

To The Corps ...

The Newsletter of the Orange County Public Health Reserve Corps

Orange County Public Health Reserve Corps
Public Health Preparedness & Response Program
Orange County Health Department
300 West Tryon Street
Hillsborough, NC 27278

Winter 2011/ 2012



In 2011, the event coordinators changed the name to Project Connect in an effort to reach out to more community members in need of services. Project Connect has a powerful impact on people's lives by providing a wide range of assistance in one location and by the outpouring of respect and hospitality. It enables service agencies to efficiently reach many people in a single day and to coordinate their services together. At the same time, it educates the community about the issues surrounding homelessness while allowing individual community members to contribute their efforts, talents, and compassion. Similar events are also held in Durham County and Wake County.

This event is possible only because of the valuable time and effort that the entire community puts into it. Hundreds of amazing volunteers, dedicated planners and wonderful service providers commit themselves every year to help those in need on this one day. We are very grateful for your perseverance and dedication. Likewise, the 230 guests that received assistance in their struggle to better their lives are undoubtedly thankful too.

Although we often get caught up in the numbers of people attending an event like this as an indicator of success - equally important are the personal bonds that all of us made with others that day. Whether those bonds were formed while sharing a meal with a volunteer, having a conversation with a guest as they waited in line for a service, or meeting a fellow service provider in our community -- we all left the day feeling more CONNECTED to others in our community in a positive and hopeful way - all in an effort to end homelessness in our community.

Thank you for Volunteering!



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READY IN 60 SECONDS- VIDEO CONTEST

As you know, the Health Department and Emergency Services sponsored a video contest called "Ready in 60 Seconds" in honor of National Preparedness Month. Orange County residents were asked to

submit an original 60-second video that explained the importance of emergency preparedness. The entry deadline was Saturday, October 15, 2011.

Our two winners were from the Orange County Literacy Council's ESL (English as a Second Language) class. While the outcome/response was lower than expected, we were glad to have received participation from a group that's often considered 'hard-to-reach' with respect to emergency preparedness.



Critical Incident Stress Management Training

Wednesday, December 7, 2011
5:30-7:00PM

Orange County Health Department
300 W. Tryon St, Hillsborough

The Greensboro Area Health Education Center has awarded 0.15 CEU (1.5 contact hours) to participants attending this entire activity.

Register by November 30, 2011:
abartolomeo@co.orange.nc.us

Upcoming Volunteer Opportunities/ Trainings (more opportunities to be added!)

December			
12/15-12/20	10-7PM	Toys for Tots	Dept of Social Services-Hillsborough
12/7/11	5:30-7PM	Critical Incident Stress Management Training–CEUs available	Health Dept– Hillsborough
January			
1/10/12	5:30-6:30PM	PHRC Group Orientation	Health Department-Hillsborough
1/18/2011	1:30-4:30PM	BLS for HealthCare Providers	South Orange Rescue—Carrboro
1/21/2011	9AM-12PM	HeartSaver BLS– General/ Non-Healthcare Professional	South Orange Rescue-Carrboro
February			
2/7/2012	5:30-6:30PM	Mass Vaccination/ POD training– applying for CEUs	Health Dept– Hillsborough
March			
3/13/12	5:30-6:30PM	PHRC Group Orientation	Health Dept-Hillsborough

Toys for Tots



The Orange County Department of Social Services has been helping families with holiday assistance for more than 20 years. The program has grown every year as the need has increased. Last year, through the combined efforts of churches, schools, individuals, businesses and community groups, the holiday program assisted just under 3,200 children. This year, the agency anticipates that number to increase to almost 5,000 children. All of these children live in Orange County. The holiday program brings happiness to donors, sponsors, volunteers and especially to families in need. It provides an opportunity for families in need to experience the joys of the holiday season and to put aside for a while their day to day struggles. The Orange County Department of Social Services invites you to be part of the 2011 holiday program and together we can make the holiday season a happier time for the many Orange County residents in need. Once again, we are in need of volunteers! Please look at the volunteer options below. Individual volunteers must be at least 16 to serve without an adult, groups of teens 16-18 must have an adult chaperone for every group of four. Teens 13-15 must be accompanied by an adult. All Toy Chest Escorts must be at least 18 years old. Volunteers are asked to arrive 30 minutes before their shift and commit to at least 2 hours. To protect client confidentiality, all volunteers will be asked to sign a confidentiality agreement prior to working at the Toy Chest during operating hours. The Toy Chest will operate at our Hillsborough office of the Department of Social Services located at 113 Mayo St, Hillsborough, NC 27278.

Volunteer Need	Date(s)	Time(s)
Toy Chest Preparation Receiving and Sorting Toys	December 15-16	TBD
Toy Chest Set-Up Arranging Toys for the Toy Chest	December 15-16	TBD
Toy Chest Escorts Assisting Clients with Shopping at the Toy Chest	December 17-20	10am-7pm
Interpreting Assisting with Language Interpretation.	December 17-20	10am-7pm

Volunteer Volume...

Current PHRC Membership Statistics

VOLUNTEER TYPE	COUNT
Admin	56
Computer / IT	4
Dental Hygienist	3
Dentist	5
EMT/Paramedic	6
Epidemiologist	4
Health Educator	4
Interpreter	4
Lab Tech	1
Mental Health Providers	
▪ Social Workers	27
▪ Psychiatrists	3
▪ Psychologist	1
Nurses	
• LPN	1
• Nurse Midwife	1
• Nurse Practitioners	16
• Registered Nurses	171
• School of Nursing MOA	14
• Retired Nurses	8
• Nursing Assistant I & II	6
Nutrition	1
Police/Law	2
Pharmacist	30
Pharmacy Technician	11
Physician	3
Physician's Assistant	4
Public Health	11
Radiologist	1
Students	15
TOTAL	413

Community Health Assessment 2011

The Orange County Health Department is required to conduct a Community Health Assessment every four years. To assess the health of the County, a large group of volunteers have been working for many months on this project. They are reviewing the available data related to various health issues and talking with service providers. Their goal is to find out what changes need to be made, what services are new, where there are gaps and needs for people living in Orange County and also, what emerging issues or trends may be affecting the health of residents.

Another key component of the assessment process is a community survey. Staff and volunteers from the Health Department traveled door-to-door to survey a random sample of households across the county. The survey took about 30 minutes to complete and was confidential.

The results of the survey will be compiled and included in the final report of the community health assessment, which will be completed in November 2011. People's responses and opinions will help to determine the direction of future programs for the health department and other agencies across the county who depend on the community assessment process to help them decide what the needs of the county are in terms of health.

Volunteers have been instrumental in collecting surveys and data entry. We look forward to sharing the completed document with you. Thanks for your support!

Welcome to the Team...

LastName	FirstName	VolType
Biggers	Larissa	Admin
Chapman	Mona Lesia	Nurse
Chim	Yee-Ling Elaine	Pharm Tech
Ciampi	Laura	EMT-B
Clendening	Melissa	Admin
Essou-Apedo	Sophie	Nursing Assistant
Flicker	Sharon	Admin
Gehrman	David	Physician Assistant
Gosian	Sarah	Nurse
Greene	Rachel	Student
Kasper	Marla	Nurse
Kelly	Mary	Admin
Kerdado	Mike	MD, MPH
Loroco-Molter	Melicia	Admin
Mayfield	Marjorie	Student
McKnight	Monica	Nurse
Parker	Alan	Psychology
Parker	Linda	Counselor
Preston	Angella	Counselor
Sen	Bono	Public Health
Song	Lixin	Nurse

Winterize Your Vehicle

Check the following items on your car:

- * **Antifreeze levels** - ensure they are sufficient to avoid freezing. **Battery and ignition system** - should be in top condition and battery terminals should be clean.
- * **Brakes** - check for wear and fluid levels.
- * **Exhaust system** - check for leaks and crimped pipes and repair or replace as necessary. Carbon monoxide is deadly and usually gives no warning.
- * **Fuel and air filters** - replace and keep water out of the system by using additives and maintaining a full tank of gas. A full tank will keep the fuel line from freezing.
- * **Heater and defroster** - ensure they work properly.
- * **Lights and flashing hazard lights** - check for serviceability.
- * **Oil** - check for level and weight. Heavier oils congeal more at low temperatures and do not lubricate as well.
- * **Thermostat** - ensure it works properly.
- * **Windshield wiper equipment** - repair any problems and maintain proper washer fluid level. **I**
- * **Install good winter tires** - Make sure the tires have adequate tread. All-weather radials are usually adequate for most winter conditions.
- * **Update the emergency kit in your vehicle**— windshield scraper, flashlight, battery powered radio, hats, socks, water, snacks, first aid kit, batteries, booster cables, blanket, etc.

(www.fema.org)