



SAVE THE DATE ON ZOOM

All-Volunteer Meetings Tuesdays, 7:00pm

- October 6
- November 3
- December 1

Command Staff Meetings Thursdays, 7:00pm

- October 1
- October 15
- November 5
- November 19
- December 3
- December 17

Emergency Management is the system used to coordinate the efforts of city agencies and partners to plan for, respond to, and recover from disasters. Our mission is to protect the City of Independence by coordinating and integrating all activities necessary to build, sustain, and improve the capability to prevent, mitigate, prepare for, respond to, and recover from threatened or actual natural disasters, acts of terrorism, or other emergency events through a comprehensive, risk-based, all-hazard emergency management program.



INDEPENDENCE
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A GREAT AMERICAN STORY

QUARTERLY CONNECTIONS

INDEPENDENCE, MO | EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS DIVISION

Dante's Corner

What is a MACC? Multi-Agency Coordination Center

Did you know about Multi-Agency Coordination Centers (MACCs)? Did you know Greater Kansas City (GKC) has a MACC currently in operation? Did you know that several Independence Emergency Preparedness staff members and the Mayor of Independence are all part of the GKC MACC?

The concept of a Multi-Agency Coordination Center or MACC has been around for at least a decade. MACCs have been tested and implemented in Missouri before now in places such as Springfield/Greene County and Southeast Missouri. The Missouri State Emergency Management Agency (SEMA) has in the past encouraged the use of MACCs for multi-jurisdictional and large complex emergency response and recovery operations.

The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) provides guidance regarding MACCs in the National Incident Management System (NIMS) in the guidance document "NIMS Third Edition October 2017, seen in the image above.

Currently, a MACC command structure is being used in the nine county Mid-America Regional Council (MARC) region to coordinate regional response and recovery for COVID-19 operations. The MACC for Greater Kansas City as defined by MARC nine county region, is



National Incident Management System

Third Edition
October 2017



actively coordinating the following:

1. Providing health and safety information to the public about COVID-19 ,
2. Supporting, resources management of shared contract options, personal protective equipment, laboratory testing capacity, personnel and equipment.
3. Managing information collection, analysis and dissemination.
4. Increasing the testing and contact tracing capacity capacity.

Learn more about Greater Kansas City MACC: www.preparemetrokc.org

*Dante Gliniecki, Manager
Emergency Preparedness Division
www.ci.independence.mo.us/Fire/Preparedness*

Medical Reserve Corps of Kansas City

Have you seen what we are up to?

I am an assistant professor at UMKC in the school of nursing and health studies. I have my PhD in nursing and I have 2 research areas one of those being disaster response. I have been trained by FEMA in Aniston, Alabama and have won several Disaster response awards. I am on the board of the Consortium for Humanitarian Service and Education and am now the unit leader for MRCKC. I have been deployed several times, including responding in the Dominican Republic for medical aid 5 years in a row and in the Houston floods. I believe in preparedness. I currently have 2 studies under review by lead journals on disaster subjects.

I want to thank MRCKC for allowing me to help in this time of crisis. I know that we are not just staying home and watching everyone else take risks. We are giving up time, treasure, and



Greater Kansas City

talents to combat this horrible disease. We have made a huge difference and although it doesn't seem like enough sometimes, we are saving lives! Thank you for all your hard work, sacrifices, and bless you for your help.

Warmest Regards
Sharon White-Lewis
MRC Unit Coordinator

Learn more about MRCKC:
www.mrckc.org

**DID YOU
 KNOW?**
**From March through
 August 2020,
 MRCKC volunteers
 worked 6,293 hours,
 saving more
 than \$235,114!**
**Our volunteers
 matter!**



The Mayor of Kansas City, KS, David Alvey, is shown here being tested for COVID19 at a Wyandotte County testing facility. MRCKC volunteers have donated close to 7,000 hours during this pandemic. We appreciate all the support our volunteers give to our community to keep everyone safe and healthy.

Medical Reserve Corps NATIONWIDE - July 2020



812 MRC units

178,665 volunteers

MRC units devoted more than **13,000** hours to activities related to the COVID-19 pandemic.



A Norfolk Medical Reserve Corps volunteer assists at a COVID-19 testing event.

From the Desk of EP Volunteer Coordinator

We Are More Than We Imagined

Since March of this year, the EP volunteer organization has grown, adapted, and evolved in ways few of us could have conceived five months ago. We have:

- More than doubled the number of our volunteers;
- Incorporated Medical Reserve Corps into our ranks;
- Moved our regular meetings to Zoom;
- Created training to orient all members to what our volunteer organization does, and how we do it;
- Had to revise our training and membership requirements to meet the realities of volunteering in a Covid environment;
- Reorganized many of our leadership personnel;
- Deployed volunteers to multiple locations, for multiple purposes, for multiple days every week for five months.

Your dedication and willingness to serve, often in ways that required learning new skills and committing many more hours, have demonstrated that we can do almost anything that is asked of us.

Through this experience, we have developed stronger relationships with the Fire Department, the Parks, Recreation, and Tourism Department, and with city leadership. Other groups in Independence, Jackson County, and the entire metro area have become aware of who we are and what we do and have turned to us for assistance. Several of you have become involved with regional and state entities in the fight against the pandemic.

There is lot for our organization to be proud of. However, there is still a lot for us to do. Our current operations will likely continue through the end of this year. Realistically, we may not see any significant change in the situation until this time next year. That means more is going to be asked of us. More of our time, more of our energy, perhaps more of our dedication to learning new skills.

It also means we will have to do more to take care of ourselves. We will need to continue to diligently follow pandemic protocols: wear masks (and other PPE as needed), maintain social distance, wash our hands, and clean and sanitize our workspaces for the benefit of others. We will need to take

breaks and find ways to relax and enjoy what is important in our lives. It also means some of us may need to help fill gaps so that others can take breaks. It means we must be careful to watch out for each other: be supportive of each other; be kind to each other; laugh with each other; cry with each other; be there for each other. None of us have been through this level of response, especially for this length of time. We will make it through if we exercise caution and take care of each other. And we will be a better, stronger, and closer group when it's over.

*V. Rusty Norris, MoCEM II
Volunteer Coordinator
Command Staff Coordinator
Emergency Preparedness Division*

JOIN HERE: [INDEP.US/EPVOLUNTEER](https://indep.us/epvolunteer)

NOW ACCEPTING VOLUNTEERS!



INDEPENDENCE

★ EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS DIVISION ★

JOIN A UNIT:

Event Safety

HAM Radio

Debris Clean Up

WE TRAIN YOU!

Storm Spotters

Search and Rescue

Damage Assessment

Medical Reserve Corps

BE THE PREPARED ONE. JOIN US.

Follow us @indepmoep

Join here

indep.us/epvolunteer

Why WE Volunteer

We are retired, and while retirement has given us choices, it also has taught us some things. We have learned that we can make different choices. We have been reminded of how precious time is and to use it wisely. Most of all, we had realized we have a need to feel we are contributing, connecting, and adding value. Volunteering for Medical Reserve Corps of Greater Kansas City is a great fit for us. We have been able to volunteer at different locations that match our schedule. We have met and gotten to know other like-minded volunteers.

Because we are living during a time of uncertainty, we are feeling we are contributing in the efforts of many to help our fellow citizens and our community to get through this pandemic. We have great respect for the men and women who everyday step up to help in the battle against COVID-19 and we thank them for all they are doing. Every contribution of time given to help and support those brave men and women is of value. So, our desires to contribute, connect, and add value have been met and we are grateful to be part of this organization.

Pam and Mike McConnell, MRCKC

Volunteering:

1. Is good for your health
2. Gives you a greater sense of purpose
3. Offers you a better sense of community
4. Unlocks your potential skills
5. Allows you to share your wisdom and expertise
6. Helps you grow
7. Lets you learn about cool new things

ALREADY A VOLUNTEER? SIGN UP TO SERVE: [INDEP.US/EPVOLUNTEER](https://indep.us/epvolunteer)



Members of Search and Rescue and Disaster Animal Rescue Teams