Southern Law Enforcement

Defusing

Introduction:

- a. Introduce team members / Not therapy
- b. State purpose / describe process
- c. Motivate participants / Promote speaking 3X's / No one is forced to speak
- d. Set ground rules—Off duty, No Radio, No phone
- e. Stress Confidentiality
- f. Not an investigation

Exploration:

- a. Ask for brief descript of event
- b. Ask what were you doing 15 min before
- c. What was 1st cognitive thought following event
- d. Ask about most negative experiences (ie see, hear, smell)
- e. Assess need for additional help
- f. Normalize / Constantly reassure

Information:

Normalize experiences and reactions.

Teach stress reduction skills, exercise, diet, drinking water, rest, talking to family & friends.

Southern Law Enforcement Debriefing—7 Phase CISD

Introduction Phase:

- a. Introduce team members / Victims
- b. Not therapy/ Not investigation
- c. Confidentiality
- d. Set ground rules—Off duty, No Radio, No phone
- e. This is a 7 phase process
- f. Motivate participants / Promote speaking 3X's / No one is forced to speak

Fact Phase:

- a. Please tell who you are and what happened from your perspective. Only the facts you know, saw, heard, did, and experienced.
- b. Chronological order from, pre-event, event, and post event. Tell us about your experiences.

Thought Phase:

a. After auto-pilot, what was your 1st conscious thought after the event ended. What popped in your head?

Southern Law Enforcement

One on One

Evaluation:

- a. Get MH on standby
- b. Introduction
- c. Confidentiality Law (SB66 ACT 283)

Process:

- a. Are you ok?
- b. Provide basic physical/psychol 1st aid.
- c. Cognitive Assessment
- d. Never leave alone until Stressed on CAS.
- e. Let them go as far as they want to go.
- f. If they don't progress...Be prepared to

CAS Scale:

Normal

Stressed

Distressed

Overwhelmed Debilitated

Southern Law Enforcement Debriefing—7 Phase CISD

Reaction Phase:

- a. What thing(s) stands out, most remembered image, sight, sound, smell, touch.
- b. What would you erase / movie clip?

Symptom Phase:

- a. What has life been like for you since the event? (i.e. sleep, eating, pleasure, energy level, anger?)
- b. Or, "What signals of distress have you noticed in yourself since this happened?"

Teaching Phase: (MHP)

- a. Normalize reactions, as appropriate
- b. Everyone allowed to speak: value added Peer Support
- c. Emphasize taking care of self / teach stress management skills

Re-Entry Phase:

- a. Summarize key points, "lessons learned"
- b. Confidentiality, support, closing