



Newport, OR - SCV

SERV-OR Bulletin March 2025 Behavioral Health Edition

★Deadline Extended!★

SERV-OR

State Emergency Registry of Volunteers in Oregon

Volunteer Recognition Award Nominations

CLICK HERE

Nominations close
March 31st





Highlights

In This Issue

[Enhancing Behavioral Health Emergency Preparedness in Oregon: A Conversation with Jeremiah Bridges](#)

[Story of Service: OHA AmeriCorps VISTA, Michelle Morales](#)

[Brief History of the Medical Reserve Corps](#)

[MRC Start Up Funding for the Next Generation](#)

[Cannon Beach MRC and Clatsop County Earthquake Scenario Exercise](#)

[SERV-OR Advanced Team: Statewide Launch](#)

[MRC Upcoming Activities](#)

[Appreciation - Rachell Berry](#)



- **988 Suicide & Crisis Lifeline** - 24/7 confidential support for mental health-related distress, thoughts of suicide or self-harm, or substance use crisis. [Online Chat](#)
- [Healthier Together Oregon](#) (OHA)
- [Get Help Now](#) (OHA)
- [Disaster Distress Helpline](#) (DDH) The first national hotline dedicated to providing year-round disaster crisis counseling.
- [Human Rights Campaign](#) - Resources for LGBTQ+ people who are experiencing a mental health crisis or need help.

→ [Click here for additional resources](#)



News You Can Use

[Enhancing Behavioral Health Emergency Preparedness in Oregon: A Conversation with Jeremiah Bridges](#) | [Rachell Berry](#)

As natural disasters and crises increase, so does the need for better behavioral health emergency preparedness. Jeremiah Bridges, the Behavioral Health Emergency Preparedness Planner with the Oregon Health Authority's (OHA) Behavioral Health Division (BHD), is dedicated to ensuring communities are ready to address mental health needs during these challenging times.

Jeremiah's role has evolved significantly over the years, beginning... [Click here to read full article.](#)

[Story of Service: Michelle Morales](#) | [Cayetana Gomez de Soler](#)

Michelle Morales is the Oregon Health Authority (OHA) Behavioral Health Disaster Response & Recovery AmeriCorps VISTA. Before taking on this AmeriCorps VISTA position, she graduated with a degree in public health from Oregon State University (OSU). During her time at OSU, she interned with Polk County Public Health, where she helped revise disaster response plans and worked on managing the Oregon Farm Direct Nutrition Program. Her background also includes hands-on caregiving experience as a house supervisor... [Click here to read full article.](#)



Oregon Department of Emergency Management Warns of Fraud Risks Following Oregon Flooding
[Click here for details](#)

[Cannon Beach MRC and Clatsop County Earthquake Scenario Exercise](#) | [Gabriella Korosi](#)

Members of the [Cannon Beach Medical Reserve Corps](#) (CBMRC) joined with [Clatsop County Search and Rescue](#) (SAR), [Cascadia Moulage](#), and a local CERT team in an earthquake scenario exercise in Astoria on Saturday, March 8.

For the exercise scenario, Search and Rescue (SAR) was in command as 10 injured subjects were located and evacuated from two floors of the old Astoria jail building. Three teams, consisting of four SAR members, two MRC members and one CERT member. Teams communicated via radio while searching within the jail facility. Search teams were able... [Click here to read full article.](#)

[MRC Start Up Funding for the Next Generation](#)

Is your organization passionate about or responsible for improving public health, preparedness, and resilience in your community? Now is the perfect time to launch the next Medical Reserve Corps (MRC) unit in Oregon. You may already know about the MRC, a national network of local volunteer units, comprised of medical and public health professionals and other community members, who are trained to help strengthen public health services and access, reduce vulnerability to emergencies, build personal and community resilience, and improve preparedness, response, and recovery capabilities during local emergencies and disasters. [Click to learn more about this funding opportunity.](#)

[A Brief History of the Medical Reserve Corps](#) | [Alex Drungil](#)

The Medical Reserve Corps (MRC) has been a cornerstone of community-based volunteer response for over two decades. Established in the aftermath of the September 11, 2001, attacks, the MRC was launched as a demonstration project by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) in 2002. Since then, it has grown into a nationwide network of volunteers dedicated to supporting public health and emergency response efforts.

Formal Establishment and Growth

In 2006, Congress passed the Pandemic and All-Hazards... [Click here to read full article.](#)

[SERV-OR Advanced Team: Statewide Launch](#)

In 2022, the SERV-OR's State Managed Volunteer Pool (SMVP) launched the first ever pilot of the Advanced Team (A-Team). This group, spearheaded the pilot in pursuit of developing volunteer leadership units across the state. Our pilot launched in Southwest Oregon counties, also known as Regions 3 & 5 of [Oregon's Hospital Preparedness Regions](#). The purpose of the SERV-OR Advanced Team is to de-centralize volunteer coordination of SMVP deployments by developing local leader-type volunteers, using Incident Command System (ICS) principals, who can provide on-the-ground leadership, volunteer coordination... [Click here read more and to complete the](#)

Medical Reserve Corps (MRC)



UPCOMING ACTIVITIES

Click Here

Celebrating Anniversaries



Deschutes County MRC

2 years April 2025

Lane County MRC

2 years April 2025

Trusted Resources



- March is Women's History Month
 - [National Women's History Museum](#)
 - [Women's History Month](#) – The Library of Congress
 - [National Public Health Week](#) is April 7-13
 - [Get FREE Help Filing Your Taxes](#) (Oregon Department of Revenue)
 - [Seasonal Climate Forecast](#) | April – June 2025 (ODA)
 - [YouTube: Seasonal Climate Forecast](#) | April – June 2025 (ODA)
- ➔ [Click here for more resources.](#)

Volunteer & Job Opportunities

CLICK HERE to VIEW OPENINGS



Training & Development

VIRTUAL and IN-PERSON

CLICK HERE



Oregon Historical Event



Oregon Historical Event
The Great Gale of 1880

In January 1880, the "Great Gale of 1880" struck the Pacific Northwest with devastating force. This powerful extratropical cyclone hit Oregon and Washington, causing severe damage and extensive tree loss. Winds in Portland reached over 70 mph, with gusts along the coast likely exceeding 100 mph. It is believed that the storm's center made landfall near Astoria, Oregon. The storm brought unusual heavy snowfalls, including 18 inches near Beaverton. This cyclone, often referred to as "Storm King," was unprecedented in its destructive power, making it one of the most severe storms in the region's history. [Click here to read more about this historical event.](#)



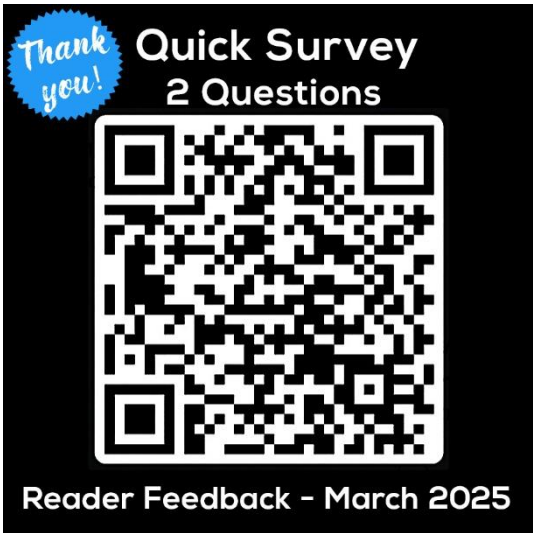
* Contains duplicative counts of members who deployed multiple times.



Appreciation

In addition to her service as the OHA AmeriCorps VISTA Team Leader for the April 2024-2025 cohort, **Rachell Berry** has generously volunteered her time and expertise on the Bulletin Development Team (BDT) since last September, developing content for this newsletter! With her term as a VISTA Leader ending in April, this edition of the newsletter will likely be the last one in which she contributes; so, we take this opportunity to publicly thank her for her contributions over the past 6 months.

Originally from Atlanta, Georgia, Rachell has a... [Click here to continue reading.](#)



Thank you!

Erik Anderson, Rachell Berry, Jeremiah Bridges, Danielle Brown, Samantha Buckley, Alex Dolle, Alex Drungil, Sophie Flora-DeSart, Cayetana Gomez de Soler, Velda Handler, Paul Kaplan, Gabriella Korosi, Eric Missman, Jessica McCormick, Michelle Morales, Mojisola Obiako, Cynthia Rodriguez, Jeff Rubin, Stuart C Vaughters, Lila Wickham, and Mary Ellen Winterhalter.

Those named above contributed their time, talents, and resources to the production of this edition of the [SERV-OR Bulletin](#). Your contributions are MUCH appreciated!

[Click here to start your subscription to the SERV-OR Bulletin](#)

Contact Us

Badge Request | [Click here to request an updated State Managed Volunteer Pool badge.](#)

Do you have a **Story of Service**? We desire to hear it! Email your story to SERV.OR@odhsoha.oregon.gov so your story can be recognized and published in a future newsletter!

General questions? Email SERV.OR@odhsoha.oregon.gov

SERV-OR

State Emergency Registry of Volunteers in Oregon

The mission of the State Emergency Registry of Volunteers in Oregon (SERV-OR) and Oregon’s Medical Reserve Corps (MRC) network is to ensure health and well-being, educate, and protect all people in Oregon.

We will accomplish this through recruiting, registering, training, exercising, and deploying licensed volunteer health professionals to support public health initiatives, health and medical needs during public health crises, and by improving access to preparedness education and resources for all individuals and communities.

Manage Account

[Preferences](#)

[Unsubscribe](#)

[Contact](#)

Stay Connected!

