



Georgia Department of Behavioral Health & Developmental Disabilities

Frank E. Shelp, M.D., M.P.H., Commissioner

Division of Mental Health

Two Peachtree Street, NW • Suite 23.415 • Atlanta, Georgia, 30303-3142 • 404-657-2273

TRAINING ANNOUNCEMENT

Date/Time:

Friday, April 27, 2012

8:30am – 5:00pm

Location:

Bibb County Health Department
Assembly room
171 Emery Highway
Macon, GA 31217

<http://www.northcentralhealthdistrict.com/dept.asp?id=2>

Registration Deadline:

April 20, 2012

Audience:

Staff from DBHDD State and Regional Offices, Regional Hospitals and contracted providers

Registration Instructions:

Please complete and return the attached registration form to Jeannette David by **April 20, 2012**, via Fax (404) 463-7149 or e-mail to jedavid@dbhdd.ga.gov

Please register early as space is limited to a total of 30 participants.

For more information contact
Jeannette David at
(404) 657-2354 or e-mail at
jedavid@dbhdd.ga.gov

DISASTER MENTAL HEALTH FIELD RESPONSE

About this training:

The Georgia Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Disabilities in partnership with the Georgia Division of Public Health, is offering training in Disaster Mental Health Field Response. This one-day course provides the basic information and skills to prepare disaster mental health responders to meet the needs of disaster victims and the people who come to their aid. Participants in this training event will be qualified to join Georgia's Disaster Mental Health Response Team.

The content of this course will include:

- General information about disaster response on the Federal, State, and local level.
- Basic understanding of the stress response.
- Understanding the role of the behavioral health responders.
- Addressing self-care needs in the field and during a deployment.
- Understanding of the basic interventions to be utilized in a mental health disaster response.
- Identifying the signs and symptoms of vicarious trauma and the steps to take to maintain personal health.

Presenters:

Jeannette David is the Disaster Mental Health Services Coordinator for DBHDD. **Betty Watts, MSW** has a background in mental health with a focus in crisis intervention. See attached bios for more details.

Note:

This training is free to Georgia residents. Hotel, meals, and transportation costs are the responsibility of the participant.

Participants will receive Chapter 1 "Pre-Learning" via email at least a week before the training.

CEUs:

Application submitted to the School of Social Work at UGA for CEUs

Disaster Mental Health Field Response

Bibb County Health Department, April 27, 2012

Title: Disaster Mental Health Field Response

Background: It is generally accepted that everyone who experiences a disaster is affected by it, and evidence shows that psychological interventions reduce the negative affects and improve recovery. Due to the fact that disaster mental health is a unique intervention only implemented during times of emergency and disaster, special training is required. In an effort to provide support to first responders, hospital personnel and the general population of Georgia during and after an event, The Georgia Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Disabilities, in partnership with the Georgia Division of Public Health, is offering training in Disaster Mental Health Field Response. Participants in this training event will be qualified to join Georgia's Disaster Mental Health Response Team.

Purpose: The Disaster Mental Health Field Response training has been created for the development of the Division's Mental Health Disaster Response Team. This course provides the basic information and skills to prepare disaster mental health responders to meet the needs of disaster victims and the people who come to their aid.

In addition, Disaster Mental Health Field Response training teaches first responders and healthcare personnel skills that will enable them to assist with the emotional needs of co-workers and disaster victims. This training will facilitate the integration of mental health into the work first responders and healthcare personnel already do to meet the needs of the community they serve.

Description: This is a one-day training, and it includes a "participant centered" approach to learning. The goal of participant-centered learning is to ensure that the information you learn will be experiential, visual, somatic, narrative, and meaningful.

Participants will receive Chapter 1 "Pre-Learning" via email at least a week before the training. This will allow them some time to read and review the brief introductory and foundational elements of the course prior to the core training experience.

Additional sessions will be scheduled in the future.

Objectives: The content of this course will include:

- General information about disaster response on the Federal, state and local level
- Basic understanding of the stress response
- Understanding the role of the behavioral health responders
- Addressing self-care needs in the field and during a deployment
- Understanding of the basic interventions to be utilized in a mental health disaster response
- Identifying the signs and symptoms of vicarious trauma and the steps to take to maintain personal health

Trainers:

Jeannette David is the Disaster Mental Health Services Coordinator for the Georgia Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Disabilities. In this role, she coordinates disaster mental health emergency preparedness planning, response and recovery for the state of Georgia. 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.

Betty Watts, a Licensed Masters Social Worker, has a background in mental health with focus in crisis intervention. She currently serves as a speaker for and served as the past Chair of the *Disaster Services Steering Committee* for the East Georgia Chapter of the Red Cross. She holds an adjunct teaching position in the Business and Public Services Department, Assistant Social Work Program at Athens Technical College, and is an Instructor Trainer for the National Safety Council Emergency Care Program. She has extensive experience as a trainer much of it gained while serving in the Army/Army Reserve and is now in the Retired Reserve. She received training from the American Red Cross, Life Crisis Services, Inc., FEMA, USAR and USARNG, and participated in the Georgia State Operations Command/GEMA Hurricane Exercises. She has experience in responding to local disasters.