

# HOSA - MRC Partnership Expands Preparedness Education in Tennessee



*MRC Coordinator Bob Crane presents at the TN HOSA Conference, assisted by the MRC Regional Coordinator and HOSA Student Officer Chad Sisk (photo by Robert Goff)*

The Southeast Tennessee Medical Reserve Corps, through its partnership with local chapters of the Health Occupations Students of America, has trained 495 Tennessee high school and middle school students in basic preparedness and Incident Command. These students have completed MRC 101, and the FEMA IS 100, 200 and 700 courses. Each student has received a certificate from the MRC. Students that were present at the state HOSA meeting received their certificates in a public ceremony. The next step for the SETN MRC – HOSA partnership is to find ways to incorporate students into exercises and activities within their schools and communities.

Health Occupations Students of America is a national student organization whose mission is to “enhance the delivery of compassionate, quality health care by providing opportunities for knowledge, skill and leadership development of all health science technology education students, therefore, helping students to meet the needs of the health care community.

Sheila Carlton, the Tennessee HOSA Advisor, says, “I want to really encourage teachers and school administrators to become a part of the MRC program. With the increased occurrence of Staph infections and the incidence of flu this past winter in the schools across our state, what our students can learn from the Public Health department and MRC is invaluable. Just think if HOSA/Junior MRC Volunteers had been in the schools teaching preventive measures for infectious diseases, how many students would not have been out sick?”



*A TN HOSA Student receives her certificate from the Regional Coordinator at the TN HOSA Conference (photo by Robert Goff)*



*MRC Coordinator Bob Crane leads a class of Tennessee HOSA students*

If you are interested in learning more about HOSA in your local area, you can find contact information for your state affiliate here: <http://www.hosa.org/state/state.html>

