

Greater Westfield C.E.R.T (Community Emergency Response Team)

The Greater Westfield C.E.R.T. is partnered with GW&WHCMRC.

About CERT

The Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) Program educates people about disaster preparedness for hazards that may impact their area and trains them in basic disaster response skills, such as fire safety, light search and rescue, team organization, and disaster medical operations. Using the training learned in the classroom and during exercises, CERT members can assist others in their neighborhood or workplace following an event when professional responders are not immediately available to help. CERT members also are encouraged to support emergency response agencies by taking a more active role in emergency preparedness projects in their community.

Contribute

As a 501 (c)(3) non-profit organization, we depend on your support to continue our mission. Please send a contribution in any amount to: GW&WHCMRC, Inc.,

Anyone can volunteer.

Whatever your experience or training; medical or non-medical, your community needs you. Because each community has different needs, the MRC units throughout Massachusetts vary in structure and activities.

H1N1 Flu Pandemic, 2009-2010: MRC volunteers staffed vaccination clinics in Westfield

Health Screenings: MRC volunteers provide free health screenings at senior living residences, homeless shelters and community events.

Medical Surge: MRC units augment hospital and emergency medical service operations by staffing basic and advanced life support.

Disaster Response: MRC volunteers provided support in all areas from food service to medical support to community members after the 2011 Tornado, Hurricane Irene and the October Snowstorm

You can choose your level of participation. We understand that your work and personal commitments will determine your availability. Required training is offered in a classroom setting, via CD ROM, through self-guided study materials and online. It's our goal for you to be trained and ready when you're needed.

Greater Westfield & Western Hampden County Medical Reserve Corps (MRC)

& Community Emergency Response Team
(CERT)



Neighbors Helping Neighbors

www.gwmrcert.org

GW&WHCMRC, Inc.
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Unit Description

The Greater Westfield & Western Hampden County Medical Reserve Corps, Inc. (GW&WHC MRC Inc.) provides a corps of personnel who are trained to provide high quality pre-hospital care and reliable communications during crises, as well as health promotion education that will enhance the public health preparedness and ability to respond to natural or man made emergencies in our communities.

The GW&WHC MRC Inc.

- ◆ Is 501(c)(3) non-profit organization.
- ◆ Is run by a board of directors .
- ◆ Is registered on the Massachusetts Health and Homeland Alert Network (HANN)
- ◆ Is a member of the Westfield Emergency Management Agency (WEMA), Westfield LEPC, Massachusetts Emergency Management Agency (MEMA), Region III & IV
- ◆ Is registered as part of the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Citizens Corps Program (CCP)

Mission Statement

The GW&WHC MRC Inc. is dedicated to educating people who can make a difference in the lives of the residents living in a local community, be it large or small. This educational portion imparts knowledge, develops skills and fosters attitudes that will help re-establish the belief that neighbors helping neighbors makes a strong self reliant community that can survive anything by pulling together in times of natural or man made disasters or public health emergencies.

The mission of the Medical Reserve Corps in Western Massachusetts is to improve the health and safety of communities and their residents by organizing and utilizing public health, medical, safety, and non-medical volunteers.

The Medical Reserve Corps continues to build the capacity of each community to better respond to local, county, and regional natural or man-made disasters or public health emergencies.

Goals/Objectives

- ◆ To facilitate the dispersal of timely and informative knowledge promoting disease prevention.
- ◆ To help eliminate health disparities
- ◆ To Improve the level of knowledge and emergency response capabilities for the general public in our communities and regional areas.
- ◆ Develop a communications network in Western Massachusetts that will be able to respond to all emergencies regardless of weather conditions, or availability of electrical power.
- ◆ Provide a Field Kitchen capable of stand alone food preparation that can be brought to any location in support of MRC Volunteers and victims during times of man made or natural disaster or special events attended by MRC Units in New England.
- ◆ Set-up and run shelter operations