



**Office of the Mayor
City of Los Angeles**

ANTONIO R. VILLARAIGOSA

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MAYOR VILLARAIGOSA ANNOUNCES VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES TO ASSIST CITY'S CRISIS RESPONSE TEAM

Mayor calls on Angelenos to serve neighbors in need

Los Angeles - Mayor Antonio Villaraigosa today announced volunteer opportunities for individuals living or working in the City of Los Angeles to become a member of the City of Los Angeles Crisis Response Team (CRT). The program is especially in need of volunteers with bilingual capability in Spanish or Korean.

The CRT is comprised of groups of volunteers who provide immediate on-scene crisis intervention and referrals to victims and their families involved in, or who have been traumatized by, a death, a serious injury, a violent crime or other traumatic incident. The program is managed by the Mayor's Office of Homeland Security and Public Safety in close coordination with the City's Fire and Police Departments.

"One of the critical functions of our Crisis Response Team is connecting neighbors who can assist others in need of crisis intervention, including victims of crime," Mayor Villaraigosa said. "I urge Angelenos who can volunteer to sign up and serve their community."

The eight week training session begins January 22, 2008 on Tuesday and Thursday evenings in Sherman Oaks. Residents interested in learning more about volunteering for the Crisis Response Team should contact Jeffrey Zimmerman, Crisis Response Team Manager at 213-978-0697 or by e-mail: LACRT@lacity.org.

Volunteers must be at least 21 years old and in good physical condition. CRT volunteers participate in 45 hours of intensive training designed to help them develop the skills, knowledge and relationships necessary to function effectively in the field.

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