



Mental Health and Recovery Services Board

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PRESS RELEASE

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Critical Incident Stress Management Team

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After months of planning and many hours of training, our local community has a 24/7 Critical Incident Stress Management (CISM) team available and ready to respond in an event of a mass tragedy. The CISM team is not designed to replace any first responder agencies, but rather to assist after the incident with various supports, which could include: crisis management debriefing, defusing, individual support, grief support, pastoral care, and follow-up/referral to treatment services. Examples of critical incidents include: line-of-duty death, multi-causality incidents, suicide of a co-worker, death or violence to a child, incidents with extensive media attention, incidents charged with profound emotion, etc.

We would like to thank the many volunteers in our community who elected to join our training and be part of this effort. We received overwhelming support from law enforcement, fire departments, probation officers, counselors, faith based representatives, and other local public agencies. Any community agency (public or private) can access CISM services 24/7, free of charge. Services are strictly confidential. The 24/7 access phone number is **1-833-779-2476**. If you have any questions about this service, please do not hesitate to contact the Mental Health and Recovery Services Board office at 419-448-0640.

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