

## PREPLAN FOR CRISIS RESPONSE

### Key Partners:

Each community is unique with regard to available resources and key partners with whom they will collaborate. For example, communities may form close relationships and rely on law enforcement based or shelter victim services, the school system, human services, professionals, and mental health agencies for assistance in a crisis response. It is important to identify and plan for the distinction between agency/individual expertise and the role each will play. To ensure a coordinated, professional response, it is critical to have collaborative training in Crisis Intervention, Incident Command and protocols specific to that community. Partners should also participate in emergency response training exercises together as part of this training.

Example: The following is a list of Key Partners that responded to a school shooting in Jefferson County (Columbine High School) and their self-identified roles:

#### **Fire/Police**

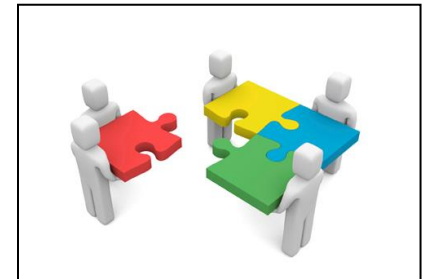
- Incident Command/Control
- Public Safety

#### **Emergency Management**

- Coordination of resources to support Incident Commander's requirements
- Activation and management of the Jefferson County Emergency Operations Center (EOC)
- Emergency situation assessment and recommendations to the County Commissioners, County Administrator and Sheriff

#### **Local Mental Health Teams**

- Crisis Intervention
- Debriefing/Defusing
- Counseling Services
- State-mandated responsibility for provision of needed mental health services
- Planning and implementation of mental health crisis and disaster services



**Mayflower Team ADD LINK: <http://www.healthoneems.com/mayflower.html>**

Volunteer teams of mental health and first responders available to respond:

- At the request of Incident Commander, for on-scene advice to command with regard to reactions of emergency personnel
- To provide defusings/demobilizations as emergency teams leave the disaster area
- To provide decompressions for those involved in on-going operations
- To provide debriefings, at the request of first response agencies for involved staff and their significant others

**DA's Office/Victim Witness and Crime Victim's Compensation**

- Provide backup to Law Enforcement Advocates
- When a crime has occurred:
  - Inform victims/families
  - Provide Victim Rights information
  - Administer Crime Victim Compensation benefits
  - Accompany Victims/Witnesses to court or prosecution related meetings

**Coroner's Office**

- Identify victims
  - Determine cause and manner of death
  - Arrange for notification of families
- For additional information on disaster mortuary response, see

<http://www.phe.gov/Preparedness/responders/ndms/teams/Pages/dmort.aspx>

**Police Psychologist**

- Respond at request of incident command for defusing/debriefing of first responders
- On-scene advice to command re: trauma reactions

**Sheriff/Police Based Victim Assistance**

- Crisis Intervention on-scene/hospitals, etc.
- Coordinate and assemble crisis intervention teams
- Assist Coroner with death notifications
- Provide information/referrals and resources

- Debriefings/Defusings

### **Clergy/Faith Community**

- Crisis Intervention
- Follow-up support
- Provide space for meetings/activities
- Access to volunteers

### **School District**

- Crisis Intervention
- Mental health support - students and families
- Possibility of space/transportation

### **Public Information/Media**

- City, County or Law Enforcement PIO

### **COVA: <http://www.coloradocrimevictims.org/>**

- Maintain 24-hour hotline
- Access to volunteer trained responders
- Coordinate resources (\$)

### **American Red Cross: <http://www.redcross.org/co/denver/programs-services/disaster-services>**

- Mental health workers
- Vouchers for hotel/motel and food/clothing
- Provide food for victims/responders
- Set up shelters
- Set up 24-hour hotline

### **Local Hospitals:**

Medical care to victims

Consider **deployment strategies** for Victim Advocates and assistance accessing victims (See the sample section of pre-planning for a **Form Letter to Assist Accessing Victims in Hospital care**) after they are admitted into hospitals.

**Large Companies in Your Community**-Consider introducing your team to Emergency Managers of larger entities in your communities (Businesses, School Districts, Hospitals) with the understanding that collaboration might be necessary in a large-scale event.