



Purpose and Role of the Disaster Mental Health Services Function

- ⊗ **DMHS utilizes licensed mental health professionals to provide emergency and preventive mental health services to those affected by disaster and to Red Cross workers assigned to a disaster relief operation. This includes:**



Purpose and Role of the Disaster Mental Health Services Function (Cont.)

- ⊗ **Education about stressors and their effects**
- ⊗ **Methods of coping**
- ⊗ **Advocacy**
- ⊗ **Crisis intervention**
- ⊗ **Referral services for resources to meet mental health-related problems**



ARC Collaboration with Professional Associations

- ⊗ **National Association of Social Workers (rev).1997**
- ⊗ **American Psychological Association.....1992**
- ⊗ **American Counseling Association.....1993**
- ⊗ **American Psychiatric Association.....1995**
- ⊗ **American Association for Marriage.....1995
and Family Therapy**
- ⊗ **North American Association of Christians.....1995
in Social Work**
- ⊗ **National Mental Health Association.....1998**

Number of DMHS Workers by Discipline

• Social workers	950
• Psychologists	683
• Nurses	340
• Counselors	316
• Marriage & Family Therapists	121
• Physicians/Psychiatrists	<u>24</u>
• Total	2434

Designated Organization Responsibilities

- **Provide Mental Health and counseling services in coordination with the air carrier**
- **Provide a private environment for families to grieve**
- **Meet families traveling to the accident site, communicate with families who cannot travel**
- **Provide information on the roles of agencies, organizations, and air carriers involved with the accident**
- **Arrange for a suitable memorial ceremony**

NTSB PLAN

VICTIM SUPPORT TASKS

VST1 - National Transportation Safety Board **(NTSB)**

VST2 - Affected Airline

VST3 - Family Care and Mental Health - American Red Cross **(ARC)**

VST4 - Victim identification, forensic, and medical services - Dept. of Health and Human Services **(DHHS)**

VST5 - Assisting families of foreign victims - Dept. of State **(DOS)**

VST6 - Communications - Federal Emergency Management Agency **(FEMA)**

VST7 - Assisting victims of crime - Department of Justice **(DOJ)** ; specifically, Office for Victims of Crime **(OVC)**

ARC Responses Since the Act

- ❖ **Flight 5925-26 - Quincy, IL, 11/19/96 - 14 died**
- ❖ **Flight 3272 - Monroe, MI, 1/9/97 - 29 died**
- ❖ **Flight 801 - Nimitz Hill, Guam, 8/5/97 - 227 died, 27 survived**
- ❖ **Flight 111, Peggy's Cove, Nova Scotia, 9/2/98 - 231 died**
- ❖ **Flight 1420 - Little Rock, AR, 6/1/99 - 11 died, 134 survived**
- ❖ **Flight 990 - Nantucket Island, MA, 10/31/99 - 217 died**
- ❖ **Flight 261 - Los Angeles, CA 1/31/00, 88 died**