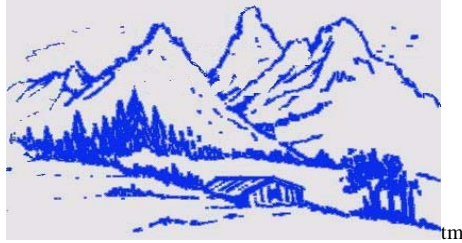


ROCKY MOUNTAIN REGION DISASTER MENTAL HEALTH INSTITUTE



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TAKING CHARGE IN TROUBLED TIMES

Response, Resilience, Recovery and Follow-up

Over the past year, the world has been exposed to many events and incidents that were and continue to be traumatic in their effects on all involved either as primary responders and/or as secondary ones or even vicariously. Victims of these events continue to be affected as well. The year 2005 began with a tsunami in south Asia. It was a year with a record number of Atlantic hurricanes – at least three of which wreaked havoc on major population centers. The war in the Middle East continued. Returning veterans are facing new challenges upon re-entry into their home communities. The movement of “Bird Flu” around the world and its potential for a possible pandemic has prompted health officials to seek preparation with communities for how to deal with such an event should the virus mutate so that human-to-human transmission occurs. How to involve mental health professionals is important. The topic of global warming still presents concerns. Cultural sensitivity is an additional factor of continuing concern in planning how best to respond to disasters and critical incidents locally, nationally and internationally. What are the traumatic effects of hurricanes Rita and Katrina one year later – among responders, victims and especially among those who remain in other parts of the country? How does resilience affect recovery from disasters and critical incidents. What are the continuing effects on children? How do local communities identify and prepare for hazards in their communities? What role does mental health prepare for and play with Red Cross, CISM, first responders, victims, Homeland Security, Military, and emergency management?

The following are some additional related topic areas:

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- Ethnicity
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- Others
- Infrastructure
- Political concerns
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For those who have an interest in submitting papers or other presentations to this conference, please contact: rockymountain@mail2emergency.com or call 307-399-4818 with any questions, comments, suggestions.