

American Red Cross Training Announcement

Foundations of Disaster Mental Health

Description of Course: *Foundations of Disaster Mental Health* is a required course for American Red Cross disaster mental health volunteers. Post action analysis of past national tragedies has resulted in new preparedness recommendations for local communities. The American Red Cross is recommending that local chapters be prepared to respond to community needs for up to a week following a community disaster. Subsequent to many of the past large scale disasters, mental health professionals offered support services. It was difficult to screen, train, and deploy spontaneous volunteers amidst the chaos. It is important to prepare for unexpected community events before they occur. Please consider identifying yourself as a mental health professional willing to provide support during a community emergency.

The goals of this training are:

- To train mental health providers to identify the psychosocial impact of disasters on adults, children, families, volunteers, and communities.
- To increase awareness of the legal and ethical implications of relief work
- To describe the context within which disaster services are provided
- To describe Red Cross disaster mental health opportunities
- To emphasize the importance of mental health provider participation in community disaster response

Fees: No cost.

CEU's: National NASW, APA and ACA have approved this course for 6.5CEU's.

Who should attend: Independently licensed mental health professionals, certified school counselors and certified school psychologists.

Locations: Portland, Augusta, Topsham, Ellsworth and Millinocket

Times, Dates and Locations:

Portland	Augusta	Topsham	Ellsworth & Millinocket
Tuesday, May 24 th	Friday, October 21 st	Friday, October 28 th	TBD
(Part I) 6:00pm-9:00pm	Contact: Eric Lynes	Contact: Paul Clark	Contact: Rob Eaton
Wednesday, May 25 th	lynese@usa.redcross.org	emergencyservices@midcoastredcross.org	eatonr@pinetree.redcross.org
(Part II) 6:00pm- 9:00pm			
Contact: disastertraining@southernmaine.redcross.org			

URGENT NEED

Local Red Cross Chapters are monitoring the current requests for disaster mental health trained volunteers to respond to tornado ravaged areas of the country. Please contact Jan Frost, LCSW, Disaster Mental Health Coordinator, at: janlfrost@aol.com for timely information.