

SERV-OR Bulletin

Issue 22: Changes as the Pandemic Eases

April 1st, 2022

IN THIS ISSUE

Next Steps for the SERV-OR Bulletin NEW	1
SERV-OR Recognition Awards NEW	2
COVID-19 Mid-Action Survey: We Want Your Feedback! NEW	2
SERV-OR FAQs: SB1529 Becomes ORS 431A.015 NEW	2
Where are volunteers distributed in Oregon, what are they? NEW	4
Stories of Service: Father Bernie Lindley: Stepping in to make a difference! NEW	5
Online Training Modules Updated	6
Volunteer and Job Opportunities Updated	7

TRUSTED MESSENGER RESOURCES

- ✓ **OHA Resources for masking and quarantine changes**
- ✓ **What's New in Treatments and Prevention Therapies?**
- ✓ **Oregon's Omicron Response Plan**
- ✓ **40 Useful Spanish Terms for SERV-OR Volunteers**
- ✓ **MRC Start-up and Sustainability Toolkit**
- ✓ Oregon's COVID-19 Data Dashboards **here**.
- ✓ **Subscribe** to COVID-19 Health Talking Points
- ✓ Learn more about **How an Idea becomes a Law** by Oregon State Legislature

Next Steps for the SERV-OR Bulletin **NEW**

Provided by Isna Waqas

I want to thank the SERV-OR community for following the Bulletin, we are so grateful for each and every reader. Through this platform, we are able to share all of the wonderful stories around our state and opportunities to get involved!

This is my last issue as the lead for developing the SERV-OR newsletter. Following this issue, The Bulletin will reduce in frequency to be distributed every other month. We are expecting this to make all future issues even more packed with information and stories for you! If you have any recommendations for content you would like to see in future issues, **please let us know!**

Finally, we are always looking for volunteers to join our development team. If you're interested, please use **this form** to get in touch.

UPDATES COLUMN

Oregon's March 2022 Volunteer Activity

Unit	Hours	Deployed Volunteers	Value of service
State Managed Volunteer Pool	4,312.5	185	\$123,078.75
Medical Reserve Corps	3,026.5	619	\$ 86,376.31
Total Oregon	7,339	804	\$ 209,455.06

- ✓ Check out **Oregon's Communicable Disease Rules and Reporting page** for temporary and permanent rules tracking in Oregon
- ✓ Oregon's COVID-19 Data Dashboards **here**.
- ✓ **Request** a SERV-OR member badge
- ✓ We want to hear your **stories of service!**
- ✓ **News** from the national Medical Reserve Corps office
- ✓ **Oregon RISE: Resilience in Support of Equity** outlines priorities Oregon will pursue to monitor COVID-19 spread, shield people at the highest risk, reinvigorate our communities and repair our social fabric
- ✓ **The second round of home test kit orders via USPS**
- ✓ COVID-19 Community Listening Sessions on April 6th and 20th. Register here: **English** and **Spanish**
- ✓ NACCHO is commemorating the 20th anniversary of the Medical Reserve Corps (MRC) through the gathering of testimonials to share the impact of the MRC. See the **link** for instructions and Add your Video **here!**

SERV-OR Recognition Awards **NEW**

Provided by SERV-OR Team & Andie Willett

National Volunteer Week is coming and the SERV-OR team and all of us at the Oregon Health Authority want to recognize you! In recognition of your contributions and outstanding performance, we are holding our first-ever SERV-OR Volunteer Recognition Awards. Use the links below to submit your nominations for MRC Units and State Managed Volunteer Pool.

Nominations close on **Sunday, April 10!**

MRC Units and Responders Nomination Survey

State Managed Volunteer Pool Responders Nomination Survey

COVID-19 Mid-Action Survey: We Want Your Feedback! **NEW**

Provided by SERV-OR Team & Joe Harrity

Correction (4/6/22):

The link to the COVID-19 Mid-Action Survey for volunteers sent in Friday's bulletin was configured incorrectly. The survey deadline will be extended until 4/11 to accommodate this error.

The appropriate link can be accessed here: **Click here to complete the COVID-19 SERV-OR Mid-Action Review Survey #2**

Survey full URL: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/VNLFQ89>

We apologize for any inconvenience and appreciate your time and feedback!

Original Message:

Thank you to all our members who have been working tirelessly for over two years to protect the health and safety of Oregonians against COVID-19. Thank you to all the volunteers who have answered the call and thank you to every single one of you who may not have been able to deploy due to circumstances outside of your control.

As we enter a new phase of pandemic response, marked by the Governor's lifting of the COVID-19 Emergency Declaration on April 1, we want to collect feedback from SERV-OR members about your experiences from January 2021 to today.

Please take 10-15 minutes to provide feedback on your mobilization and/or deployment experiences with SERV-OR throughout the COVID-19 response in 2021 and 2022.

We still want to hear from you even if you did not deploy! Your question set will be limited but it offers us important feedback, nonetheless.

At SERV-OR, we are always working to evolve and improve your experience. Hearing directly from you is essential to that process.

SERV-OR FAQs: SB1529 Becomes ORS 431A.015 **NEW**

Provided by Sophie Miller-Desart

On Friday, March 18, 2022, **Senate Bill 1529-B Enrolled** was signed into law. On, Friday, March 25, 2022, Governor Brown signed a letter of authorization for the Public Health Division (**PHD**) to continue the activation of SERV-OR's State Managed Volunteer Pool (**SMVP**) for COVID response and recovery. While there is no specified end date to this authorization, OHA will continue to monitor the operational capacity of partners who are receiving volunteers.

Who does this affect?

Everyone affiliated with and partnered with SERV-OR but in different ways. ORS 431A.015 is not a blanket authorization for SERV-OR volunteers to continue responding to COVID

Why? And who is it for?

The Oregon Health Authority manages a pool of volunteers in SERV-OR known as the SMVP. OHA does not manage other organizations in SERV-OR such as Medical Reserve Corps Units (MRCs). MRCs are managed by sponsors, most often Local Public Health Authorities or local Emergency Management programs.

This authorization strictly permits OHA-PHD to obtain the Governor’s authorization to activate volunteers deployed directly by the agency. MRC Units activate and direct volunteers locally and may do so without the authorization of OHA or the Governor.

ORS 431A.015 allows the state to ensure workers’ compensation and tort liability protections are in place when there is an urgent need for healthcare volunteer support during an incident that does not rise to a Governor’s declaration of emergency. Most often, these needs are seen in rural communities or in parts of our state that do not have a local or regional MRC for healthcare response.

Example 1: You’ve been deployed with SMVP for COVID on and off for 2 years!

Will this statutory update change any of this?

- If you have been deployed on an official mission assignment by the Oregon Health Authority, supporting COVID response and recovery, you may continue with no interruption to your current liability protections
- If you have been notified by OHA to stand down, you might see renewed requests to re-activate to those missions. You have no obligation to reactivate.
- Not all missions will re-activate. Many sites have stabilized and will not be requesting additional assistance

Example 2: Medical Reserve Corps Members

- Some Oregon MRC Units will continue deployments and can ensure you are covered. We advise that you do not deploy under an MRC without *first* confirming the presence of a waiver of liability. This Governor authorization, which ensures tort and workers’ compensation protections for volunteers, *does not* extend to all SERV-OR organizations.
- Many people are dual-enrolled in the SMVP and a local/regional MRC. Only SMVP deployments directed by OHA are authorized for workers’ compensation and liability coverage.
- Not an SMVP member? You can get registered with the State Managed Volunteer Pool by **emailing the SERV-OR team**. We’ll provide technical assistance to get you queued for onboarding

Have more questions? Email us!

We’d love to hear from you.

Here is a refresher of the protections you have in place when activated as a State Managed Volunteer in SERV-OR.

Governor’s Declaration of PH Emergency

ORS 433.441, 401.661, 401.165

SERV-OR Org	Authorizing Entity	State Protections	Statute
SMVP*	Governor HSPR Director	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tort • Workers’ Comp as QESV** 	ORS 401.651 - 401.654 ORS 401.368 (workers’ comp) ORS 401.364(tort)

Non-emergency; PHD Director Receives Governor Authorization

ORS 431A.015 (1) (j)

SERV-OR Org	Authorizing Entity	State Protections	Statute
SMVP*	Governor, PHD Director	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tort • Workers’ Comp 	ORS 401.651 - 401.654 ORS 431A.015 Subsections 1 (j); 3

Non-emergency; No Governor Authorization

SERV-OR Org	Authorizing Entity	Protections	Statute
SMVP*	None	None	ORS 401.651 - 401.654 ORS 401.368 (workers' comp) ORS 401.364(tort)

*State Managed Volunteer Pool

** Qualified Emergency Service Volunteer

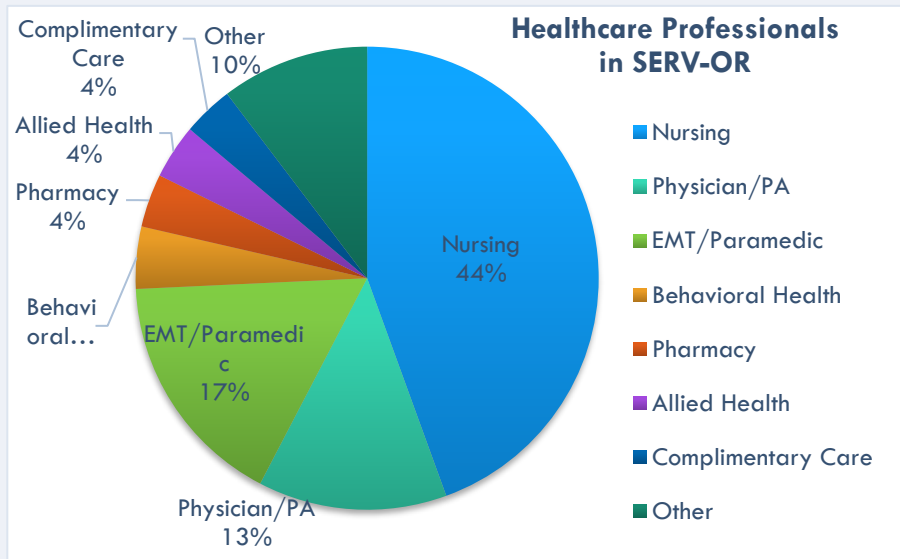
As always, we thank you for your engagement. Please **contact SERV-OR** with your questions and concerns.

Where are volunteers distributed in Oregon, what are they? NEW

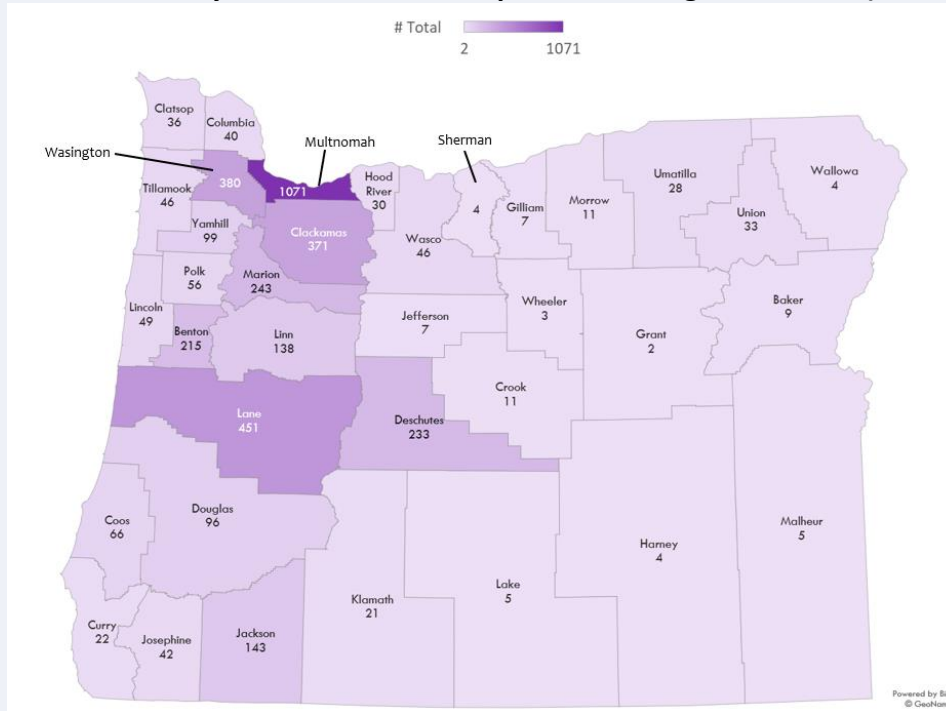
Provided by Isna Waqas

Members and partners often ask about the geographical distribution of SERV-OR in Oregon. The following chart shows the distribution of health occupations in our program. Not surprisingly, nurse occupations (CNA, RN, NP, LPN, and more) represent the bulk of our membership! On the map below, we've quantified the membership of Nurse, Physician, and EMS occupations in each of the Oregon counties. Much like the population of our state, Multnomah County has the largest concentration of SERV-OR volunteers!

Healthcare Occupations in SERV-OR



Total Nurse, Physician and EMS Occupations in Oregon Counties (combined)



Stories of Service: Father Bernie Lindley: Stepping in to make a difference! NEW

Provided by Renee' Menkens

“Our community was suffering, and I could not sit still and watch,” stated Father Bernie Lindley. Father Bernie, as he is called, has made a difference in the Brookings community. His church and volunteers, who have taken on some of the roles that might have been done by the local public health authority were transferred by the Curry County Board of Commissioners to Oregon Health Authority last summer. The Brookings MRC unit was disbanded a few years ago when the leader moved away. Until that point, it had been active with many pieces of training and a focus on emergency preparedness. With this gap in both public health services and the



MRC organization, Father Bernie, stepped in to help. Flu shots and other services, through the church, have been available to vulnerable populations of homeless or those on the verge of homelessness, so providing COVID vaccinations and testing was a natural next step. With grant support from the OHA and collaboration with community agencies, Father Bernie, his congregation, three Registered Nurses, and two retired Physician Assistants gave over 3000 vaccinations and provided over 7000 COVID tests since April

2021. At the height of the pandemic, they often saw more than 100 people a day for vaccinations or testing. In addition, they provided



vaccinations to those who are homebound and in nursing care settings, sometimes traveling 30 miles each way. They have offered several vaccines and testing clinics a week during the pandemic and recently went to one clinic on Saturday, but they are ready to do more if there is a need.

According to Father Bernie, “We have taken over this aspect of public health for the COVID response in our area to increase access to these services. We did this because there is a need for people to get vaccines and tests.”

Online Training Modules **Updated**

Training opportunities are updated regularly **here**.

Basic Disaster Life Support™ (BDLS®)

The Basic Disaster Life Support™ (BDLS®) course is a 7.5-hour competency-based, an awareness-level course that introduces concepts and principles to prepare health professionals for the management of injuries and illnesses caused by disasters and public health emergencies. **Click here to register!**

Use registration code: **mrcbdls**

When:

Friday, June 10, 2022

7:30 AM to 5:00 PM

Where:

2900 NE 132nd Ave

Portland, OR 97230 Bldg. 2

Learn more **here**

Advanced Disaster Life Support

ADLS is an intensive 15-hour course that allows participants to demonstrate competencies in mass casualty management. Core education elements include the ADLS manual and five interactive lectures (Disasters and Public Health Emergencies; Triage in Disasters and Public Health Emergencies; Health System Surge Capacity for Disasters and Public Health Emergencies; Community Health Emergency Operations and Response; and Legal and Ethical Issues in Disasters). **Click here to register!**

Use registration code: mrcadls

When:

June 11-12, 2022

7:30 AM to 5:00 PM

Where:

2900 NE 132nd Ave.

Portland, OR 97230 Bldg. 2

Learn more **here**

Joint Patient Assessment Tracking System (JPATS) Training:

- **Dates:**
 - May 6 (1pm-2pm)
 - May 11 (1pm-2pm)
 - May 17 (11am-12pm)
- 1 hour training
- **Audience:** anyone who could potentially be a volunteer to support the Portland Federal Coordinating Center patient tracking, such as MRC volunteers, public health, VA volunteers/assigned to support, Red Cross volunteers, fire, etc. Plus, hospital staff that may need to enter patient data for a hospital evacuation.
- **2-part Registration:**

- Email Robin Holm, OHA Regional Emergency Coordinator at robin.holm2@dhsosha.state.or.us with 1-2 date choices
- AND obtain a JPATS account

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 Updated

- **CPE Residency Program- Salem**, Full time, Application deadline: 07/31/2022
- **Patient Safety and Client Care Surveyor (Client Care Surveyor)- Portland**, Full time, Application deadline: 04/10/2022
- **Program Nurse Manager - Oregon State Hospital Salem Campus**, Full time, Application deadline: 04/19/2022
- Now Open: **Request for Proposals for a Facilitator of the Disabilities Advisory Council** Application deadline: 04/27/2022
- AmeriCorps VISTA Positions are available throughout the state, both in urban centers and scenic rural areas. Oregon is a wonderful place to build a career in public health. **Contact us and apply!**
- **RDPO Weekly Update** contains information on current job openings. (Application closing dates vary depending on the 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 Isna Waqas, Renee' Menkens, Jeff Rubin, Donald Venes, Daniel Hughson, 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.