



Blue Light Special

Delco Health Systems Turn to CCDC/MRC

CCDC has been asked to assist in helping the overwhelmed hospital system. Since January 3rd, Medical & Non-Medical Volunteers have been supporting our front-line medical Heroes in DCMH, Crozer & Taylor Emergency Rooms.

Beginning this Friday, we will also be asking CCDC Volunteers to support Mercy Fitzgerald in their Emergency Room and with delivering food trays to non-COVID Floors.

These requests are expected to expire on January 28th, 2022 and represent a temporary measure requested by the Delaware County health systems to support their medical teams during this unprecedented National shortage of Medical Professionals.

To Learn more about these missions, visit our CCDC Website (<https://www.delcocitizencorps.org/training/er-mission-required-training>) and see the Pre-Deployment PowerPoint listed under Training, "ER Mission Required Training".

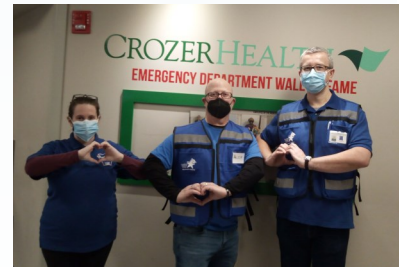
CCDC Continues to Support VPODS & Pop-Ups

CCDC continues to maintain our presence at Chester, Yeadon, and Community vaccination and testing clinics. We have open and available Medical and Non-Medical opportunities for our volunteers to support these critical missions.



You may have heard a rumor that CCDC will no longer be supporting the COVID-19 Task Force, and rest assured... it is only a rumor!

Remember MLK Day of Community Service Pop-Up clinic at the Sun Village Park, on Monday 1/17/22 from 12-3p in Chester, PA. 19013



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Special points of interest

- CCDC has a nickname of the "Blue Army", hence the Blue Light.



ER Staffs See the Light and it is BLUE!!

By Judy McKinney, CCDC Assistant Volunteer Coordinator

I have been monitoring the ER debriefs this past week and the stories are heartbreaking and heartwarming. Make no mistake about these missions: we are making a difference to the men and women who sustain life in our local emergency rooms.

These healthcare workers were considered heroes last year and now after over a year of a non-stop high intensity work environment, their colleagues are falling ill. They are burnt out, frustrated and tired of this pandemic. With a decrease of staff and an increase in covid cases, the situation has devastated our ERs.

It has taken the week for the local ER staffers to understand that the MRC is in their workplace to lend a helping hand to restock shelves and mobile carts; find supplies, transport

patients and labs; clean rooms, make beds and get them a beverage; sit outside of patient rooms to monitor them allowing the ER staff to do other duties; providing comfort to a patient; chatting with visitors and patients waiting to be processed and treated.

The staff are grateful, they are appreciative, they are amazed that we are backing them up, that we care about them. Our modest task accomplishments each shift contribute to lessening the load of these dedicated people.

"When they go home at night they are replaying the day in their heads and they will remember the little bit of blue light we shined on their day. There might be a smile on that tired face." (Maureen Ingram, RN-CCDC)

"...they will remember the little bit of blue light we shined on their day and smile."

ReDI Volunteer Numbers

Total ReDI Accounts = 4,190

Total ReDI Active = 2,420

Total ReDI Inactive = 1,619

Duplicates (a mistake) = 151

We are working to clean up the database and the Active number will be reduced because volunteers did not finish their user registration or have not volunteered at all.

Help Cathy & Judy Know Who Can Volunteer

Our ability to accurately assess our capacity to volunteer for the various missions depends on our ability to know how our volunteer pool is doing. We have heard from some who have emailed to let us know that they are unavailable because of quarantine protocols, work restrictions, surgeries, and other random reasons.

The easiest way that volunteers can help us is by modifying the Available section of your User Profile. Simply click on "Don't Schedule Me" on each day of the week in this section for the month of January 2022 and save the settings. Update and uncheck the blocks when you are again able to volunteer. Be assured that we will never assign or schedule you for any shift without your knowledge and agreement.

Then we can determine the January Volunteers who are able to donate their time. We want to present realistic numbers to DES and CCDC so that the appropriate mission requests are accepted and we can fulfill them.

Also, you might have noticed your medical credential, when appropriate, added to your last name to quickly indicate your medical status. Please do not remove this from your profile without first chatting with us.

We hope that everyone is safe and healthy, but we do need to know the fact that you ARE NOT going to be volunteering. Thank you for your help with this effort.

Stay safe, take care of yourself and your family, and volunteer when you are able.



Letter to Volunteers from the CCDC Board

Dear Volunteers –

This week we are seeing CCDC serve in a way that was never even thought of until now. The pandemic is affecting our hospitals by causing a large influx of patients at a time of severe staffing difficulties, in part because the virus is infecting many hospital employees. CCDC help has been requested, and we are responding by giving time in some of our ERs helping busy employees keep up with their patient care duties. As we have in our VPOD missions, both non-medical and medically qualified volunteers have been requested. The non-medical side of the ER missions have been filled for most of the shifts, and for this we thank you profusely! We thank you for your time and efforts, and patience while some kinks are worked out in these new roles.

Medical volunteers have been heard from too. While there have been fewer responses to fill the shifts, you have called to say you are interested and want to participate but cannot because you are in quarantine, you are sick, or your health care jobs are requiring extra hours to keep those facilities running. You have to take care of yourselves first, and we know you all have family and job responsibilities that can prevent you from being able to volunteer when you want to. We thank you just as heartily! We highly value your part in getting Delco through this pandemic. The CCDC Leadership is encouraged to know that you are interested and engaged. We know that when you are able, we will see you at some of our missions.

As you know, when medical volunteers are requested, we separate the missions into medical/non-medical groups. We have removed that separation from the current missions in the ERs, knowing that some medically qualified people may be more comfortable completing non-medical responsibilities in an ER setting. We want to give opportunities for volunteering to all those who are available and able. Because the hospitals are becoming overwhelmed with increased patients and decreased employees, we anticipate the healthcare systems in our area will continue to reach out to us for non-medical ER assistance. We will continue to post missions that are open to both non-medical and medical volunteers who want to volunteer in a non-medical capacity.

Again, thank you ALL!

CCDC Board

Dennis Daye, Annie Favinger, Cathy Pensyl,
Julia Borek, Danielle Koerner, Tammi Maciolek

The CCDC Board

Pictured at the Chamber of Commerce Impact Awards are from left to right:

CCDC Volunteer:

Cecile Charlton

DES Volunteer Mgmt. Coordinator:

Danielle Koerner

DES Education Coordinator:

Julia Borek

CCDC Volunteer Coordinator:

Cathy Pensyl

DES Volunteer Liaison:

Tammi Maciolek

CCDC Volunteer Coordinator:

Annie Favinger

DES MCM Planner:

Ed Kline

CCDC Assist. Coordinator:

Diane Daye

CCDC Volunteer Coordinator:

Dennis Daye

Citizen Corps of Delaware County received the 2021 Impact Award from the Delaware County Chamber of Commerce for our work in the fight of the Covid-19 Virus where our many VPODS and testing clinics, Community Food Drives, School Supplies Distribution, and Small Business Distribution contributed to the residents and businesses of Delaware County. Subsequently we also received a PA Senate Citation recognizing our Chamber award for service to the state via the County.



Pictured here are volunteers at:

1. Ephrata Mass Exercise Event in 2019 -the last practice before the pandemic.
2. Broomall small business give away sponsored by the Chamber of Commerce.
3. CCDC Training Class
4. Community Outreach to residents
5. CCDC Volunteer spreading his wings.



From Ephrata with Love

We have been training for ten years to respond to a healthcare crisis in our County. A dedicated group of 200 to 300 people from all backgrounds and walks of life, ages and beliefs came from different directions and converged on 360 N. Middletown Road under the tutelage and direction of Ed Kline, the original DES Volunteer Management Coordinator. We have grown to 2,000+ and have proven, beyond a shadow of a doubt, that we can lead and follow and serve our County with empathy and integrity.

Now under the capable direction of Danielle Koerner, the current DES Volunteer Management Coordinator, we continue to serve the County with CCDC assistance in our local emergency rooms as well as the VPODS. Danielle, who has been here throughout our years of training, is blending her expertise with that of the CCDC Board to structure and suggest a path forward that will facilitate the growth of CCDC for the future. She has provided a format with which our Leadership can make quick decisions, coordinated a strategic plan to schedule volunteers in the local ERs, and implemented a debriefing platform that has been valuable in shaping the ER operation, including psychological first aid awareness.

The venture into the emergency room environment is an unprecedented step for MRC Chapters in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania and she is leading the charge into this new arena. Please join us in supporting Danielle as we serve Delaware County.



Citizen Corps of Delaware County

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<https://delcocitizencorps.org>

<https://cccredi.delcocitizencorps.org>

Oh, One More Thing....

We welcome your articles or ideas for articles for this Newsletter. Please send them to : mrc@co.delaware.pa.us