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Treatment is Effective



People Recover



Promising Practices in Disaster Behavioral Health (DBH) Planning: Logistical Support

August 10, 2011

Presented by Terri Spear, Lori McGee, and
Steve Crimando



Welcome Remarks

Speaker

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Welcome

- This is the sixth webinar in the series of nine webinars presented by SAMHSA.
- The program is intended for State and Territory DBH Coordinators and others involved with disaster planning, response, and recovery.
- Today's program is about 60 minutes in length.

Speaker

Lori A. McGee, M.A.

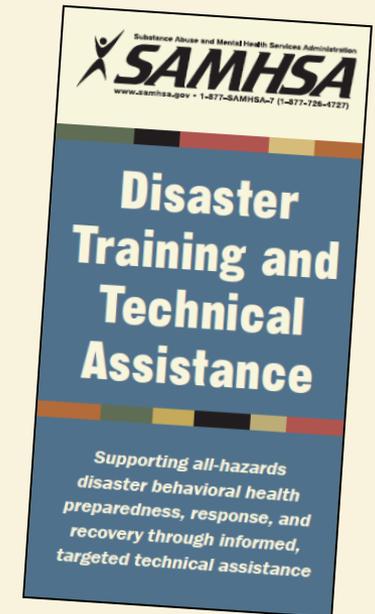
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SAMHSA Disaster Technical Assistance Center (DTAC)

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About SAMHSA DTAC

- Established by SAMHSA, DTAC supports SAMHSA's efforts to prepare States, Territories, and Tribes to deliver an effective behavioral health (mental health and substance abuse) response to disasters.



SAMHSA DTAC Services Include...

- ***Consultation and trainings*** on DBH topics including disaster preparedness and response, acute interventions, promising practices, and special populations
- ***Dedicated training and technical assistance*** for DBH response grants such as the Federal Emergency Management Agency Crisis Counseling Assistance and Training Program
- ***Identification and promotion of promising practices*** in disaster preparedness and planning, as well as integration of DBH into the emergency management and public health fields

SAMHSA DTAC Resources Include...

- The Disaster Behavioral Health Information Series, or DBHIS, which contains themed resources and toolkits on these topics:
 - DBH preparedness and response
 - Specific disasters
 - Specific populations

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SAMHSA DTAC Resources

In addition to the SAMHSA DTAC Resource Collection library, SAMHSA DTAC maintains four additional resources useful to the field of disaster behavioral health.

- [SAMHSA Disaster Behavioral Health Information Series](#)
- [The Dialogue](#)
- [DTAC Bulletin](#)
- [SAMHSA DTAC Discussion Board](#)
- [SAMHSA Disaster Kit](#)

SAMHSA Disaster Behavioral Health Information Series (DBHIS)

The SAMHSA DBHIS contains themed resource collections and toolkits that are pertinent to the disaster behavioral health field. All resources for which links are provided are in the public domain or have been authorized for noncommercial use. Hardcopies of some materials may be ordered by using the publication numbers cited in bibliographies. If utilized in program materials, stakeholders should acknowledge the source of the materials.

SAMHSA DBHIS Resource Collections

- [Children and Youth](#)
- [Deployed Military Personnel and Their Families](#)
- [Disaster-Specific Resources \(New!\)](#)
- [Federal Resource Collection on Disaster Behavioral Health](#)
- [Immediate Disaster Response: Deepwater Horizon Oil Spill](#)
 - [Archives: Haiti](#)
- [Languages Other Than English \(New!\)](#)
- [Older Adults](#)
- [Pandemic Influenza](#)
- [Persons with Functional and Access Needs \(New!\)](#)
- [Public Safety Workers](#)

DTAC Quick Links

- » [DTAC Home](#)
- » [About DTAC](#)
- » [Crisis Counseling Assistance and Training Program](#)
- » [DTAC Resources](#)

Featured Resource

Tips for Dealing With the Gulf Oil Spill: tips for professionals, the general public and emergency response workers in dealing with the Gulf Oil Spill available in English, French, Italian, Spanish

SAMHSA DTAC E-Communications

- SAMHSA *DTAC Bulletin*, a monthly newsletter of resources and events. To subscribe, email DTAC@samhsa.hhs.gov.
- *The Dialogue*, a quarterly journal of articles written by DBH professionals in the field. To subscribe, visit <http://www.samhsa.gov>, enter your email address in the “Mailing List” box on the right, and select the box for “SAMHSA’s Disaster Technical Assistance newsletter, The Dialogue.”
- SAMHSA DTAC Discussion Board, a place to post resources and ask questions of the field. To subscribe, register at <http://dtac-discussion.samhsa.gov/register.aspx>.

Contact SAMHSA DTAC

For training and technical assistance inquiries, please access the following resources:

- Toll-free phone: 1-800-308-3515
- Email: DTAC@samhsa.hhs.gov
- Website: <http://www.samhsa.gov/dtac>

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Speaker

Steve Crimando, M.A., BCETS, CTS, CHS-V

Principal

Behavioral Science Applications

An Invitation

“The 3 A’s”

- Adopt: New learning
- Adapt: Prior knowledge and skills
- Apply: To planning, exercises, and real-time response

Purpose

- Our purpose today is to identify the following:
 - Critical elements of logistical support and promising practices in this area
 - Training mechanisms for DBH responders
 - Approaches to utilizing volunteers and voluntary organizations active in disaster (VOADs)
- We will explore logistical concerns from notification, activation, and deployment through demobilization.

Standard 6:

Indicators of Logistical Support

- There are 11 indicators that demonstrate clarity in the logistical support section of a National Incident Management System (NIMS)-compliant DBH plan:
 1. A list of resources for personnel and a description of how resources will be deployed
 2. A description of how the State utilizes services through interstate or other Federal programs (e.g., Emergency Management Assistance Compact [EMAC], Emergency System for Advance Registration of Volunteer Health Professionals [ESAR-VHP], and Medical Reserve Corps [MRC])

Standard 6:

Indicators of Logistical Support (continued)

3. A plan for the utilization of volunteers (VOADs)
4. A list of titles of responders
5. Description of the process for deploying/ activating backup personnel (cascade of authority)
6. Section to address crosstraining between emergency management, public health, and DBH personnel
7. Identification of behavioral health personnel, specifically (make them identifiable)
8. Process for notifying key response personnel
9. Outline of the roles/coordination of volunteers

Standard 6:

Indicators of Logistical Support (continued)

10. Identification of training mechanisms (specifically for Incident Command System [ICS], NIMS, DBH, and National Response Framework)
11. Identification of communications mechanisms

Standard 6:

Description of Logistical Support

- It is important for planners to consider incidents of different types and sizes.
- Complex or large-scale emergencies may require use of EMAC, ESAR-VHP, and/or MRC.

Standard 6:

Description of Logistical Support (continued)

- Important indicators of this standard also include the following:
 - Listing of titles for and visual identification of DBH responders
 - Description of a process for using, coordinating, and supervising volunteers
 - Crosstraining with other disciplines

NIMS Concept of Logistics

- Resource management for all of the services and support needs of an incident, including essential personnel, facilities, equipment, and supplies
- Applied to DBH planning—described in the plan how the State utilizes services, identifies personnel, and deploys DBH responders
- Development of a clear logistics section of the plan to help facilitate the timely delivery of services

Indicators of the Logistics Standard

- While 11 different indicators of a NIMS-compliant logistics section of an effective DBH plan have been identified, they fall into three main groups:
 - Personnel
 - Partners
 - Communications



Personnel and Teams



Responder Selection, Screening, and Training

- It is helpful to articulate how the State, Territory, or Tribe develops and sustains DBH service delivery capabilities, including how it will accomplish all of the following with responders:
 - Recruitment
 - Screening
 - Training
 - Supervision
 - Retention

Clarity in Roles, Titles, and Responsibilities

- Several Coordinators stressed the importance of clarity in roles, responsibilities, and even titles during activation. Clarity was seen as important in several areas, including the following:
 - The nature of the supports that the State will provide for all Presidentially declared and non-declared disasters
 - Expectations for what the State will do and what local organizations should be ready to do
 - Roles and responsibilities of responders, including training requirements

Crosstraining with Key Partners

- An indicator of an effective logistics section is language to address cross training between emergency management, public health, and DBH personnel.
- Several coordinators also focused on the importance of ongoing ICS training and the relationships that may facilitate the training.
- As with other standards, multidisciplinary exercises are seen as very helpful.

Case Example

- During a recent webinar of a mock earthquake disaster in the southern part of the State, teams in the northern part of the State were asked to deploy.
- An issue was surfaced regarding how the responders would be transported to the affected areas.
- Lessons learned in the exercise pointed to gaps in this logistical area (transportation) and a plan to address this issue prior to an actual disaster.

Team Identification, Accountability, Backup Personnel

- Description of team identification can range from ID cards for individual DBH responders to visually identifying clothing for team members.
- Clarity in command and control, a clear check-in and checkout process, and an ability to reach DBH responders quickly to inform them of updates or changes in operations are crucial.

Resources for Personnel/ Resource Deployment

- Logistics is often thought of simply as “stuff” (i.e., equipment and supplies).
- It may be important for DBH responders and/or team leaders to have access to laptop computers, perhaps enabled in ways that permit Internet access, for communications and web-based resources.

Resource Typing

- Another NIMS/ICS concept central to logistics is “resource typing.”
 - Typing supports intra-state (i.e., within a State) as well as regional mutual aid plans, agreements, and compacts involving adjacent States or neighboring inter-state (i.e., between States) local jurisdictions.

Category, Kind, and Type

- While the terms “category”, “kind,” and “type” sound somewhat interchangeable, they have different meanings in the context of NIMS/ICS:
 - Category—function for which the resource is most useful (firefighting, law enforcement, behavioral health and medical, etc.)
 - Kind—broad class of characterization, such as teams, personnel, equipment, and supplies
 - Type—measure of minimum capabilities to perform its function

Example: Resource Typing

- At least one State addressed the typing challenge by structuring “behavioral health support packages.”
- Each package combined personnel (one behavioral health worker, one clinical behavioral health worker, and one psychologist) with specific equipment (two vehicles or rental cars, one cell phone, one GPS unit, and one laptop).

Example: Resource Typing (continued)

- The package also articulated the mission as psychological aid, critical incident stress debriefing for first responders, and victim and general responder behavioral health support.

Team Development, Structure, and Span of Control

- The NIMS/ICS concept of “span of control” applied to DBH refers to the ratio of supervisors or team leaders to DBH responders or counselors.
- Details may address the size and nature of a team and how supervision is provided.



Interoperability with Critical Partners and Programs



Utilization of Services through Interstate and Federal Programs

- Another indicator of an effective logistics section is a description of how the State utilizes services through interstate or other Federal programs, such as the following:
 - The interstate EMAC
 - ESAR-VHP
 - MRC

Utilization and Coordination of Volunteers (VOADs)

- Volunteers and VOADs are an important part of the DBH resource mix and should be described in the logistics section.
- Clarity of roles and responsibilities of volunteer organizations is an essential element of the plan.
- The plan should anticipate and describe how “spontaneous unaffiliated volunteers” may be used to supplement the DBH response as well.

Developing Memoranda of Understanding (MOUs)

- Another indicator related to interoperability is documentation, via MOUs, with key partners and services.
- Examples include MOUs with the Red Cross and VOADs with behavioral health resources.
- At least one State Coordinator developed an MOU with the American Red Cross to allow State-credentialed DBH responders to work in Red Cross shelters where traditionally only Red Cross mental health workers were allowed.



Communication, Notification, and Deployment



Notifying, Activating, and Deploying Personnel

- Within the logistics section other indicators of NIMS compliance include discussion of how DBH personnel are notified of a disaster, activated, and deployed.
 - Sources of information for notification may include different public health, law enforcement, emergency management, and homeland security entities.

Mechanisms for Communication and Notification of Personnel

- Communication with DBH responders, as well as with other disaster response entities, is an important planning consideration:
 - Primary means of contacting DBH responders for initial notification and activation
 - Means for maintaining communications from field settings and ongoing operations
 - Means for communicating with other agencies

All require redundancies.

Process for Situation Reports/ Safety Briefings

- Situational awareness is critical to service delivery and responder health and safety.
- Such information is often shared in the following:
 - Situation reports
 - Situation briefings
 - Safety briefings

Staging and Transportation

Where DBH responders will go and how they will get there are important considerations in planning:

- Staging

- Pre-identified DBH staging areas
- Ad hoc DBH staging areas

- Transportation

- Personal vehicles
- State vehicles
- Partner agency support

Questions for Mr. Crimando?

Conclusion

- This concludes the Logistical Support webinar, a part of the Promising Practices in DBH Planning series.
- Subsequent sessions will explore each of the standards in greater depth, providing examples, lessons learned, and good stories about how to enhance your DBH plan.

Next Steps

- The next webinar addressing **legal and regulatory authority** will be held on **August 18, 2011 at 2 p.m. eastern time (ET)** / 1 p.m. central time (CT) / 12 p.m. mountain time (MT) / 11 a.m. Pacific time (PT) featuring **Mr. Andrew Klatte**.

Other Upcoming Webinars

Integrating Your DBH Plan	Plan Scalability
August 25 2 p.m. ET 1 p.m. CT 12 p.m. MT 11 a.m. PT	August 30 2 p.m. ET 1 p.m. CT 12 p.m. MT 11 a.m. PT
Mr. Steven Moskowitz	Dr. Anthony Speier

Contact SAMHSA DTAC

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Thank You