



Crisis Counseling Program: Background & Opportunities

What is it?

The [Crisis Counseling Assistance and Training Program](#) (CCP, commonly referred to as “Crisis Counseling Program”) is a FEMA-funded program that can be made available following a major disaster declaration that includes Individual Assistance (IA). Health and Human Services’ (HHS) Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) works with FEMA to provide program oversight and support to the State and their sub-grantees providing services.

MANY states impacted by COVID-19 have received approval for CCP.

What does this mean for Catholic Charities?

The Crisis Counseling Program is an excellent resource for both your clients and staff working through and recovering from the psychological effects of COVID-19. CCP supports short-term interventions that promote counseling goals to assist survivors in understanding the situation and reactions, mitigate stress, develop coping strategies, provide emotional support and provide links to other agencies who can support their ongoing needs. The following are examples of services that will be funded with CCP:

- Individual Crisis Counseling
- Basic Supportive or Educational Contact
- Public Education
- Community Networking and Support
- Assessment, Referral and Resource Linkage
- Development and Distribution of Education Materials

If a Catholic Charities agency has behavioral health internal capability, it can partner with county and state officials to be a sub-recipient and provide frontline CCP services. Multiple agencies have successfully provided these services following previous disasters in partnership with their county and state officials. Eligible expenses are reimbursed on a cost-reimbursable basis with federal funds by the state or county. It is important to note that CCP does not fund indirect costs. All costs chargeable to the federal award must be identified specifically with a particular cost objective such as activities of the federal award and be easily assigned to those activities. Refer to pages 41-52 of the [Crisis Counseling Assistance and Training Program Guidance](#) for examples of typical positions and reimbursable budget expenses under a CCP.

What now?

Talk with your state and county public health and emergency management officials to learn more about how CCP will be implemented in your state, for referral purposes or to express interest in becoming a sub-recipient to provide services in your area.

Questions: Contact [Kim Burgo](#) or [Zach Cahalan](#)