

Thanks to all who participated in the April video-conference with our mentor group, the Putnam Northern Westchester BOCES Regional Crisis Team. Points we learned that were most valuable to them since their start in 1999:

- 1. Crisis team district staff getting to know one another via monthly network meetings prior to live deployment**
- 2. Conducting real-time crisis scenarios for diverse school crisis scenarios**
- 3. Debriefing at network meetings of any local crisis by team members involved in that crisis**
- 4. Providing building teams with additional crisis materials from network meetings**
- 5. Duration of deployment may not have been on the day of a crisis, but in the days and weeks after a crisis (eg. wakes and funerals)**
- 6. Rotation of crisis volunteers was often necessary so that home district coverage was not backlogged**
- 7. Day-by-day need assessment at start and end of each day of deployment was critical**
- 8. Roles of crisis volunteers may not have always been for counseling purposes - may have varied according to need (eg, class coverage, "running pizzas to the faculty room". etc)**
- 9. Bilingual skills of volunteers, especially in Spanish, were invaluable**
- 10. Helping to maintain "normalcy" of building functions was a key goal in all deployments**

Our last 2015-2016 LISPAN network meeting will take place on Friday, May 20th, in Jericho. Please see attached registration flyer. This meeting is expected to fill, so please pre-register early.

The Long Island SEL Forum will be conducting a workshop on May 16th at Western Suffolk BOCES, entitled "A Trio of Mindfulness Presentations". Please see attached flyer for details.

The American Red Cross Disaster Mental Health training will be hosted by LISPAN on Monday, June 6th from 4-8 pm in Mineola. We have ten LISPAN members registered to date. The course will be capped at 20 participants. Please contact me if interested. This course is independent of LISPAN, and once trained, you are deployed by the Red Cross on an individual basis at your own discretion. There is no minimum number of hours that you must serve.

Finally, Eastern Suffolk BOCES will be conducting a PREPaRE workshop 1 on Tuesday, May 10th from 8am to 4pm in Holbrook. Please register using My Learning Plan if interested under the ESB page. Dates for PREPaRE 2 training at WSB will be posted when announced in MLP for late August, 2016.

Please note the LISPAN Revised Crisis Summary Form that is attached and keep handy for immediate reference.

Save the date of September 26, 2016 for the launch of the Long Island Mindfulness and Resiliency Consortium (LIMRC). Flyer attached. Registration information will follow.

This has been an incredible launch year for LISPAN. We thank all who participated, and welcome you into our network in the coming months and years. Please visit www.lispan.org for all necessary information.

Sincerely,

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Coordinator, LISPAN**

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