

Starting Over Strong

COMMUNITY, DISASTER RESPONSE, HUMAN SERVICES

STATEWIDE

Project Description

Addressing the mental health impacts of natural disasters is a critical need to make sure our residents and communities stay strong for the long haul.

Suffering the effects of a natural disaster is a traumatic experience. In an effort to support recovery and promote resilience, Starting over Strong (SOS), a program of Washington County Mental Health, provides free counseling support to Vermonters who are coping with the emotional aftereffects of Tropical Storm Irene. The program offers affected individuals, communities, and organizations a variety of services, including short-term interventions, promoting recovery and education, stress mitigation and coping strategies, and identification and referral for more intensive supports.

SOS has worked with community leaders, affected and displaced families, emergency responders – a wide range of those dealing with the response to the storm. The program will end in October, but the lessons learned about helping people manage the stresses of disaster recovery will be available to mental health providers throughout the state.

Lead Organization

Washington County Mental Health Services

Partner Organization(s)

Other mental health agencies and community services in impacted areas of the state.

What's Next

The SOS program will end at the end of October 2012.



Get in Touch

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