

## **Combined Humanitarian Assistance Response Training (CHART-Courses)**

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Effective response to disaster and humanitarian crisis events has become recognized to require education which includes medical and non-medical subjects.

The Combined Humanitarian Assistance Response Training (CHART) has developed over the past four years to meet this need. CHART reviews the principles of integrated civilian and military response to complex humanitarian emergencies. It is certified by the Defense Readiness Training Institute of the US-Army as meeting the basic preparation need of field workers, program managers and contingency planners.

The Center of Excellence in Disaster Management and Humanitarian Assistance includes military and civilian partners (Pacific Command, Pacific Regional Medical Command, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, University of Hawaii), but ensures no loss of autonomy of subordination of any one group. It is a global response mandated by US-Congress to train civilians and the military to better respond to humanitarian crisis. CHART is a five day course designed to provide both civilians and military responders with the tools / necessary knowledge to work effectively in these rapidly evolving situations. It is not intended to militarize the field of humanitarian work, but rather let the military and civilian components communicate and work together to improve response.

The subjects include the complex environment, security, logistics, nutrition, public health, international standards, responder readiness, planning, peacekeeping issues and international humanitarian law. The training methods utilized are lectures, case studies, group discussion, videos and review of lessons learned; this allows participants to broaden their professional skill base.

CHART was intended initially for health professionals, but is now recognized as useful for basic humanitarian contingency training for program managers and both military and civilian disaster planners. Prior basic field experience is encouraged before this course. CHART is limited to 60 students.