook
OWMRC Director
833-9240 ext. 2304
Katie.Holbrook@flhealth.gov

David Brinkley
OWMRC Coordinator
833-9240 ext. 2381
David.Brinkley@flhealth.gov

Sterling DeVerter
OWMRC Team Leader
833-9240 ext. 2112
Sterling.DeVerter@flhealth.gov

Danielle May
OWMRC Assistant Team Leader (Walton County)
850-892-8040 ext. 1125
Danielle.May@flhealth.gov

DBPR Mobile App



Ever wonder if your favorite restaurant or local hotel is meeting state standards. Take a look at this free application before your next outing. Users can verify licenses, search for inspections of Florida food and lodging establishments and submit complaints about unlicensed activity.

<http://www.myfloridalicense.com/dbpr/>

Stay Alert and Informed!

American Red Cross
<http://www.redcross.org/prepare/disaster>

FEMA
www.fema.gov/hazards/hurricanes

National Weather Service
www.nws.noaa.gov

National Hurricane Center
www.nhc.noaa.gov

AHA Basic Life Support CPR Refresher Course

Need your American Heart Association Basic Life Support Certification renewed? We offer FREE Refresher Courses! We have several courses scheduled for the next few weeks. Classes are held on Fridays and start at 8:15am and last approximately 3.5 hours. Classes will be held at the Florida Department of Health locations in Fort Walton Beach or Crestview. Class size is limited to six, so sign up now by contacting Dave Brinkley or Sterling DeVerter.

DATE:
January 23
January 30
February 13
February 27



LOCATION:
Fort Walton Beach
Crestview
Fort Walton Beach
Crestview

Dave Brinkley
850-833-9240 x 2381
David.brinkley@flhealth.gov

Sterling DeVerter
850-833-9240 x 2112
Sterling.DeVerter@flhealth.gov

OWMRC Application Policy Change

The Okaloosa-Walton Medical Reserve Corps leadership has initiated a new application process. All OWMRC applicants (interested persons who have completed all application forms and attended an OWMRC Orientation) must complete the required Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Training before they will be scheduled for their Florida Department of Law Enforcement/ Federal Bureau of Investigation Background Screening (BGS). These BGSs cost FDOH-Okaloosa \$55.45 each and are provided at no cost to all OWMRC Applicants.

The goal of OWMRC Recruitment effort is to recruit interested personnel who are willing to respond during emergency situations. Having a fully trained volunteer force is paramount in this endeavor. FDOH-Okaloosa was spending several hundred dollars each month on Applicants' BGS; yet, many Applicants never completed the required FEMA courses and resulted in a corps of volunteers who could not be utilized to their full capacity.

Therefore, beginning October 15, 2014, OWMRC Leadership decided that all Applicants must complete their FEMA training prior to being scheduled for their BGS. Applicants have 3 months, after their initial orientation, to complete the required training and be scheduled for their BGS. During this 3 month period, these individuals will be allowed to participate in all meetings but will not be allowed to participate in community outreach or training events.

This policy change does not affect current members who may be delinquent in the training; however, we encourage you to complete the training as quickly as possible and send your certificates to Dave Brinkley at David.Brinkley@flhealth.gov.

Training Links:

FEMA IS 22: <http://www.training.fema.gov/EMIWeb/IS/is22.asp>

FEMA IS 100: <http://www.training.fema.gov/EMIWeb/IS/IS100b.asp>

FEMA IS 700: <http://www.training.fema.gov/EMIWeb/IS/is700a.asp>



FEMA | Emergency Management Institute



Okaloosa-Walton Medical Reserve Corps



January-March 2015

Page 3

Influenza in Florida

CDC Health Advisory Regarding the Potential for Circulation of Drifted Influenza A (H3N2) Viruses

While influenza activity remains low in the US, FL is seeing an early influenza season with a significant increase in reports of Influenza Like Illnesses and confirmation of influenza in persons under 19 years of age. Two pediatric deaths have been reported in FL this influenza season.

The virus reported to date is influenza A (H3N2). About 48% of the influenza A (H3N2) viruses collected and analyzed in the US from October 1 through November 22, 2014 are antigenically "like" the 2014-2015 influenza A (H3N2) vaccine component, BUT 52% are antigenically different (drifted) from the H3N2 vaccine virus.

In past influenza seasons during which the predominant circulating strain has been antigenically drifted, decreased vaccine effectiveness has been observed. However, vaccine can still provide some protection against the drifted virus. Though the protection is reduced, this cross-protection might reduce the likelihood of severe outcomes such as hospitalization and death. In addition, vaccination will provide protection against circulating strains that have not drifted.

Because of the detection of these drifted influenza A (H3N2) viruses, the CDC is issuing this Health Advisory to re-emphasize the importance of the use of neuraminidase inhibitor antiviral medications when indicated for treatment and prevention of influenza, as an adjunct to vaccination.

Thank you for your vigilance on this issue.

Karen A. Chapman, MD, MPH
FDOH-Okaloosa Director

Are You Ready?

The 2014 Hurricane season has come and gone. Once again our area was untouched by what could have been a catastrophe. As our name implies, we serve both Okaloosa and Walton Counties. The current population of both counties is roughly 240K based off of 2013 estimates from www.quickfacts.census.gov. During the height of tourist season this number could rise to over 280K. If a natural/man-made disaster were to strike during this time it would put a huge strain on our Public Health capabilities. This is where the OWMRC comes in. Currently our membership is 166 with 57 fully deployable members. Being fully deployable means that you can be fully utilized not only here in Okaloosa and Walton Counties, but also deployed to anywhere in the state or country if a situation arises (NOTE: deploying is fully voluntary). In order to be deployable, members must complete three online Federal Emergency Management Agency course. These courses are:

- FEMA IS 22: <http://www.training.fema.gov/EMIWeb/IS/is22.asp>
- FEMA IS 100: <http://www.training.fema.gov/EMIWeb/IS/IS100b.asp>
- FEMA IS 700: <http://www.training.fema.gov/EMIWeb/IS/is700a.asp>



Currently we have several members who are one course short of achieving deployable status. In order to prepare for the 2015 Hurricane season and for all other responses, it is important that these trainings are completed.

If you are not fully deployable and want to know what you need, contact Sterling at: 850-833-9240 x 2304

Welcome New Members!

Brandon Hollis
Reba Bedoya



Holly Hoover

HAPPY NEW YEAR

Another year has flown by and 2015 has arrived. From all of the OWMRC Board of Advisors and FDOH-Okaloosa team, we hope that 2015 will be a safe and prosperous year for you and your families.

We look forward to seeing you at our upcoming meetings, trainings and exercise events.



everbridge/
SERVFL

On December 22 the Okaloosa-Walton MRC conducted a quarterly Call Down Drill. Below are the OWMRC stats for this drill.

Confirmed: 107

Not Confirmed: 65

Unreachable: 2

This is a 99% increase from previous response results.

!!!GOOD JOB!!!

CONGRATULATIONS!!

Holly Hoover
Robert Maxwell
Tiffany Sommers
Reba Bedoya

These OWMRC members completed all of there FEMA training requirements needed to become a fully deployable OWMRC member.

All MRC volunteers who have achieved deployment status during the year will be recognized at our Semi-annual Meeting on **28 February @ 9:00**



Okaloosa-Walton Medical Reserve Corps

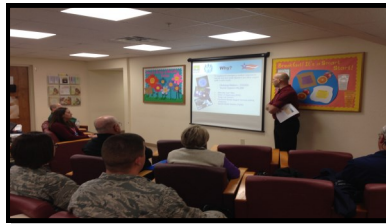


January-March 2015

Page 4

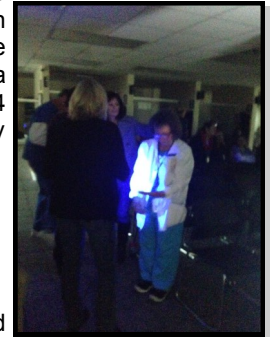
Project Preparedness OWMRC and FDOH-Okaloosa Joint Training

On November 18th, the OWMRC and FDOH-Okaloosa participated in a joint preparedness training event. This year's outbreak of Ebola (EVD) raised many questions regarding our individual safety and the ability of our healthcare system to protect against and respond to an EVD exposure. The



(above) Dave Brinkley highlights the OWMRC's role during an emergency response.

goal of this joint training event was to educate FDOH employees and OWMRC members on CDC guidance regarding proper donning/doffing of Personal Protective Equipment, Personal measures to keep yourself safe, FDOH-Okaloosa's Alternate Care Site (ACS) plans in the event of an epidemic outbreak, OWMRC's role in supporting FDOH-Okaloosa during a response, and to stress 4 other threats to our health and safety other than EVD. These 4 greater threats range from vehicle accident related deaths, obesity, and vector borne diseases /illnesses which frequent our area.



(above) Glo Germ was used to highlight how easily viruses can spread from human contact.

This joint training event was attended by several OWMRC members and guests. We hope to see you at the next joint training event.



(left) OWMRC members and FDOH-Okaloosa employees

Training Ideas?

If you have ideas for training that you think would be beneficial for our members please contact Sterling DeVerter at 850-833-9240 x 2304 or Sterling.DeVerter@flhealth.gov



Teamwork in training builds a stronger unit.

HELPFUL FDOH LINKS

FDOH-Okaloosa

<http://okaloosa.floridahealth.gov/>

Preparedness & Response

<http://www.floridahealth.gov/programs-and-services/emergency-preparedness-and-response/index.html>

OWMRC

<http://okaloosa.floridahealth.gov/programs-and-services/emergency-preparedness-and-response/medical-reserve-corps.html>



- 5- Eat 5 or more fruits/vegetables daily
- 2- Limit recreational screen time to 2 hours or less daily
- 1- Be physically active at least one hour each day
- 0- Cut back on sugar sweetened beverages, and eliminate use of and exposure to tobacco and nicotine products.

Pathogen "X", What's Next?

On Saturday, November 8th, the OWMRC joined Florida 1 State Medical Response Team (SMRT) and Disaster Medical Assistance Team (DMAT) for a joint training session. The training began with Doc Clinchy, the SMRT/DMAT Public Information Officer/Training Chief, providing an overview and beginner orientation to the SMRT/DMAT mission. It was a great opportunity to see how our organizations meld during emergency response situations.

The main training focused on a snapshot of FDOH-Okaloosa's response to an epidemic outbreak. FDOH-Okaloosa was represented by Katie Holbrook, the Emergency Preparedness and Response Director and OWMRC Coordinator, Ashley Rendon, Katherine Beedie, and Erika Cathey, from the FDOH—Okaloosa Epidemiology team. The lecture highlighted how viruses are transmitted, epidemiological contact tracing practices, disease surveillance as well as control measures. It also highlighted the emergency response structures that would occur in Okaloosa county. Many of these response structures would require OWMRC, SMRT, and DMAT volunteers, so it was a great overview of what to expect.

FDOH—Okaloosa and OWMRC would like to thank the FL1SMRT/DMAT for inviting us to speak at this event and we look forward to future joint training/exercise opportunities.



RABIES UPDATE

OKALOOSA COUNTY- On November 17, the rabies alert issued on September 17 was lifted. There had been no new reports of rabid animals since the September alert. The alert was for the communities of Florosa, Mary Esther, Hurlburt Field & adjacent areas of Eglin Air Force Base, Wright, Ocean City, Fort Walton Beach and Shalimar (including Poquito Bayou and the Lake Lorraine area.

For further information about rabies, please go to the Florida Department of Health website at: <http://www.floridahealth.gov/diseases-and-conditions/rabies/index.html>.



To learn more about restocking your disaster supply kit visit these sites:

Make a Plan

<http://www.ready.gov/make-a-plan>

Prepare a Kit

<http://www.ready.gov/kit>

SERT Disaster Kit

<http://www.floridadisaster.org/supplykit.htm>

FEMA Disaster Kit

<http://www.fema.gov/pdf/library/fdsk.pdf>

NOAA Hurricane Preparedness

<http://www.nhc.noaa.gov/prepare/ready.php>

Be Prepared!



Don't Bring One Home: Part II
2014 UAC Deployment
By Frank L. Goldstein PhD

As discussed in our last newsletter I have several lessons to share concerning the 2014 Unaccompanied Immigrant Children (UAC) deployment. For those involved with DMAT, the deployment was limited to only a few DMAT members, medical personnel and bilingual psychologists, the DMAT teams that were formed represented DMAT units from across the United States. None of the members at the shelter I was assigned to in Ft. Sill, Oklahoma had worked together or knew each prior to the deployment. Additionally, orders had been issued with less than twelve hour notice and had changed while all members were in transit.

Thus, the first lesson learned is flexibility and the expectation for change during a deployment. For the entire DMAT team at Ft. Sill, from first notification to arrival at the site, every aspect of the deployment changed including destination, airlines, ground transportation, contact personnel and arrival times.

The second lesson learned is contact and dependence on your home administrative officer. Each DMAT member deployed to Ft. Sill was grateful to have a professional administration officer who kept us abreast of changes, answered our questions and provided contacts as we entered the deployment area. While much was in flux, the individual DMAT personnel present were able to organize as a team, present themselves to the existing management and begin working quickly after arriving on site. That effort can be directly attributed to our individual administrative support that allowed each of us to "hit the ground running."

The third lesson learned was working with a composite team. While the original team was made up of DMAT members from different DMAT units, we were quickly augmented with contract personnel as a support element and augmented again with HHS, US Public Health Service members. Each group brought their own organizational "baggage" but with cooperative effort and mission focus, all problems were easily solved and managed. It worked smoothly for two probable reasons, first, because of the professionalism of those involved and second, because the clients were children who needed assistance.

Lesson Learned #4: Having a common base of knowledge goes a long way when dealing with disasters. The clinical assessment protocol used for the assessment of the children was easily adapted by the psychological staff regardless of their orientation.

Lesson Learned #5: Working in a language other than English both verbally and technically can pose challenges. While having a bilingual professional staff is helpful, it does not answer all language issues. Speaking Spanish to children from three Spanish speaking countries with different dialects and different manners of speaking was a constant challenge throughout the deployment. Collaboration between DMAT members and other staff and even the children helped to improve the communication and facilitate understanding of individual cases.

Lesson Learned #6: Like any disaster victims present with problems, both physical and psychological. Symptoms of loss, guilt and shame are ever present. Victims are better at telling caregivers that something is wrong, than caregivers are at understanding that something other than the obvious is wrong. Key point: Don't be afraid to ask questions or to follow your "gut feeling" and to readdress a question.

And in conclusion lesson learned #7: Do not forget your Resilience Protocols for yourself or others. Be positive: when things were not going just right, hanging tough worked. Have a sense of humor: keeping a sense of humor helped both the staff and the kids. For example, when food arrived late we had a picnic. Be task oriented: with hundreds of kids to see and only five therapists at any given point, we refined our process, improved our delivery and increased our output without additional stress.

As most already know resilience is much more than the points indicated above. However, resilience works because we have thought of our actions prior to the event, we were trained and we trusted ourselves and our leadership.

The 2014 UAC deployment was a success for those of us who deployed. It was also a success because we had been well trained and because we had our home system to watch our back.

Thank you, Dr. Goldstein, for sharing your experience and lessons learned with us.



January-March 2015

Incident Command System Terms



Public Health
Prevent. Promote. Protect.



FloridaDisaster.org
Florida State Emergency Response Team

To find more Emergency Response training in our area go to the following link:

<http://trac.floridadisaster.org/trac/loginform.aspx>

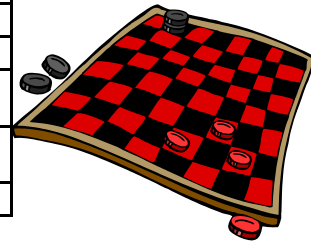
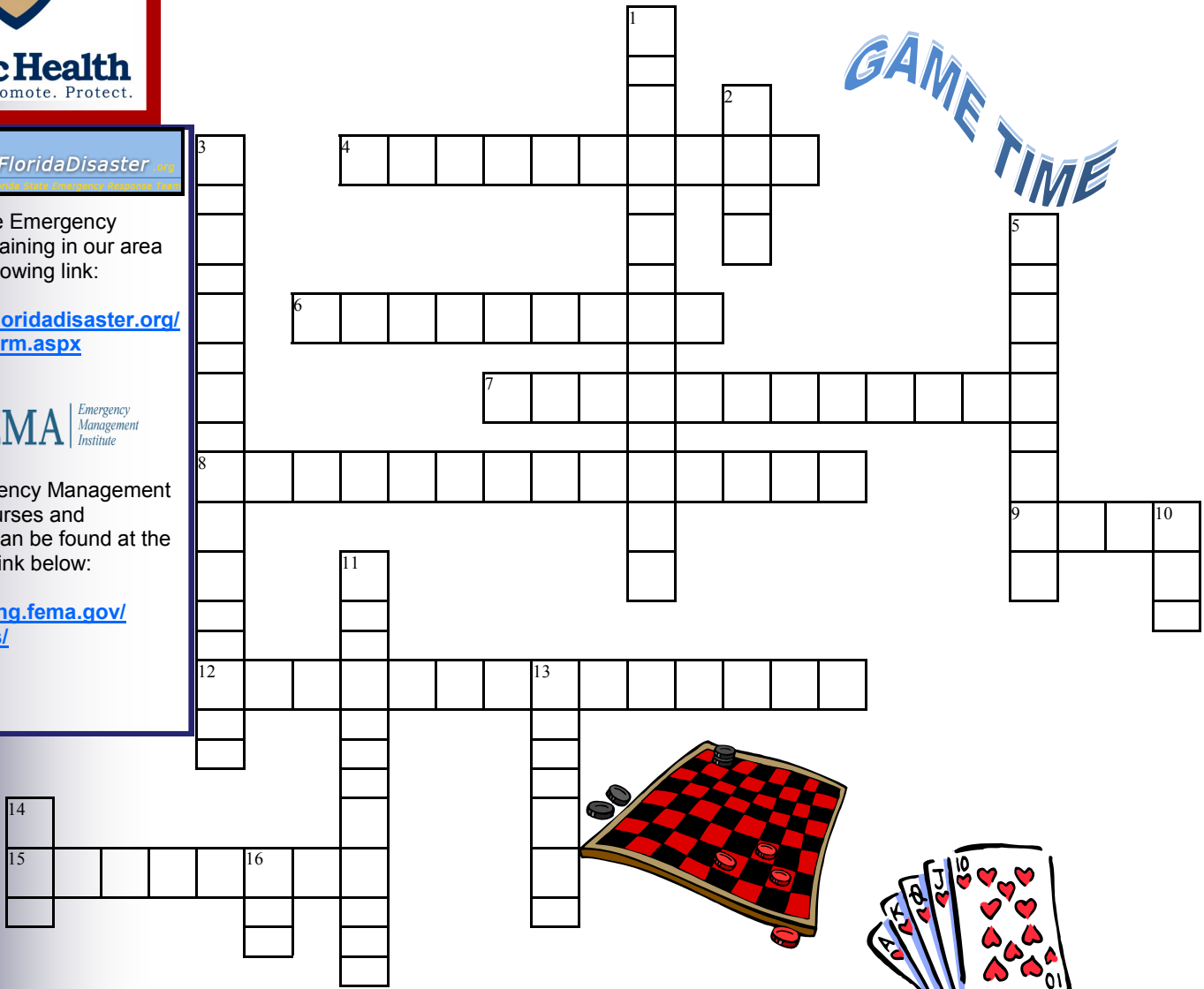


FEMA | Emergency Management Institute

Free Emergency Management Institute Courses and Schedules can be found at the FEMA EMI link below:

<http://training.fema.gov/emiacourses/>

GAME TIME



Across

- 4. A set number of resources of the same kind and type (2 words)
- 6. Providing resources and other services to support incident management.
- 7. Consists of the Public Information Officer, Safety Officer, Liaison Officer and other positions as required, who report directly to the Incident Commander (2 words).
- 8. The orderly, safe, and efficient return of an incident resource to its original location and status.
- 9. A site within the general incident area that is equipped and staffed to provide sleeping, food, water, and sanitary services to incident personnel.
- 12. A series of command, control, executive, or management positions in hierarchical order of authority (3 words).
- 15. An occurrence or event, natural or manmade, that requires a response to protect life or property.

Down

- 1. Principle that each individual involved in an incident will be assigned only one supervisor (3 words).
- 2. The location where primary Logistics functions for an incident are coordinated and administered.
- 3. ESF-8 (3 words)
- 5. Any combination of resources assembled to support a specific mission or need (2 words)
- 10. A member of the command staff responsible for interfacing with the public and media (abbreviation/acronym)
- 11. Process and procedure for activating, assembling and transporting resources to an incident.
- 13. The act of directing, ordering or controlling by virtue of explicit statutory, regulatory, or delegated authority.
- 14. A facility established to coordinate all incident-related public information activities (abbreviation/acronym).
- 16. The physical location where the coordination of information and resources to support incident management activities take place (abbreviation/acronym).

Answers on page 7



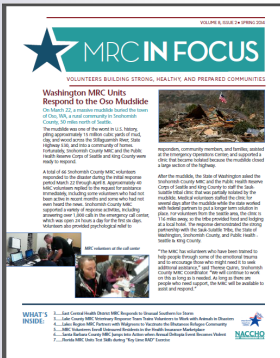
Incident Command System Terms (Answers)



Public Health
Prevent. Promote. Protect.

MRC In Focus

MRC In Focus is a print newsletter published by the Division of Civilian Volunteers



It serves as a conduit for information about what the MRC is doing at the national, state, and local levels.

To view *MRC In Focus*, visit:
<https://www.medicalreservectors.org/pageViewFldr/NewsEvents/Newsletters>

Across

- 4. Strike team
- 6. Logistics
- 7. command staff
- 8. Demobilization
- 9. Camp
- 12. Chain Of Command
- 15. Incident

References:

- <https://crosswordlabs.com/>
- FEMA ICS-300 Student Manual

Down

- 1. Unity Of Command
- 2. Base
- 3. Health and Medical
- 5. Task Force
- 10. PIO
- 11. Mobilization
- 13. Command
- 14. JIC
- 16. EOC

Answers from last quarter's Word search

```

+ + + A + + + + + + + + + + S
+ + + H L + + + + + + + + + + E
+ + + E + O + + + + + + + + + H L
+ + + R + O B + + + A A E + S
+ + + P + I + E + K L P C + A
A Z N E U L F N I L A M H + E
X + + S + O + Z E T A + I + M
C O + + + P + B I Y + + K + +
+ O P + + + U T A + + + U + +
+ + W E + R I R + + + + N + +
+ + + P S S O + + + + + G + +
+ + + O R S E I B A R U + +
+ + + + X O + + + + + N + +
V A R I O L A H + + + + + Y + +
+ + + + + + + + + + + A + +

```

- CHIKUNGUNYA
- COWPOX
- EBOLA
- HEPATITIS
- HERPES
- HORSEPOX
- INFLUENZA
- MAYARO
- MEASLES
- POLIO
- RABIES
- RUBELLA
- VARIOLA