



UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH ALABAMA  
COASTAL RESOURCE  
AND RESILIENCY CENTER

**Coastal Resource and Resiliency Center**  
**Volunteer Peer Health Advocate Training**  
**Gulfport, MS, April 29 - May 2, 2018**

## **Training Opportunity Announcement**

The Coastal Resource and Resiliency Center is seeking candidates to train as Peer Health Advocates (PHAs) to serve in coastal areas of Alabama, Mississippi, Louisiana, and Florida.

PHAs typically serve as volunteers, providing members of their communities with health information, encouraging healthy lifestyles, preventive care, emergency preparedness, and assisting people in gaining access to needed health services. PHAs do not provide medical advice or health therapy; they are not a substitute for professional care.

Primary training topics include: 1) roles & responsibilities of PHAs; 2) strategies for community education & outreach; 3) identifying & publicizing health-related resources; 4) basics of common chronic diseases; 5) promoting emergency preparedness & recovery; and 6) peer listening skills.

### **What type person makes the best Peer Health Advocate?**

- One who has a record of volunteer service in the community.
- One who is committed to helping community members maintain healthy lifestyles and overcome obstacles in getting needed healthcare services.
- One who understands the culture of the community, and “speaks the language” of those served.
- One who is known in the community as being trustworthy, discreet, and dependable.

**Interested?** *Applications must be submitted no later than **April 6, 2018.***

Applications available at: [http://www.coastalresourcecenter.org/pha\\_training.html](http://www.coastalresourcecenter.org/pha_training.html)

Successful applicants will attend a three-day training session to be held April 29 - May 2, 2018, at the Courtyard by Marriott Gulfport Beachfront. Lodging and training costs are paid by the Coastal Resource and Resiliency Center. Trainees will also receive a stipend to cover travel and meal expenses, as well as a modest scholarship for participating.

As part of the application process, you will be required to provide:

- 1) A completed application form;
- 2) A letter stating the reasons you want to be a PHA, details of your previous community service activities, and any special talents or skills you bring to volunteering;
- 3) A photocopy of your driver's license.

For more information, contact the Coastal Resource and Resiliency Center, at (251) 461-1717 or [scoleman@southalabama.edu](mailto:scoleman@southalabama.edu).

*The Coastal Resource and Resiliency Center is a division of the University of South Alabama, providing lay health worker training services under the auspices of the Gulf Region Health Outreach Project and the Baton Rouge Area Foundation. Offices are located at 650 Clinic Dr., Suite 2500, Mobile, AL 36688; 251-461-1717.*