

## Please consider being a volunteer.....

- Do you like assisting others in times of need?
- Do you have an interest in improving the health of citizens in our county?
- Would you like to be called upon when there is an emergency in your community?

If you have answered yes to any of the above questions you should consider becoming a member of Minnesota Responds Medical Reserve Corps.

*Stevens Traverse Grant Public Health is looking for local volunteers who can be called upon to assist in a local emergency.*

*If you feel you would like to assist other members in your community in times of crisis please click on the link below or scroll down for further information.*

<https://www.mnresponds.org/>

### **What is the Minnesota Responds Medical Reserve Corps?**

Minnesota Responds Medical Reserve Corps (MN Responds MRC) is part of a nationwide initiative to pre-register, manage, and mobilize volunteers to help their communities respond to all types of disasters. The Minnesota Department of Health provides the framework for coordinating multiple local, regional and state based programs of volunteers who have medical, public health, or other needed skills. The structure of each MN Responds MRC unit varies, depending on its own unique requirements and on the needs of the people and community that it serves. Volunteers donate their time and expertise in the area where they live, making it easier for them to help their own family, neighborhood and community. For additional assistance, please review the [responder guide](#).

### **Why do we need it?**

Following the events of 9/11, professionals with healthcare-related skills were among those who wanted to volunteer their services. Without prior training and credentialing, they were unable to do so. The anthrax attacks in the fall of 2001 reinforced the need to pre-screen and train volunteers to assist with emergency operations.

Your local MN Responds MRC units help communities meet unexpected medical and public health needs, using qualified local volunteers.

### **Why should I join?**

Many of us demonstrate our concern for others daily. Your knowledge and skills will be vital to your community - family, friends, and neighbors in a time of need. When a health emergency happens, your skills and concern for others will be crucial.

### **Who should register into the MN Responds MRC?**

Minnesota is looking for anyone willing to volunteer their skills in the event of a health emergency. These persons include:

- Healthcare professionals, such as physicians, nurses, pharmacists, dentists, nursing assistants, respiratory therapists, psychiatrists, veterinarians, etc.
- Public health professionals
- Behavioral health and social service professionals including psychologists, social workers, counselors, interpreters, and chaplains
- Support staff such as clerical workers, data entry, greeters, traffic control, canteen workers, etc.
- Volunteers may be practicing, retired, college students, or otherwise employed

The University of Minnesota and the Minnesota Veterinary Association also run state-wide programs with a similar focus, but there are certain requirements for participation. Persons registering in the MN Responds MRC are asked specific questions to determine eligibility in these programs.

### **What kind of tasks would I be assigned?**

The local health volunteer administrator will make an assessment of training needs and appropriate assignments. You may be asked to perform tasks related to your profession, trade, or skills, or in other places if the need exists.

### **I would like to help out in the county where I live. Who should I contact to volunteer?**

If you register into the MN Responds MRC at [www.mnresonds.org](http://www.mnresonds.org) your local county public health agency will receive your information. You can also contact STG Public Health. The contact person is Marcia Schroeder at 320-589-7425 or [marciaschroeder@co.stevens.mn.us](mailto:marciaschroeder@co.stevens.mn.us)