

CRISIS STABILIZATION GUIDE

Building a powerful, trauma-informed
crisis response center

YANNI PROFIT

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BLUEPRINT**

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Crisis Stabilization Guide

INTRODUCTION

This guide offers a robust blueprint for building and operating a Crisis Stabilization Center with structure, safety, and sustainability.

1. TEAM STRUCTURE & STAFFING

Define essential roles including Team Lead, Clinician, Peer Support Specialist, and Safety Personnel. Include qualifications and lived experience requirements. Each role should have clearly outlined responsibilities and shift coverage expectations.

2. TRAINING & PREPARATION

Implement core certifications: CPI, MHF, SART, ASIST, WRAP, PFA, SAMHSA Trauma-Informed, CIT, NAMI Peer/Family Support, Restorative Justice. Offer scenario-based simulations and de-escalation practice regularly.

3. SAFETY & SECURITY PROTOCOLS

Build clear emergency protocols, safe room design, incident response steps, and use of radios or code words to manage real-time threats. Always pair up in field engagement and document high-risk behaviors.

4. COMMUNITY OUTREACH & PARTNERSHIPS

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Design outreach plans for local hospitals, clinics, schools, law enforcement, and community orgs. Create welcome packets and partnership letters to explain your center's services and referral process. Use both digital and print strategies.

5. INTAKE & FLOW PROCESS

Build a trauma-informed intake process with minimal delay. Separate high/low acuity paths. Ensure clients know their rights and available resources within the first hour of arrival. Prioritize dignity and emotional safety.

6. FUNDING & SUSTAINABILITY

Track outcome data, referral sources, and post-discharge follow-up to demonstrate impact. Seek city grants, hospital partnerships, and pilot programs for long-term funding. Use testimonials and success stories in grant writing.