

J. Psychosocial Considerations Overview

NJ Department of Human Services, Division of Mental Health Services, Disaster and Terrorism Branch provides psychosocial support services to help response workers and the public manage emotional stress during and after an influenza pandemic. They also provide:

- Crisis counseling informational materials to prepare counselors to respond to an influenza pandemic
- Training of Disaster Response Crisis Counselors through County Mental Health Administrators
- Training of human services professionals who work with the public, including clergy, health care professionals, addictions counselors, etc.
- Assistance with public education forums sponsored by the local public health agencies (pre-pandemic)
- Mental health staffing for public health antiviral and vaccine dispensing centers
- Crisis counseling services to state response agencies and response partners
- Supports staffing for the 24 hour mental health helpline in collaboration with the Mental Health Association in New Jersey
- Web-based and tele-crisis counseling services in coordination with the Mental Health Association in New Jersey
- Information on continuity of operations planning for community mental health centers, addiction services providers and psychiatric hospitals
- Psychosocial services between pandemic waves and during the long term recovery period