



Georgia Department of Behavioral Health & Developmental Disabilities

Frank W. Berry, Commissioner

Disaster Mental Health Services

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TRAINING ANNOUNCEMENT

Done In a Day: American Red Cross Disaster Mental Health Training

Recent events, such as the ice storms this past winter and mass shootings that have taken place throughout the US illustrate the importance of having trained disaster mental health responders. As part of their role in providing a safety net in their community, Georgia's Community Services Boards are required to deliver behavioral health services to individuals impacted by emergencies and disaster. Therefore the Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Disabilities, in partnership with the American Red Cross of Georgia, is offering a comprehensive one-day training that will teach licensed mental health providers the knowledge and skills required to respond to the behavioral and psychosocial needs of individuals who have been impacted by emergencies and disasters. Participants who take this training will be qualified to serve as Red Cross Disaster Mental Health volunteers and work in shelters, Disaster Recovery Centers and other venues as required.

After taking this course participants will be able to:

- Explain how the Red Cross works with impacted communities to prepare for and respond to disasters
- Describe the role of disaster mental health in disaster response
- Recognize the basic principles of Psychological First Aid and Red Cross disaster mental health
- Describe and practice disaster self-care strategies

Intended Audience: DBHDD Regional and State Office staff, DBHDD Behavioral Health Providers, and DFCS staff are invited to attend this training. All participants must hold a current Georgia License as a clinical psychologist (PSY), licensed clinical social worker (LCSW), licensed professional counselor (LPC), or a Georgia Educator Certificate as a School Psychologist or a School Counselor; a state license and a bachelor's degree (BSN) as a registered nurse and American Nurses Credentialing Center (ANCC) certification for psychiatric and mental health nursing to include RN-BC or PMHNP-BC or PMHCNS-BC.

On-site check in begins 30 minutes prior to the training		
Training Date & Time	Location	Registration Link
September 22, 2014 9:00 am – 5:00 pm	River Edge Behavioral Health Center 175 Emery Hwy, Macon, GA 31217	https://volunteerconnection.redcross.org/?nd=intake&entry_point_id=2805&unit_id=181&logout=1 Registration deadline: Friday, Sept. 12, 2014 This link will direct you through a series of steps that need to be completed prior to attending the training. Once you have completed all the steps you will be registered for the class and Betsy Gard or Deborah Hatherley will call you to confirm your participation.

Continuing Education Hours:

7 CE hours have been approved by the National Association of Social Workers Georgia Chapter.

Presenter(s):

Jeannette David has been the Disaster Mental Health Coordinator for the Georgia Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Disabilities since January 2005. In this role she directs disaster mental health preparedness, response and recovery for the state through the development, implementation and distribution of resources and training. She is the founder of the Georgia Crisis Consortium and a certified trainer in Psychological First Aid. Ms. David is also a Cadre

Consultant with the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration where she provides training in the Federal Emergency Management Agency Crisis Counseling Assistance and Training Program and other disaster mental health training throughout the United States. Ms. David has been working in the field of disaster preparedness and response since 1993, which includes 11 years experience with the Metropolitan Atlanta Chapter of the American Red Cross. She has been on several national disaster field deployments, has received extensive training in disaster preparedness and response and has significant experience as a trainer of adult learners using the participant centered approach.

Dr. Betsy Gard received her B.A. from the University of Michigan and her doctorate from Washington University. She completed her internship at the University Of North Carolina Department Of Psychiatry in the Medical School. Dr. Gard has been a clinical faculty member with the Emory Department of Psychiatry since 1981. Her specialties include disaster psychology, posttraumatic stress disorder, crises intervention, and training for disaster preparedness. She works extensively with traumatized children suffering from early neglect and abuse.

Dr. Gard was co-founder of the Georgia Disaster Response Team and the first Southeastern Regional Consultant for the American Psychological Association. She has served as the APA state Coordinator for over 15 years. She is nationally known for her work in disasters and trauma and is a Manager in the Red Cross Mental Health System as well as a National Instructor for Disaster Mental Health Services. Dr. Gard is one of the two State of Georgia Trainers preparing military families for deployment and consultants. She has responded to many national disasters included the Northridge Earthquake, the Oklahoma City Bombing, the bombing at the Olympics, the 9/11 Bombing, and Hurricane Katrina.

Dr. Gard has lectured nationally and internationally on children and trauma and has traveled to Romania, Belarus, and China to provide training and disaster support. Most recently, she traveled with a team of doctors to Haiti in the Fall of 2011 to provide training at Haiti's only Trauma Hospital in Port-au-Prince.

Dr. Gard was the President of the Georgia Psychological Association from 2006-2007. She has served as a consultant on disaster preparedness and disaster response to a number of organizations including the Emory University, the Department of Human Resources of the State of Georgia and CDC.

Deborah Hatherley is a nationally certified school psychologist and special educator with 36 years experience in Georgia and Virginia schools where she specialized in working with At-Risk, special needs and diverse populations. She served as Coordinator of a large Virginia school system's Crisis Response team. Currently, Deborah is a National Association of School Psychologist (NASP) certified trainer for the School Crisis Prevention and Intervention Training Curriculum (PREPaRE) and helps schools prepare for and respond to critical incidents. She also serves as Disaster Mental Health Co-Advisor for the Georgia Region of the American Red Cross and supervises mental health responders across the state. She is Citizen Emergency Response Team and Critical Incident Stress Management trained and is an evaluator, trainer and responder with HOPE Animal Assisted Crisis Response (HOPE AACR). For more than 10 years, she has responded to many disasters at the local, state and national level, both with and without her canine crisis response partner.

Karen A. Thornton, LCSW, ACSW worked in private profit and non-profit, government hospital and community settings. She had a variety of employment experiences which included being a private therapist, clinical supervisor, administrator, drafter, client advocate, rights/compliance/ethics investigator and risk manager/privacy officer.

Her extensive volunteer experience began in the Peace Corps followed many years later by volunteering with Metro Atlanta American Red Cross (primarily as a disaster mental health specialist), DeKalb Co. Medical Reserve Corps and DeKalb County Fire Rescue Reserve, Citizen Emergency Response Team and Therapy Dogs International with her dog, Amanda.

She sees herself not as an expert in disaster response, rather as just one of thousands of peer volunteers and encourages everyone to find their volunteer niche.

For questions about registration, contact Jeannette David at Jeannette.david@dbhdd.ga.gov