

FEMA Corps Team Wave 6 Supports DC Mayor Muriel Bowser's Day of Action

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Washington, DC - FEMA Corps team Wave 6 officially kicked off their volunteer efforts on Saturday, May 1, 2021, supporting DC Mayor Muriel Bowser's Office of Volunteerism and Partnerships Day of Action COVID-19 door knocking campaign. Aimed at mitigating the effects of COVID-19, over 1,000 community volunteers activated around the city in support of residents making a plan to get a COVID-19 vaccine.

Deployed to support the DC Senior Vaccine Buddies community outreach initiative, this is the first mission for Wave 6.

Charged with canvassing Wards Seven and Eight, the eight-member team walked door-to-door, passing out flyers during the Day of Action, which included information about how the COVID-19 vaccine works, along with material detailing site locations across DC where individuals who need to be vaccinated can "Take The Shot".

"It's an honor to be partnered with Serve DC and the Senior Vaccine Buddies program, says Whitney Kubal, Wave 6, Team Leader. "We're learning so much from this community, while helping to make an impact with the COVID-19 vaccination efforts."

FEMA Corps, a partnership between FEMA and the AmeriCorps National Civilian Community Corps (NCCC), allows young adults between the ages of 18-24 seeking professional skills in emergency management, to gain valuable experience while supporting disaster survivors and communities.

"We are grateful for the FEMA Corps Team Wave 6's rapid response to take action and help Washingtonians make a plan to get their free COVID-19 vaccine across all 8 Wards," said Mayor Bowser. "ServeDC continues to leverage partnerships in response to building a safer and more resilient city."



“We know when you engage committed partners in addressing social challenges, solutions happen. Thus, we are thrilled to welcome the Wave 6 FEMA Corps team in support of this critical mission.” said Alexis Squire, Interim Chief Service Officer. “I am hopeful that this partnership will inspire other multi-sector leaders to respond through service and activation.”

“Our seniors play a critical role in keeping the District strong and vibrant and are at most risk during the pandemic,” said Dr. Christopher Rodriguez, Director, DC Homeland Security and Emergency Management Agency. “We look forward to introducing the District’s seniors to the FEMA Corps team and believe this partnership will save lives.”

In response to President Biden’s called to action for mayors across the nation to ensure their communities are vaccinated, Mayor Bowser was the first mayor in the US to host a Day of Action event, focused on making certain that DC residents are vaccinated.

“We are grateful to assist the District in meeting the needs of seniors who want a COVID-19 vaccination,” says Janice Barlow, Acting Regional Administrator, FEMA Region 3. “Having a FEMA Corps team embedded with Serve DC, working alongside DC Senior Vaccine Buddies volunteers, helps to safeguard our nation’s most vulnerable population,” Barlow said.

Originating with AmeriCorps NCCC Southern Region, Vicksburg, Mississippi, FEMA Corps team Wave 6 brings to the table, skillsets that include expertise in anthropology, public administration, political science, meteorology, and interdisciplinary mathematical sciences.

The team will continue to support the DC Senior Vaccine Buddies mission through mid-June.

The following is a link to the video associated with the FEMA Corps outreach:
<https://youtu.be/7FfNhJr79mk>

About Serve DC

Serve DC is the Government agency dedicated to promoting service as an innovative, sustainable solution to challenges we face as a community and a nation. Serve DC engages District communities by building partnerships and organizational capacity, serving as the local lead for national volunteer and service initiatives, and providing and promoting meaningful service opportunities throughout the year. Serve DC supports communities across the District through federal grant funds from the Corporation for



National and Community Service (CNCS), the US Department of Homeland Security, and The DC Department of Health. Serve DC promotes the District's spirit of service by engaging residents in meaningful volunteer opportunities and facilitating public, private, and government partnerships.

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For questions about FEMA, please contact FEMA Region 3 Office of External Affairs at (215) 931-5597 or femar3newsdesk@fema.dhs.gov??

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