

## **North Carolina Healthcare Preparedness Program (NC HPP) MRC STTRONG Funding Opportunity Guidance Document:**

North Carolina's Healthcare Preparedness Program is excited to announce the approval of a \$1,800,000 cooperative agreement from the Administration of Strategic Preparedness & Response (ASPR) as part of the Medical Reserve Corp - State, Territory and Tribal Nations, Representative Organizations for Next Generation (MRC STTRONG) Project. The timeframe of this funding runs from 6/1/2023 – 5/31/2025. The goal of this document is to provide guidance on requesting funding as part of the North Carolina MRC STTRONG Project.

### **Goal of the Project:**

The MRC STTRONG project goal is to Bolster North Carolina's Medical Reserve Corp (MRC) Units as part of the NC State Medical Response System (SMRS).

To accomplish this goal, we are utilizing the following strategies:

1. Strong, Reliable, and Coordinated MRC Programs across North Carolina
2. Ensure ongoing recruitment and retention of dedicated individuals willing to support the MRCs in North Carolina
3. Robust and standardized training requirements for the State Medical Response System personnel inclusive of all MRC units in NC
4. Refine primary deployment types (sheltering, dedicated events etc.) for the MRC Programs based on gaps identified in the State Medical Response System and the state's risk analysis.
5. Improve mental health resiliency for all State Medical Response System Staff

### **Funding Opportunities:**

To achieve our strategies, NC HPP will utilize funding from the ASPR MRC STTRONG cooperative agreement to support different local and state projects. Funding opportunities are limited to North Carolina's Healthcare Coalitions and registered Medical Reserve Corp Units that are engaged in the State Medical Response System in North Carolina. Those interested in becoming a registered MRC or who need assistance in becoming an MRC can reach out directly.

The project request form (located at the bottom of this document) will be utilized to collect various project submissions that may be either funded directly to your agency or completed as part of a statewide project. The purpose of the statewide projects is to reduce the overall administrative burden on individual agencies, when possible, by coordinating the purchase of items for multiple agencies.

Project request timeline\*:

- July 24, 2023 – Aug 20, 2023: Project Submission Period 1
- Aug 21, 2023 – Sept 4, 2023: Project Review Period 1
- Sept 5, 2023 – Sept 15, 2023: Project Decision Period 1
- Jan 2, 2024 – Feb 16, 2024: Project Submission Period 2
- Feb 17, 2024 – Mar 4, 2024: Project Review Period 2
- Mar 5, 2024 – Mar 15, 2024: Project Decision Period 2

\*Changes to the above timeline will be announced and are subject to the availability of funds.

Funding that is requested for direct agency projects requires a formal contract process with an associated scope of work which will outline expectations of the project, reporting timelines and reimbursement processes. Budget revisions and one amendment per year will be considered for additional project requests. Please note that there are no matching funds required as part of these contracts.

Participation in a statewide project will require a memorandum of agreement which will outline expectations of the project, reporting timelines and any transfer of equipment details. One MOA for the entire project timeline will be utilized.

All funding requests submitted must be tied to one of the five outlined strategies for this project. If your agency is interested in participating in this funding opportunity, please complete the MRC STTRONG Project Request Form here:

[MRC STTRONG Project Request Form](#)

If you have additional questions, then please feel free to reach out to Kimberly Clement at [Kimberly.clement@dhhs.nc.gov](mailto:Kimberly.clement@dhhs.nc.gov) or 919-210-1463