



## Southwest District Health

13307 Miami Lane ♦ Caldwell, Idaho 83607 ♦ (208) 455-5300 ♦ Fax (208) 454-7722

*1008 E. Locust  
Emmett, ID 83617  
208/365-6371*

*1155 3<sup>rd</sup> Ave. N.  
Payette, ID 83661  
208/642-9321*

*46 W. Court St.  
Weiser, ID 83672  
208/549-2370*

*Administration  
455-5317*

*Environmental  
Health  
455-5400*

*Family Health  
455-5395*

*General Support  
455-5307*

*Nutrition and  
Health Promotion  
455-5343*

July 15, 2018

Mr. Holtry

I would like to thank you for your support of ReadyKamp 2018. On September 11, 2001 our country was attacked by terrorists. Thousands of Americans came out of the woodwork to volunteer to help but were turned away because there was no system in place to verify their credentials or even to ensure that they were not terrorists wanting to do additional harm.

In January 2002 President Bush challenged all Americans to volunteer and give back to their community. He created the Medical Reserve Corps (MRC). There are now 700+ MRC units in America. Idaho has one in each of the seven public health districts. The purpose of the MRC is to register and train volunteers to be called upon to support the health district during a public health emergency, which as you know includes just about all disasters.

Health District 3 is the only one with an MRC Teen Division where the teens receive the same training and do everything the adult members do except drive our vehicles. We train our youngest members by recruiting 7-9 graders from the six county area of health district 3 (Adams, Washington, Payette, Gem, Canyon, and Owyhee).

This year we had 30 campers and held the overnight camp at Homedale High School July 8-12. The campers learned the basics of emergency preparedness, incident command, fire safety, firefighting, water safety and water rescue, medical triage and first aid, search and rescue, CPR, disaster psychology, wilderness survival, and suicide prevention. On Wednesday we staged a mock disaster and the campers served as the emergency responders using the skills they learned in camp. On Thursday we held a graduation banquet where the parents returned and saw presentations by the campers on their favorite areas of the camp curriculum.

It is because of people like you and the Homedale School District that we are able to offer this educational opportunity to these kids without charge. We feel that it is imperative that no child who desires to attend be denied due to their parents financial status.

Thank you again for all that you and the School district offered us. It is certainly appreciated.

Sincerely,

Jeff Cappe, Health Liaison  
MRC Coordinator  
Southwest District Health