



MCHC
Metropolitan Chicago
Healthcare Council

To: Illinois Hospitals

We would like you to join Illinois Department Public Health (IDPH), Chicago Department of Public Health (CDPH) and Metropolitan Chicago Healthcare Council (MCHC) in our campaign to increase *Illinois Helps* (Emergency System for Advanced Registration of Healthcare Professionals) volunteers. On Friday January 13, 2012 MCHC, IDPH and CDPH are posting the Public Service Announcement (PSA) on their websites.

This (PSA) is designed to give those interested in volunteering in the event of a disaster anywhere in the state a convenient, electronic way to sign up and be notified when there is a need for volunteers in their community, region, state or nation. *Illinois Helps* allows volunteers to preregister for local Health Departments and Medical Reserve Corps. The volunteers will also receive training in emergency response. Those volunteers with medical backgrounds will also be credentialed in advance to help facilitate getting those experts into the right roles to protect our communities.

The upcoming G8 and G20 Conferences in Chicago in May 2012 and the recent freight train derailment and explosion in Tiskilwa are excellent examples of the need for this system, which will quickly and efficiently be able to get the right volunteers onsite to save lives.

Here is the link [Join Illinois Helps - YouTube](#) if your hospital needs assistance or is going to post this on the intranet please contact Kevin Sullivan.

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