

Becoming a Local Host Agency

The Community Crisis Preparedness Workshop uses collaborative team approach of local and state agencies and organizations within the same county. Therefore, it is the desire of SVRC that each Community Crisis Preparedness Workshop have a local host agency to aid in obtaining commitments and representation of appropriate agencies and organizations. There is no financial cost to become a host agency.

The responsibilities of the host agencies will include:

- Contacting CEO's (i.e., department heads, directors, chiefs, sheriff) of appropriate agencies and organizations that should be invited to participate.
- Assisting in obtaining a commitment from the CEOs by setting up and sponsoring an introductory meeting with the CEOs and the School Violence Resource Center staff to discuss the purpose and expected outcomes of the workshop.
- Providing SVRC with names and contact information of CEOs
- Providing SVRC with names and contact information of potential participants.
- Allowing letters of invitations to be written on host agency's stationary and letters signed by host agency CEO.
- Assisting SVRC staff in locating a meeting facility.
Room requirements – 1 large room and 4 breakouts.

To Schedule A Workshop For Your Community

If you would like to schedule a Community Crisis Preparedness Workshop in your community, please contact Larence Johnson, Project Director, at 800-635-6510.



COMMUNITY CRISIS PREPAREDNESS WORKSHOP

Sponsored by
School Violence Resource Center
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Why Communities Should Prepare?

The events of September 11 and other critical incidents, such as the school shootings at Westside and Columbine, have clearly demonstrated that an incident resulting in mass victimization is not only a possibility but also often a terrifying reality.

Communities are never more challenged than during a major critical incident. How a community responds or fails to respond can have long-term implications. Few communities have all the resources necessary, but communities can effectively address a critical incident by knowing which resources they have available and by developing a viable incident command system to manage and direct those resources.

Workshop Design and Objectives

The three-day workshop is designed to provide guidance to rural communities on preparing and implementing crisis management strategies using existing community resources and formal collaborations between service providers. The workshop emphasizes the importance of using a multi-disciplinary approach to crisis management. The curriculum includes:

- Managing Crisis – The Incident Command System
- Understanding Victimization
- Tabletop Drills for Evaluating Crisis Planning
- Team Building Exercises
- Community Threat and Risk Assessment
- Developing a Framework for Effective Crisis Response by Addressing Community Barriers and Solutions to Multi-Disciplinary Team Planning
- Weapons of Mass Destruction

The workshop objectives are:

- **To heighten awareness** that communities can more effectively respond to critical incidents using all available community resources
- **To increase knowledge** of
 - Managing a crisis using the incident command system
 - Integrating victim services in the incident command system
 - Conducting community threat/risk assessments
 - Conducting tabletop drill exercises
- **To enhance skills** to work effectively as a team through small and large group problem-solving activities.

The optimal number of participants for this workshop is approximately 40. The cost of the workshop is free to all participants. Participant manuals and other materials will be provided. The workshop will begin each morning at 8:00 a.m. and end by 5:00 p.m.

Who Should Attend?

The make-up of the community team will be the responsibility of the host agency. At a minimum, the community team should have representation from:

Law enforcement
Education (public and private)
Victim services
Fire
Office of emergency management services
Local and state government officials
Health and medical profession
Mental health
Faith based community
Community service organizations
Red Cross