

# SERV-OR Bulletin

## Issue #12: The Bulletin is Back!

June 4<sup>th</sup>, 2021

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### UPDATES COLUMN

#### Oregon's 2021 Volunteer Activity

Unit	Hours	Deployed Volunteers	Value of service
State Managed Volunteer Pool	5878	484	\$167,751
Medical Reserve Corps	32,943	4,977	\$1,400,573
<b>Total Oregon</b> <small>(Duplicative of members who deployed multiple times)</small>	38,821	5,479	\$1,568,324

- ✓ COVID-19 Vaccine Facts can be found [here](#)
- ✓ Vaccination updates can be found [here](#).
- ✓ COVID talking points [here](#). (updated: 6/1/2021)
- ✓ **Subscribe** to COVID-19 Health talking points
- ✓ We want to hear your **stories of service!**
- ✓ **Join our development team** and let us know ways we can improve the bulletin!
- ✓ **News** from the national Medical Reserve Corps office
- ✓ Federal funding of \$100 million to the Medical Reserve Corps: **Public comment now open!**

### Reintroduction to The Bulletin **NEW**

By Isna Waqas

Greetings and Welcome back to the SERV-OR Bulletin! We haven't updated the bulletin due to the demands of the vaccine campaign and a reduction in staff members, but I am happy now to announce that the bulletin is back on track! The volunteer development team is still looking for volunteers. If you would like to join our team, please **contact us**. We hope to distribute the bulletin every month. We would also like to thank the SERV-OR volunteers who have been working on the frontlines, at vaccination clinics and reaching out to the community, your service is truly appreciated and valued.

I'd also like to introduce myself as the newest Bulletin development team member. I'm Isna Waqas, an AmeriCorps VISTA. I will be serving for one year with the Health Security, Preparedness and Response program supporting the SERV-OR program. I am excited to be part of The Bulletin Team and keeping you, the SERV-OR members, informed as we recover from COVID-19!

### Trusted Messengers: OHA Talking Points: Pfizer now approved for ages 12-17-years **NEW**

As SERV-OR volunteer trusted messengers, we want you to have the most updated information on emergency use authorized vaccines. With the new guidance authorizing Pfizer-BioNTech for 12 to 17-year-olds, OHA has issued these tools for understanding what this means for you as a healthcare professional:

- ✓ **Minor Rights: Access and Consent to Health Care**
- ✓ **Frequently asked questions about the COVID-19 vaccine for 12 to 17-year-olds**

## PREP Act Expansion **NEW**

From Sophie Miller- Desart

On March 22, 2021, the **Oregon Health Authority authorized the Prep Act Expansion of the Vaccinator workforce in Oregon**. OHA's Authorization expands health professions who may administer vaccine in Oregon, after meeting all requirements listed therein. For more detail, read **OHA's PREP Act Authorization Explainer and Frequently Asked Questions**.

SERV-OR has not established a tracking system for these requirements. At this time, and until otherwise informed, all volunteers who meet the Authorization's requirements, are responsible for documenting their completed requirements and providing documentation to SERV-OR to be deployed as a vaccinator.

## Stories of Service **NEW**

From Allyson

Allyson retired from EMS to become a union organizer. She let her EMT license expire, figuring that there wouldn't be much need for her license as a volunteer. She has been a member of SERV-OR for years and has volunteered at a few events, like the Solar Eclipse in 2017. As soon as the gravity of the pandemic began to set in in February of 2020, she began to feel the pull of wanting to help. Consulting her dad, an EMS physician, she was able to get all her requirements up to date, and by April she was recertified. Being a union organizer meant paid deployments were pretty much a non-starter. She then reactivated herself in SERV-OR. Once the vaccine was approved, she completed her training and since then she has been volunteering to give vaccines every weekend through the Multnomah County MRC and OHSU clinics.

Allyson writes, "I am so happy to be able to make a small contribution to our effort against the pandemic and it's really amazing to see our entire community contribute, especially the healthcare workers who already work tirelessly day in and day out fighting this disease."

We thank Allyson and our other wonderful volunteers for their contribution during the Pandemic! **If you would like your story to be highlighted in our next issue, please complete [this form](#).**

## Join your Local MRC Unit today! **NEW**

By Isna Waqas

If you are looking for more volunteer opportunities, consider joining your local MRC unit today!

As an MRC member, you will work closely with health professionals who are in similar fields as well as work closely with local health departments, emergency management agencies, hospitals and other organizations that have partnered with the MRC. Being part of an MRC opens doors to more training and learning opportunities that can help improve your skills, knowledge, and abilities. You will also have opportunities to work in teams and individually. Many MRC volunteers assist with activities that aim to improve public health in the community— increasing health literacy, supporting prevention efforts, and eliminating health disparities. In an emergency, local resources get called upon first, sometimes with little or no warning. As a member of an MRC unit, you can be part of an organized and trained team. You will be ready and able to bolster local emergency planning and response capabilities.

You can learn more about volunteering [here](#).

To find your local MRC unit, click [here](#).

## Saying Goodbye, Say hello! **NEW**

By Renee Menkens

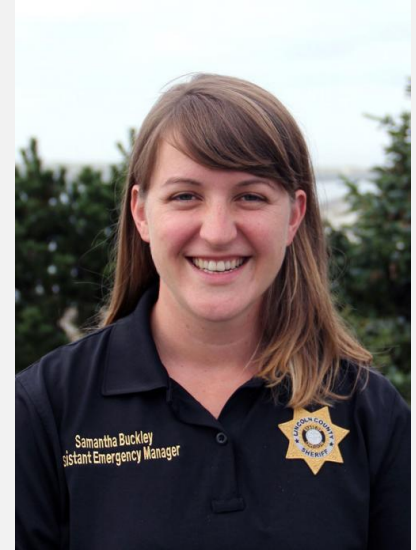
### Saying Goodbye to Samantha Buckley in Lincoln County!

It is with sadness that we say goodbye to Samantha Buckley, Assistant Emergency Manager for Lincoln County. I asked her about her contributions over her tenure on the coast as an Assistant Emergency Manager for Lincoln and Coos County. Her comments show leadership and commitment to this role.

In Coos county, Samantha helped organize their MRC program and reinstate more consistent MRC programming for volunteers. She talked about how she learned a lot about emergency management and public health during her time at Coos county and that she is incredibly thankful for the opportunities provided.

In Lincoln county, she assisted with the start of the LC MRC. She works with the emergency manager, Jenny Demaris and the county's AmeriCorps VISTA volunteer to get it off the ground. MRC volunteers assisted with COVID vaccination clinics and medically fragile shelter during the Echo Mountain Complex fire. Samantha also commented, "I am so proud of all that they have been able to accomplish in such a short time and feel honored to have been a part of the LC MRC Team, even if just briefly."

We will miss Samantha but wish her the best on her new adventures!

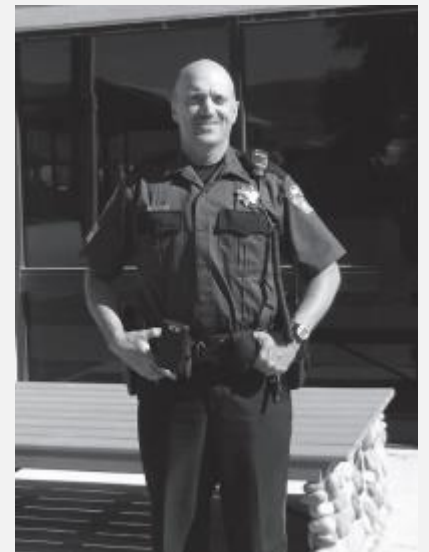


### Saying Hello to Joey Jayo in Baker County!

Joey Jayo recently became the director of the Eastern Oregon Region MRC (EORMRC). His background of 28 years as an EMT and 2 years with the Baker County Sheriff's Office provide him the skills and opportunity to lead the EORMRC. His initial focus is to have in-person contact with the MRC and county search and rescue members. Meetings and trainings for this seven-county MRC region is a big task, but Joey is ready to take it on.

He wants to grow and recruit new members, train and prepare them for responding to crisis situations, and partner with medical and governmental agencies in Eastern Oregon. As he stated: "Having the MRC to respond to incidents in Eastern Oregon could be vital. If such incidents limit the response time for out of the area assistance, neighboring counties need to be able to help each other out in a crisis. "

Welcome to the EORMRC, Joey!



## Online Training Modules **Updated**

Find training opportunities [here](#) which will be updated regularly. Please continue to check it throughout the month!

*[Continued on following page]*

You can also visit the [SERV-OR Trainings page](#) for links to the foundational training series for Disaster Medicine and Public Health Core Competencies, FEMA Incident Command courses, and more!

- **Compassion Fatigue Series with Bolante.NET- Passcode (case sensitive): OHA**  
**Do not share the registration link and passcode.** SERV-OR membership will be verified after registering.

## Job Opportunities Updated

- **COVID-19 Travel Epidemiologist 1** - Limited Duration (24 months) Application deadline: 06/10/2021
- **Planning Chief, Health Security, Preparedness and Response** (Principal Executive Manager E) Underfill Opportunity (Principal Executive Manager D) – Limited Duration/Job Rotation (12 months) Application deadline: 06/09/2021
- **RDPO Weekly Update**, contains information on current job openings. (Application closing dates vary depending on week)
- **Oregon Health Authority State and County jobs** (Dates vary depending on openings)

## SERV-OR FAQs Updated

Provided by Sophie Miller-Desart

- ✓ What can I expect when volunteering at a vaccine event?
  - Curious about what it is like to volunteer at a COVID-19 vaccination site? Watch this orientation video to learn more. Please note that events can vary from site to site based on event host partners, indoor vs. outdoor flow, and more.
- ✓ Are my healthcare credentials automatically updated in my SERV-OR profile?
  - No. You must periodically visit your profile to update your healthcare credentials as they expire or are renewed.



Every event is unique. Events can vary from site to site based on event host partnerships, indoor/walk-up/drive-thru flows, and more.

### SERV-OR Mission

*The mission of the State Emergency Registry of Volunteers in Oregon (SERV-OR) and Oregon's MRC network is to ensure health and well-being, educate, and protect all people in Oregon by recruiting, registering, training, exercising, and deploying licensed volunteer health professionals to support local, tribal, and statewide public health initiatives, health and medical needs during public health crises, and to improve access to preparedness education and resources for all. individuals and*

*Contributors to this bulletin include Sophie Miller-Desart, Isna Waqas, Renee Menkens, Jeff Rubin, Daniel Hughson, and Paul Kaplan. Thank you so much to this team for all their efforts!*