



FY09 Citizen Corps Grant Application

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CONTACT INFORMATION	
Jurisdiction/Agency Name	Collin County
County Name	Collin
Contact Name	Eileen Prentice
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Phone Number	972-548-4383
The project coordinator is the person that you would like us to contact in regard to this project	
Project Coordinator Name	Eileen Prentice
Project Coordinator Email	eprentice@co.collin.tx.us
Project Coordinator Phone Number	972-548-4383
Project Title	Medical Reserve Corps Recruitment and Retention
Which Citizen Corps Council does your program belong to?	Collin County CCC
<p>Briefly describe the history and accomplishments of your program and give the current number of members actively participating in the program. If the program is less than a year old, provide the number of active members and an estimate of the increase in community preparedness capabilities you expect to achieve over the FY09 grant period.</p> <p>The Collin County Medical Reserve Corps (MRC) started in 2006 under the Collin County Department of Homeland Security with the primary responsibility of strengthening medical surge and mass prophylaxis responses. Over the past three years, we have recruited 589 volunteers and trained approximately 85% in ICS, personal preparedness, and mass prophylaxis. MRC members have been a great asset during hurricane shelter operations serving in triage and on-site clinic roles, and they also annually participate in a functional mass prophylaxis exercise.</p>	
<p>Provide a summary description of the project and identify how the project supports enhancing citizen participation and preparedness.</p> <p>During the last year, we have increased our recruiting efforts through a public advertising campaign, including newspapers, magazines, and limited radio spots. Collin County would like to expand our advertising campaign to include more radio and television, as well as print media. Monies would be used to create public service announcements/ads and buy media time which has been shown through our previous efforts to increase volunteerism. This public education media campaign would also increase awareness with the general public regarding volunteer opportunities, as well as emergency preparedness.</p> <p>Collin County has also attempted to increase retention through enhanced training and scope of involvement for volunteers. The training funds would be used to host a National Disaster Life Support class, such as Basic or Advance Disaster Life Support, for MRC members and hospital staff. In the past, when offered, these classes have elicited a strong positive response. These classes review all-hazards topics including natural and man made events, teach recognition and management of disaster scenes and victims, and emphasize mass casualty incident management.</p>	

Provide an explanation of the regional impact of this project.

As most major forms of media are regional in nature (TV, radio, etc.), promotion of the Collin County MRC will also likely be seen or heard in the counties surrounding the DFW area. Those persons wishing to register will be directed to a website that has links for Collin, Dallas, and Tarrant County MRC registration.

National Disaster Life Support training classes focus on all-hazards. The persons trained in these classes can use their knowledge and skills to enhance response in any jurisdiction. Collin, Dallas, Denton, and Tarrant County public health emergency preparedness teams meet regularly and coordinate preparedness activities. While each County has separate emergency response plans, each has agreed to assist the others for local, isolated events in which MRC volunteers can be shared across borders.

Briefly explain how your program has coordinated and/or collaborated with your local government's emergency preparedness plan or activities. If your program is less than a year old, explain how you plan to coordinate and/or collaborate with local emergency preparedness efforts during the FY09 grant period. What community leaders and resources have been or will be tapped to further your program objectives?

The Collin County MRC is coordinated through Collin County's Department of Homeland Security, which oversees Collin County's emergency response efforts. There is a county wide mutual aid agreement in place with all the city jurisdictions within the County, and the MRC functions as county wide resource. The MRC played an important role in Hurricanes Gustav and Ike sheltering operations. The MRC has also trained and coordinated mass prophylaxis drills with the Prosper and Plano CERT teams, as well as the Junior League of Plano. The MRC is represented during National Night Out each year in conjunction with the Collin County Sheriff's Office, as well as during Collin County's annual Calming the Storm, Volunteer Center North Texas' faith based initiative. The MRC continues to reach out to the community through city jurisdictions, independent school districts, faith-based organizations, health care groups, and others.

Describe how you will implement planning, training, and/or exercising within your program. Include how you plan to implement public outreach and program recruitment.

Collin County Homeland Security ensures that MRC Orientation is conducted monthly, Personal Disaster Preparedness and National Incident Management Systems courses are taught bi-monthly, and other mass prophylaxis job trainings are conducted regularly. The department also tries to include, at least annually, CPR and AED training, Basic Disaster Life Support, Advanced Disaster Life Support, and Psychological First Aid classes as budgets permit. Collin County also organizes and conducts at least one functional mass prophylaxis drill each fiscal year.

Collin County has, and will continue to, use various recruiting methods including personal contacts, presentations to social and civic organizations, participation in health and emergency preparedness fairs, and multi-media (newspapers, magazines, radio, etc.) public education. During the past 12 months, due to increased recruiting efforts and a multi-media campaign, the Collin County MRC has increased 50% from 391 to 589 volunteers. We are also intending to start a poster campaign prior to July 31, 2009. The MRC provides various public outreach materials, such as KnoWhat2Do booklets; public health and disaster preparedness quick guides, hand washing brochures, pandemic influenza flyers, and emergency kit preparation materials.

What preparedness gaps will be addressed by funding this proposal?

The Collin County MRC supports public health initiatives including community education and preparedness; however, volunteer recruitment and retention continue to be obstacles. Over 4000 volunteers are needed to operate point-of-dispensing mass prophylaxis sites in Collin County. Based on statistics from other disasters, a core, trained base of 25% (approximately 1000 volunteers for POD operations) can effectively just-in-time train emergent volunteers during emergency responses. Once volunteers have been recruited, training enhances their preparedness and response, as well as greatly improves retention. Our goal is to have 1000 trained MRC volunteers by December 31, 2010.

Enter the amount of funding for each category.

Personnel	Planning	Equipment	Training	Exercise	M/A	Total
0.00	0.00	0.00	13,750.00	0.00	0.00	\$13,750.00

You must include a specific breakdown by funding category (Planning, Equipment, Training, Exercises, and M&A). Provide detailed information on exactly what the funding will be used to purchase including what equipment will be purchased and which jurisdiction will maintain the equipment. Please provide current AEL codes for planned expenditures.

Personnel:

Planning:

Equipment:

Training:

\$10,000 to be used to develop MRC public service announcements/ads and purchase media time

\$3,750.00 to be used for National Disaster Life Support Foundation training course through UT Southwestern (AEL code: 21GN-00-TRNG)

Exercises:

M&A:

Provide a description and amount for any in-kind and/or local match for this project:

Collin County emphasizes volunteer recruitment and retention. Each year, monies are allocated to MRC advertising and training dependent on the amount of funds received.

Provide an estimated timeline to implement the project and include how you will measure your accomplishments.

Within 1 month of receipt of funds, the training course will be scheduled to occur prior to December 31, 2010. Media will be contacted for quotes on PSA/ad creation, if needed, and advertising time within 2 months of funds receipt. The public education campaign should be completed within 1 year.

The increase in MRC volunteers from the start to end of the campaign will be used to evaluate the effectiveness of recruiting efforts, while the number of persons who register and attend will be used to evaluate the training course.

List specific performance outputs and outcomes that will indicate the success of this proposal at the end of the FY2009 CCP performance period. Explain the long-term approach to sustaining the capabilities developed by this project.

Outputs – number of new MRC volunteers and number trained. We hope this public education campaign, along with other recruiting efforts will yield 100 new volunteers.

Outcomes – increasing the number of volunteers and those trained will improve the capabilities of the MRC to respond to all-hazards incidents.

Target Capabilities Addressed: Community Preparedness and Participation

Activity: Integrate Public Outreach and Non-Governmental Resources into Emergency Operations Plans and Exercises: Critical Tasks: ComF 2.1, ComF 2.3.1, ComF 2.2.2

Activity: Provide Education and Training for the Public in All Mission Areas: Critical Tasks: ComF 3.1, ComF 3.1.2, ComF 3.3.1

Activity: Provide Volunteer Opportunities: year round and in surge operations; Critical Tasks: ComF 4.3

Collin County is committed to the continued development of the MRC and has a full-time staff member who coordinates and organizes recruiting activities, training, exercises, and events. As available, funds are allocated to various MRC projects, including public education and training.

Disclaimer: I certify, by checking this box, that the information provided in this submission is accurate to the best of my knowledge. I also understand this project proposal serves as a request for consideration for grant funding; and, there is not a guarantee of award by submitting this request.

I understand:

- If this project is funded I will complete all necessary actions listed in the grant sub-recipient agreement.
- Any allotted funding not encumbered two months before the end of the 2009 CCP grant performance period will be de-obligated and swept for use within the NCTCOG region.
- My jurisdiction must be NIMS compliant and documented via NIMSCAST in order to receive CCP FY09 funding.
- This project funding may need to be reallocated within the project to accommodate federal spending requirements for planning, exercises, and training.

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