



Disaster Mental Health Responder Training

TRAINING:	Psychological First Aid (PFA)
DATE:	February 2, 2027 8:30am – 3:00pm
LOCATION:	South Beach P.C., 777 Seaview Ave., Bldg. 8/9, 2 nd Fl, TV Studio F, Staten Island, NY 10305
INSTRUCTOR(S):	Caroline Contillo

The Bureau of Emergency Preparedness and Response is offering Psychological First Aid (PFA) training to those interested in becoming a Disaster Mental Health Responder. *Supervisor approval is required to attend training and deploy on a disaster response.*

Psychological First Aid

PFA is a full-day, in-person curriculum teaching skills to support the immediate needs of survivors and to address the early and expected stress reactions to disasters. **Prerequisites:** None.

Program Objectives

- Identify the range of typical reactions that we expect to see in survivors following a disaster.
- Explain why early support in the form of Psychological First Aid is helpful.
- List the elements of Psychological First Aid.
- Demonstrate competence through practice of Psychological First Aid elements.
- Manage their own stress while practicing Psychological First Aid.

To Apply

Complete the [Application Form](#). **Deadline** for Applications: **Tuesday, January 26, 2027**
Any questions, please email Disaster Mental Health Regional Team Lead, **Latifa Williams**,
Latifa.williams@omh.ny.gov

State of New York Office of Mental Health is recognized by the New York State Education Department's State Board for Psychology as an approved provider of continuing education for licensed psychologists #PSY-0122, by the New York State Education Department's State Board for Social Work as an approved provider of continuing education for licensed social workers #SW-0227, and by the New York State Education Department's State Board for Mental Health Practitioners as an approved provider of continuing education for licensed mental health counselors #MHC-0356. Licensed Psychologists, Licensed Master Social Workers (LMSWs), Licensed Clinical Social Workers (LCSWs), and Licensed Mental Health Counselors (LMHCs) who attend Psychological First Aid (PFA) in its entirety will receive 5 contact hours toward renewal of their license.

To achieve the most effective outcomes for communities and individuals affected by disasters and traumatic events, the disaster mental health program is committed to delivering its services and support in a culturally responsive, humble, sensitive, and ethical manner through a diverse workforce reflecting the wide variety of cultures comprising New York State's population. The program therefore seeks team members with broad cultural, language, skill, and relational capacities, and who are equally committed to supporting people in a culturally appropriate and reflective way.