



CRISIS RESPONSE

FACT SHEET

The primary purpose of “crisis response” is to help students and staff cope with painful emotions and feelings resulting from a community or school related crisis.

Historical:

The SFUSD Crisis Response plan and professional development were created in 1991. Building upon existing information and material, SHPD established a crisis response team comprised of school nurses, health educators and counselors. The team was charged with the task of developing a Crisis Response Manual for SFUSD, which was completed in fall, 1991.

What is the goal of the Crisis Response?

The primary purpose of school-based crisis response is to assist students and staff manage painful emotions and feelings that result from a community or school related crisis. In addition, SFUSD crisis response intervention assists the school community to return to established routines as quickly as possible following the crisis.

Current Status:

SHPD coordinates the district crisis response, which involves updating the manual and providing professional development.

How does it work?

Currently all school sites are required to identify a crisis response team and send this information to SHPD. All sites have received professional development on how to handle a crisis.

- Calls come into SHPD Nurse of the Day (NOD).
- The NOD completes the intake form, referring the caller to the crisis response manual, advising them to activate their CRT (crisis response team).
- The NOD consults with the district coordinator and an assessment is made if additional resources will be required.
- Additional district departments, city or county departments and private volunteers are notified as to a potential need for service if necessary.

The district coordinator contacts the site and debriefs the incident, insuring that we continuously modify and improve the program.

Activities within SFUSD and SHPD that support crisis response:

- NOD
- Safe Schools/Healthy Student Initiative
- Safe and Drug Free Schools and Communities
- HIV prevention
- High School Health Promotion Committee

For further information contact:

School Health Programs Department
1515 Quintara Street, San Francisco, CA 94116
(415) 242-2615 FAX (415) 242-2618