



# Town Hall Meeting

**Coming Together:  
What communities need to know in  
the event of a  
Community Tragedy**



The Division of Mental Health and the Ben Gordon Center in DeKalb, Illinois have partnered to provide a series of town hall meetings and community webinars to assist concerned community members, providers, healthcare professionals, landlords, school systems, universities, consumers and families to understand the affects of tragedy in their communities.

Dr. Harvey Barker, Michael Flora and Kris Povlsen will present how two community mental health centers responded to the shootings in their communities and lessons learned.

#### Learning Objectives:

- Review clinical time lines for response
- Review Community, Students and Faculty Needs in response to a community tragedy
- Preparing for the anniversary in your community
- Bringing the community together

The Town Hall trainings will be held from **9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.** at the following dates and locations:

- August 25      Rockford, IL – The Mildred Berry Center, 8616 Northern Ave. Rockford Illinois
- August 26      DeKalb, IL area – Kishwaukee Community College BID Center Rm A 247, Malta, Illinois
- August 27      Chicago, IL – Read Mental Health Center, 4200 N. Oak Park Ave, Chicago, Illinois

For more information call the Ben Gordon Center at 815-756-4875  
or email [bgcbs@bengordoncenter.org](mailto:bgcbs@bengordoncenter.org) or visit [www.bengordoncenter.org](http://www.bengordoncenter.org)



Harvey M. Barker, Ph.D. is currently the Executive Director of New River Valley Community Services in Blacksburg, Virginia. He has worked in community mental health for over twenty-five years and has also maintained a small counseling private practice. He is trained as a Mental Health Disaster Responder but learned “under fire” what disaster mental health actually means with his experience in responding to the Virginia Tech shooting in April 2007



Michael Flora is the President and CEO of the Ben Gordon Center in DeKalb, Illinois. Mr. Flora has over twenty-five years experience in clinical practice and mental health administration. He has lectured throughout the state and on the national conference level on behalf of treatment and administrative issues. Most recently Mr. Flora’s work has been highlighted in *Behavioral Healthcare*, *Mental Health Weekly* and *The National Council News*.



Kris Povlsen is the Director of Prevention at Ben Gordon Center. He is currently the Mayor and Liquor Commissioner for the City of DeKalb and served as an Alderman for DeKalb for eleven years. He taught Psychology at Kishwaukee College for twenty-one years and has been involved in prevention since 1981. Kris is the Project Coordinator for the DeKalb County Partnership for a Safe, Active and Family Environment (DCP/SAFE)



## Town Hall Meeting/ Training Agenda

**August 25, 26 and 27 2008: 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.**

**Three Consecutive Repeated Town Hall Meetings and Training Institute in Region 1 and Region 2:**

**“Coming Together : What communities need to know in the event of a community tragedy”**

Dr. Harvey Barker and Michael Flora will present how two community mental health centers responded to the shootings in their communities and lessons learned.

Learning Objectives:

- Review clinical time lines for response
- Review Community, Students and Faculty Needs in response to a community tragedy
- Preparing for the anniversary in your community
- Bring the community together.

Agenda for the Day:

9:00 Opening Remarks

Review of SERG Grant Next Steps and Webinar Schedules

9:15 Dr. Harvey Barker/Michael Flora the VTEC and NIU Experience

- Review clinical time lines for response
- Review Community, Students and Faculty Needs in response to a community tragedy
- Preparing for the anniversary in your community

11:00 Kris Povlsen: Responding to Community Needs/ Building Coalitions

12:00 Lunch on your own

1:00: Bringing the community together.

2:00 Q/A Adjourn



## SERG Grant Training Schedule

**August 22, 2008 kick off Webinar with Overview of SERG Grant 1:00 -3:00 pm**

**Michael Flora will provide an overview of the SERG Grant initiative and community wellness programs in collaboration with DHS Division of Mental Health.**

**August 25, 26 and 27 2008: Three Consecutive Repeated Town Hall Meetings and Training Institute in Region 1 and Region 2: The trainings will be held from 9:00 am to 2:00 pm**

**“Coming Together: What communities need to know in the event of a community tragedy”**

Dr. Harvey Barker and Michael Flora will present how two community mental health centers responded to the shootings in their communities and lessons learned.

Learning Objectives:

- Review clinical time lines for response
- Review Agency Disaster Plans
- Review Community, Students and Faculty Needs in response to a community tragedy
- Preparing for the anniversary in your community
- Bring the community together.
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The Town Hall meetings will be held from **9:00 am to 2:00 pm** at the following dates and locations:

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| August 25 | Rockford, IL – The Mildred Berry Center, 8616 Northern Ave.<br>Rockford Illinois       |
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| August 27 | Chicago, IL – Read Mental Health Center, 4200 N. Oak Park Ave,<br>Chicago, Illinois    |

### **Mental Health First Aid Training:**

**September 9, 16, 23 & 30th Mental Health First Aid.** Dr. Greg Tierney, PH.D Adult Services Manager of the Ben Gordon Center will provide four three hour workshops for community members, Students, Resident Advisors, Safety Personnel, school personnel, clergy, family members and consumer on how to administer Mental Health First aid. Participants are required to attend all four workshops for a total of 12 hour training. This is a free 12 hour course registration is required.

Location: Ben Gordon Center 12 Health Services Drive, DeKalb Illinois 60115:

To register call Barbara Stagner at 815-756-4875 or e-mail at [bgcbs@bengordoncenter.org](mailto:bgcbs@bengordoncenter.org)

Learning Objectives:

- Mental Health Literacy and First Aid skills for responding to potential mental health emergencies.
- Everyone who attends will be certified Mental Health First Aid Providers.

## **Webinars:**

To register call Barbara Stagner at 815-756-4875 or e-mail at [bgcbs@bengordoncenter.org](mailto:bgcbs@bengordoncenter.org). A webinar invitation will then be sent to you.

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| <b>September 4, 2008</b><br><b>1:00-3:00 pm</b>   | <b>Webinar: Disaster Planning - Michael Flora</b>              |
| <b>September 10, 2008</b><br><b>1:00- 3:00 pm</b> | <b>Webinar: Coalition Building - Kris Povlsen</b>              |
| <b>September 15, 2008</b><br><b>1:00-3:00 pm</b>  | <b>Webinar: Working with the Clergy- Kris Povlsen</b>          |
| <b>September 18, 2008</b><br><b>1:00-3:00 pm</b>  | <b>Webinar Building your community tool kit- Michael Flora</b> |
| <b>September 26, 2008</b><br><b>1:00-3:00 pm</b>  | <b>Webinar communicating in times of Crisis, Michael Flora</b> |