



Psychosocial

2 – 3 November 2007

Response

Incidents – Disasters – Terrorism

and Recovery

The Sebel and Citigate, King George Square

Symposium

Brisbane, Queensland, Australia

ABSTRACTS



Queensland Government
Queensland Health

CONFERENCE PROGRAM

Friday 2 November 2007

8.30 – 9.00	Conference Registration
9.00 – 9.10	Conference Theme and Overview Mr Mick Davis AM - Conference Convenor Australian College of Health Service Executives
9.10 – 9.30	Welcome Address Dr Jeannette Young - Chief Health Officer Queensland Health
9.30 – 10.15	Keynote Address Professor Beverley Raphael Population Mental Health & Disasters, University Western Sydney <i>The Changing Landscape of Mental Health Response</i>
10.15 – 10.40	Morning Tea
10.40 – 11.30	Dr Aaron Groves - Director of Mental Health Queensland Health <i>Mental Health Aspects of Incidents, Terrorism and Disasters</i>
11.30 – 12.15	Panel Discussion: Health Response in Queensland Chair: Dr Jeannette Young Dr Aaron Groves Prof Beverley Raphael
12.15 – 1.00	Lunch
1.00 – 1.45	A/Professor Brett McDermott - Director Child and Adolescent Psychiatry Mater Child and Youth Mental Health Services <i>Child and Youth Post -Disaster Emotional Responses</i>
1.45 – 2.30	Mike Shapland Emergency Management Queensland <i>Disasters</i>
2.30 – 3.15	Kevin Freele - Executive Director Cairns Integrated Mental Health Service <i>The Mental Health Response to Cyclone Larry</i>
3.15 – 3.30	Afternoon Tea
3.30 – 4.05	Professor Kevin Ronan - Professor of Psychology (Clinical) School of Psychology and Sociology, Central Queensland University <i>Child and youth pre-disaster preparedness: The role of hazards education programs</i>
4.00 – 4.45	Panel Discussion: Chair: Kevin Freele A/Professor Brett McDermott Mike Shapland Professor Kevin Ronan
4.45 – 5.00	Close
7.30 – 12.00	Conference Dinner Keynote Dinner Speaker Athol Yates - Executive Director of the Australian Homeland Security Research Centre.

Saturday 3 November 2007

8.45 – 9.00	Welcome Address Dr Aaron Groves - Director of Mental Health Queensland Health
9.00 – 9.45	Keynote Address Commander Paul Luckin Royal Australian Naval Reserve <i>Frontline Experience – Banda Aceh</i>
9.45 – 10.30	Professor Beverley Raphael Population Mental Health & Disasters, University Western Sydney <i>Loss and Grief in Disasters</i>
10.30 – 10.45	Morning Tea
10.45 – 11.10	Paul Scully - Coordinator Staff Support Services Queensland Ambulance Service <i>Peer Support in Emergency Services</i>
11.10 – 11.30	Anita Egginton - Regional Co-ordinator Far North Queensland Department of Communities <i>Community Recovery</i>
11.30 – 11.55	Brenda-Anne Parfitt Lifeline Queensland <i>Lifeline Disaster Response</i>
11.55 – 12.15	Garry Stevens – Clinical Psychologist University Western Sydney <i>Psychological Effects of Terrorism</i>
12.15 – 1.00	Lunch
1.00 – 1.20	Carolyn Parsons Australian Red Cross <i>The Role of Australian Red Cross in Disasters</i>
1.20 – 1.45	Desley Hargreaves - National Manager - Social Work Centrelink <i>Integrating Off-Shore/On-Shore Emergency Responses</i>
1.45 – 2.10	Paul Stevenson - Clinical Psychologist Access Psychology <i>The Historical & Modern Perspectives of Disaster Psychology</i>
2.10 – 2.30	Greg Eustace - Principal Advisor, Emergency Management Queensland Health <i>Health Response - Emergency Management Arrangements</i>
2.30 – 2.45	Afternoon Tea
2.45 – 3.30	Open Forum: Psychosocial Challenges in Disasters and Terrorism Chair: Mick Davis Professor Beverley Raphael Dr Aaron Groves Paul Stevenson Garry Stevens Desley Hargreaves Dr Paul Luckin
3.30 – 3.45	Summary and Close Dr Aaron Groves and Mick Davis



WELCOME

Dr Jeannette Young, MB BS, FRACMA, MBA, AFACHSE

Dr Jeannette Young has been the Chief Health Officer for Queensland since August 2005. In her previous position she was the Executive Director of Medical Services at the Princess Alexandra Hospital in Brisbane for six years where she was responsible for the provision of Medical services across the Hospital and a member of the Executive team. She came to the position following four years as the Director of Medical Services at the Rockhampton Base Hospital. Prior to that she spent nine years at Westmead Hospital in Sydney working initially in the area of Emergency Medicine, followed by responsibility for medico-legal issues and management of junior medical staff.

As the Chief Health Officer she is responsible for Mental Health policy and legislation, Population Health services policy and regulation, Disaster planning and Private facility licensing. She is a member of the Queensland Medical Board, the Radiation Advisory Council, the Queensland Institute of Medical Research Council, co-chair of the Queensland Emergency Medical System Advisory Committee, chair of the Queensland Blood Advisory Committee and is Queensland's representative on the National Health and Medical Research Council, the Australian Health Protection Committee and the AHMAC Clinical, Technical and Ethical Principal Committee. In times of disaster Dr Young fulfils the role of State Health Co-ordinator.

Queensland Health plays a vital role in disasters within the State, Nationally and Overseas.

Within Queensland we have lead agency responsibility for a number functions aligned to the Health portfolio. These are:

- Command, Control and Coordination of health resources
- Appropriate pre-hospital on-site medical and health response management for casualties
- Transportation to appropriate hospitals for definitive treatment and care
- Public health advice, warnings and directions to combatants and the community
- Psychological and counselling services for disaster affected persons
- On going medical and health services required during the recovery period to preserve the general health of the community
- Scientific services during health event response and recovery operations

We fulfil our obligations primarily through the State Disaster Management Group, State Disaster Co-ordination Group, State Community Recovery Committee, Disaster District Management Groups, District Community Recovery Committees and many other associated committees involved with the preparation, planning, response and recovery operations involving large scale incidents, natural and technological disasters and acts of terrorism.

Queensland Health acknowledges the fine work by the Department of Communities which has lead agency responsibility for the coordination of government and non government community recovery efforts as well as the delivery of particular recovery services. This includes the provision of short term, medium term and longer term recovery strategies and services. This is provided through activities such as care and comfort, personal support, counselling, mental health services, personal hardship grants, case management and temporary accommodation arrangements.

Queensland Health is proud to host this symposium to enable the sharing of a wealth of expertise and allow better access to this expertise and resources in support of disaster affected communities.

On behalf of the Australian College of Health Service Executives and Queensland Health, Welcome to the Symposium.



KEYNOTE SPEAKER

Professor Beverley Raphael, AM, MBBS, MD, FRANZCP, FRCPsych, FASSA, Hon, MD (Newcastle)

Professor Beverley Raphael is Professor of Population Mental Health and Disasters and Director of the Centre for Disasters and Terrorism (DAT) at the University of Western Sydney. Formerly she was the Director of the Centre for Mental Health and is now Emeritus Professor of Psychiatry at the University of Queensland and holds professorial appointments at the Universities of Sydney, New South Wales and Newcastle. Professor Raphael is currently Chair of the National Mental Health Disaster Response Committee and the expert advisor to the Australian Health Protection Committee.

Professor Raphael entered psychiatry in 1964 after 5 years in general practice. She has had a wide range of experience in different sectors and levels of mental health service provision including psychiatric hospital and general hospital inpatient services as well as community mental health and child and adolescent mental health care.

Professor Raphael has been involved with mental health service development and planning since 1968. She was responsible for service development as the first community psychiatrist to Hornsby, Kurringai and Gosford. She was consultant to the development of mental health services in the Hunter area and subsequently in Queensland in the North Brisbane region and in Queensland generally. She has been directly involved in overseeing service delivery for inpatient services for community and child and adolescent services in these roles.

She is a past president of the Royal Australian and New Zealand College of Psychiatrists.

Professor Raphael has delivered numerous orations and keynote addresses to distinguished national and international groups. She has over 200 scientific publications and has written and published 2 books and edited 3 others. She is the author of *The Anatomy of Bereavement* (1983), *When Disaster Strikes* (1986), co-editor of the *International Handbook of Traumatic Stress Studies* (1993), co-editor of the *Handbook of Preventative Psychiatry* (1995) and co-editor of *Psychological Debriefing: Theory, practice and evidence* (2000), as well as numerous scientific articles with reference to mental health aspects of terrorism and disasters and keynote and invited addresses.

Professor Raphael has been a consultant to the World Health Organisation for the development of psychiatric education to the Peoples Republic of China and for disasters and mental health in the Philippines and Geneva and on mental health generally. She has been an invited consultant to the US Government for the National Institute of Mental Health and Department of Defence on mental health response to mass violence.

Professor Raphael was awarded an AM in 1984 and in 1994 a Top Ten Australian Achievers Australia Day award for her work in mental health. She has also been awarded Honorary Fellowship of the American College of Psychiatrists. Professor Raphael was awarded the Life Time Achievement Award from the International Society of Traumatic Stress Studies, New Orleans in November 2004 at the annual meeting of the society.

Professor Raphael took up the position of Director of the Centre for Mental Health, New South Wales Health in January 1996 and served in this position until May 2005. She has contributed to the development of population mental health service frameworks, promotion and prevention, child & adolescent mental health & mental health response to disaster and terrorism, both nationally and in NSW. She has overseen the development and implementation of mental health policy and planning in NSW throughout the period of her appointment to this role, from the first mental health policy Caring for Mental Health, Child and Adolescent Mental Health, Older Peoples' Mental Health, Aboriginal Mental Health, Transcultural Mental Health, Suicide Prevention and many other programs and initiatives.

Abstract Title: "The Changing Landscape of Mental Health Response in Terrorism & Disasters"

This paper will deal with the stresses identified in disaster incidents and comparison with terrorism including CBRN terrorism. It will discuss the changing nature of threats, including those related to very large scale natural disasters, the potential contributions of global warming/climate change and the background of terrorism fears and threats. Threat components and their impacts will be considered.

It will describe the critical role of mental health engagement in preparation and planning, the requirements for education and training focused evidence of effective interventions, systems of disaster management and response, mental health roles in the emergency and in relation to health care systems, specific mental health issues and mental health/physical health concerns will be dealt with, opportunities for preventative and early intervention and the development of a research agenda at population and clinical levels.

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Dr Aaron Groves

Dr Aaron Groves is the Director of Mental Health in Queensland. He graduated in Medicine from the University of Western Australia in 1985 and became a Fellow of the Royal Australian and New Zealand College of Psychiatrists in 1991. In 2001 he became the Chief Psychiatrist and later the Director of Mental Health in Western Australia where he was responsible for leading the development of the Mental Health Strategy 2004 – 2007 the largest single investment in Mental Health by that State's Government.

Dr Groves holds the position of Deputy Chair of the Australian Health Ministers' Advisory Council's Mental Health Standing Committee. He was previously the Chair of the Information Strategy Committee, Safety and Quality Partnership Group and the Homelessness and Housing Taskforce which are all subcommittees of the National Mental Health Working Group.

He is currently the Queensland Board Member of *Beyondblue: The National Depression Initiative*

Dr Groves is a Queensland Health nominee to the State Community Recovery Committee. His experience includes the State Mental Health Co-ordinator for Tropical Cyclone Larry and was previously the WA Mental Health Coordinator for the Mental Health disaster response for Western Australians affected by the 2002 Bali Bombings and the 2004 Tsunami.

Dr Groves led the consultation process for the development of the National Mental Health Plan 2003 – 2008 as well as the development of the *National Mental Health Information Priorities, Second Edition: The Key Performance Indicators for Australian Public Mental Health Services* and the *National Safety Priorities in Mental Health: A national plan for reducing harm*. He serves on several committees of the Royal Australian and New Zealand College of Psychiatrists including the Board of Practice Standards, the Committee for Training, the Ethics Committee and Chaired the Boundary Transgressions Project. He was previously the Chair of the WA Psychotropic Drugs Committee the independent group responsible for rational prescribing, which developed treatment algorithms for the use of both antidepressant and antipsychotic medications.

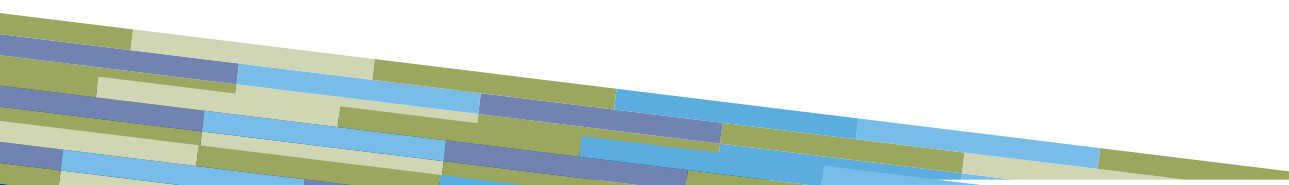
Abstract Title: "Mental Health Aspects of Disasters"

Disasters are a serious disruption in a community which are caused by the impact of an event that requires a significant co-ordinated response by people working within organizations to help the community recover from the disruption.

A disaster "event" can be defined by any of the following - cyclone, earthquake, flood, storm, storm surge, tornado, infestation, epidemic, pandemic, tsunami, volcanic eruption, explosion, fire, chemical, fuel or oil spill, gas leak, plague, an attack against the State and the failure of or disruption to an essential service or infrastructure.

There is now a very significant body of scientific literature highlighting the potential mental health impacts of disasters and terrorism. Mental health strategies are required as a component of such responses to assist others. Psychiatrists, psychologists, social workers, mental health nurses and other health professionals with expertise in these spheres have contributed to response for recent emergencies, frequently doing so in ways that build on pre-existing relationships with affected communities. This type of expert collaboration can enhance the capacity for such disaster response in the local situation while contributing to mental health service development more broadly. Consequently, Mental health has a role in all these settings by information provision, consultancy and clinical roles to the general population and the needs of children, young people and families, different cultural and language groups, indigenous populations, people with pre-existing psychiatric disorders as well as looking after the workers during disasters.

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Associate Professor Brett McDermott

Associate Professor McDermott is the Director, Mater Child and Youth Mental Health Service, South Brisbane, Queensland. He is an Associate Professor, The University of Queensland, Foundation Director, Princess Margaret Hospital for Children Eating Disorders Team, Director of Beyondblue: The National Depression Initiative, By-Fellow, Churchill College Cambridge University UK, Chair National Child and Adolescent Mental Health Measurement Expert Committee.

Associate Professor McDermott graduated from the University of Tasmania with Bachelor of Medical Science 1982, Bachelor of Medicine 1984, Bachelor of Surgery 1984. He was elected as a Fellow of the Royal Australian and New Zealand College of Psychiatrists 1995 and completed Child and Adolescent Psychiatry training 1 July 1995.

As a result of his work he has been awarded the following:

1994 NSW Department of School Education Certificate of Commendation: “For meritorious services to New South Wales School Children after the 1994 January Bushfire Disaster.”

1995 NSW Department of School Education: Assistant Director General’s Award: “For providing outstanding support to students and school communities in Metropolitan East Region following the 1994 January Bushfires.”

1998 StateWest (Western Australia) Achievement Award; Group category, The Princess Margaret Hospital for Children Eating Disorders Team: Dr Brett McDermott, Founding Director.

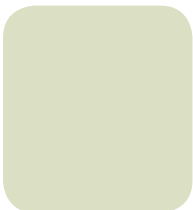
1999 The Princess Margaret Hospital for Children “Service Excellence Award” to the PMH Eating Disorders Team: Dr B. McDermott Founding Director.

Abstract Title: “Child and Youth Post - Disaster Emotional Responses”

Brett will speak about Child and Youth Post Disaster Emotional Responses including Tropical Cyclone Larry Children’s Project and his MD 2005 thesis titled “*Emotional distress, Posttraumatic stress disorder and depression in children and adolescents following an Australian bushfire disaster*”.

Brett’s research interests remain around children and adolescents with eating disorders, emotional trauma in children including service provision initiatives following large scale natural disasters, presentations and interventions for children with complex needs including comorbid drug and alcohol problems or complex past traumatic experiences.

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Mike Shapland and Fredri Kruger

Mike Shapland is the Director of Disaster Operations for Emergency Management Queensland (EMQ). Fredri Kruger is the EAS Embrace program coordinator for EMQ and the State Emergency Service (SES). Both were closely associated with the emergency services response to the cyclone in the early intense days of the response.

Abstract Title: Lifting the Lid on Larry

An introspective look at the effects on emergency responders and managers.

Their joint presentation focuses on the effects of the operational response on the people of the lead emergency services organisations, the Department of Emergency Service’s Counter Disaster and Rescue Service (now Emergency Management Queensland) and the SES. It will remind the audience of the effects of Larry and the scale of the response in the first days and weeks. It will look at the effects of that response on the individuals within the agencies responsible for coordinating the relief effort and for carrying out that work on the ground. Finally it will examine the effects on the organisation as whole and the lessons that have been learned and that are being applied to prepare for the next inevitable event.

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Kevin Freele

Kevin Freele is the Executive Director of the Cairns Integrated Mental Health Service. Queensland Health.

Kevin commenced work in Cairns in November 2005. Kevin came to Cairns after 29 years work as a clinician and senior administrator of a large mental health service in Sydney. Shortly after Kevin’s arrival to far north Queensland he experienced his first cyclone, Tropical Cyclone Larry. He then headed up the mental health disaster response to Cyclone Larry. Kevin is an ACHS trained surveyor and a member of ACHSE.

Abstract Title: “Mental Health Response to Tropical Cyclone Larry”

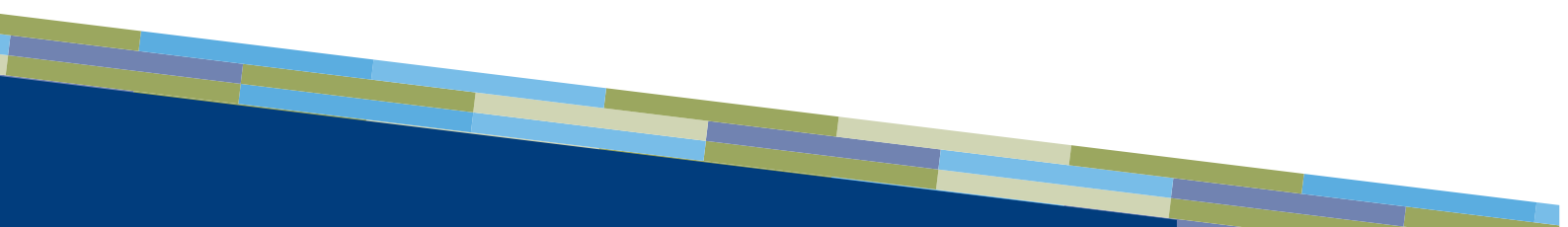
Queensland Health’s response to Tropical Cyclone Larry began on Saturday 18 March 2006 and formally concluded on Saturday 30 June 2007 with the standing down of the Mental Health response some fifteen months after the cyclone struck on Monday 20 March 2006.

Queensland Health was notified of Tropical Cyclone Larry at 0830 hours on Saturday 18 March 2006 by the State Disaster Co-ordination Centre. Subsequently, the State Disaster Co-ordination Group notified the Emergency Management Duty Officer which triggered the activation of the State Health Disaster Plan.

The response by Queensland Health was unprecedented with approximately 900 staff from across the State tasked within 2 weeks for the provision of Emergency Management, Population Health, Mental Health and Medical Services supporting the Northern Area Health Service. In response to Cyclone Larry, Queensland Health established the Mental Health Disaster Recovery Team. Immediately after the cyclone, the Cairns Integrated Mental Health Service provided psychological information via print, radio and news outlets to the affected communities, general practitioners and disaster relief services. Pamphlets in several languages other than English were produced to advise the community of possible reactions that people who were exposed to Cyclone Larry might experience. “Tips” fact sheets provided information on coping with anxiety and emotional stress, helping children and young people through disasters, psychological health for rescue workers and information for GPs on acute stress and trauma. These pamphlets also described strategies to help people recover and the risk factors that may contribute to future mental health problems. Resources on where to gain assistance for debriefing were also circulated to agencies and initial responders.

The Mental Health Disaster Recovery Team reached its staffing establishment of 6 Mental Health Clinicians, 1 Team Leader, 1 Project Officer and availability of 0.5 of a psychiatrist’s time by May 2006. Three clinicians were permanently based in Innisfail and three in the Tablelands. The Executive Director of the Cairns Integrated Mental Health Service was the Mental Health Disaster Commander. In the months immediately after the disaster, over 60 mental health clinicians from Townsville, Brisbane and other cities responded to the call to assist the local mental health teams in Innisfail and the Tablelands maintain the mental health services until the Disaster Team was formed in May. The Mental Health Disaster Recovery Team coordinated an initiative in conjunction with Education Queensland and Catholic Education, to have 2769 school children across 22 schools in cyclone affected areas screened to measure their level of distress or trauma. The findings revealed that 129 students had fallen into the severe and very severe bands for post-traumatic symptoms and a further 295 needed to be monitored. School Guidance Officers, in consultation with the Mental Health Disaster Recovery Team delivered a psychological intervention workbook, “Larry and Me” to circumvent the anxiety caused by the cyclone. Associate Professor Brett McDermott, child psychiatrist, Brisbane, was instrumental in the screening protocols. Strategies are in development to follow up and re-screen the children.

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Kevin Ronan, PhD, MA, BA

Professor Kevin Ronan is a Professor of Psychology (Clinical), School of Psychology and Sociology at Central Queensland University.

Kevin as a clinical psychologist specialises in hazards and disasters, problems of youth and families (e.g. conduct disorder, anxiety disorders, child maltreatment), schizophrenia, homework in therapy and treatment outcome evaluation.

Kevin is also a member of the Editorial Board of the Australasian Journal of Disaster and Trauma Studies and is an author of many disaster related publications including a recent book called “Promoting Community Resilience to Disasters: The Role for Schools, Youth, and Families” (2005, Springer, New York).

Abstract Title: “Children and pre-disaster preparedness: The role of hazards education programs”

Until recently, the predominant focus of research in relation to children and disasters has been on children’s vulnerability and reactions to disasters during the Response and Recovery phases. Research focused on children’s preparation for hazardous events has a much shorter history. This presentation will summarise the research that has been done in this area, primarily over the past decade. It will focus on the role of hazards education programs and their effectiveness, in assisting children and families to be more prepared for hazardous events, both physically as well as psychologically.

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DINNER KEYNOTE SPEAKER

Athol Yates

Athol Yates is the Executive Director of the Australian Homeland Security Research Centre.

Athol specialises in analysing national security policy and the role played by the private sector in enhancing national security. He has written extensively on the subject as well as giving a large number of invited presentations.

His specialisations include:

- influenza pandemic planning
- critical infrastructure protection policy
- mass gathering and precinct security policy
- security risk management policy
- national security arrangements and coordination
- public-private partnerships in security

Athol’s qualifications include a Bachelor of Engineering, GradDip Soviet Studies and Masters of Public Policy. He is the editor of the National Security Practice Notes and one of the two anchors for National Security Radio.

His recent publications included:

- A Danger Greater than War: NSW and the 1918-1919 influenza pandemic
- Western Isolation: the Perth experience of the 1918-1919 influenza pandemic
- Business survival and the influenza pandemic: Essential preparations for critical infrastructure & businesses
- A pandemic-induced withdrawal of Coalition forces from Iraq
- The role of public servants in the war on terrorism
- The beginning of the end for risk management?
- Addressing national security misconceptions is critical in developing effective public awareness campaigns
- Community involvement in national security: An essential but difficult task
- Who should pay for security enhancements? Creating a defensible and equitable process for sharing costs and benefits between critical infrastructure and the community
- The business opportunities in supporting the Australian Intelligence Community

Athol is also the author of the 180 page report *Engineering a Safer Australia: Protecting Critical Infrastructure and the Built Environment*, which is the only public report on Australia’s critical infrastructure protection efforts.



KEYNOTE SPEAKER

Commander Paul Luckin, RANR, MB BCh (Rand.), DA (SA), FFA(SA), M MED ANAESTHESIA (Natal), FANZCA

Dr. Paul Luckin trained as an Ambulance Paramedic in Hobart and is currently an Anaesthetist in private practice in Brisbane.

He did his undergraduate training at the University of the Witwatersrand in Johannesburg, and the Baragwannath Hospital in Soweto and trained in Anaesthesia at the University of Natal and King Edward VIII Hospital in Durban.

Paul spent eight years in the Mountain Rescue Team of the Natal Section of the Mountain Club of South Africa.

He was Consultant and Lecturer to Accident and Emergency Medical Services Natal, Lecturer on courses in Accident and Disaster Medicine for Doctors and a Director of Red Cross Air Mercy Flights.

Back in Tasmania Paul was on the Tasmanian Ambulance Medical Advisory Council and was the Director of the ambulance Advanced Airway Management Training Programme.

He was President of the Royal Life Saving Society Tasmania and Convenor of the State Task Force for Prevention of Drowning in the Under 5's.

Paul teaches the medical aspects of Search and Rescue at State Police level and is on the teaching staff of the National Police Search and Rescue Managers Course. In 2005 he received the National Search and Rescue Award for contributions to Search and Rescue in the Australian Region.

He is a State Councillor and former Chairman of Training Branch, St John Ambulance Queensland.

As an Anaesthetist in the Naval Reserve Paul has served in Bougainville, East Timor, in the Resuscitation and Retrieval Team for the victims of the first Bali bombs, the Solomon Islands, Timor Leste and was in the first foreign medical team into Banda Aceh following the 2004 tsunami.

Abstract Title: "Frontline Experience in Banda Aceh"

The worst damage and the highest death toll following the tsunami of Boxing Day 2004 occurred in Banda Aceh, Northern Sumatra. Paul will focus on his front line experience as a first responder.

His team arrived in Banda Aceh four days after the tsunami with a supply of drugs but no anaesthetic and minimal surgical equipment. They found a large number of seriously injured patients with massively infected wounds and had to manage with very limited facilities in a difficult environment.

His presentation will provide a graphic insight into the psychological challenges that front line clinicians face during disaster responses.

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Keynote Speaker

Professor Beverley Raphael, AM, MBBS, MD, FRANZCP, FRCPsych, FASSA, Hon, MD (Newcastle)

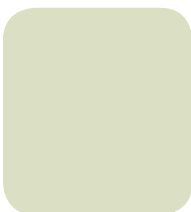
Abstract Title: "Loss and Grief in Terrorism and Disaster"

This paper will deal with models of loss and grief, the phenomenology and types of losses, including personal loss, loss of community, resource loss and loss of sense of personal and national invulnerability.

It will describe the critical nature of disaster victim identification where processes, support for the bereaved during the acute period where a deceased is 'missing' and the emergency support requirements. Acute, intermediate and longer term models of assessment, identification of risk and resilience trajectories and evidence base for interventions will be considered. Social and personal memorialisations and their significance will be considered.

The concept of traumatic bereavement and bereavement related pathologies and outcomes for children, adults and families will be identified, as will strategies for policy and intervention in diverse catastrophic settings.

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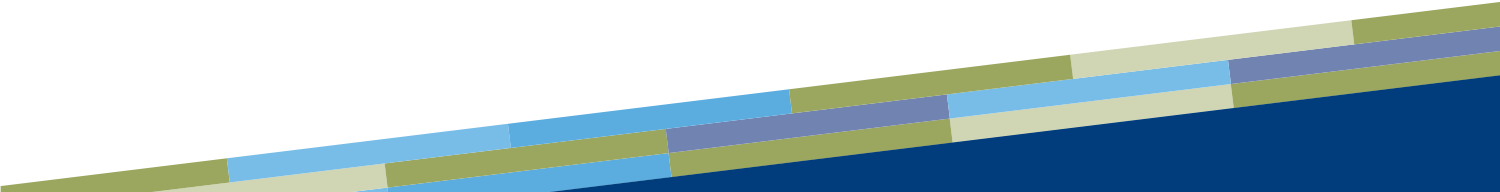
Paul Scully, B Soc Sci (Psych), GradDip Soc Sci (Couns), M Couns

Paul Scully is the Co-coordinator Staff Support Services, Queensland Ambulance Service

Abstract Title: "Peer Support Programs in Emergency Services"

With the recognition of the potentially distressing nature of the work undertaken by Emergency Service workers there has also come a wave of interventions to anticipate and where appropriate intervene to minimize the impact of trauma on this population. This presentation will look briefly at the evolution of peer support programs and then outline an integrated trauma support model, structured around a peer support program which has shown promising signs of benefit to paramedics within the Queensland Ambulance Service (QAS). The presentation highlights its benefits as a Social Support Model and outlines the components of comprehensive pre-incident education and resilience building for all personnel and careful selection and mandated supervision of peer supporters as essential to the success of the program.

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Anita Egginton

Anita Egginton was previously Regional Coordinator, Community Recovery Services, Department of Communities – Far North Queensland Region.

Anita developed and coordinated the Queensland Department of Communities, Community Recovery program which was established in March 2006 in response to Tropical Cyclone Larry. She transitioned out of her role as Regional Coordinator at the end of September 2007 but has an on-going strategic advisory role with the program and the Department.

Her professional identity can best be described as a strategic planner, with keen interests and experience in collaborative and creative problem solving across a range of issues and ‘landscapes’. She has lived in Cairns for the past four years and personally experienced the northern edge of the category 4 cyclone in March last year.

Abstract Title: “Community Recovery”

Disaster recovery is a way of assisting communities to manage the impacts and consequences of a disaster event. It refers to the four elements of recovery as: community recovery (including psychosocial recovery), infrastructure, economic and environment.

The Department of Communities has lead agency responsibility for the coordination of government and non government community recovery efforts including the delivery of particular recovery services. These coordinated efforts must provide for short term, medium term and longer term recovery strategies and services.

Initially, strategies are focused on providing practical assistance and support to individuals and families.

In the medium to longer term, it can include ongoing psychological and emotional support strategies, information and referral and community engagement and development. Support may also be provided to assist disaster affected people in the replacement and repair, demolition and reconstruction of their ‘homes’.

The services available to assist disaster-affected individuals in the community may include:

Personal support services

Individually, people need information about the cause and effect of the disaster event, the availability and accessibility of services and they need to regain some capacity to have control over their lives. Support services may include practical advice, support, child minding, transport, the provision of an interpreter service, help with cleaning up damage caused by the event, financial and other practical assistance.

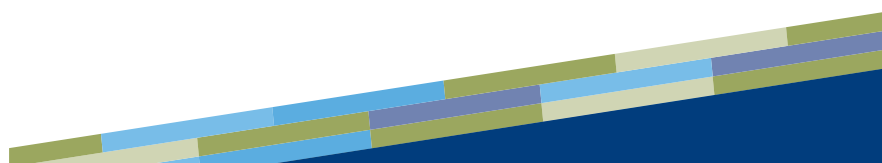
Information and referral

In the medium and long term, information and referral services are critical for reintegrating individuals and families back into their usual ‘fabric’ of helping or support services and activities available to them in their community. These information and referral activities are likely to be supported by concurrent assistance provided to the helping agencies to enable them to recover adequately themselves as well as support the increased demand that may have been created by the disaster and subsequent recovery period.

Community engagement and development services

Following a disaster event, community routines are affected. It is important to give attention to the re-establishment and rebuilding of these routines, just as it is to give attention and benefit to individuals. Engagement and development activities are broad ranging and may include such things as practical assistance to or resourcing of groups, organisation of community forums, discussion groups or events and the facilitation and strengthening of community based services and activities.

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Brenda–Anne Parfitt

Brenda-Anne has been General Manager for Lifeline North Queensland since 2002 and she is currently the Lifeline State Co-ordinator for Community Recovery. Her academic background is in management and social work with a passion for sociological approaches. She has served on a number of boards including Queensland Council of Social Services for many years.

Brenda-Anne has a background in community based service delivery, working across Health and Local Government as well as almost 15 years working beside the Emergency Services and the Queensland Police Service developing crisis response services after incidents of suicide, sudden deaths, vehicle and industrial accidents etc.

Currently Brenda-Anne is the Lifeline representative on the State Community Recovery Committee.

Abstract Title: “Lifeline – Disaster Response”

Lifeline Community Care Queensland provides counselling and support to victims of disasters and other significant events through its community recovery program.

Lifeline Community Care provides its community recovery service in the period immediately following these events and for such length of time as is considered appropriate to affect successful recovery.

Counselling and support consists of the provision of outreach services by trained staff and volunteers to communities affected by the disaster or event.

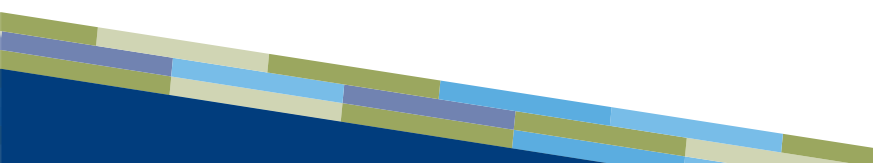
Lifeline Community Care provides the following services:

- provision of information as to the psychological impact of disasters or events on victims and strategies that may be used to assist those victims in the process of recovery
- provision of immediate counselling (psychological first aid) to victims of disasters who have been overwhelmed by their experience and who are unable to commence the process of recovery
- assessment and appropriate referral of those victims requiring longer term or more specialised counselling to assist them in the process of recovery
- liaison with other agencies involved in the Community Recovery to ensure that victims are able to receive a coordinated response to their particular needs following a disaster or event
- provision of a National Telephone Crisis Counselling Service

Recent examples of disasters or events where Lifeline Community Care was activated include: Childers Backpacker Hostel Fire, Bundaberg Tilt Train Derailment, Darling Downs Bushfires, Brisbane Flash Floods, Cyclone Larry, Townsville Black Hawk Disaster, Palm Island Riot, Hamilton Island Plane crash, Gold Coast Hail Storms, Equine Influenza Outbreak.

Additionally, Lifeline Community Care becomes involved in local response following multiple murders, significant deaths by suicide or accident, significant motor vehicle accidents involving children, threats to safety such as gas leaks plus a number of other less dramatic events.

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Garry Stevens, BSc (Hons), M Clin Psych, MAPS

Garry Stevens is a Senior Clinical Psychologist with extensive experience in the field of child and adolescent mental health. He has previously researched and developed brief risk assessment and therapy models in child and adolescent clinical services. He has been involved more recently in the field of disaster mental health, including the response to the Indian Ocean Tsunami and the Bali Bombing. He is the current Senior Research Fellow at the SciMHA Unit (Science, Mental Health & Adversity), University of Western Sydney, where he co-ordinates several programmes including the CBRN Psychosocial Guidelines Project.

Abstract Title: “Psychosocial Aspects of CBRN Terrorism”

The psychosocial impacts of conventional forms of terrorism are typically greater than those observed with natural or technological disasters of comparable scale.

Perceptions as to the insidious nature of CBRN (Chemical, Biological, Radiological & Nuclear) agents in this context may further compound mental health morbidity and points to the pressing need for emergency services to anticipate and manage such ‘psychological casualties’, which may predominate in this response environment.

This paper will review potential impacts among members of the general public and First Responders, including a current project exploring the information support needs of these latter groups being conducted by the University of Western Sydney.

NOTES:

Carolyn Parsons

Carolyn Parsons joined Australian Red Cross Queensland in 1989 and during this time has been appointed to various senior positions within the organisation.

One of Carolyn’s present portfolios is Emergency Services which she took charge of shortly before Cyclone Larry. The portfolio is responsible for the implementation of the Australian Red Cross National Emergency Services Strategy within Queensland, the management of the delivery of core emergency activities and functions in accordance with State emergency management arrangements and promoting and maximizing the role of Red Cross in the emergency services area.

During Cyclone Larry Carolyn was responsible for the Queensland operational response. This included working behind the scenes with the senior staff to ensure a coordinated approach, spending time in Cairns managing operations from the Red Cross Recovery Centre, as well as participating in State and District Recovery Committee meetings to ensure cross agency coordination of recovery activities.

Carolyn holds a Master of Business Administration degree from the University of the Sunshine Coast.

Abstract Title: “The Role of Australian Red Cross in Disasters”

Australian Red Cross provides a wide range of support during disasters and emergencies. This varies from State to State according to local need and emergency management arrangements and includes:

National Registration and Inquiry System (NRIS)

In conjunction with State/Territory emergency management agencies and Emergency Management Australia, Australian Red Cross administers the National Registration and Inquiry System which is a computer based system to assist in locating people who have been evacuated or relocated as a result of a major incident.

This is achieved through teams of trained volunteers available for activation to operate 24 hour telephone call centres to assist families and relatives seeking the whereabouts of loved ones.

Public Appeals

Based upon international experience in conducting public appeals for communities in need Australian Red Cross responds by conducting public appeals to support of affected individuals and communities by harnessing community generosity in the aftermath of large scale disasters.

Personal Support

Personal support, ranging from basic care, comfort and practical assistance to basic psychological first aid is an essential need in the immediate aftermath of any disaster. Australian Red Cross volunteers are able to provide this support through a combination of experience and training.

Public Information

Accurate information about what has happened and where to turn is critically important in times of disaster. Australian Red Cross contributes to the need for practical information and advice to support individual and community recovery after specific disasters, through the distribution of newsletters and convening of community information sessions.

Post Disaster Community Development Programs

Australian Red Cross independence and credibility, strong links to local communities and international experience in community development provide a strong platform upon which a range of community based initiatives, including school based programs and community information sessions can be provided in a post-disaster context.

NOTES:



Desley Hargreaves PSM

Desley Hargreaves PSM is the National Manager of Social Work Services at Centrelink.

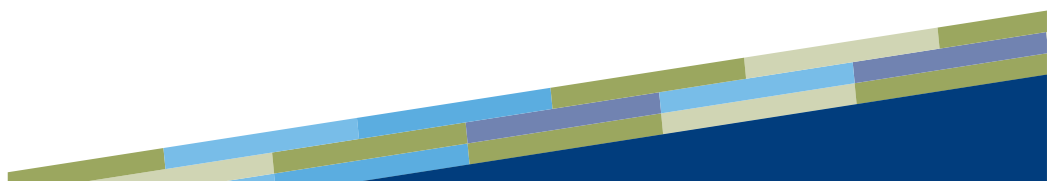
Desley is a graduate of the University of Queensland (Bachelor of Social Work). Her recent employment history has been in Centrelink in both Social Work and Service Delivery leadership positions. Desley has had extensive experience in working at different levels in responding to disaster and other crisis situations.

Desley was awarded the Public Service Medal in the Bali Honours in October 2003 in recognition of the pioneering work in offshore service delivery undertaken by her and her team.

Abstract Title: "Integrating On Shore/Off Shore Emergency Responses"

Desley will provide an insight of establishing a social work service in Bali to support families attending the trials of those accused of the Bali Bombings. This involvement has continued in Centrelink's response to a range of national and international disasters and crises including the Asian Tsunami, the London and Bali 2 bombings, a response to victims of people trafficking, to wrongfully detained citizens, Cyclone Larry, the Solomon Islands crisis, the evacuation of Lebanon and the Yogyakarta air crash.

NOTES:





Paul Stevenson, OAM, CSW BA (Mus) Dip Psych MOP. MAPS. Fellow Clin Psych ACCP

Paul J. Stevenson OAM is a Psychologist with 32 years experience in the Human Services Industry, to both private and public sectors. His early career was spent working in psychiatric hospitals, clinics and community health centres. After managing two branches of Marriage Guidance Queensland (now Relationships Australia), Paul established his own private practice “Access Psychology” (est.1991). He is a Clinical Psychology who also has a Masters Degree in Organizational Psychology and is currently completing his PhD in “The Social Impact of Trauma”.

Abstract Title: “The Historical and Modern Perspectives of Disaster Psychology”

Over the past 15 years, Paul has specialized in the clinical treatment of victims of trauma, and the strategic design and evaluation of disaster management interventions. His on-site disaster consultancies include the Moura Mine Disaster (1994), the Charleville Floods and Droughts (1993-95), the Port Arthur Shootings (1996), the Margaret River Landslide (1996), the Thredbo Landslip (1997), the Bali Bombings (2002 and 2005), the J.W. Marriott Hotel bombing in Jakarta (2003), businesses affected by the Australian Embassy bombing in Jakarta (2004) and the recent Indian Ocean Tsunami Disaster (2004 - 2005).

Paul was the Queensland Coordinator and a member of the strategic planning and evaluation team for the Port Arthur Shootings, for 16 months subsequent to the crisis. In Bali, Paul conducted CISD and counselling interventions to the Bali International Medical Clinic in the aftermath of the bombings and was subsequently awarded the Medal of the Order of Australia. He was solely responsible for the psychological recovery of staff subsequent to the J.W. Marriott Hotel bombing in Jakarta in August 2003 and enabled a 100% return-to-work rehabilitation program. In relation to the Indian Ocean Tsunami Disaster, Paul was an adviser to the Prime Minister’s Office regarding emergency psychology management, providing two briefings for Mr. Howard prior to his attendance at the International Summit on Aid Distribution in Jakarta, shortly after the event.

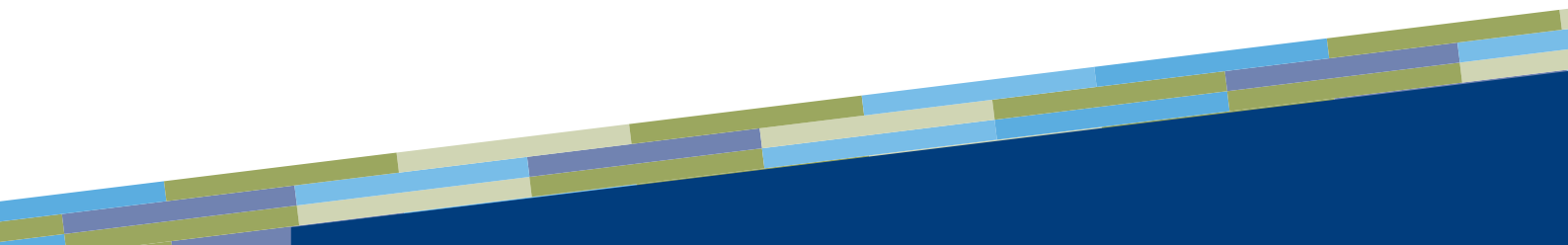
Paul is the National President of the Australian College of Clinical Psychologists and a former Consultant to the Psychologist’s Board of Queensland. He is currently a lecturer in Psychology at Bond University (Gold Coast). He is Director and Principal Psychologist for “Access Psychology” – International Trauma Recovery (est. 1991), a Director for “Auspsych” – Australian Psychology Group, and a Director for “Phoenix Resolution” – International Trauma Recovery. He is also a presiding member of the Queensland Health Practitioners Tribunal.

Paul has released a book titled “Postcards from Ground Zero” which is a non-fiction, annotated, pictorial autobiography of ten years of national and international disaster management interventions.

Paul discusses his onsite experiences in crisis interventions to major disasters, with reference to the Moura Mine Disaster (1995), the Port Arthur Shootings (1996), the Thredbo Landslip (1997), the Bali bombings (2002 and 2005), the J.W. Marriott Hotel (2003) and Australian Embassy bombings (2004) in Jakarta, and the Indian Ocean Tsunami (2004/05), as well as

an insightful analysis of current trends in counter-terrorism.

NOTES:





Greg Eustace, M.Ed, Grad.Cert Disaster Mgt, B.Bus (HRD), Dip.Bus.Admin.

Greg Eustace is the Principal Advisor - Emergency Management, Queensland Health.

Greg is responsible for provision of research and policy advice in emergency management health service response coordination, the Department's emergency management preparedness and response capability, critical health infrastructure protection and continuity planning.

Greg has had a lifelong involvement in emergency response co-ordination having previously held the position of Principal Advisor Disaster Management for Queensland Transport. Prior to disaster management roles Greg was a long serving ambulance officer. He has been involved with many prevention, planning, response and recovery activities associated with natural and technological disasters and the reception of evacuees.

Greg has been a member of the State Disaster Co-ordination Group since 1997 and is the Queensland Health representative on the State Community Recovery Committee.

Abstract Title: "Health Response - Emergency Management Arrangements"

Queensland Health plays an important role in the response to multi-agency incidents, disasters and terrorist events by adopting an all hazards approach which encompasses a range of activities – *prevention/mitigation, preparedness, response and recovery.*

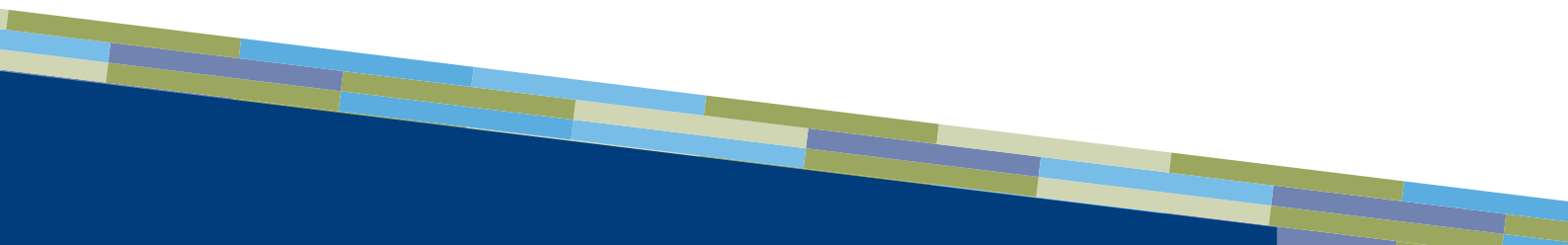
Queensland Health provides a range of services aimed at achieving good health and well-being for all Queenslanders. Through a network of 20 Health Service Districts and the Mater Hospitals, our integrated response to disasters is simply delivered by existing services.

The Queensland Health Disaster Plan is the base from which health will respond to an event and provides a supporting framework for the Queensland State Disaster Management Plan.

Queensland Health's response to incidents, disasters and terrorist related events includes:

- command, control and coordination of health resources
- appropriate pre-hospital on-site medical and health response management for casualties
- transportation to appropriate hospitals for definitive treatment and care
- public health advice warnings and directions to combatants and the community
- psychological and counselling services for disaster affected persons including response and recovery workers
- ongoing medical and health services required during the recovery period to preserve the general health of the community
- pathology and Scientific services during health event response and recovery operations
- liaison with the Queensland Police Service in regard to Disaster Victim Identification

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