

# SERV-OR Bulletin

## Issue 8: Changing Seasons

October 30, 2020

### Shout Out to OHA Staff Supporting SERV-OR **NEW**

By Sophie Miller-DeSart

In the last six months, some OHA staff have taken a step back from their regular assigned positions to support the SERV-OR COVID-19 Response for varying amounts of time. In addition, to our amazing SERV-OR volunteers, this group has been integral in helping SERV-OR provide volunteer support across the state. Thank you to: Savannah Davis; Danilyn Galvez; Sharon Coryell; Nurit Fischler; Katherine Broadwell; Riley Appelgren; Tracy Candela; Stephanie Glickman; Malika Edden Hill; Kaitlyn Lyle, Sharon Coryell and Jordana Leeb.

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### Shout Out to Direct Relief **NEW**

As part of the wildfire response, SERV-OR and Oregonians are grateful for the generous donation of Blood Pressure Cuffs, Stethoscopes, and Wildfire Medical Response Kits from **Direct Relief** - thank you!

Most of these supplies were donated to Medical Reserve Corps Units. Collectively, 7 Wildfire Response Kits, 102 Stethoscopes, and 108 BP kits were distributed for approximately \$6,807.74 in in-kind donations to MRC units! The remaining supplies will be maintained by in the State Managed Volunteer Pool and Health Security, Preparedness and Response program caches for future emergency needs, locally and statewide.

### Current Volunteer Opportunities **Updated**

SERV-OR is looking for volunteers who want to support testing events. Once you take this survey: <https://app.smartsheet.com/b/form/b1905d3d80284db781d9e044804d9d90> SERV-OR will verify your healthcare credentials and send you a screening survey that will put you on the list to hear about opportunities in your area.

### A Personal Experience with the Clackamas County MRC **NEW**

Written by Renee Menkens



MRC members do many things to support their units and their communities. The following is an account of how one volunteer made a difference in the lives of those she served while contributing to the county’s COVID-19 investigations.

*“I am a school district nurse for Lake Oswego. When schools initially closed in March for COVID-19, I wanted to continue to be involved in the community. As a school nurse, I have worked with the Communicable Disease staff at Clackamas County. So, I contacted them and was able to volunteer as an MRC member. It was great to see Communicable Disease management through a different lens. As a school nurse, I have had to contact them to report communicable diseases, as well as to get information regarding outbreaks and other specific situations. They have always been there for me. Working for them, I learned the depth of their knowledge and compassion, and how quickly they must handle all of the cases they receive daily. My job was to speak to COVID-19 test positive individuals and their close contacts. I have to say that it was a life-changing experience. At the beginning of the pandemic in Oregon, many times I was the first person whom they spoke to about the disease and how it was affecting them and their families. People lost jobs, lost their health, lost contact with loved ones and were fearful of what their futures held. I became a listener and a witness to the effect of COVID-19 on the people in our community. I am back to school nursing but have a more rounded perspective and astounding appreciation for the Communicable Disease staff at Clackamas County.”*

We want to thank all our MRC volunteers throughout the state who are doing extra duty supporting their communities during these challenging past several months. A heartfelt and grateful thanks for all you do!



**Ann Nelson, RN, NCSN**  
Lake Oswego District Nurse



**Ann’s faux puppy – showing students how to wear a mask**

## Online Training Modules, Technical Assistance, and Toolkits Updated

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

- ASPR (Office of the Asst. Secretary for Preparedness and Response, US Dept. of Health and Human Services) HPH (Healthcare/Public Health) Sector listings: sign up [here](#) to receive a weekly schedule of webinars and teleconferences, including many listed below. Frequency may increase during major events; information typically includes description, schedule, and registration link.
- Project ECHO/HHS/ASPR COVID-19 Clinical Rounds Peer-to-Peer Virtual Communities of Practice: [The homepage](#) has recordings and slide decks from previous sessions; sign up [here](#) to receive e-

mails on upcoming events. Sessions include audience polling and Q&A, and **CE is offered for live attendance**. Three discipline areas are covered every week (may vary with holidays):

- EMS: Patient Care and Operations (Mondays, 9:00-10:00 AM PT)
- Critical Care: Lifesaving Treatment and Clinical Operations (Tuesdays, 9:00-10:00 AM PT)
- Emergency Department: Patient Care and Clinical Operations (Thursdays, 9:00-10:00 AM PT)
- **National Emerging Special Pathogen Training and Education Center (NETEC)** COVID-19 webinar series: Tied to ECHO series based on participant questions and evals. Sign up [here](#) for e-mail notifications.
  - **All webinars** are recorded and are available, along with more detailed online training, [here](#)
  - Schedules vary; most live events are Wednesdays or Fridays to avoid conflicts with ECHO
  - **CE is offered for live attendance** on many webinars and on **some recorded content**
- APHA/NASEM (National Academies of Science, Engineering, and Medicine) COVID-19 Conversations:
  - **The home page** has recordings and slide decks from all sessions and e-mail-notification sign-up
  - Current schedule is 1-2 Wednesdays/month, 2:00-3:30 PM PT
  - **CE is offered for live attendance**
- Environmental Health: **National Environmental Health Assn.** has a series of **COVID-19 just-in-time training videos**: free, no registration. Their **training calendar** lists virtual EH-related training from NEHA and providers across the US (including non-English classes); some are also listed on TRAIN.

## Job Opportunities Updated

- RDPO (Regional Disaster Preparedness Organization, Portland Metro Region) Weekly Update, contains information on current job openings. <https://rdpo.net/weekly-update> (Application closing dates vary depending on week)
- Oregon Health Authority State and County jobs  
<https://www.oregon.gov/oha/PH/About/Jobs/Pages/index.aspx> (Dates vary depending on openings)
- **Metro West Ambulance** has a Community Paramedic-Full/Part Time (posted 10/26, no close date) to work along doctors and nurses as an integral part of patient long term care in their home with the full services available from a typical hospital admission from Legacy, Providence, and Kaiser hospital networks.

## Flu Shot Reminder

As flu season nears, CDC and OHA recommend we receive the seasonal flu vaccine, which is widely available. As usual, early autumn vaccinations are recommended and are particularly important for avoiding dual flu-COVID infections. Full information, including the Vaccine Finder tool, is available at **OHA's Flu Prevention Portal**

## Interest Survey

If you haven't already done so, **please complete [this survey](#)** to be placed on our COVID-19 volunteer interest list and contacted when missions aligning with your specialty and capabilities arise. Reminder Update Profile as Needed! As always, we need our volunteers to keep their profiles up to date. This is essential for contacting you for an emergency deployment, verifying your licensure and trainings, and sending equipment like an ID badge or uniform. **Send training certificates and questions to [SERV.OR@state.or.us](mailto:SERV.OR@state.or.us)**

## SERV-OR Trivia Questions Related to Regional Hazards

Provided by Jeff Rubin

- 1) Mt. Hood, Mt. Rainier, and other Cascade volcanoes can generate mud or debris flows that could devastate communities on their slopes and in the valleys. What Indonesian word is used for those flows?
- 2) What result of shaking, whether from a Cascadia Subduction Zone earthquake or a more localized one, could cause ground failures across much of the Willamette Valley, extensively damaging roads, buildings, water systems, etc.?
- 3) If you think you've felt an earthquake, where can you report it to help scientists characterize it?



### 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 wellbeing, 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 communities.*

### SERV-OR Trivia Answers Related to Regional Hazards Answers

- 1) Lahar
- 2) Liquefaction
- 3) Did you Feel It – please report it even if it's hours later!