



DEVAL L. PATRICK
GOVERNOR

TIMOTHY P. MURRAY
LT. GOVERNOR

MARY ELIZABETH HEFFERNAN
SECRETARY

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts
Executive Office of Public Safety and Security
Department of Fire Services

P.O. Box 1025 ~ State Road

Stow, Massachusetts 01775

(978) 567~3100 Fax: (978) 567~3121

www.mass.gov/dfs



STEPHEN D. COAN
STATE FIRE MARSHAL

MEMORANDUM

TO: Heads of Fire Departments

FROM: Stephen D. Coan
State Fire Marshal

DATE: January 1, 2011

SUBJECT: **Services Available through On-Site Academy**

I am pleased to announce that included in this year's Department of Fire Services' budget is funding to provide Residential and Peer Support for Critical Incident Stress Management through the On-Site Academy in Gardner. Under the umbrella of DFS, the On-Site Academy will provide specialized residential care with a return to duty focus for high intensity, urgent cases where a firefighter may be at risk. The program will be funded by DFS and will include residential and outpatient trauma and addiction services.

The On-Site Academy is a non-profit residential treatment and training center for critical incident stress management, serving emergency service workers who are in distress. The On-Site Academy program is for all public safety personnel and will provide support and care to any firefighters in the Commonwealth who are temporarily overwhelmed by the stress of their jobs, what they have seen, and what they have been through.

In addition to providing 24-hour-a-day, 7-day-a-week services, which include crisis intervention, residential stabilization, treatment for job related critical and traumatic incidents, and addiction, DFS will coordinate with the On-Site Academy to provide education outreach to the fire chiefs and the fire service.

The fire service has long recognized the value and importance of CISM in helping our firefighters stay healthy and productive in their profession. Effective preventative stress management of the first responder is important and DFS is pleased to be able to help provide this service.

See the accompanying flyer with information on how to contact the On-Site Academy. If you have any questions, contact Kevin Partridge from DFS at 978-567-3179 or Kevin.Partridge@state.ma.us.

SDC/bhs

Services

24x7 Residential

Treatments for: crisis intervention, stabilization, critical/ traumatic incidents, addictions, step-down from hospital level of care

Outreach & Education

Available to Fire Chiefs Association of Massachusetts (FCAM), district chiefs, department meetings, & upon request, multi-jurisdictional groups

Consultation

To include recruit, call & volunteer programs, field programs, coordinators & individual instructors

Residential Support for CISM Teams

Coordination for CISM teams to accommodate residential treatment need when debriefings aren't enough

Contact:

Arianna Setzco, Coordinator

On-Site Academy

(978) 874-0177

On-Call Emergency pager

(781) 553-0542

During normal business hours:

Central Office

(978) 632-3518

Windy Hill Farm

(978) 874-0177



Windy Hill Farm

The On-Site Academy

A non-profit treatment and training center for first responders and their families

You Matter, You Count



Windy Hill Farm

Short term, intensive residential treatment center for rescue personnel. The On-Site Academy provides services to those who may be temporarily overwhelmed by the stress of their job, suffering from work-related cumulative or delayed critical incident stress, or experiencing an acute, transient reaction to a "critical incident."

Department of Fire Services

For more information, visit us @

www.onsiteacademy.org



On-Site Academy - What is it?

Specialized residential care with a return to duty focus:

- ✓ 5-day program, 1-3 day intensive intervention, or extended care program
- ✓ Treatment and training center for first responders and their families
- ✓ Clinically guided, peer driven

Programs available:

- ✓ Residential (5-day)
- ✓ Extended Care (30-90 days)
- ✓ Intensive Intervention
- ✓ Returning Combat Veterans
 - (RESTORE)
- ✓ Sexual Assault Survivors Retreat
- ✓ Widows/ Widowers in Need of
 - Grief Support (W.I.N.G.S) Retreat
- ✓ Limited Out Service Appointments

Other trainings offered:

- ✓ Understanding & Managing Reactions to Combat & the Job
- ✓ CISM Group, Peer and Advanced
- ✓ Strategic Planning for Disasters

- ✓ Anger Management
- ✓ Trauma and Addictions
- ✓ Staff Wellness: Before, During & After a Disaster

How can it help you?

Residential and out-service trauma and addiction services for first responders who are:

- ✓ Temporarily overwhelmed by job-related stress, exposure to traumatic or “critical” incidents
- ✓ Experiencing family/ relationship problems, or at risk for marital breakup
- ✓ Untreated substance abuse and related behavioral issues. Clients must be fully detoxed or medically cleared before admission
- ✓ Returning from military service and/ or combat and experiencing reintegration or adjustment difficulties

Who is eligible for services?

- ✓ First responders
- ✓ Immediate families of first responders

Where is it?

Two locations serving those in need:

- ✓ Central Office
Gardner, MA
- ✓ Windy Hill Farm
Westminster, MA



What are the costs?

- ✓ On-Site Academy is a non-profit treatment and training center for first responders and their families, and as such, its programs are available at reduced cost