

PRESENTATION

The Central Role of Behavioral Health During an Incident Response

Behavioral health is one component of a comprehensive approach to trauma and disaster. Behavioral health well planned and grounded in best evidence can mitigate the short and long term effects of stress for responders and survivors alike. The panel will highlight the work which the NDMS working groups have produced in an effort to provide further guidance for its behavioral health response.

Objectives:

By the end of this presentation, participants will:

1. Identify components of behavioral health protection that may be used in each of the three temporal areas discussed: pre-deployment, deployment, and post-deployment.
2. Describe how non-behavioral health professionals can mitigate the impact of stress for survivors under their care.
3. Understand the utility of PsySTART for both survivors and responders affected by an emergency or disaster.

Panelist:

- Thomas Gordon, Ph.D.: MI-1 DMAT; Director of Human Services, Oakland County Health Department, Michigan.
- Rosemary Irene Sullivan, MSW: FL-5 DMAT; Clinical Social Worker, Mt. Sinai Comprehensive Cancer Center, Miami Beach, FL.
- Merritt Schreiber, Ph.D.:CA-1 DMAT; Senior Program Manager, Center for Public Health and Disasters, School of Public Health, and National Center for Child Traumatic Stress, David Geffen School of Medicine, UCLA
- Philip Gruzalski, LCSW: Commander, IL-2 MHST; NDMS Management Working Group Member; Chief, DuPage County Health Department Trauma & Disaster Team.