Developing a Community Crisis Assistance Team

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Agenda Morning

9:00 Welcome & Prayer
9:10 Introductions
9:45 Video
10:15 Developing the Crisis Team
Noon Lunch on your own
Agenda Afternoon

1:00  Protocol
1:45  Communications/Media
3:00  Contact Tree
3:30  Adjourn

What is a Crisis?

1. A stage in a sequence of events at which the trend of all future events, especially for better or for worse is determined; turning point.
2. A condition of instability of danger, as in social, economic, political, or international affairs, leading to a decisive change.
3. A dramatic emotional or circumstantial upheaval in a person’s life.
What types of events are Crises?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Accidental death</td>
<td>Homicide</td>
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<tr>
<td>Abduction</td>
<td>House Fire</td>
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<td>Chemical Spill</td>
<td>Hurricane</td>
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<td>Earthquake</td>
<td>Rape</td>
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<td>Escape criminal</td>
<td>Suicide</td>
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<td>Fatal Auto Accident</td>
<td>Teacher’s death</td>
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<td>Fire</td>
<td>Tornado</td>
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<tr>
<td>Flood</td>
<td>Tsunami</td>
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<tr>
<td>Gun at school</td>
<td>Wildfire</td>
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Why a Community Crisis Team?

1. Perspective/lack of direct involvement
   a. Opportunity for local people to excuse themselves from responsibilities when they are emotionally involved with the crisis.
   b. “Expert” backup in the trenches.
      i. Support
      ii. Confidence
      iii. Debriefing
Why a Community Crisis Team?

2. Resources
   a. Know the local resources
   b. Local resources are more available
   c. Acknowledging/utilizing local expertise.
   d. Availability for follow-up
      i. Counseling
      ii. Workshops (in-service training)
      iii. Support

3. Lack of local resources in rural areas
   a. Communities
   b. Schools
   c. Churches
   d. Hospitals
   e. Clinics
What is a Community Crisis Team?

A group of people trained to facilitate and mobilize resources in a crisis situation.

First Steps in Crisis Intervention

Making people aware

- The problem is serious
- They do have skills to help
- There is a support system (referrals) that protect/help them.
The Crisis Team

Local Resources to the Support System

- **Expert Consultation**
  - Why you don’t have an assembly & keep students in small groups
  - What is needed in terms of support personnel

- **Availability of “experts” to assist**

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How does it work?

- **Flow Chart**

![Flow Chart Diagram](image)
How does it work?

Roles

✓ Leader
✓ Resource Coordinator
✓ Media liaison/Communications Coordinator
✓ Support person (where & how needed)
✓ Rumor Control
✓ Crowd Control
✓ Counselor
✓ Mediator
✓ Interventionist

What is expected of team members?

1. Receive Training
2. Assist in Developing Structure (Flow Chart)
3. Practice Procedure
4. Meet Periodically
5. Willing to Respond when needed in crisis
6. Assist in promoting the team
How much time?

1. The time needed for training
2. Sub-committees
   a. Procedure (structure)
   b. Marketing
3. Available to respond
4. Attend meetings for updates

Where do you go from here?

- Do you want to follow this path?
- Form a procedure sub-committee.
- Collect/identify resources
  - People
  - Materials
- Plan and Schedule Training
- Form a marketing sub-committee.
Important Links

National Child Trauma Stress Network

National Center for Mental Health Promotion & Youth Violence Prevention
http://crisisresponse.promoteprevent.org/

National Center for Crisis Management
http://www.schoolcrisisresponse.com/download.htm

SAMHSA Disaster Technical Assistance Center
http://www.samhsa.gov/dtac/

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