

**Upcoming Events:**

FEBRUARY 25, 2019  
 MARCH 12, 2019  
 MARCH 13, 2019  
 APRIL 13, 2019

NEXT MEETING:  
 MARCH 12, 2019  
 6:00-8:30 p.m.

CONTRA COSTA EMS

Please Update your  
 DHV account!

<http://disasterhealthcarevolunteers.ca.gov/>



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Contra Costa County  
 Medical Reserve Corps

# MRC UPDATES

## Contra Costa MRC has Busy Fire Season

MENDOCINO COMPLEX FIRE RESPONSE

The Ranch and River Fires started to burn July 27, 2018. These two fires later became the Mendocino Complex Fire. This fire complex is now the largest (acres) recorded wildfire in California. These fires impacted and forced evacuations of the Lakeport, Kelseyville, Lucerne, Upper Lake, Nice, Saratoga Springs, Witter Springs, Potter Valley, Finley, Hopland communities and the tribal communities of Hopland Rancheria and Big Valley Rancheria.



On July 29, 2019, Lake County and the RDMHS requested assistance from the Contra Costa MRC to conduct assessments for medical needs in the sheltered populations. The county had established five shelters in partnership with the American Red Cross. The MRC Coordinator completed assessments and CCCMRC had an official request and activate on July 30, 2019. The MRC initially provided a team to help staff three shelters in Kelseyville, and establish a larger medical operation in Lower Lake at the High School. Within 6 hours, Kelseyville was under evacuation and all evacuees and the MRC team were moved to Middletown High School. Contra Costa then provided 24/7 medical

operations at two shelter locations through August 3, 2019. After August 3, 2019, medical operations were concentrated at the Lower Lake High School, the largest shelter with more than 700 evacuees. Contra Costa was the lead MRC for operations, but had help from several other Bay area units. Napa, Lake, Mendocino, Berkeley, and Alameda County all sent volunteers from their unit to help fill staffing gaps. On August 6, 2019, a transition to Main County MRC was started. There were many challenges to this response, it was very busy. The Lower Lake HS shelter saw more than 550 visits to the clinic, many having complex medical needs. Other challenges included the large number of pets; lack of structure and understanding of SEMS by Red Cross created duplicate resources and confusion with medical roles, resources were scarce (competing with the Carr Fire) and lastly, Norovirus hits the shelter in the middle of operations. Great team work from all the Bay area units made it a successful operation. A total of 38 volunteers worked 78 shifts, providing more than 960 hours of service.

CAMP FIRE RESPONSE

After responding to the Mendocino Complex, no one would have imagined worse. Yet, on November 8, 2018, the deadliest and most destructive wildfire in California history started in Butte County. November 17-23, 2018, Contra Costa MRC provided volunteers for medical operations inside shelters located in Chico, CA. Many



volunteers asked why our MRC did not respond earlier; Butte County is part of a mutual aid region 3. This means we had to wait for local and closer regional resources to be depleted until the request moved to our region (region 2). Contra Costa MRC

provided volunteers for both the Oro-Naz Church Shelter and the Neighborhood Church Shelter. Both shelters were managed by the American Red Cross with Butte County Public Health managing the medical operations. MRC volunteers worked 12 hour shifts with other MRC, DHV, RNRN Network, CALMAT and National Guard volunteers. Both shelters were experiencing significant Norovirus outbreaks and had isolation areas to help control the spread. By November 21, 2018, CALMAT had established tents to provide isolation areas separate of the shelters to provide better control and also be prepared for any other potential infectious disease outbreaks. For many of the medical volunteers, this was likely the first time they stayed in a Base Camp for lodging. The state established a large base camp of Western and Alaskan Shelters to house all the response personnel in the area. These tents would sleep 10, on cots, provide hot showers and three hot meals a day. Contra Costa MRC later sent 2 additional volunteers January 3-11, 2019. A total of 10 volunteers worked 33 shifts and provided 542 hours of service.

Thank you all for volunteering for these two events as well as continuing to cover our community events. You all did an amazing job and our community is lucky to have such dedicated people.



# Commit to your Community



Do you know someone who would be interested in joining the MRC?

Invite them to a meeting or connect them with the MRC coordinator

[lisa.vajgrt-smith@cchealth.org](mailto:lisa.vajgrt-smith@cchealth.org)

(925) 608-5454

## NACCHO Selects CCCMRC for Pilot

Contra Costa County MRC has been selected as one of seven MRC units to participate in a Deployment Readiness Pilot. The purpose of this pilot is to:

- Improve two way communication and situational awareness between MRC units and external stakeholders
- Leverage and build MRC deployment missions to support a multi-jurisdictional all hazard response
- Build MRC deployment readiness standards to deploy successfully for local, state and EMAC responses.

On February 25, 2019, the MRC will be participating in an on-site visit and workshop to strategize goals and objectives of this project.

On March 25, 2019 the MRC Coordinator will participate in a workshop with the other MRC units selected for this pilot to share best practices, lessons learned and build recommendations for volunteer readiness and deployment at a national level.

This project will wrap up on June 2019 when we provide a final report of recommendations and standards for all MRCs. Several MRC team members have been selected to participate in this project based on their experiences with previous responses. We hope the results of this pilot will build capacity of all MRC units in the Bay area and state, leading to better capabilities and assimilation for our roles in disaster response.

## Welcome to the MRC

Welcome to the following new MRCers:

Ryan Cabrera, EMT, Taryn Achong RN, Carlmango Almonte RN, Michelle Musiello RN, Ina Reichel EMT, Eleeza Rabat EMT, Ian Nelson EMT, Robert Wolf LMFT, Michael Mendoza MA, Lin Pszyk RN, Jenna Calingasan EMT, MH

### RECRUITMENT:

Each on Recruit One campaign extended has been extended through April 13, 2019

Please have new recruits contact Jae Grossi at [jenna.grossi@cchealth.org](mailto:jenna.grossi@cchealth.org) or at [ContraCostaMRC@gmail.com](mailto:ContraCostaMRC@gmail.com) to start the application process. You can also contact her for recruitment material.

Our next new member orientation will be March 12, 2019 4:00 p.m.

## CCCMRC Operations & Deployment Training

On Saturday, April 13, 2019 0900 a.m.- 1:30 p.m. we will conduct an all member training. This training will focus on MRC operations during responses and deployment readiness. We want all MRC members to attend. Topics will include: Deployment Expectations, Equipment Cache and Logs, Pharmacy Coordination, Infection Control, and more.

Morning snacks, and lunch will be provided.

Please mark your calendars for this date. SignUp will be available soon.

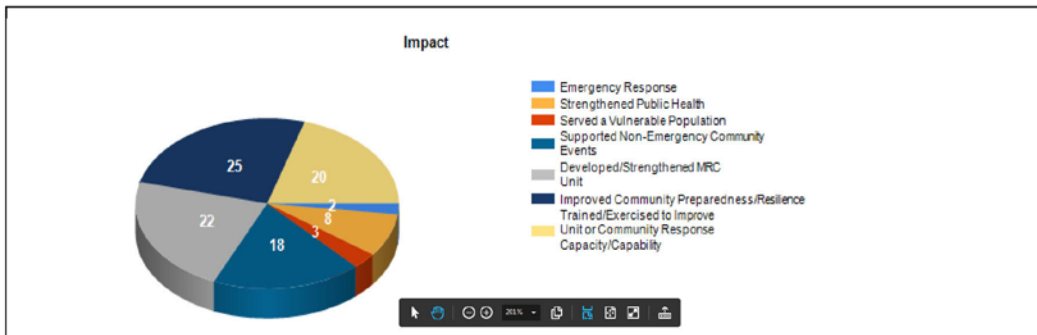
## A Year in Review:

Contra Costa County Medical Reserve Corps (Unit # 1969)

Martinez, CA

January 1, 2018 - December 31, 2018

<b>36</b>	Total Number of Activities Reported	<b>1,975</b>	Total Number of Hours Contributed
<b>244</b>	Total Number of MRC Participants	<b>\$75,662.26</b>	Economic Value of Contribution



## Upcoming MRC Events:

February 21, 2019 Stop the Bleed Training | Dozer Libbey HOSA

February 25, 2019 10:00 - 4:30 p.m. | NACCHO Pilot Site TA Workshop

March 1-2, 2019 MRC Equipment move from JV Hall

March 11, 2019 7:45 a.m. - 1:30 p.m. | FootHills Middle School Health fair

March 12, 2019 10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. | CCHS H3 Emergency Preparedness Training

The \*\*Dozier Libbey High School is looking for speakers to give career presentations Monday-Friday 12:40-1:05 p.m. for the remainder of February and all of March.

\* Contact the MRC Coordinator for more details if you are interested in any of these events\*