



Northeast Central Ohio Region 5
REGIONAL WORKGROUP MEETINGS
November 4, 2008

MRC

Present: Kerry Kernen, SCHD; Bruce Shade, RMRS; Jessica Miles: Medina County; Tim Gabrelcik: Stark County; Lucinda Senter: Trumbell County; Susan Kovach: Mahoning County; Marlene Martin: Summit County; Kim Villers: Portage County; Jim Hubert: Tuscarawas County, Sarah Metzger: Regional Hospital Coordinator.

Future Direction of MRC Workgroup

- Updates and successes/challenges from each county:
 - Stark: Tim is developing recruitment strategies through PSA's, health fairs and newsletters. Using the MRC alert system with some success. Training done in September with 51 people in attendance. Planning a VRC training with an exercise after January 2009.
 - Mahoning/Columbiana: Susan is partnering with Trumbell (Lucinda) to offer MRC training. Recruiting from the list from the state boards. Used volunteers at their fall flu clinic drive through exercise. Had 100 volunteers which were not all MRC. Did three VRC trainings. At last MRC training only had 2 people which is why they are partnering. Susan recommended the region look at a DVD put out by Texas which offers an 3-4 hour MRC training. Susan will send this to Kerry to see about getting this offer here in Ohio and also as an approved training through the state MRC office.
 - Portage: Kim shared that progress has been a bit slow due to resources to mover forward.
 - Trumbell: Lucinda offered some VRC trainings with the same people presenting. Did a drive through flu clinic using 12 MRC volunteers. Frustrated with state database.
 - Medina: Per Jessica offered MRC 101 training in September. Used MRC volunteers at 11 flu clinics. No movement with the VRC development. Used MRC with the regional exercise. Have attempted to use the test alert capacity with fair response.
 - Summit: Used MRC at 4 fall flu clinics also including a mini version of VRC. Provided a training prior in addition to just-in-time training on the day of the clinic. Very successful using the alert system to reach volunteers. Based on conversations with the group Marlene will offer through Go-To-Meeting services the chance for everyone to see how to use the alerting system as well as how to update data in the state database.
 - Tuscarawas: Working with Stark County to develop and use VRC. Suggested looking at SMART training for MRC volunteers for triage.

- VRC's: some counties are using very effectively while others are still working on the development.
- Badging/Background checks: Kerry shared discussions that are happening at the state level regarding the background checks. The larger challenges aside from funding is determining the levels of the checks, and how often and how these background checks are linked to or not linked to liability coverage.
- Badging: Kerry surveyed the group to see who had access to a badging system. Overwhelming either units themselves had purchased a system or had access through their EMA. There was consensus that the region NOT purchase a regional badging system. There was also discussion to see if we could come up with a consistent look to our badges in NECO. At the next meeting each county is to bring a sample of the badges for their MRC volunteers and we will see what consistency is possible.
- MRC policy/procedure manual: Kerry will forward onto the group a sample template that Ray Herbst has produced out of Ashland County. This will be revised and discussed at the next meeting to see if we can develop one manual for the region to be used for all MRC volunteers.
 - Action Steps: Susan to send Kerry information from Franklin County regarding an online MRC 101 training to see about adopting this in our region.
 - Marlene will set up a database and alert system training for all MRC coordinators in the region through Go-To-Meeting.com. Marlene will invite David O'Reilly as well.
 - Kerry will forward on the MRC policy/procedure manual from Ray Herbst for review at our next meeting.
- The next meeting will be held on January 27, 2009 at ARHA, 1:30pm