



## MEDIA RELEASE

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To: All Media

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**For Immediate Release**

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### **“LaSalle County Medical Reserve Corps (MRC) – Volunteer Recruitment”**

**Ottawa, IL** - Looking for a way to become more involved and give back to your community? In note of September being Emergency Preparedness Month, learn more about the LaSalle County Medical Reserve Corps (MRC). The MRC is a national network of volunteers who help make their communities stronger and healthier during disasters, and every day. MRC programs are organized into community-based units that work to improve local emergency response capabilities, reduce potential public health risk/vulnerabilities, and build community preparedness and resilience.

Do MRC volunteers need to have a medical or public health background? No, the specific role a volunteer plays will depend on their background, interests, skills, as well as the needs of the MRC unit and community. A well-balanced MRC unit will include medical and public health professionals, as well as other community members without healthcare backgrounds who wish to donate their time and expertise. MRC volunteers regularly contribute to community preparedness (ex. Naloxone training and community vaccination clinics) while also preparing to respond to natural disasters, emergencies, and disease outbreaks. MRC volunteers supplement existing local emergency and public health resources.

Local health, safety, and preparedness begins with you. For more information about the MRC and becoming a volunteer, please contact Monica Strzalkowski at the LaSalle County Health Department. Monica can be reached at 815-433-3366 or [mstrzalkowski@lasallecountyil.gov](mailto:mstrzalkowski@lasallecountyil.gov).

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