

PACIFIC ISLAND HEALTH OFFICERS ASSOCIATION

POSITION VACANCY

JOB TITLE:	Regional Environmental Health Specialist/Entomologist Zika Surge
REPORTS TO:	Response Project Manager
GRADE/CLASSIFICATION:	Consultant
PERIOD OF WORK:	11 months, Full-Time (with possible extension pending funding availability but not guaranteed)
LOCATION:	Hagatna, Guam
COMPENSATION:	To be provided on request
RECRUITMENT TIMELINE:	Immediate

POSITION SUMMARY

Reporting to and under the supervision of the Zika Surge Response Project Manager, the position is responsible for the overall planning, execution, and reporting of activities related to training, institutional strengthening, and capacity development of local health agency staff in vector mosquito control to limit Zika spread. Training and associated institutional capacity development activities will target relevant local health agency programs and staff, including but not limited to: local Public Health Emergency and Preparedness (PHEP) and Hospital Preparedness Program (HPP) Coordinators, environmental health and relevant ancillary services staff (lab, medical supply, etc.), and local EpiNet/Emergency Response teams (often comprised of other sector representatives in addition to health agency staff).

The project is funded by the US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) through its cooperative agreement with the Pacific Island Health Officers Association (PIHOA). The region of engagement will be the US-Affiliated Pacific Islands (USAPIs) of American Samoa, Guam, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands (CNMI), Federated States of Micronesia (FSM), inclusive of its states: Chuuk, Kosrae, Pohnpei and Yap, Republic of Palau, and the Republic of the Marshall Islands (RMI). Current Zika-affected areas of American Samoa, RMI, and Kosrae, FSM will be the primary project targets.

This position shall comply with any and all relevant federal, state and local government rules and regulations over grants administrative and programmatic requirements, and the appropriate application of various cost principles and allowable activities as indicated in the CDC's Notice of Award (NoA) to PIHOA.

To effectively perform duties and activities as indicated in the approved Zika Work Plan and Budget, the position shall liaise and interact directly with the Zika Surge Response Project Manager, Zika Surge Response Project Assistant, CDC's Regional Career Epidemiology Field Officer (CEFO) co-located at the PIHOA Guam Office, Zika regional and local technical consultants, relevant PIHOA administrative and technical staff assigned to the project, and appointed local health department focal points.

ESSENTIAL FUNCTIONS

1. Work directly with local health staff, field-based Zika technical consultants, and regional Zika technical consultants to provide key environmental health and entomologic information to help inform the development of appropriate regional and jurisdiction-level vector control plans that are aligned to existing local PHEP/HPP preparedness and response plans for Zika-affected areas and those at risk for future introduction;
2. Perform literature review of all past entomologic assessments of the target jurisdictions and develops a regional mosquito report that includes recommendations for jurisdiction-level institutional/systems strengthening and training interventions to minimize future risk;
3. Identify entomologic knowledge-gaps in the region and train relevant local environmental health and other local agency partner staff (e.g. staff from local environmental protection agencies and district/municipal offices) to conduct periodic environmental and mosquito assessments to eliminate these gaps;
4. Coordinate with the Regional Zika Vector Control and Management Specialist/Trainer to evaluate and enhance local integrated vector management plans based on knowledge of the local vector;
5. Identify and link existing environmental, public health, lab-based and mosquito surveillance programs and other related vector control resources in the region to help create a regional support network for vector management, including development of a plan and approach to further develop regional mosquito surveillance capacity/capability;
6. Where appropriate, collaborate with local and regional entomologic experts, as well as experts from CDC, to add to the knowledge-base of local mosquito-vectors in the region;
7. Provide regular on-site entomologic and associated environmental health training and institutional strengthening, and on-going remote technical support to local response teams;
8. In consultation with local health agency counterparts and field-based technical consultants, collaborate with the regional Zika technical consultants, Zika Surge Response Project Manager, and relevant PIHOA technical staff to enable effective, timely and cost-efficient local and regional vector control and management programming and communication/information dissemination;
9. Work with Zika Surge Response Project Manager and Project Assistant to coordinate and implement the Regional Zika Training Workshop and attend PIHOA Executive Board meetings;
10. Attend regular Zika team meetings/conference calls as directed by the Zika Surge Response Project Manager; and
11. Regularly collect, compile, analyze and submit to the Zika Surge Response Project Manager all capacity development/training data, activities, and outputs/results/impacts that will be included into programmatic reports to the CDC as per NoA performance reporting requirements and timelines, and which will be collectively evaluated with other Zika project results by the Zika Project Evaluation Specialist at the conclusion of the project period.

QUALIFICATIONS

1. Minimum Master's degree in Entomology with Public Health or Medical Entomology emphasis, Environmental Health with specialization in mosquito/zoonotic vectors, or equivalent degree in related field;
2. Minimum of 2 years' experience working as an entomologist/environmental health officer with demonstrated experience in: 1) mosquito trapping and assessments; 2) developing and evaluating integrated vector management plans; and 3) planning, coordination, and provision of training and technical assistance activities for integrated vector control and management programming;
3. Demonstrated knowledge of mosquito vector trapping, identification, and life cycle, including knowledge of integrated vector management, including development of relevant policies, protocols, and programming;
4. Experience with systems strengthening and capacity-development activities, with strong preference on experience in low-resource/developing country settings and in the context of emerging and other zoonotic, outbreak-prone infections;
5. Demonstrates basic understanding of how US Federal grant programs operate and US federal guidelines and regulations;
6. Competent to advanced understanding of MS Office Professional Suite, especially Excel; competent to advanced understanding of MS Project and/or MS Access a plus;
7. Demonstrates ability to communicate effectively in English, through written and verbal presentations; full competency in one or more languages of the USAPIs is desired, but not required;
8. Demonstrates analytical and problem-solving skills that require multiple layers of interventions across multiple locations and contexts, and strong inter-personal communication skills;
9. Must be able to travel extensively throughout the Pacific region and the US in the performance of duties;
10. Knowledge of and sensitivity to operate in and amongst diverse cultures and institutional practices in low-resource settings, where health staff may be of varying degrees of competency and English language skills; and
11. Ability to work in a team-based environment, as well as independently with minimal supervision, and under pressure with very tight deadlines.

PHYSICAL/MENTAL DEMANDS

Requires prolonged sitting and some standing, walking, kneeling, and bending, requires eye-hand coordination and manual dexterity sufficient to operate computer keyboard and office equipment. Requires normal range of hearing and vision to perform job duties. Requires occasional lifting up to 20 pounds. Must understand vague and implicit instructions, and react favorably and in an open and diplomatic manner in all work situations. Must be able to communicate in a positive and professional manner. Must be mentally adaptable and flexible in dealing with a variety of people from a variety of different circumstances, languages, cultural beliefs and practices, and health knowledge. Must be able drive a vehicle and have a valid driver's license. Duties require extensive traveling, so a valid passport is required.

APPLICATION

Position open until filled. Please submit the following electronically with attention to Emi Chutaro (emic@pihoa.org), Executive Director, and cc to Andrea Whitt (andreaw@pihoa.org), Office and Program Support Officer:

- 1) **Letter of Interest** that outlines your overall qualifications and experience in response to the Essential Functions and Qualifications of the position vacancy announcement;
- 2) **Curriculum Vitae** and/or **Resume**; and
- 3) Minimum of **three (3) work references** current to the last 5 years of professional work.

ATTN: Emi Chutaro
Executive Director
737 Bishop Street, Suite 2075
Honolulu, HI 96813

CC: Andrea Whitt
Office and Program Support Officer
414 West Soledad Avenue, Suite 800
Hagatna, Guam 96910

For any enquiries related to this vacancy, please direct them to Emi Chutaro at emic@pihoa.org or (808) 537-3131.