

RECOMMENDED COURSES AND COURSE OFFERED BY THE OFFICE OF DISASTER READINESS

STATE EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY (SEMA) EMERGENCY PLANNING FOR SPECIAL NEEDS POPULATIONS (APDS ELECTIVE) - G197

This 2.5 day course is intended to provide those with responsibilities for providing emergency planning or care of seniors, people with disabilities, and/or special needs groups with the skills and knowledge they will need to prepare for, respond to, and recover from emergency situations.

Presenters: combination of emergency management and special needs population professionals

To register: <http://training.dps.mo.gov/sematraining.nsf/TrainingSchedule?OpenForm>

There is no cost for this course.

COURSES OFFERED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF MENTAL HEALTH OFFICE OF DISASTER READINESS

DISASTER MENTAL HEALTH AND PSYCHOLOGICAL FIRST AID

Disaster Mental Health and Psychological First Aid is designed to reduce the initial distress caused by traumatic events, and to foster short and long-term adaptive functioning. Participants will explore health events such as terrorism, pandemic flu, bioterrorism, natural disasters and others where the principles of PFA may be applied in response situations. The course will also focus on approaches to self-care for during an emergency.

Objectives:

To train participants the eight concepts of Disaster Mental Health and Psychological First Aid so that they will:

1. Understand the natural response to disaster and how it influences recovery.
2. Describe and utilize psychological first aid.
3. Identify risk factors and understand unique recovery issues.
4. Recognize common stress reactions in professionals and describe strategies for self-care.

There is no cost for this training.

MENTAL HEALTH AND DISASTERS: A BASIC APPROACH FOR HEALTHCARE WORKERS

A one-day workshop designed to introduce healthcare workers in hospitals, health clinics, mental health clinics and other health care organizations to the psychosocial aspects of disasters.

The workshop will include information on the disaster context and individual affects, psychological first aid, response implications to disasters and potential interventions and self/peer care in health care settings.

Objectives:

1. Understand why mental health must be included in emergency response plans.
2. Understand the natural response to disasters and how it influences recovery.
3. Describe and utilize psychological first aid.
4. Identify and describe risk factors associated with disaster response and recovery.
5. Understand unique response and recovery issues
6. Identify common stress reactions in disaster professionals.

There is no cost for this course.

MENTAL HEALTH AND DISASTERS: A BASIC APPROACH FOR SCHOOL PERSONNEL

(Excellent Training for Children's Staff)

A one-day workshop designed to introduce school administrators, counselors, social workers and nurses to the unique aspects of disaster mental health response in a school setting. The workshop will include information on disaster response, the potential reactions in children of different age groups, attention to children with special needs and intervention strategies to help children and adults cope. Attendees are encouraged to bring a multi-disciplinary team to represent their schools and to bring their crisis response plan with them.

Objectives:

1. Educate participants about the characteristics of disasters and terrorism.
2. Introduce themes of psychological response during disasters.
3. Introduce the effects of disasters on children.
4. Identify methods for assessing psychological response of children to disasters.
5. Understand the risk factors associated with response and recovery for children.
6. Identify age appropriate interventions for children recovering from disasters.
7. Recognize and manage stress reactions due to disaster response work.

There is no cost for this course.

MENTAL HEALTH AND DISASTERS: A BASIC APPROACH FOR PASTORAL CARE AND THE FAITH COMMUNITY

A one-day workshop designed to introduce pastors, counselors, and faith leaders and natural helpers to the unique aspects of disaster mental health response. The workshop will include information on disaster response, the potential reactions in children of different age groups and adults, attention to special needs and intervention strategies to help children and adults cope.

Objectives:

1. Educate participants about the characteristics of disasters and terrorism.
2. Introduce themes of psychological response during disasters.
3. Introduce the effects of disasters on children and adults
4. Understand the risk factors associated with response and recovery.
5. Identify age appropriate interventions for person recovering from disasters.
6. Recognize and manage stress reactions due to disaster response work.

There is no cost for this course.

To register for the above courses:

<http://www.heartlandcenters.com/Public/Announcements/default.aspx#announcement50>

or contact the presenter, **Jenny Wiley** at jenny.wiley@dmh.mo.gov

PRESENTER:

Jenny Wiley, MSW, LCSW, is the Coordinator of the Office of Disaster Readiness for the Missouri Department of Mental Health. Jenny coordinates the state mental health response during disasters. She is also a trained responder herself and deployed as a professional mental health worker with Red Cross during the Katrina disaster.