

Understanding the Lewis County Community Crisis Response Team

The **Community Crisis Response Team** is a collaborative effort of volunteers with a rich diversity of personal experience and professional skills, backgrounds and expertise available to provide supportive services to agencies, businesses and/or individuals in Lewis County who have experienced a recent suicide or sudden traumatic loss.

The primary role of the **Community Crisis Response Team** is to:

Support people impacted by a sudden and/or traumatic loss with immediate needs to regain a sense of control over their lives and to promote individual and community healing.

What is a sudden and/or traumatic loss?

Completed Suicide- Confirmed and Nonconfirmed
Drug Overdose - Intentional and Unintentional
Fatal Car/ATV/Snowmobile Accidents
Homicide

The **Community Crisis Response Team** firmly believes that individuals are resilient and that if offered support, interventions and/or information, most individuals affected by a traumatic loss can heal without formal counseling or interventions. By responding to a request, the **Community Crisis Response Team** seeks to reduce the often overwhelming feelings of helplessness, confusion, and heightened anxiety that is normal following a traumatic loss.

The team will **typically be notified and respond within 24-72** hours of the incident. Additional follow up beyond any initial response may also be provided depending on the circumstances. A response may happen in person, over the phone, electronically or through any combination. Every event is unique and will be treated as such.

The **Community Crisis Response Team** is on call seven days a week throughout the year. Any member of the community, agency representative, police jurisdiction, fire department, hospital, school, faith-based organization or other organization can call to **invite** a response by the team. Activation begins with a discussion between the person requesting support and the **Community Crisis Response Team Coordinator** to determine the specific level of response.

Response activities may include the following:

Direct Intervention

One-to-one Conversations on site in the home,
business, or agency
Telephone Contact
Facilitated Small Group Discussions
Defusings/debriefings

Indirect Intervention

Information and Referral
Problem Solving and Practical Assistance
Emailing Resources and Supports

The team will **not** be providing therapy or clinical interventions.

For more information contact:

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Community Crisis Response Team

To request activation of the Team, please call (315) 376-5200 and ask for the Community Crisis Response Team.