

The Need for a Crisis Team

All we have to do is read the headlines or watch the news to see how schools are affected by traumatic events. Violent incidents, car accidents, suicides, the death of a faculty member, etc., happen more frequently than we would like to think and affect the entire school community. When such losses are afflicted, students need immediate and intense support.

Schools in Cuyahoga County have their own crisis plan; however, the challenge is often having enough trained and qualified people to meet the need. How can one or two building counselors handle the counseling needs of an entire school community when a popular student dies in a car accident or a teacher dies of a sudden heart attack? The task is overwhelming.

This is the reason Cornerstone of Hope in conjunction with Garfield Heights City Schools is forming the **Central Cuyahoga County Crisis Counseling Team**.

You are invited to join the **Central Cuyahoga County Schools Crisis Counseling Team** which will consist of counselors, psychologists, mental health workers, and ministers who will receive training to work in the school during a crisis. Team members will be called on and assigned to a crisis district on a moment's notice to assist with counseling needs.

**School districts that participate are expected to make a three-year commitment to receive and provide services.*

OBJECTIVES

- Provide a working definition of crisis debriefing, including its goals and limitations.
- Discuss the special consideration of surviving a suicide, murder, accident, heart attack and other forms of sudden death.
- Review the symptoms and causes of PTSD
- Teach usable and practical models of crisis debriefing
- Provide time to practice crisis debriefing

Tuesday, Oct. 2nd 8:00 AM - 2:00 PM

**Supporting Grieving Children and Adolescents*

- Children's understanding of death
- Factors affecting grief
- Common questions and fears
- Basic ways to support grieving children and adolescents at school

**Factors Complicating the Grief Process*

- Multiple loss
- Traumatic loss
- Loss from suicide and homicide

**How Does the Crisis Team Work?*

- Philosophy and approach
- Roles and responsibilities
- Levels of crisis / Levels of response
- Policies and procedures

**Demonstrations of Sample Crisis Situations*

- Team Members will role play Debriefing Model & Classroom Presentation Model

Wednesday, Oct. 10th 8:00 AM - 2:00 PM

**Death in the School Community*

- Debriefing students
- Debriefing staff
- Classroom presentations
- Assessment and referral
- Suicidal student
- Memorial ceremonies

**Small Group Practice*

- Practice debriefing & classroom presentations at all grade levels.
- Q & A with Crisis Team Members from the Western Cuyahoga County Team

Thursday, Oct. 18th 8:00 AM - 2:00 PM

**Small Group Practice*

**Developing a Board*

- Purpose of a Board
- Board Members Roles & Commitments
- Meetings

**Receiving Crisis Calls*

- How does a school request the support of the team?
- Callers
- Call-in Form

**Organizing the Team at a Crisis*

- Team Coordinator's Role
- School Counselor & Principal's Role
- Set up for debriefing, classroom presentations & individual support
- Debriefing the Team

Cost: \$275

(includes manual and continental breakfasts & lunches)

**Location: Independence HS Field House
6111 Archwood Rd
Independence, OH 44131**

I-77 to Rockside Rd., get off at the Independence-Rockside Rd. exit and take Rockside Rd. East to Brecksville Rd. (Route 21). At the intersection of Brecksville & Rockside there is a McDonald's, a Shell Station & a Walgreens. At that intersection turn right (South) onto Brecksville Rd. and travel 4 traffic lights to Selig Drive and turn right. Follow sign to Field House (last drive on left).

Registration Deadline: September 24, 2007

CEU Information:

- Cornerstone of Hope is approved provider for the Counselor and Social Worker Board as a provider of continuing professional education. Provider #RCS070701
- Cornerstone of Hope is an approved provider for the Ohio Psychological Association (MCE). Provider # 341945499