

# The Hazard

WINTER 2020



**Pierce County**

*Prepared, Effective, Responsive, Competent*

## TRAUMA RESILIENCE TEAM

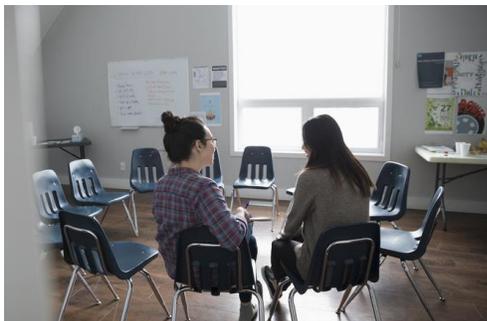
The PCMRC has recently added a new Operations Section Chief and Behavioral Health Lead, Verna Lilly. Verna is leading the development and ongoing management of our Trauma Resilience Team (TRT). The team is comprised of a group of MRC volunteers with nationally recognized trauma and mental health training.

TRT members provide short-term mental health assistance for people struggling with a wide range of emotions and distress during and following a traumatic event. The TRT will be deployable in March 2020 and can adapt to a variety of settings and incidents.

New members must:

- Be an MRC volunteer
- Take CISM GRIN Training (provided)
- Take suicide intervention training
- Comply with continuing education requirements as applicable per profession

If you are interested in joining or have general questions, please feel free to email us at [mrc@tpchd.org](mailto:mrc@tpchd.org).



## Upcoming Events

We are looking for volunteers! Please email [mrc@tpchd.org](mailto:mrc@tpchd.org) if you are interested in any of the following:

### Salvation Army Adult Immunization Clinic

Tuesday, Jan. 21  
1 – 2:30pm

### Project Homeless Connect

Friday, Jan. 24  
11am – 3pm

### MS Walk- First Aid Event

April 2020

### Wear Blue/Run to Remember- First Aid Event

May 2020

### Seattle to Portland Bike Ride- First Aid Event

July 2020

### Unleashed- First Aid Event

August 2020

## Looking Back at 2019

With **571** active volunteers, over **850** hours of emergency response, **2,548** free vaccines administered and upward of **\$100,000** of direct public savings, we want to say **thank you** to everyone who volunteered in 2019!

### Pierce County MRC 2019 event summary:

- Respite bed program support
- Project Homeless Connect
- Clark County measles activation
- **8** Stop the Bleed trainings
- **5** community fairs
- Multiple Sclerosis Walk first aid
- Pierce County measles activation
- Wear Blue/Run to Remember first aid
- TB activation
- Seattle to Portland Bicycle Classic first aid
- Unleashed Stair Climb first aid
- **2** Back-to-school immunization events
- **4** hepatitis A clinics
- **19** adult immunization clinics
- **37** School-Located Influenza Vaccine (SLIV) clinics
- People's Park homeless health activation
- Youth Mental Health First Aid training
- NDMS full-scale exercise
- Bachelor's to doctoral level interships

National, state, and local partners have recognized our amazing work and support to the communities we serve. Congratulations to all of you on a great year, and we look forward to our 2020 service!

## Pierce County Nurses Association

### PCNA Bowling Tournament

Saturday, Feb. 29

Noon- 2:30pm

Register at: <https://piercecounrynurses.com/pcna-events/bowling-tournament/>

### PCNA Spring Education Event

Saturday, March 21

8am-Noon

Register at:

<https://piercecounrynurses.com/pcna-events/2019-spring-education-event/>

## Who is PCNA?

Pierce County Nurses Association is a 501(c)3 non-profit professional organization that supports, encourages, empowers and engages nurses in Pierce, Thurston, Kitsap, Mason, Grays Harbor, Clallam & Jefferson counties.

In addition to supporting the next generation of nurses through community outreach and scholarships for nursing students, they provide continuing education and volunteer opportunities that seek to improve nursing practice, the overall health of our community and to connect nurses to each other and their community.

To learn more about PCNA, visit their website at [www.piercecounrynurses.com](http://www.piercecounrynurses.com).



## Free License Renewal and Malpractice Insurance for Medical Volunteers

The Volunteer/Retired Providers (VRP) Program is funded by the Washington State Department of Health (DOH) and managed by Washington Healthcare Access Alliance (WHAA).

The program is designed to encourage health care volunteers in Washington State by paying the malpractice insurance premiums for those providing non-invasive care to underserved patients.

Volunteers who only use their Washington State professional license for volunteer work are additionally eligible for license renewal. All professional license and malpractice insurance costs, other than late fees and testing fees, are covered by the VRP program.

This is an excellent opportunity for Pierce County MRC volunteers to maintain licensing and gain valuable malpractice coverage. For information on how to apply and additional program information visit WHAA's website at: <https://www.wahealthcareaccessalliance.org/volunteers/apply-for-vrp>

### National Honor for Pierce County MRC

At the end of 2019 our unit was one of seven units in Washington State to receive the National Association of County & City Health Officials' Operational Readiness Award for 2020.

This grant will help build our Trauma Resilience Team (see pg. 1) and formalize emergency response across the state.

## New Coordination Support

We have some exciting news about new support and staff time dedicated to our unit!

In the fall of 2019, Gabbie Hubbard, former MRC VISTA, was hired by the Tacoma-Pierce County Health Department to add capacity and leadership for our Pierce County MRC unit.

Our current director, Stephanie Dunkel, will be transitioning unit coordination roles to Gabbie Hubbard this year.

As expected, this change will take time.

Gabbie will be responsible for unit planning, VISTA support, volunteer management, immunizations, coordination with logistics and operations section, operations planning and maintenance, and community preparedness activities.

Stephanie will remain the director of the unit. Her responsibilities including finance support, partnership development and management, and unit leadership strategic planning and training.

Gabbie is now the unit's primary point of contact. Jayde Rankin, AmeriCorps VISTA volunteer, will also continue to support daily operations. If Gabbie is unavailable, you can contact Stephanie with questions or concerns.



Want to be a featured volunteer in our next newsletter?

Email us your story at [mrc@tpchd.org](mailto:mrc@tpchd.org).

## Community Training

### Animal Rescue Training

The WA State Animal Rescue Team will be hosting a hands-on animal rescue training for a cost of **\$60**. This training will introduce the concepts and techniques of rescuing large and companion animals in distress. There will be live animals and manikins for the students to work with.

This is a non-MRC hosted event. For more information please contact West Region EMS at **360-705-9016**.

#### **WA Technical Animal Rescue Awareness Training**

Sunday, Mar 29

8:30am-4pm

Ocean Shores Convention Center

Register at: <https://www.wrems.com/2020-west-region-ems-conference>

### Discover Memory Care

Puyallup Activity Center is hosting memory care workshops. These include a complimentary dinner. These are non-MRC events. To reserve a seat or for more information, contact Olivia Koelsch at **253-625-3104**.

Located at **Puyallup Activity Center:**

210 W Pioneer Ave, Puyallup, WA 98371

#### **Living a Life with Dementia Workshop**

**Guest Speaker**- Julie Clobes

Thursday, Jan 23

6- 8pm

#### **Dementia Within the Brain Workshop**

**Guest Speaker**- Leah Baumfalk

Thursday, Feb 20

6-8pm

#### **10 Signs of Dementia Workshop**

**Guest Speaker**- Maria Cura-Castro

Wednesday, Mar 18

6-8pm

## Medical Explorers

Medical Explorers is a program for high school students who have an interest in health care professions.

The program allows teens to explore different medical careers through hands-on experience and interactions with health care professionals currently working in the field.

The program meets once a month for two hours throughout the school year, September-June, and can count toward community service hours.

Applications are accepted May-July for the following school year. The registration fee is \$40 with scholarships available.

You can learn more information at [http://piercecounnymrc.org/?page\\_id=273](http://piercecounnymrc.org/?page_id=273)

### Medical Explorers Post #647 Update

Our Medical Explorers learned about speech pathology during their January meeting. The students experienced an amazing presentation, asked great questions, and got to try thickened liquids for patients with swallowing difficulties.

