

# SERV-OR Bulletin

## Issue #13: Preparing For What's Next

July 2, 2021

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### UPDATES COLUMN

#### Oregon's 2021 Volunteer Activity

Unit	Hours	Deployed Volunteers <small>Duplicative of members who deployed multiple times.</small>	Value of service
State Managed Volunteer Pool	6455.5	584	\$184,232
Medical Reserve Corps	32,943	4,977	\$1,400,573
<small>Nothing new to report since last publication (6/4/21). The National MRC reporting system is undergoing migration.</small>			
<b>Total Oregon</b>	<b>39,398.5</b>	<b>5,479</b>	<b>\$1,584,805</b>

## Governor Emergency Order Impacts on MRC/SERV-OR **NEW**

By Sophie Miller-DeSart

On June 25, 2021, Governor Kate Brown announced **Emergency Orders NO. 21-15**, rescinding a portion of statewide COVID-19 orders and continuing others. Some members of SERV-OR and administrators of SERV-OR units questioned if and how this would affect the deployments of volunteers. First, an important thing to understand about activating SERV-OR organizations are the legal protections for volunteers who have been mission assigned by a public body with or without a state of emergency. Links are provided below for those who would like to deep dive into these rules.

**Most importantly, we want members and partners to know that the Governor's recent Emergency Order allows the continued deployment of SERV-OR volunteers. Thereby, tort liability and workers' compensation protections are sanctioned by the State of Oregon for vaccine related deployments until December 31, 2021, or until otherwise communicated. For many SERV-OR organizations, the assurance of these protections can determine a public body's ability to activate volunteers during emergencies.**

Finally, the Health Security, Preparedness and Response program conducted an analysis of how the end of the Emergency Orders might impact ongoing response efforts by state and local organizations and more importantly, how this affects Oregon's vulnerable populations served by local Medical Reserve Corps Units, the Oregon Health Authority (OHA), Oregon Department of Human Services (ODHS), and the OHA/DHS shared services COVID Response and Recovery Unit (CRRU). The analysis showed that the accessibility of your volunteer service continues to have a substantial impact on the success of many jurisdictions' response and recovery work. Thank you for being of service to people in Oregon during this extraordinary emergency!

### Governor's office statement on lifting restrictions

To learn more, please reference the following Oregon Revised Statutes (ORS)

- ✓ COVID-19 Vaccine Facts can be found **here**
- ✓ Vaccination updates can be found **here**.
- ✓ COVID talking points **here**. (updated: 6/28/2021)  
**Subscribe** to COVID-19 Health talking points
- ✓ We want to hear your **stories of service!**
- ✓ **Join our development team** and let us know ways we can improve the bulletin!
- ✓ **News** from the national Medical Reserve Corps office

- [Definitions for ORS 401.358 to 401.368](#)
- [Registry of emergency health care providers ORS 401.654](#)
- [Provision of health care services after declaration of emergency ORS 401.661](#)
- [Workers' compensation benefits ORS 401.368](#)
- [Coverage under Oregon Tort Claims Act ORS 401.364](#)

## Trusted Messengers: Mask Mandate and More! **NEW**

By Isna Waqas

Oregon has officially reopened, meaning the statewide mask mandate has been officially lifted, here is some information that you need to know as a SERV-OR volunteer:

For healthcare providers:

- [Mask, Face Covering, and Face Shield Requirements](#)
- [Providing Dental Services in School Settings](#)

As a SERV-OR volunteer, please remember to always respect those who may still choose to wear a mask.

Reopening Guidance Updates:

- [Masking guidance in Spanish Arabic Traditional Chinese Simplified Chinese Hindi Hmong Korean Marshallese Russian Somali Vietnamese](#)
- [Ventilation Guidance for Indoor Environments](#)

Updates to County Risk Levels

- Governor Kate Brown announced updates to the county risk levels. A complete list of counties and their associated risk levels is available [here](#).

Videos

- Facebook live: Breakthrough cases – [English](#) and [Spanish](#)

Oregon COVID Blog

- Blog available in Spanish with an embedded RSS feed for Spanish content onto [vacunacovid.oregon.gov](https://vacunacovid.oregon.gov) and adding more Spanish content.

## Coos County MRC and Global Health Effort **NEW**

By Jody Anderson

Michael Burton, Public Health Emergency Preparedness Assistant at Coos Health & Wellness, took part in an unusual vaccine clinic earlier this month.

“We were approached by a stevedoring company who said that they’d have a ship in, and could we vaccinate some of the crew.”

Michael took three volunteers from the Coos County Medical Reserve Corps—two RNs to administer shots and one to do the paperwork — down to the docks.

“When we got to the dock, we learned we’d be going abroad,” says Burton. The ship was the merchant freighter, Crystal. Getting abroad was an adventure. The vaccination team had to climb “a stairway suspended on a rope bridge about 30 feet up, so our volunteers definitely had an interesting time going up and down it.”

The clinic took place in the officer’s dining hall and they vaccinated about 20 people, all Chinese nationals, with the Johnson and Johnson vaccine.

“The folks we vaccinated were all super-psyched to get an American vaccine,” says Burton. “They were all posting on WhatsApp about it. I think our vaccines are starting to be taken for granted. It was interesting to see the perspective of people who were really clamoring to get this.”

These vaccinations don’t get added to Coos County totals. “But,” says Burton, “these guys will be up and down the coast and will be going into many ports of call. So globally this is an improvement and indirectly it should make the U.S. and Oregon safer.”

They’ve had more requests to vaccinate ship’s crews but will probably be administering doses on the dock next time.



*Taken after the clinic onboard. Crewmembers on far left and right. From left to right - Renee' Menkens, Michael Burton, Kat Burgess. We have concealed crewmembers' faces for identity protection.*

## Online Training Modules Updated

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

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

## Job Opportunities Updated

- **Licensing and Certification Compliance Specialist (Salem, OHA)** Full-time, Application deadline: 07/31/21
- **Licensed Practical Nurse (Junction City, OHA)** Full-time, Application deadline: 07/14/2021
- Mental Health Registered Nurse (Junction City, OHA) Full-time, Application deadline: 07/14/2021
- **RDPO Weekly Update**, contains information on current job openings. (Application closing dates vary depending on week)
- For more volunteer opportunities, events and petitions near you check out **Made to Save**.
- **Oregon Health Authority State and County jobs** (Dates vary depending on openings)
- **Oregon’s AmeriCorps VISTA team is now recruiting members for the Fall cohort. Build healthy communities and your career!** 20 positions are available throughout the state, both in urban centers and scenic rural areas. Read about open positions here <http://healthoregon.org/vista>

## SERV-OR FAQs Updated

Provided by Isna Waqas

- **The Vaccination clinics in my local area are closing, how do I stay involved with SERV-OR?**
  - ✓ There are many ways to stay involved with SERV-OR, keeping in mind, a volunteer may only be deployed as member of SERV-OR volunteer when directed to do so.
    - **Join our development team:** We currently are a team of nine volunteers who meet once every month to work on delivering the latest issue of SERV-OR bulletin, the work can range from writing pieces to working in the editing arena.

- Look out for trainings opportunities. More information on trainings can be found [here](#).
- Volunteer Leadership Chapters: These chapters will establish volunteer leaders in each county in a unified and cohesive statewide model of representation for the State Managed Volunteer Pool in SERV-OR. This project is a work in progress. More information for applying to a leadership chapter position in your area is coming soon.
- Other avenues of volunteering: You can find other options [here](#). We also recommend checking your local county websites w/ public health or emergency management

*Contributors to this bulletin include Isna Waqas, Renee Menkens, Jeff Rubin, Daniel Hughson, Paul Kaplan, Jody Anderson, 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.