

ASPR TRACIE Speaker Series

Brief Speaker Biographies

Medical Reserve Corps Voices from the Field Speaker Series

Team Rubicon and Medical Reserve Corps

Deb Wetherill, BSN, RN

Deb is a Registered Nurse with 22 years in the field, including pediatrics emergency, trauma, med-surg, regulatory compliance, K-12 schools, early childhood education, camps, and disaster public health and medical field operations.

She has been a volunteer Greyshirt with Team Rubicon since 2017 and continues to deploy locally and nationally. She joined the Team Rubicon MRC as an RN in 2026.



In her full-time role, she serves as the statewide disaster Health and Medical Operations Lead, under the Hospital Preparedness Program (HPP) grant at the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment (CDPHE), and also supports the Colorado Volunteer Mobilizer, and statewide volunteer coordination, including Medical Reserve Corps. In addition to her full-time role, Deb remains clinically active, caring for patients as a bedside nurse.

Eric Hill, MD, FACEP, FAEMS

Dr. Hill is a double board-certified physician in emergency medicine and emergency medical services at the Medical Center of Aurora where is an EMS Medical Director for several EMS agencies in Colorado. In addition to his interest in EMS, Dr. Hill has expertise in disaster medicine and has had several deployments as a Medical Officer on the Rocky Mountain Disaster Medical Assistance Team and with Team Rubicon.

Dr. Hill is a combat veteran of the US Army and was honorably discharged as a Major after 7 years on active duty with the US Army. While on active duty he was deployed for 10 months to the Iraq war in 2009-2010 as the Brigade Surgeon for the 2nd Brigade Combat Team, 10th Mountain Division.



Dr. Hill has been a volunteer Greyshirt with Team Rubicon since 2015. In 2018 he joined the international medical team with Team Rubicon and took on a leadership role as a medical leader. He is the Medical Director and Team Leader for the new Team Rubicon MRC in Colorado.

Jessica Ryder, MD, MPH

Dr. Ryder is a board-certified emergency physician, Assistant Professor of Emergency Medicine at the University of Colorado School of Medicine, and Programs Medical Lead for Team Rubicon. Fellowship-trained in Operational and Disaster Medicine, she has deployed to Ukraine, Uganda, Niger, and Guatemala, supporting humanitarian medical response and strengthening local disaster response capacity through training and mentorship.



Domestically, Dr. Ryder serves as Physician Lead for Emergency Department Disaster Preparedness at the University of Colorado Hospital, where her work focuses on mass casualty preparedness, medical surge, alternate care facilities, high consequence infectious disease response, and technology downtime. She also serves on the Board of Directors of the World Association for Disaster and Emergency Medicine and governance board for the North Central Region Healthcare Coalition.