

- Assisting in normalizing the experience;
- Establish and maintain current information about a wide variety of recovery resources so the survivors can be appropriately referred;
- Through counseling and training, help survivors obtain or maximize skills that will enable them to work effectively with recovery organizations. These skills may include communication, problem solving, conflict resolution, time management and stress management;
- Representing the mental health perspective on a community-based committee, developed to address unmet needs.

Why is it important to follow the FEMA model?

This format of post-disaster assistance has been used in countless disasters nationwide for several years with very positive results.

It is also required that this model be incorporated into the community crisis counseling efforts in any state receiving FEMA monies to fund disaster mental health efforts.

Bottom-line: To be reimbursed for work, agencies must assure that their efforts are compliant with the FEMA model.

Those who complete their training are eligible to become part of the Division of Mental Health Services county-based network of crisis intervention. Each county's Mental Health Administrator may activate the network in the event of a significant traumatic event.

Program Information

This program is especially designed for Mental Health Practitioners, Law Enforcement Personnel, Municipal and County Government Employees, Emergency Responders and K-12 Educators.

Presenter: Steve Crimando, MA, BCETS, Disaster Field Operations Supervisor, Project Phoenix.

Preregistration for this program is required by mail or fax. Online registration is also available at:
www.etc.net/cal

The cost of this program is **\$10 per person, payable in advance check, or agency purchase order** and includes morning refreshments, lunch and handouts.

REGISTRATION DEADLINE: May 12, 2003

For further information contact:

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(609) 652-4826 (voice)
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For Directions to the College and a Campus Map visit:

<http://www2.stockton.edu/visitors/>

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Traumatic Loss Coalitions for Youth Initiative
UMDNJ-UBHC
Behavioral Research and Training Institute
151 Centennial Avenue, Piscataway, NJ 08854*

Safe Schools Safe Communities

Atlantic County Traumatic Loss Coalition
In Cooperation with the
Cape May County Traumatic Loss Coalition
presents



Introduction to Disaster and Trauma Counseling: The FEMA Crisis Counseling Program

A full-day training program to develop a basic skill set for professionals who wish to assist in crisis counseling efforts following a disaster.

**Monday, May 19, 2003
8:30 am-3:00 pm**

**Performing Arts Center
Richard Stockton College of New Jersey
Pomona, NJ 08240-0195**

**REGISTRATION FORM
FEMA Crisis Counseling
Monday, May 19, 2003 - Stockton College**

Name

Agency/School/Organization

Address

City State Zip

Phone (voice)

Fax

E-mail

Cost: \$10

Payable to Stockton College - TLC

Continuing Education Credits will be available.

**REGISTRATION DEADLINE:
May 12, 2003**

**For more information or to mail/fax this form
contact:**

Patricia Weeks
Stockton College, Room D-116
PO Box 195
Pomona, NJ 08240-0195
609-652-4826 (voice) OR 609-652-4958 (fax)

OR REGISTER ONLINE AT:
www.etc.net/cal

Safe Schools Safe Communities - Atlantic County Traumatic Loss Coalition
In Cooperation with the Cape May County Traumatic Loss Coalition presents

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As crises and disasters become epidemic, the need for effective crisis response capabilities becomes obvious. Crisis intervention programs are recommended and even mandated in a wide variety of community and occupational settings.

What is the FEMA model of Community Crisis Counseling?

The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) model de-emphasizes the "mental health" feel of counseling. Counseling sessions are less formal, less structured and less clinical in their design.

This model acknowledges the importance of Critical Incident Stress Management and other techniques for reducing the likelihood of Post-traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD), Acute Stress Disorder (ASD) and other stress-related illnesses. It is intended to follow immediate interventions, therefore, complementing those services, not replacing them.

The FEMA model emphasizes supportive

listening, problem solving, education about "disaster stress," coping skills, and public information, as well as assessment and referrals, when appropriate.

The FEMA model uses "paraprofessionals" as the primary responders, not mental health professionals. These Crisis Counselors may have a range of training and no particular background in mental health or human services. Therefore, they require supervision by someone with sufficient clinical experience to provide appropriate training and guidance.

What is the specific role of the Crisis Counselor?

There are a number of helpful tasks for the Crisis Counselor, but none of them include conducting debriefing or therapy services. Some of the critical roles for the crisis counselors include:

- Assisting survivors in organizing and prioritizing recovery tasks and external demands placed by recovery organizations;