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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## **Missouri receives *Show Me Hope* Crisis Counseling grant to help flood survivors**

### *Behavioral health outreach funding begins immediately*

JEFFERSON CITY, MO – In response to the historic flooding and severe storms from April 28 to May 11, 2017, the *Show Me Hope* Crisis Counseling Program (CCP) grant will fund psychological services to help build hope and resiliency in Missouri’s survivors. The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) awarded the CCP grant to the Department of Mental Health (DMH) this week to continue outreach services through six participating Community Mental Health Centers (CMHCs): BJC, Comtrema, Compass Health, Family Counseling Center, Ozark Center, and Ozarks Medical Center.

*Show Me Hope* crisis counselors will be in their counties connecting survivors with local mental health resources. Individuals who need disaster case management can dial 2-1-1 for more information. Residents can also contact the Disaster Distress Helpline 24 hours a day, seven days a week at 1-800-985-5990 or send a text message “TalkWithUs” to 66746.

Individuals and families impacted by the flooding who live in one of the following Missouri counties included in the presidential disaster declaration will have access to *Show Me Hope* services. Those counties are: Butler, Carter, Douglas, Dunklin, Franklin, Gasconade, Howell, Jasper, Jefferson, Maries, McDonald, Newton, Oregon, Osage, Ozark, Pemiscot, Phelps, Pulaski, Reynolds, Ripley, Shannon, St. Louis, and Texas.

The CCP is a short-term disaster relief grant funded by FEMA and administered through the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA). It assists individuals and families in recovery from disasters through the following goals:

- Reach large numbers of people affected by disasters through face-to-face outreach to shelters, homes, community events and other locations

- Assess the emotional needs of survivors and make referrals to traditional behavioral health services when necessary
- Identify tangible needs and link survivors to community resources and disaster relief services
- Provide emotional support, education, basic crisis counseling, and connection to familial and community support systems
- Train and educate CCP staff and other community partners about disaster reactions, appropriate interventions, and CCP services
- Develop partnerships with local disaster and other organizations
- Work with local stakeholders to promote community resilience and recovery
- Collect and evaluate data to ensure quality services and justify program efforts
- Leave behind a permanent legacy of improved coping skills, educational and resource materials, and enhanced community connections.

*For disaster updates from the State of Missouri, visit Missouri's recovery website at [Recovery.mo.gov](https://recovery.mo.gov). For disaster updates from FEMA, visit the disaster webpage at [www.fema.gov/disaster/4317](https://www.fema.gov/disaster/4317).*

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