

Buncombe County HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES

National Trauma Intervention Program Comes to Western North Carolina

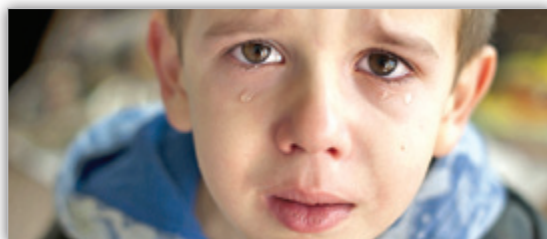


Trauma Intervention Programs Inc (TIP), a national nonprofit organization, is working with local public safety officials in Buncombe County and the town of Hendersonville to establish a TIP Chapter in Western North Carolina.



A TIP Chapter is a group of very well trained community volunteers who are called by emergency personnel to tragic scenes to provide support to those who have been affected.

TIP Volunteers are often called to support family members after a sudden death and to support those who have experienced an unexpected crisis in their lives.



According to Wayne Fortin, TIP's Founder, "Residents of this community who have just experienced a tragedy should not be alone in what may be the worst few hours of their lives. Our volunteers provide support until the survivors' family members and friends are able to."

"When someone in crisis is being cared for by a well-trained volunteer that can attend to their needs in a trauma-informed way, it lessens

trauma and gets the healing process started," says Mandy Stone, MSW, Assistant County Manager and Health and Human Services Director for Buncombe County.

"It also helps our social workers, first responders, and law enforcement respond more effectively, knowing that they are able to focus on their unique role. This resource will build resilience in our community members experiencing trauma, moving them forward in a more positive way."

TIP of Western North Carolina is now recruiting local residents who live in Buncombe or Henderson Counties to be TIP Volunteers. "The first step in establishing a TIP Chapter is to recruit volunteers willing to reach out and help their neighbors when tragedy strikes," said TIP Development Officer Mandy Atkisson. "We hope that Buncombe and Henderson County residents will respond to our invitation to join TIP," she said.

The Volunteer Training Academy will begin Thursday, October 22. No experience is necessary. To view the training schedule, or to register, go to www.tipofwnc.org.

You Can Help

Trauma Intervention Programs of Western North Carolina is looking for caring people in Buncombe and Henderson Counties willing to be part of a team of volunteers who provide immediate emotional and practical support to survivors of traumatic events.

TIP Volunteers are called to emergency scenes by sheriff, police, firefighters, and paramedics to:

- Comfort family members after a sudden death.
- Support family members after a suicide.
- Help witnesses to traumatic events.
- Assist disoriented elderly persons who call 911 with non emergency needs.
- Support those emotionally shaken after auto accidents.
- Assist tourists and travelers when tragedy strikes and they are far from home.

Right now we are recruiting residents of Buncombe and Henderson Counties to become TIP Volunteers.

No experience is necessary, but completion of a Training Academy is necessary.

2015 TIP Training Academy Schedule

Volunteers must attend all classes.

Thursday, October 22
6:30 p.m. - 10 p.m.

Friday, October 23
6:30 p.m. - 9:30 p.m.

Saturday, October 24
9 a.m. - 5 p.m.

Sunday, October 25
2 p.m. - 7 p.m.

Monday, October 26
6:30 p.m. - 9:30 p.m.

Thursday, October 29
6:30 p.m. - 9:30 p.m.

Friday, October 30
6 p.m. - 10 p.m.

Saturday, October 31
8 a.m. - 4 p.m.

Graduation
October 31 at 3 p.m.

First Continuing Education Meeting, Monday, November 16 from 6:30-9:30 p.m.

To register, or for more information, please call (828) 513-0498 or email mandy@tipnational.org



Buncombe County Health and Human Services
www.buncombecounty.org

Beat the rush!
Get your child immunized for school!

There are new immunization requirements for children in kindergarten & 7th grade.

Contact your health care professional or come to the Buncombe County Health Department's Walk-In Clinic.

For more information call 828-250-5096 or go to buncombecounty.org/immunize

