## NEWS RELEASE ALABAMA DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH

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## **Emergency response nurse volunteers needed**

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CONTACT: Jessica Hardy (334) 206-5665

The Alabama Department of Public Health is seeking nurses licensed to practice in Alabama who are willing to volunteer their services should a bioterorrist event or other public health emergency occur.

In the event of a catastrophic emergency, local supplies of drugs and medical equipment could be diminished rapidly. The federal government would rapidly send needed pharmaceuticals and supplies from the Strategic National Stockpile to support systems of care.

If the emergency situation involved anthrax, smallpox or any substance that would require mass inoculations, prophylaxis or treatment, nurses would play prominent roles in staffing large public clinics. Nurse volunteers might also be called upon to serve in a variety of other capacities during natural or manmade public health emergencies within the state.

Free emergency preparedness training will be offered and continuing education contact hours will be given for participation in these sessions. Several training dates are scheduled specifically regarding the Strategic National Stockpile. Participation in one of these training sessions provides a broad understanding of the type of emergency response that will be expected. Training opportunities are as follows:

Sunday, March 21,1-5 p.m. – VonBraun Center, Huntsville

Sunday, April 18, 1-5 p.m. – Montgomery Civic Center, Montgomery

Sunday, May 2, 1-5 p.m. – Birmingham Jefferson Civic Center, Birmingham

Registration Form .....Free Adobe Reader is required to open this document.

Registration information is available by calling Jessica Hardy, Alabama Department of Public Health, Montgomery, at (334) 206-5226. Additional training opportunities will be offered for nurse volunteers throughout the year.

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