
NEWS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DECEMBER 10 TELEPHONE TRAINING TO FOCUS ON “EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS FOR BEHAVIORAL HEALTHCARE ORGANIZATIONS”

(Washington, D.C., November 10, 2009)...To help psychiatric and addiction treatment staffs jump-start the emergency operations plan required by The Joint Commission, the National Association of Psychiatric Health Systems (NAPHS) has organized a special two-hour telephone conference on “**Emergency Preparedness: Lessons Learned by Behavioral Healthcare Organizations That Have Survived Disasters.**” The training will be held **Thursday, December 10, 2009**, from **2pm to 4pm Eastern**.

Hear real-life stories from behavioral healthcare organization leaders – and the unexpected lessons learned about the challenges of planning for, living through, and recovering from disasters of all types. Their practical advice can help you get ahead of the curve so that you – and your community – are fully prepared to address the needs of your patients with psychiatric and addictive disorders when disaster hits. Get ideas to help you have the right plans in place to speed your return to business as usual. Learn what FEMA training can do for you and get examples of lessons learned from dealing with H1N1, fires, floods, hurricanes, and other challenging scenarios.

This faculty includes leaders from hospitals and residential treatment programs throughout the United States, including The Institute of Living: Hartford Hospital, Hartford, CT; Phoenix Care Systems, Inc., Milwaukee, WI; Prairie St. Johns, Fargo, ND; Memorial Hospital at Gulfport, Gulfport, MS; Shands Vista, Shands Healthcare at the University of Florida, Gainesville, FL; and Sharp Mesa Vista/Vista Pacifica Hospitals, San Diego, CA. The moderator is **Kathleen McCann**, RN, PhD, NAPHS director of clinical and regulatory affairs.

HOW TO REGISTER

The teleconference format is designed to enable maximum participation at minimal cost. Because registration fees are per incoming line (not per participant), registered sites can have as many people listen in on speakerphone as they wish. Pre-registration and pre-payment are required. The cost of the two-hour teleconference is \$250 (or \$175 for NAPHS members). American Express, MasterCard, and Visa are accepted.

To register online, go to www.naphs.org/catalog/admin/emergencypreparedness.html or call 202/393-6700, ext. 106. A compact disc will also be available *after* the teleconferences for \$250 (or \$175 for NAPHS or NASMHPD members).

ABOUT NAPHS

NAPHS advocates for behavioral health and represents provider systems that are committed to the delivery of responsive, accountable, and clinically effective prevention, treatment, and care for children, adolescents, adults, and older adults with mental and substance use disorders. Its members are behavioral healthcare provider organizations that own or manage more than 600 specialty psychiatric hospitals, general hospital psychiatric and addiction treatment units and behavioral healthcare divisions, residential treatment facilities, youth services organizations, and extensive outpatient networks. The association was founded in 1933.

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