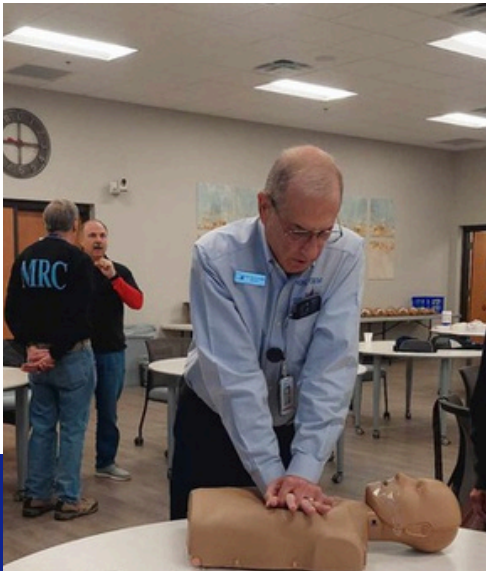
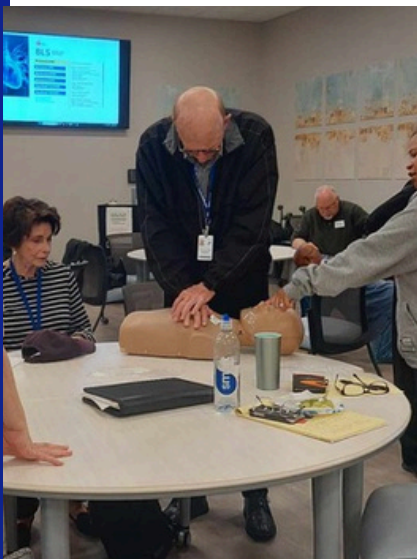


## GEORGIA EAST METRO MEDICAL RESERVE CORPS NEWSLETTER



### Mission Ready: MRC GEM Volunteers in Action

MRC GEM hosted American Heart Association Basic Life Support (BLS) CPR Training and Certification sessions led by Fitumai Madrid, Sandra Nanez, and Michelle Saunders. Thanks to their expertise and engaging instruction, over 50 volunteers refreshed critical lifesaving skills—including high-quality chest compressions, effective ventilation, and automated external defibrillator (AED) usage—and earned AHA BLS certification to better serve our community in emergencies.



We are excited to welcome our new  
Editor-in-Chief for  
MRC GEM Newsletter,

**Dr. Stacia Wilson**

### A Hero Among Us

MRC GEM Volunteer Spotlight Featuring:

### Sherwin Levinson

For over 20 years, Sherwin has led MRC GEM as its all-volunteer Executive Director, guiding our 501(c)(3) unit through countless emergencies. Early on, he partnered with CDC experts to design their radiation-response volunteer training program. Since then, MRC GEM has repeatedly stepped in when public health systems were stretched thin—most recently contributing over 17,000 volunteer hours to Georgia's COVID-19 testing and vaccination efforts. Sherwin embodies the heart of MRC GEM. We are proud to recognize him as the...



**June 2025 MRC GEM Hero Among Us!**

**MRC-GEM is an all-volunteer nonprofit** whose mission is to augment community health operations during large-scale emergencies, aid response to pressing health care needs, and improve community emergency preparedness. Our volunteers speak over 70 different languages and dialects, allowing us to serve Georgia's Gwinnett, Newton, and Rockdale Counties, a highly diverse population of well over 1.2 million people. COVID is a perfect example.

**Heroes aren't born. They Volunteer!**

## *The Preparedness Pot: Insight & Inside MRC GEM*

*Where we stir together timely updates, expert insights, and must-know information to keep you ready and in the know.*

### The Levinson Legacy

As Sherwin Levinson passes the torch after more than eighteen years of dedicated service as Executive Director of MRC GEM, we pause to honor the extraordinary impact he's made. Sherwin restructured our now all-volunteer unit, following his career in business and computer science. His leadership has ranged from establishing the very first Emergency Management plan for the City of Berkeley Lake after the 1998 tornado to coordinating volunteer deployment during the COVID-19 response. Under his guidance, MRC GEM has evolved into a widely recognized team, earned national recognition, and become a trusted partner with Gwinnett, Newton, and Rockdale Public Health.

Beyond his technical expertise, shaped by studies in Physics at MIT and the University of Chicago and an MBA in Math Methods and Computer Science, Sherwin's true gift has been cultivating a culture of collaboration, training, and mutual support. Whether chairing the Gwinnett County Citizens Corps Council, mentoring neighboring units, or inspiring volunteers to attain CERT and GEMA certifications, Sherwin's leadership has strengthened our community's resilience. Together with his wife, Judee, for more than 50 years, Sherwin has modeled the power of partnership, both at home and in service.

Please join us in thanking Sherwin and Judee Levinson for their tireless commitment, visionary stewardship, and unwavering belief that every volunteer can make a life-saving difference.

-By Stacia Wilson

### Got a Story to Share?

We'd love to hear from you! If you would like to submit an article to be considered for the MRC GEM Newsletter, please email Stacia Wilson at [stacia@mrcgem.com](mailto:stacia@mrcgem.com)

Your contributions help keep our community informed, engaged, and prepared!

#MRCGEM #StayConnected



**Heroes aren't born. They Volunteer!**

## TRAINING CORNER: SHARPEN YOUR SKILLS

Evacuation Shelter Training June 21, 2025

ICS-100 & ICS-700 Training July 19, 2025

CSI August 16, 2025

18th Annual Volunteer Appreciation Picnic

(For members & their immediate family)

Pinckneyville Park -Medlock Corporate Pavilion

4758 S Old Peachtree Rd, Norcross, GA, 30071 Sept. 14, 2025

WMD October 18, 2025

FEMA Training November 15, 2025

Volunteer Recognition Holiday Luncheon (MEMBERS ONLY)

December 13, 2025

**Unless otherwise noted, programs are on the third Saturday of each month, from 9 AM to 12 noon, at GNR Public Health,  
2570 Riverside Parkway, Lawrenceville, GA 30046.  
Members' guests and prospective members are welcome to join us on a space-available basis for most programs.**

To add events to your calendar or to find out more about upcoming member events, Click the link below:

**MRC GEM Schedule**



MRC GEM volunteers went to the

National Radiological Emergency Preparedness Conference (NREP)

in Charlotte, North Carolina, April 21-24, 2025. Over the four days, our team:

- Sharpened technical skills in “Advancing Nuclear Power Plant Preparedness”
- Explored emerging best practices in psychological first aid during radiation incidents.
- Exchanged ideas with peers at the NREP networking social, building partnerships.
- Reviewed innovative communication strategies in sessions like “Public Information Improvements.

Thanks to them for ensuring that MRC GEM's volunteers stay at the forefront of radiological preparedness and ready to protect our neighbors when it matters most.

## June Preparedness

Stay prepared year-round with free tools from the U.S. Department of Homeland Security.  
Click each link below for quick list of activities to keep you and your family ready.

*Summer and Extreme Heat Safety*

<https://www.ready.gov/heat>

*National Lightning Safety Awareness Week June 22-28, 2025*

<http://lightningsafetycouncil.org/>

*Pet Preparedness Month*

<https://www.ready.gov/pets>

PUBLIC HEALTH EMERGENCIES Call 1-866-PUB-HLTH anytime, 24/7.

**Heroes aren't born. They Volunteer!**



Stronger Together:  
MRC & Partners in Preparedness  
**COMMUNITY & CORPORATE PARTNERSHIPS**

THANK  
YOU



Your Kroger Plus Card can help support our programs at no cost to you. Go to [Community Rewards](#) to enroll your card in support of MRC GEM. After registering your Kroger Plus Card, search for MRC GEM (org. #JI419) and select us as your supported organization. Once you do, Kroger will donate a percentage of what you spend to MRC GEM.

Click each logo to learn more !



Support MRC GEM every time you shop. Donate spare change by automatically rounding up your orders to the nearest dollar at checkout. Go to [Walmart Spark Good](#) for more information and to enroll in the program.



*"Empower our community's emergency preparedness—your donation today helps build a safer, more resilient tomorrow."*

<https://mrcgem.com/donate>

**We are pleased to recognize our valued donors in these ways:**

**For a donation of \$ 1000 or more**, the donor's name and logo will be displayed as a Principal Sponsor at all meetings as well as on the donor web page. Your donation will provide a weekend of in-depth training for 4 or more volunteers.

**For a donation of \$ 500 – \$ 999**, the donor's name and logo will be displayed as Sustaining Sponsor at one monthly meeting and on our donor web page. Your donation will provide a weekend of in-depth training for 2 – 4 volunteers.

**Supporting (\$ 250 – \$ 499) and Preparedness (up to \$ 249) donors** will be recognized on our donor web page. Your donation will help us provide regular monthly training sessions for our volunteers.

To verify us directly with the IRS, click the link below:

<https://apps.irs.gov/app/eos/>

Search for EIN 26-1280067.

**Donate**

If you prefer to mail a check, please make it out to  
"MRC GEM" and mail to:  
MRC GEM  
2700 Braselton Hwy, Ste 10-193  
Dacula, GA 30019-3262

Platinum  
Transparency  
2025

**Candid.**

**Stronger Together**

MRC GEM (East Metro Health District Medical Reserve Corps, Inc.) is a Georgia non-profit corporation with IRS 501(c)(3) approval. Donations are tax-deductible as provided by the Federal and State tax codes.

Your gift, no matter how large or small, helps us make our community a safer place for all of us. Since we are an independent nonprofit with no paid staff, we depend entirely on the generosity of donors like you. Every penny you donate goes directly to fulfilling our mission.

You can donate cash directly and conveniently through the PayPal giving fund using your credit card or PayPal account. The full donation amount comes to us; PayPal charges no fee for this service.

**Donate**



<https://www.paypal.com/fundraiser/charity/63682>

If you have any questions about donating, please email us at [donations@mrcgem.com](mailto:donations@mrcgem.com)

**We appreciate your interest and support.**

**Heroes aren't born. They Volunteer!**

An All  
**VOLUNTEER**  
Organization

Visit our website to find out more about becoming a MRC GEM volunteer.  
Become an MRC GEM HERO TODAY!

[mrcgem.com/join](http://mrcgem.com/join)



Find us on Social Media



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