Developing a State-Wide Crisis Response Network

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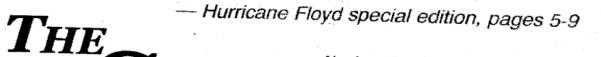


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In the News...







Hurricane victims blow into ABAC



Bill Oneal, left, hands a small file cabinet to Kim Baldwin as they salvage records Friday from Baldwin Insurance Co. on the corner of Lamar and Reese streets in Americus, Ga., where storms that spawned tornadoes Thursday night reportedly claimed the lives of two people.



Objectives

- To learn the rationale for creating a system-wide crisis response network;
- To learn the process used to develop protocols for responding to crisis situations within a state-wide system and fostering collaboration;
- To offer a model for ongoing training including the securing of funding including the development of Crisis Response credentialing;
- To identify practice implications for emergency preparedness planning on college/university campuses;
- To explore where the Crisis Response Network fits into the individual universities' crisis management plan.



Introduction to CDA





- The Counseling Directors
 Association (CDA) is a standing
 committee of the Regents
 Administrative Committee on
 Student Affairs (RACSA).
- Membership is comprised of the counseling center directors from each of the USG institutions.
- Purpose: "To promote the exchange of information and ideas; to improve the efficiency and expertise of its membership; to improve communication and coordination among the units of the University System; and to make any studies and reports that would benefit the membership or that are directed by the Chancellor or his/her authorized representative."

ACPA

Counseling

Psychological

Introduction to CDA

- Meetings held regularly throughout the academic year
- Some activities:
 - Examine counseling needs across the USG institutions
 - Establishing counseling center standards
 - Crisis response network



Defining the Need

- Rationale
 - Request from RACSA
 - Acknowledgment of increase crises and emergencies on college/university campuses nationwide
- Process of developing CRN
 - Subsequent discussions during CDA meetings
 - Submitting request for funding



Crisis Response Network

- CRN plan as an integral part of institutional crisis management plan.
- Description of CRN
 - What it is
 - How it works
 - Memorandum of Understanding
 - Network Debriefing (purpose and intention)
- Highlights of important aspects:
 - Theoretical models of crisis response
 - Collaboration with USG institutions
 - Collaboration with Board of Regents
 - Training to meet the needs of CRN



Training

- Developing training to fit needs of CRN
- Training offered:
 - American Red Cross training
 - Acute traumatic stress management
 - Crisis response training
 - Psychological first aid
 - Trauma treatment
- Types of Training
- Training Resources



Lessons Learned

Benefits:

- System in place
- Shared resources and expertise across USG institutions
- Cost-effective
- Implications for campus emergency preparedness:
 - Issues for smaller institutions and commuter campuses?
 - When is the best time to respond?
 - Resources for the responder's campus if responder is away?
 - o Budget?

Shortcomings:

- Communications (e.g., telephone call vs. e-mail)
- Limits to responding (e.g., timing, available persons, type of campus)
- "Reading the cookbook, but never cooking," (i.e., exposed to training but no actual experience).
- No after-hours contact numbers for responders



Next Steps

- Ongoing evaluation and assessment of CRN model.
- Ongoing evaluation and assessment of training/professional development.
- Need to revisit/renew table-top exercise.
- Allow observers to demystify the process crisis response.
- Responding to requests from non-USG institutions.
- To collaborate with private institutions and technical schools.



Questions & Answers



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