Stow Medical Reserve Corp Newsletter

July, 2021



COVID VACCINE UPDATE

As we see the COVID Vaccine rate slowly increase, it is especially heartening to see the Stow area has passed the state and federal goals as we are now have 5013 fully vaccinated individuals 12 years and up. You may find updated information on state and local vaccination rates at <a href="https://www.mass.gov/info-details/massachusetts-covid-19-vaccination-data-and-updates#weekly-covid-19-municipality-vaccination-data-and-updates#weekly-covid-19-municipality-vaccination-data-

While we did not provide local clinics due to the State's decision to focus on larger venues, there were opportunities to assist in these larger locales. It is hoped you had an opportunity to volunteer at one of them. Merrily Evdokimoff had an opportunity to assist at the Northboro clinic (see photo above) and was very impressed with the organization and efficiency. At that point all participants had appointments which provided a steady, even flow of patients. The focus was on 12-17 year olds receiving their 2nd dose and it was the last day of school for many, so it was quite a positive day. They were excited to be out of school and to socialize with friends, unmasked, 2 weeks after the vaccine administration. If you had an opportunity to volunteer at a clinic, please let the Board of Health office (health@stow-ma.us) know so we may report your volunteer hours to the MRC.

INFLUENZA CLINIC PLANS

Yes, it is getting to be that time of year and we are planning on our next flu clinic! We have been notified by Nashoba Associated Boards of Health (NABH) that the clinic will be held on Saturday, Oct. 16 from 10-12. It will be an indoor clinic at the Stow Community Center. In addition, all of the other NABH clinics will be open to Stow residents. As soon as dates are finalized they will be published in local papers and on our website. In addition, pre registration with appointments will occur to better organize the event and have adequate vaccine. Stay tuned and save the date!

CPR UPDATE

Several of you have been asking about updating your CPR certification. We have been in contact with Stow Fire and at this point they are not conducting CPR Training due to staffing and the inability of their training staff to be certified due to pandemic. We will keep you posted when classes become available. As the current Fire Chief Joe Landry is retiring in August we will work with the new Chief in the Fall to set up training. Our best to Chief Landry for all he has done and especially his assistance with our flu clinics and emergency preparedness planning

UPDATE ON VOLUNTEER CREDENTIALING (Repeat from last newsletter)

We have received word from the Regional 4A MRC Unit of the need for our volunteers to join MA Responds, have a criminal background check (CORI & SORI), complete ICS 100 Training (Basic Incident Command) and receive an IDbadge. You may still volunteer even if you have not completed the updates. The good news is that these may be completed online.

In order to join MA Responds and receive a badge, the following steps should be completed:

- 1. Access the MA Responds System at https://maresponds.org/agreement.php complete information requested. Skip the "Organization" Section
- 2. Complete CORI application and send to address listed.
- 3. Complete ICS 100 course (https://training.fema.gov/is/courseoverview.aspx?code=IS-100.c) and submit as instructed.

4. You will then be eligible for badging. We will send you instructions on what to do for that once the above has been completed.

<u>Criminal Offender Record Information (CORI) and Nationwide</u> S<u>ex</u> <u>Offender Search Information (SORI)</u>

Beginning September 9, 2020, all volunteers who register to be part of MA Responds must undergo a Massachusetts Criminal Offender Record Information (CORI) check and a Nationwide Sex Offender Search (SORI). In order to be considered a member of a MA Responds unit and deployable as a volunteer, both checks must be resolved in a satisfactory manner. With this change, only the last six digits of the volunteer's social security number will be required when registering on MA Responds in order to run the CORI check.

The SORI will be run through the MA Responds system using a Nationwide Sex Offender Database Search which provides a report with publicly available sex offender registries from all states, as well as from the District of Columbia and Puerto Rico. Some states may also include violent offender information.

For protection, after a volunteer enters the last six digits of their SS# and completes their registration on the MA Responds site, the system automatically encrypts the last six digits of the SS# so it is not visible to anyone.



More information regarding MA Responds background searches and Criminal Record checks can be found by clicking on the homepage:



Directions for Completing the CORI Form

Once you have completed your registration or logged in to your MA Responds account, please remember to complete your background check CORI form.

Click on My Profile Tab

- Click on Background Check Tab
- Click on View Details link on CORI line
- Click on Edit Background Check Form link in the upper left corner Enter information in the fields that are marked with an asterisk * Click save at the bottom of the page
- Follow instructions in the blue box and review your information
- Click on the box "Open Populated CORI Form"
- Open the pdf
- Print, verify the last 6 digits of your social security number are entered, sign, have your photo ID verified per instructions on the CORI form and mail to DPH

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Thank you to Michael Matatia for reinstituting MRC Newsletters