

# MEDIA RELEASE

ERIE COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH



## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

May 16, 2023

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## First aid and CPR course on May 31

Erie, PA — The **Northwest Pennsylvania Medical Reserve Corps** is sponsoring a free **Adult and Pediatric First Aid/CPR/AED Training** in Titusville for anyone who wants to be prepared for an emergency in any setting.

The course teaches first aid basics for injury, environmental and medical emergencies. It teaches how to help someone whose heart has stopped beating with the emergency lifesaving procedure CPR (cardiopulmonary resuscitation) or with the electronic device known as AED (automated external defibrillator).

Participants will receive a course completion card valid for two years. Registration is required.

"The Medical Reserve Corp is a national network of volunteers that helps communities respond to natural disasters like blizzards and public health emergencies such as disease outbreaks," said Joy Henry, program coordinator.

The Northwest Pennsylvania unit, previously called the Erie Regional unit, welcomes any community member with or without medical or healthcare backgrounds of any skill level, ages 18 or older. It serves and welcomes volunteers from Crawford, Erie, Forest, Venango and Warren Counties.

Only volunteers who have received training and are credentialed can participate in emergency response efforts. "Volunteers are needed to help keep our community safe and healthy in all public health emergencies," said Henry.

Last year, the Northwest Pennsylvania Medical Reserve Corps volunteers assisted with first-aid stations for the Tall Ships Festival in Erie and information desks for various community health fairs and activities. During the first few years of the COVID-19 pandemic, the Northwest Pennsylvania Medical Reserve Corps volunteers were a big help to the Erie County Department of Health with its clinics, donating over 3,500 volunteer hours with over 26,000 COVID-19 vaccinations. "Our region can certainly be proud to be surrounded by such an amazing group of people," said Henry.

The **First Aid/CPR/AED Training** is on Wednesday, May 31, 2023 at the Titusville YMCA 510 W Main St., Titusville, PA. Register by May 26, 2023. For details about the free training or about how to volunteer, contact [mrc@eriecountypa.gov](mailto:mrc@eriecountypa.gov) or 814-823-5205.

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