

Peninsulas Critical Incident Stress Management Team Minutes

September 13, 2004

Members Present:

Dawn Linton	Barbara Vest	Phyllis Hammock
Faith Smagalski	Hershel Kreis	Jerry White
Jane Senyk	Carole Martin	Alan McDowell
Ralph Worley	Jim Murphy	Don Swope
John Gleason	Herbert Hammock	Denise Hammond

Ralph Worley opened the meeting at 7:10 pm. Introductions were made.

Training:

Barbara Vest shared information from a book on Rural Stress. It was titled Rural Emergency Response and was locally published in Minnesota.

Ralph stated that in a debriefing the Fact, Thought, and Reaction phases sometimes run together. When this happens, you can either say you'll come back to what was said or go with the way it happens. You need to sense the needs of the group and decide. Remember, you have to be flexible!

Ralph also asked for feedback on the impact of the constant threat of terrorist attack. A discussion followed with everyone sharing the things they are seeing in their individual environments. It was noted that natural disasters have added an additional stressor to the already many stresses of EMS. This makes us, as a team, more aware of cumulative stress – consideration may need to be given to addressing it more. Thoughts and discussions were also shared about how prepared we are to respond to needs in our region in the case of a terrorist attack. It was pointed out that, depending on the scale of the event, most of us would be involved in the incident and unavailable to respond as part of the CISM team.

Old Business:

Ellen presented the Grant Proposal for the Welcome Baskets. She had a sample basket for those present to view. Some additional counties that had been omitted were added to the list. Praise was given for her hard work and efforts in making this project happen.

Team Activity Reports:

- There has been no team activity since the last meeting.
- Ellen distributed the PEMS CISM Team Activity Record for 2004 (to date).

State Committee Report:

Ellen and John attended the State Committee meeting. They reported:

- The committee looked at the wording suggestions our team had shared for the legislation which is to include CISM. The committee liked our suggestions and kept all but one small change in wording.
- There were 200 in attendance at the CISM Conference in June. Everything went well.
- The Fall classes will be October 16-17 in Roanoke. The Basic, Advanced, and Suicide Intervention classes will be offered.
- There are now monthly conferences being offered to anyone who responded to 9-11.
- The next Spring CISM conference will be June 1-4, 2005 in Virginia Beach.
- The committee is updating its Strategic Plan Goals. They are looking at standardizing educational requirements.

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned.