

NEWS RELEASE

March 17, 2009

MASON COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

**411 NORTH 5TH ST
SHELTON, WA 98584**

TO: KMAS, KRXY, SHELTON-MASON COUNTY JOURNAL, THE OLYMPIAN, SHELTON CHAMBER OF COMMERCE, NORTH MASON CHAMBER OF COMMERCE, CITY OF SHELTON, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL, THE SUN

RE: Public Health Staff Awarded Training Scholarships

Mason County Public Health staff Joy Fulling, RN, Medical Reserve Corps (MRC) Coordinator and Dr. Diana Yu, Mason County Health Officer who serves as Medical Director for the MRC, have both received fully funded scholarships from the National Association of County and City Health Officials (NACCHO) to attend the Psychological First Aid Instructor Training Workshop in Denver, Colorado March 23-25, 2009.

In November of 2008 the Mason County Chapter of the Region 3 Medical Corps was officially registered with the office of the US Surgeon General (OSG). The Medical Reserve Corps is made up of public health volunteers who are trained to expand public health capacity in times of emergencies. Psychological First Aid is considered a standard model of mental health intervention in early response to disasters and other traumatic events. The Medical Reserve Corps considers Psychological First Aid a core competency for volunteers, meaning all MRC volunteers should be trained.

This opportunity means that Mason County Public Health will have two staff trained to provide Psychological First Aid training to MRC volunteers and other disaster response agencies in our community.

For more information about this training or if you are interested in more information about the Medical Reserve Corps please contact Joy Fulling, Medical Reserve Corps Coordinator by email at joyf@co.mason.wa.us or by phone at (360) 427-9670 ext 406 or from Belfair (360) 275-4467 ext 406.

Tim Sheldon
Chair

Lynda Ring Erickson
Commissioner

Ross Gallagher
Commissioner