

PACIFIC ISLAND HEALTH OFFICERS ASSOCIATION

POSITION VACANCY

JOB TITLE: **Regional Vector Control and Management Specialist/
Trainer**
REPORTS TO: Zika Surge 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 agencies and staff in vector control and management. 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. Review existing entomologic data and information provided by the Regional Environmental Health Specialist/Entomologist to determine pertinent vector mosquitoes for Zika;
2. In consultation with local environmental health teams and other agency partners, coordinate with the Regional Environmental Health Specialist/Entomologist, and other local/regional entomology experts in entomology, to strengthen and integrate existing vector management plans and/or develop new, integrated vector management plans where they do not exist based on knowledge of the local vector;
3. Collaborate with local environmental health teams to identify, strengthen, and evaluate all existing vector management programs in the jurisdiction, and as needed, provide on-site support and remote technical assistance to support the local implementation and monitoring of these programs;
4. Assist local environmental health teams and EPA leadership to review and make appropriate pesticide choices that are context-appropriate to the needs and capabilities of the control program, including identification of community strengths/assets to leverage for vector management, including but not limited to, traditional social structure/activities;
5. In consultation with local environmental health and response teams, other local agency partners, and regional and field Zika technical consultants, identify gaps/needs in training, systems strengthening, capacity development, supplies, etc. that are necessary to carry out effective, integrated vector management programming at the jurisdiction level, and provide regular on-site, context-appropriate vector management training and systems strengthening (e.g. development of policies and procedures) to address identified vector control/management deficits;
6. Ensure that all training and capacity development and technical support activities are aligned with existing jurisdiction-level Public Health and Emergency Preparedness (PHEP)/Hospital Preparedness Program (HPP) plans, and as needed, develop further plans to develop regional mosquito control capacity;
7. Collaborate with the PIHOA Entomologist and PIHOA Zika Project Manager to enable effective, timely and cost-efficient vector control and management programming.
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 training/capacity development programming and approaches;
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 Bachelor's degree in Biology (with course work that includes entomology, biology, zoology, or chemistry), Master's degree in Public Health (with special emphasis on vector control and management), or equivalent degree/course work that demonstrates competency in mosquito entomology and vector control/management;
2. Minimum 3 years' experience as a vector control specialist, or vector control inspector with focus on mosquito control;
3. Demonstrated expertise in evaluating/enhancing local vector management programs, and provision of training in vector control;
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.