

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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The Economic Crisis and Behavioral Health Statewide Training on Psychological First Aid

Utah Division of Substance Abuse and Mental Health (DSAMH) is providing psychological first aid* training to statewide Crisis Counselors on Monday, July 13.

Training will focus on skills to use in response to sudden events and disasters, such as a death in the family or a mass casualty incident. Special focus will be given to the topic of Utahns dealing with the psychological impact (high levels of stress, depression, feelings of helplessness, and suicidal ideation) of unemployment and home foreclosure as a result of the current economic crisis.

“Psychological first aid training is extremely important,” stated DSAMH Adult Programs Manager Robert Snarr. “It will help ensure our State is prepared to address any type of incident by using the strategies and skills learned to meet the psychological and emotional needs for people in this economic crisis and in more typical crisis and disaster incidents.”

WHAT: Crisis Counseling Re-Certification Training for Disaster & Bioterrorism Events

WHEN: Monday, July 13, 8:30 AM – 5:00 PM

WHERE: Sheraton Salt Lake City, 150 West 500 South

A detailed agenda is available online www.hs.utah.gov.

**Psychological first aid is an international movement (created in Australia) which promotes the idea that within the general public people can learn basic psychological intervention skills to assist others who have experienced a recent trauma.*

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