



SERV-OR Bulletin

Issue # 26 : News and Resources for Respiratory Season

November 18, 2022

In This Issue

Trusted Messenger Resources UPDATED	2
Stories of Service: Farewell Cynthia Valdivia, Hello Abby Morris NEW	3
Health Talking Points: Is Oregon Prepared for a Respiratory Illness Surge? NEW	4
Cedar Creek Shelters NEW	5
MRC Correspondents NEW	6
Cannon Beach MRC Receives \$50,000 NACCHO Grant NEW	7
MRC Supports Linn County Veterans Day Parade NEW	8
Virtual and In-Person Training UPDATED	9
Volunteer and Job Opportunities UPDATED	10

News You Can Use

Sign up for [public alerts](#) and the [Health Alert Network](#)

CDC's guide for Parents and Teachers: [Helping Children Cope with Emergencies](#)

[News](#) from the national Medical Reserve Corps office

[OHA Covid-19 Public Health Response Report](#)

Preparedness Training for Community-Based Organizations [here](#)

Oregon Governor declares state of emergency

- [OHA RSV page](#)
- [CDC RSV page](#)
- [OHA RSV Talking Points](#) (November 10, 2022)

Request a SERV-OR member badge

Get ready for winter weather with [OHA](#)

We want to hear your [stories of service!](#)

Applications now open for the [2023 MRC Operational Readiness Awards](#)

2022 Volunteer Activity

OHA's 'Protect yourself and loved ones from RSV' Social Cards ([English](#), [Spanish](#), [PDF](#))

View Oregon's COVID-19 Data Dashboards [here](#)

Unit	Hours	Deployed Volunteers	Value of Service
State Managed Volunteer Pool	8,874.5	146	\$265,791.28
Medical Reserve Corps	4,756.5	1,049*	\$237,249.65
Total Oregon	13,631	1,195	\$503,040.93

Trusted Messenger Resources

Covid-19 Updates

- OHA [Press Release](#): Respiratory viruses to continue circulating this season...
- Ask a Black Doctor, [Bivalent Vaccines & Addressing Mental Health](#)
- [Masking recommendations and requirements](#)
- [Subscribe](#) to COVID-19 Health Talking Points
- [Vaccine and testing sites](#) near you
- [OHA Media Briefing, 11/10/22](#)
- [WHO Coronavirus \(COVID-19\) Dashboard](#) reports world wide case and death counts (November 17, 2022)
- [New Modeling from the WHO](#) indicate 307% increase in new long COVID cases identified between 2020 and 2021

Masks are still required in health care settings.

A **health care setting** means any place where health care, including physical, dental or behavioral health care is delivered.

This includes, but is not limited to:

- ✓ Pharmacies
- ✓ Doctor's offices
- ✓ Dentist's offices
- ✓ Health clinics
- ✓ Urgent care
- ✓ Dialysis or infusion centers
- ✓ Long-term care facilities




Oregon Health Authority

Updated
Nov. 10

Oregon's COVID-19 Community Levels

The CDC's COVID-19 Community Levels is a tool you can use to help you make decisions about masking and other prevention measures.



You should wear a mask if you have symptoms of COVID-19, a positive COVID-19 test or are exposed to someone with COVID-19.

Low	Medium	High
<p>Stay up to date with COVID-19 vaccines and boosters. If you have symptoms, get tested.</p>	<p>If you're at high risk for severe illness, consider wearing a mask and taking other precautions.</p> <p>Stay up to date with COVID-19 vaccines and boosters. If you have symptoms, get tested.</p>	<p>Wearing a mask indoors in public is recommended.</p> <p>Stay up to date with COVID-19 vaccines and boosters. If you have symptoms, get tested.</p> <p>If you're at high risk for severe illness, take additional precautions as needed.</p>

Note: The CDC updates COVID-19 Community Levels every Thursday.

Health

- Oregon's [Vaccines for Children Program](#)
- [COVID-19 Vaccine FAQ: 6 mos – 17 years](#)
- [Covid-19 vaccines for children clinical resources](#)
- [Pfizer Fact Sheet](#): 6 mos through 4 yrs
- [Pfizer Bivalent Fact Sheet](#): 5 yrs through 11 yrs
- [Moderna Fact Sheet](#): 6 mos through 5 yrs
- School district specific [management plans](#) for 2022-2023 school year
- [Youth testing in schools](#)

Flu Season

- Visit [OHA's Flu Bites](#) resources page for the most up to date information on the 2022/23 flu season surveillance
- [Prevention](#)
- [CDC's Flu page for Health Professionals](#)
- Find a vaccination center using [Vaccines.gov](#)
- Flu vs Covid: [can you tell the difference?](#)
- CDC [Flusight: Flu forecasting](#)
- [2022-2023 Recommendations for Influenza Prevention and Treatment in Children: An Update for Pediatric Providers](#)



RSV (Respiratory Syncytial Virus)

- [Governor declares state of emergency](#) in Oregon due to surge in pediatric respiratory infections
- ["This is Our Covid"- What Physicians Need to Know About the Pediatric RSV Surge](#)

- [What is RSV and what are the symptoms?](#)
- [How to protect yourself](#) against RSV
- Track RSV [cases in Oregon](#)
- CDC's [RSV Dashboard](#)
- [Pfizer RSV vaccine on the horizon](#)

Monkeypox

- [Provider reference poster](#) for quick tips on diagnosing, testing, and treatment of patients at greater risk
- [Video](#) for Monkeypox sample collection/testing
- [Third Meeting of the International Health Regulations Emergency Committee regarding the multi-country outbreak of monkeypox](#)
- OHA calls for those eligible to receive [second dose](#) of the monkeypox vaccine
- Find a [vaccine](#)
- [Recommendations](#) for schools
- Oregon's [Monkeypox Epi Curve](#)
- CDC [Key Messages](#)
- [Update on monkeypox patient treatment](#)

What's New in Treatments and Prevention Therapies?

Stories of Service: Farewell Cynthia Valdivia, Hello Abby Morris

Provided by Renee' Menken

After many years as the Washington County MRC Coordinator, dedicated leader Cynthia Valdivia stepped down from her role and welcomed newcomer Abby Morris. Cynthia will be missed by those lucky enough to have been able to work with her. Jennifer Roberson, RN, MS worked with Cynthia for over 10 years and says she is a hard person to say “no” to (in the best way possible). “Cynthia has a way of seeing and bringing out the best in people. She is sweet, kind, dedicated to Emergency Services, and cares about the community.”

While sad to see Cynthia go, Abby Morris, CVA, is excited to fill the big shoes she left behind. “Cynthia’s commitment to democratizing emergency preparedness and embedding equity into organizational systems is unparalleled. She embodies what it means to truly ‘serve the people.’ [She will be missed.](#)”



Health Talking Points: Is Oregon Prepared for a Respiratory Illness Surge?

Provided by Enola Mercer

Data shows the convergence of multiple respiratory illnesses as colder weather approaches, including RSV (Respiratory syncytial virus), Covid-19, and influenza. Since the onset of the Covid-19 pandemic, the flu seasons have been relatively nonexistent, the virus has not been given a chance to spread due to social distancing and mask mandates. Predictions for this **year’s flu season**, based off data from the southern hemisphere, anticipate a renewed resurgence of influenza. **RSV cases** have also been rising nationwide, a trend which Oregon is following.

While RSV typically presents mild symptoms, if paired with the flu or Covid-19 it could lead to more severe illness. In the case of serious illness and hospitalization occurring due to these illnesses, Oregon hospitals are preparing for an uptick in patients. The convergence of these three infections would add stress to an already strained healthcare system still recovering from the ramifications of the Covid-19 pandemic. In order to mitigate the effects these three illnesses would have on the state, “hospitals continue to communicate and coordinate for bed capacity in Oregon,” says OHA Operations Chief Dewayne Hatcher. The six **Regional Resource Hospitals**, which include OHSU, Salem Health, PeaceHealth Riverbend Sacred Heart, Asante Rogue Regional, St. Charles, and Grande

Ronde Hospital, work with local hospitals to maximize patient access to hospital beds, which began as a result of Covid-19 pandemic.

Retaining staffing and protecting the health of healthcare workers is also crucial to the function of hospitals while Oregon confronts a surge in respiratory illnesses this winter. While there is no vaccination to protect against RSV, the OHA Immunizations Program stresses the importance of **getting vaccinated against the flu** and Covid-19 this season to help protect against serious illness. “**Per CDC**, the vaccination of health care workers is crucial; vaccination of health care professionals has been associated with reduced work absenteeism and fewer deaths among nursing home patients.”

Cedar Creek Shelters SERV-OR Deployment



A lightning strike started the Cedar Creek fire on September 6, prompting evacuations in the community of Oakridge. With concerns for sheltered populations, including those with complex medical needs, Lane County emergency managers placed a request for assistance for SERV-OR volunteers to mobilize and embed with Health Services personnel at the American Red Cross Shelter in Eugene. This devastating emergency resulted in the fastest wildfire mobilization in SERV-OR history with boots hitting the ground in under 9 hours of receiving the request. Over the course of five days, twenty

SERV-OR volunteers contributed approximately 283.5 hours of service to the communities and individuals affected by this fire.

Continuous coverage by volunteers who worked 12-hour rotating shifts, including overnights, enabled the shelter to remain a safe place for community members forced to evacuate.

We want to thank all of the State Managed Volunteer Pool members who deployed to support the communities that took shelter that week! Your professionalism, compassion, flexibility and readiness to respond is exactly why SERV-OR is the well-respected program that we are. Now that fire season has been nearly eclipsed by fall and winter weather patterns, we stand prepared for what winter has in store.

MRC Correspondents

Welcome to the brand new MRC Correspondents Section of the SERV-OR Bulletin. Hear from MRC volunteers and share your own stories.

Email Enola.Mercer@odhsoha.oregon.gov or [share your stories of service](#) if you have content to share!

Cannon Beach MRC Receives \$50,000 NACCHO Grant

Provided by Gabriella Korosi

Cannon Beach (CB) is a small coastal city in Oregon with a population of 1,547 people. The town is busy during the tourist season with around 75,000 visitors each year. Cannon Beach does not have a hospital; the only medical support is a local health clinic. In case of a disaster or emergency, the local MRC needs to have the ability to respond. The roads leading to Cannon Beach would likely be unpassable following an Earthquake or Tsunami event. With no road access and no hospital in town, preparedness to respond is a necessity. The CB MRC prepares by conducting regular training for its members, participating in first aid support during local events, collaborating with Citizen Emergency Response Team and Disaster Animal Response Team, as well as participating in local public health emergency support like the recent [COVID –19 vaccination...](#)

MRC Support at the Albany Veteran's Day Parade

Provided by Mark Dodge

Citizen Corps volunteers from Linn County Medical Reserve Corps (Unit 329) assembled as a Medical Rapid Response Team (MRRT) with fellow City of Albany, Community Emergency Response Team specialists during the 71st Veterans Day celebration and parade in Albany, Oregon on Friday November 11th. This annual event is the largest single celebration in the nation, for all veterans.

Along the 2.7-mile parade route, 4 separate medical stations were positioned and staffed to aid spectators, their pets or participants who may become [injured along the...](#)

Virtual and In-Person Training

Training opportunities are updated regularly [here](#).

Webinars and Independent Study

- [The Power of Framing: Bridging Political Divides to Strengthen Public Health](#)
- [CDC Epic Webinar: Flu, RSV, Covid-19 and other Respiratory Threats this Fall and Winter](#)
 - Tuesday, November 29 1100-1200 PST

In-Person Training

- [Adult Mental Health First Aid](#)

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

Volunteer and Job Opportunities

- **OHA Board and Commission Member Opportunities** (multiple listed)
- **Become an American Red Cross Mental Health Volunteer** [here](#).
- **Oregon State Hospital is hiring**
- **Clackamas County Community Preparedness and Resilience Coordinator**
 - Application closes 11/30/22
- **New job postings from Healthcare News**
 - **Behavioral Health Consultant, Bend or Redmond, OR**
 - **Certified Nursing Assistant/Hospice Aide, Salem, OR**
 - **Children's Care Coordinator (Master's Level), Medford, OR**
 - **Clinical Supervisor (Crisis Resolution Center), Grants Pass, OR**
 - **Clinical Supervisor (Early Childhood), Grants Pass, OR**
 - **Clinical Supervisor (Residential), Grants Pass, OR**
 - **Clinical Supervisor/Therapist (Residential), Medford, OR**
 - **Family Practice Physician/Adult Nurse Practitioner, Redmond, OR**
 - **Family Nurse Practitioner or Physician Assistant, Grants Pass, OR**
 - **Older Adult Specialist, Grants Pass, OR**
 - **Physical Therapist, Astoria, OR**
 - **RN Hospice Case Manager, Salem, OR**
 - **Therapist (Adult Outpatient), Grants Pass, OR**
 - **Therapist (Adult Outpatient- license not required), Medford, OR**
 - **Therapist (Case Management), Medford, OR**
 - **Therapist (Case Management- license not required), Grants Pass, OR**
 - **Therapist (Children- license not required), Grants Pass, OR**

- [Therapist \(license not required\), Ashland, OR](#)
- [Therapist \(Youth and Family- license not required\), Medford, OR](#)
- [Therapist \(Children, IIBHT\), Grants Pass, OR](#)
- [Therapist \(Mobile Outreach\), Medford, OR](#)
- [Therapist \(Residential- license not required\), Medford, OR](#)
- [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)
- For more volunteer opportunities, events, and petitions near you check out [Made to Save](#)

Contributors to this bulletin include Enola Mercer, Renee Menkens, Jeff Rubin, Mark Dodge, Gabriella Korosi, Paul Kaplan, and Sophie Miller-Desart. Thank you so much to this team for all their efforts!

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 communities

[Manage Account](#)

[Preferences](#)

[Unsubscribe](#)

[Contact](#)

Let's be friends

