



DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

News Release

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For Immediate Release: March 13, 2007

07-14

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR HAWAII MEDICAL RESERVE CORPS

HONOLULU – The Hawai'i State Department of Health is seeking volunteers to join the Hawai'i Medical Reserve Corps. Trainings on O'ahu begin this week with neighbor island trainings still to come.

"In a public health emergency, such as a pandemic, we'll need everyone to work together," said Health Director Chiyome Fukino, M.D. "Retired doctors, nurses, and medical technicians are needed to help meet increased demands for medical care. In addition, business people and community activists offer needed skills too. Everyone can play a part, through the Hawai'i Medical Reserve Corps, in helping our community remain safe and healthy. I urge all interested citizens to participate."

After a disaster, many people come forward to lend a helping hand. However, without proper oversight and directions from authorities, well-meaning volunteers can quickly find themselves in unsafe situations or unintentionally disrupt the activities of public health and safety personnel. The Hawai'i Medical Reserve Corps (MRC) allows medical and non-medical volunteers to be part of a highly-trained and organized team. Each county will have a Medical Reserve Corps team to respond to local emergencies. The Hawai'i MRC is managed by the Hawai'i State Department of Health and is part of a national effort to help local communities organize for an emergency.

For more information about the Hawai'i Medical Reserve Corps, including neighbor-island orientation dates and times, call (808) 587-6583. Pre-registration for meetings is required. Upcoming dates and locations on O'ahu include:

- Tuesday, March 13 at the University of Hawai'i at Manoa from 5:30-7 p.m.
- Wednesday, March 21 at the Wai'anae Beach Club from 5:30 to 7 p.m.
- Tuesday, April 3 at the University of Hawai'i at Manoa from 5:30-7 p.m.

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