BEYOND BEST PRACTICES

Teams are encouraged to develop additional expertise by encouraging team members to:

- Complete Certificate of Knowledge Examination in Critical Incident Stress Management (CCISM)
- Complete the Advanced Group Crisis Intervention and Advanced Assisting Individuals in Crisis courses
- Complete an ICISF suicide course
- Complete Pastoral Crisis Intervention (for chaplains)

BECOME A MEMBER

REGISTER YOUR TEAM

To register a team or learn more about Michigan's CISM registration process, visit the MCRA Resources page and select **MCRA CISM Team Registration Form.**
https://mcrainc.net/resources.htm

Benefits of being registered with MCRA

* Confidentiality coverage for Emergency Responders and medical staff under state statute
* Eligible to have representation on the MCRA Board



MCRA Mission Statement: To promote, facilitate, and support the activities, operations, and training of agencies and response teams that are involved in critical incident stress management.

To fulfill this mission the MCRA will:

- Assist communities in identifying groups that are at risk of experiencing traumatic stress
- Develop training for service providers who would reach out to traumatized groups
- Assist communities in developing crisis response plans
- Provide support to local resources
- Maintain contact with local crisis response teams throughout Michigan

MCRA will accomplish this mission in a manner which respects the autonomy of each community and the need for each community to be in control of its own recovery.

MEMBERSHIP REQUIREMENTS FOR MCRA APPROVED TEAMS

To Locate or Register a Team or to Contact MCRA, visit our website at www.mcrainc.net

For emergency calls and team activation only, call 800-969-0025

Michigan Crisis Response Association, Inc

Approved 9/14/2026

Michigan Crisis Response Association

MICHIGAN'S CISM CONFIDENTIALITY LAW

Public Act 40 of 2016, as amended by Public Act 48 of 2020, established statutory confidentiality protections for communications occurring during the provision of Critical Incident Stress Management (CISM) and Peer Support services. These protections are contained within the Michigan Public Health Code, and the complete text of the law is available through a link on the Michigan Crisis Response Association (MCRA) website.

The statute assigns MCRA responsibility for maintaining a registry of Critical Incident Stress Management (CISM) teams in the State and establishing minimum requirements for those teams and their members. Definitions of a CISM team and CISM team members are found within the text of the law. The statute further specifies that only registered teams, and only members of registered teams, are protected by the State's confidentiality law regarding the provision of CISM and Peer Support services.

To fulfill these statutory responsibilities, MCRA has established minimum requirements for registered teams and team members that are consistent with practices recommended by the International Critical Incident Stress Foundation (ICISF). Through the registration process, teams certify that they meet these requirements.

Although the text of the law is subject to future revision, it may be found in its current form by visiting the MCRA Resources page and selecting **MICHIGAN PUBLIC HEALTH CODE (Act 368 of 1978)**.
https://mcrainc.net/resources.htm

MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS FOR TEAMS REGISTERED WITH MCRA ARE AS FOLLOWS:

- Teams shall use the International Critical Incident Stress Foundation (ICISF) models of group and individual crisis intervention when responding to a critical incident.
- Teams shall not deploy any person who has not been trained in the ICISF model of BOTH Group Crisis Intervention and Assisting Individuals in Crisis.
- Teams shall maintain records of all training attended by their team members.
- Teams shall have a leadership structure that includes both a team coordinator and a clinical director. No one person shall serve in both roles.
- The clinical director must be trained in BOTH Group Crisis Intervention and Assisting Individuals in Crisis, shall hold at least a master's degree in a mental health discipline, and may either be currently or formerly licensed by the State of Michigan.
- Teams shall be proficient in each of the "Six Core Elements of CISM:"
  1. Assessment and triage of people in crisis
  2. Individual crisis intervention using the SAFER-R Model
  3. Informational group processes
  4. Interactive group processes
  5. Strategic planning using the 5 Ts of strategic planning
  6. Personal and community resilience
- Teams shall provide and/or coordinate quality CISM services to emergency service providers and/or community members according to the structure of their team.
- Internal teams shall use discretion in providing or arranging for CISM services to populations outside their own agency.
- Teams shall not self-deploy in response to any critical incident
- Team members shall conduct themselves in a manner consistent with the ethical standards expected of individuals serving on a CISM team, including avoiding illegal activity, substance misuse, harassment, and other conduct inconsistent with the mission of the team

BEST PRACTICES

- Team coordinators will have completed the following ICISF Core Courses:
  1. Group Crisis Intervention
  2. Assisting Individuals in Crisis
  3. Advanced Group Crisis Interventions
  4. Advanced Assisting Individuals in Crisis
  5. Strategic Response to Crisis
  6. Any of the available ICISF courses in suicide awareness, prevention, intervention, or postvention
- Additionally, team coordinators will have completed the Certificate of Knowledge Examination in Critical Incident Stress Management (CCISM)
- Teams shall train their members in the use of the Post Action Staff Support (PASS) model when offering CISM services.
- Teams shall provide a means of offering team members a "refresher" course at least every five years. The refresher course will update and review both group and individual processes and will consist of no less than four hours in length.
- CISM teams will meet regularly at least three times each year to review skills and provide ongoing training opportunities.
- CISM teams will deploy a peer team whose composition closely matches the population requesting services whenever practical.
- CISM teams will develop procedures to ensure that all CISM team members attend an ICISF approved course at least every five years to maintain and improve their skill level and knowledge of current best practices.