



NEWS RELEASE

St. Charles County Government
Department of Community Health and the Environment

FOR MORE INFORMATION, CONTACT:

Doug Bolnick, Public Information Officer, 636.949.7408

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

January 10, 2013

HEALTH DEPARTMENT SEEKS VOLUNTEERS TO ASSIST EMERGENCY RESPONSE PLAN

Medical Reserve Corps Would Play Vital Role in Time of Disaster

St. Charles County, Missouri – In times of need, many lend their neighbors a helping hand. In a large-scale disaster or community-wide emergency, a trained team working in coordination with strategically mobilized resources can provide assistance that may be the difference between life and death for many in our area. The St. Charles County Medical Reserve Corps (MRC) is a volunteer-based unit formed to assist this response and meet the demands of a health-related crisis.

The St. Charles County MRC will provide support to governmental and public service agencies when resources are limited, large numbers of people are affected or widespread emergencies occur. Medically trained and non-medical professionals alike can put their knowledge and skills to use in helping the community. Previous experience is not required, as MRC leaders will train dedicated volunteers in roles such as: dispensing medication; logistics; financial accountability; public communication; transportation; pet sheltering and much more.

The St. Charles County Department of Community Health and the Environment sponsors the local MRC chapter and offers an open house to introduce current and prospective members to the benefits of the program at 6 p.m., on Wednesday, Jan. 30, 2013. Presented at the health department facility (1650 Boone's Lick Road in St. Charles), the hour-long orientation will provide an overview of the program, discuss various roles within the County's emergency response plan and outline the MRC training/certification program. If you would be interested in assisting the St. Charles County MRC or would like to learn more about the program, please call St. Charles County Regional Response Planner Joe Morin at (636) 949-7554.

The Department of Community Health and the Environment is committed to the protection and enhancement of health and the quality of life for all members of St. Charles County. For information on programs offered and to discover ways the Department assists our community, please visit www.scchealth.org or call 636-949-7400.

###