

Mission Statement

The purpose of the Great Lakes CISM Team is to provide and coordinate quality critical incident stress management services to emergency responders, organizations, agencies, and community members, in and around Bay, Arenac, Saginaw and Genesee counties, who have experienced a critical incident. This includes, yet not limited to:

- Schools
- Businesses
- Communities
- Fire departments
- Emergency responders
- Mental health agencies
- Medical staff
- Law enforcement
- 911 Dispatchers
- Disaster volunteers

What is a Critical Incident?

Critical incidents are unanticipated crisis events, which can overwhelm a person emotionally or physically.

Negative effects of a critical incident can significantly alter a person's perspective on life and inhibit their ability to cope with daily activities if left unattended.

Examples of A Critical Incident

- Natural disaster
- On the job death
- Multiple fatalities
- Shooting/ hostage situation
- Line of duty death
- Serious injury to co-worker or emergency provider
- Death of a co-worker
- Multiple-casualty accident
- Death of a child
- Suicide of a co-worker
- Tragic death
- Plant closing or downsizing
- Robbery
- Victim known by rescuer
- Incident with intense media coverage
- Prolonged rescue/recovery incident
- Any critical incident that produces above average stress

It may be difficult to determine whether CISM services are needed; however, do not hesitate to call and request services.

What Does a CISM Team Do?

- **Pre-crisis preparation** - Includes CISM education for individuals, agencies, and organizations
- **Debriefings** – Structured group process, usually conducted 24-72 hours after a critical incident
- **Defusings** – 25-30 minute group process, conducted within the first 8 hours of a critical incident.
- **Community Management Briefing** – Conducted anytime after a critical incident, and is designed to disseminate information and mitigate critical incident stress for large or small groups.
- **One-on-One Intervention** – For first responders and general public, and can be conducted on the scene of a prolonged critical incident, or in other settings.
- **Follow-up services** - May include (yet are not limited to) individual crisis intervention, family debriefings, and referrals to mental health services.

The Team

All team members receive critical incident stress management training through the International Critical Incident Stress Foundation (ICISF), which is the national standard for CISM teams.

Joining the Great Lakes CISM Team

Steps to becoming a team member:

✓ Call or email Michael Swank
@ 989-891-7536 /
mswank1955@charter.net

OR Ann Tinney
@ 989-220-7869 /
annie1403@charter.net

- ✓ Complete the ICISF Group Crisis Intervention Course
- ✓ Complete a Great Lakes CISM Team application
- ✓ Complete a Great Lakes CISM Team memo of understanding
- Acceptance of applicants are determined through a Great Lakes team review

Fees

There are no fees for our CISM services, and the team is available 24 hours a day and 7 days a week.

Please email questions & comments to:

mswank1955@charter.net

OR annie1403@charter.net

Call Bay Arenac Behavioral Health 24/7 Hotline to Request Services:

989-895-2300, 800-327-4693,
or 989-891-7536/
989-220-7869
****CALL ANYTIME**

Helping normal people cope with normal reactions and stress produced by an abnormal situation.

Recognized by the International Critical Incident Stress Foundation (<http://www.icisf.org>) and members of the Michigan Crisis Response Association (www.mcrainc.com)

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Great Lakes

Critical
Incident
Stress
Management

Team

