Iowa’s Public Health Response Teams

• PHRTs assist local partners across Iowa in responding to public health emergencies. These include severe weather events, disease outbreaks, or large-scale disasters.
• PHRT members are volunteers from health care institutions, local public health and environmental health agencies, county medical examiner’s offices, private industry, Office of the State Medical Examiner, and IDPH staff.
• Iowa’s volunteer response partners have been an important part of the public health response system since the first team was established in 2003.

The Four PHRTs

• **Iowa Volunteer Disaster Medical Assistance Team** (IA-DMAT) provides medical care during public health emergencies.
• **Environmental Health Response Team** (EHRT) provides environmental health monitoring services such as air and water quality, waste water system, and food services.
• **Logistical Support Response Team** (LSRT) provides logistical support for all PHRTs. The team also assists with transporting, setup and management of IDPH’s Mobile Health Care Facility.
• **Iowa Mortuary Operational Response Team** (IMORT) provides identification services and care for decedents following a mass fatality event.

Volunteer Requirements

• Volunteers should be willing and able to deploy anywhere in the state for 24 to 96 hours.
• Each team requires training related to its unique activities. Additional trainings may be required for specific positions.
• All PHRT team members are required to have taken the following basic trainings:
  - IS 100: Introduction to the Incident Command System
  - IS 200: ICS for Single Resources and Initial Action Incidents
  - IS 700: Introduction to National Incident Management System
  - Hazmat Awareness or Basic Disaster Life Support
• IDPH coordinates regularly scheduled required team meetings.

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