

Shiawassee County
Community

CRITICAL INCIDENT STRESS MANAGEMENT TEAM

Founded 1992



Member:

- ◆ International Critical Incident Stress Foundation
- ◆ Michigan Crisis Response Association

Affiliated with:

- ◆ American Red Cross
- ◆ Shiawassee County Emergency Management
- ◆ Michigan Association Suicide Prevention
- ◆ Local Emergency Planning Commission
- ◆ VOAD

Shiawassee Community
Critical Incident Stress Management Team
1555 Industrial Ave.
PO. Box 428
Owosso, Michigan 48867

www.shiacmh.org

Shiawassee County
Community

CRITICAL INCIDENT STRESS MANAGEMENT TEAM

is sponsored by

Shiawassee County Community
Mental Health Authority



SHIAWASSEE
COUNTY
COMMUNITY

**Mental Health
Authority**

Call Crisis Team
24 Hour Emergency Phone

989-723-6791

Ask for Crisis Team

1 800 622-4514 TTY

What is a Critical Incident?

- ◆ Critical incidents are unanticipated events which can overwhelm a person emotionally or physically.
- ◆ People react to any given incident in different ways. It is impossible to predict how a person will respond. Situations that are very traumatic to one person may not bother another person at all. Trauma situations are true for emergency workers (responders) and for the general public.
- ◆ Critical incidents, if left unattended, can significantly change a person's perspective and harm one's ability to cope with day to day activities.

The Shiawassee Community CISM Team

The CISM Team is comprised of specially trained members. The mission is to help people who experience trauma to better understand what they saw, heard and are feeling.

We train and operate under the guidelines of the International Critical Incident Stress Foundation and use the ICISF Model. Standards are uniform world-wide. CISM has been recognized by the United Nations and NIOSHA.



Examples of Critical Incidents

Incidents where sights, sounds or smells are so distressing they produce a high level of immediate or delayed emotional reactions:

- ◆ Home fires
- ◆ Job loss
- ◆ Auto accidents with serious injury or death
- ◆ Death or violence with children
- ◆ Victim known by rescuer
- ◆ Intensive media coverage
- ◆ Shootings, hostage situations
- ◆ Suicide
- ◆ Sexual Assault
- ◆ Natural disasters and terrorism
- ◆ Line of duty injury or death
- ◆ Prolonged rescue or recovery situation



- Participants may speak freely and are invited to describe the incident and encouraged to vent feelings; no one is forced to talk. Referrals on request.
- Sometimes it may be difficult to decide whether a CISM team should be called. This is not uncommon. Always call if you have questions or concerns regarding the need for the Crisis Team or for an Educational Presentation.

What Does a CISM Team Do?

The Shiawassee County CISM includes professional counselors who are specially trained in handling traumatic and crisis situations. When a crisis occurs, CISM members may be on site during the crisis or called in very soon after the crisis to be available to anyone who would like to talk about events or to have some assistance in processing the situation.

The CISM Team provides:

- ◆ Stress Management education and other presentations for responders, families and other community organizations
- ◆ Small and Large group Crisis Interventions for single or multi-agency groups
- ◆ Demobilization and on-scene support is offered when requested through the Incident Command
- ◆ Community Briefings following larger events
- ◆ Family Support
- ◆ 1:1 Meetings
- ◆ Pre-incident education
- ◆ Follow up and Referrals

Interventions are not psychotherapy but education

Who, When, Where, Charge?

- ◆ The team is designed to serve the needs of the general public in Shiawassee County as well as those of Emergency Services: Police, Fire, EMS, Dispatch and Nursing
- ◆ Mutual, reciprocal aid with other counties upon request
- ◆ All services delivered in a confidential manner
- ◆ No charge for routine service
- ◆ Educational programs on request
- ◆ Available on 24 hour, 7 day a week basis