Quarterly Newsletter

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Monroe County, IL



Welcome to the fifth quarterly newsletter of the Monroe County, IL MRC Unit #2781



Here are some of our continuing activities and plans during 2024 and 2025:

* The Drug Free Coalition provided free, in-person Narcan (Naloxone) training on Thursday, November 7, 2024, at 10:00 a.m. at Monroe County Health Department. Narcan is used to treat Opioid overdose. The training was approximately 1 hour, and 5 volunteers attended.
* Our MRC Unit is providing a free, in-person “Stop The Bleed” training to volunteers on Tuesday, November 19, 2024, 6:30 p.m. – 9:00 p.m. at Monroe County Health Department.
* The Mental Health Specialty Team is continuing to meet and is reviewing the Disaster Mental Health portion of the Monroe County Emergency Operations Plan. These mental health professionals would be able to lend their expertise during declared emergencies to maintain calm and order. If you or you know anyone who would be interested in being part of this team, please contact Marsha Wild at (618) 612-7105.
* We devised a volunteer orientation training plan and continue to expand our on-line training program in MRC TRAIN. You can set up your account at <https://www.train.org/main/welcome>.
* We are continuing to pursue a Search and Rescue team for our area. A representative from Illinois Search and Rescue (ISARC) will be providing information to Monroe County Officials about a team and answering any questions they may have. More to come!!!
* Two of our MRC Unit volunteers may be in a video being produced by MRCIL (MRC of Illinois), for promotional and recruitment purposes!!! Thank you for participating and please stay tuned!!!
* We have applied for an Operational Readiness Award through NACCHO (National Association of City and County Health Organizations) for 2025 for resources to continue to develop and sustain our MRC Unit.
* We are applying for a MRCIL STTRONG Award for additional funding for Search and Rescue and meeting mental health needs in our county.
* We participate in monthly MRCIL webinars and weekly MRC Region 5 webinars to stay current with state-wide and national MRC information and activities.
* We are always looking for additional funding opportunities to support and sustain our MRC Unit!



We encourage you to sign up for one of these courses! They are free and offer great information!!!

Register at <https://mrcillinois.org/mrc-volunteer-resources/#training-resources> (bottom of the page)

Accomplishments during the last quarter:

* The Mental Health Specialty team met twice, one time being at the Monroe County Emergency Operations Center, so they are familiar with it if they are deployed.
* Our Unit Leader attended 2 Retired Nurses of Monroe County meetings to continue to raise awareness of our unit and recruit new members.
* Our Unit Leader participated in the 2024 “Great American Shakeout” exercise on October 17, 2024, at 10:17 a.m. along with Monroe County Health Department.
* Our Unit Leader is continuing to develop on-line and in-person training for our volunteers.
* Our Unit Leader continues to pursue the creation of a Search and Rescue Team.
* Our Unit Leader is continuing to write for available grants and looking for other funding opportunities.



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Description automatically generated with medium confidence **Laugh every day, it’s good for your physical and mental health!!!** A black background with a black square

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**THANK YOU, VOLUNTEERS, 😊 😊😊 WE APPRECIATE YOU**

***Where do snowmen put their money?***

***In snowbanks.***

***How do snowmen buy birthday presents?***

***With cold, hard cash.***

***What did the tree say after a long winter?***

***What a re-leaf!***



Suggestions/Questions??? Please contact our MRC Unit #2781 Leader at:

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Unit Leader

MRC Unit #2781

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Please make sure to keep your contact information current on Illinois Helps at [www.illinoishelps.net](http://www.illinoishelps.net) and to stay connected with our unit on our Facebook page and Monroe County Health Department website: <https://monroecountyhealth.org/volunteers/>



Monroe County, IL MRC Unit #2781 Display at Monroe County Health Department

 

\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*Hope you have a VERY enjoyable and happy holiday season!!!\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*