



OUR MISSION

To develop, implement, and maintain a community and school based consortium of culturally sensitive and clinically appropriate support services, education and training opportunities and resources to assist schools in responding to the needs of children, teachers, administrators, and support personnel which arise from trauma, violence, illness, grief and loss.

PROGRAM PHILOSOPHY

Children are affected more than we might assume by major and minor losses. Somewhere between math and reading, children often turn to trusted teachers for help to understand sad events in their lives. School is a primary resource for children offering continuity, safety, information, and support for their growth and success. We know that after events related to trauma and loss, the ensuing emotional reactions of children can have a significant impact on their learning and classroom behavior, as well as on their relationships and interactions with classmates, teachers and often the larger school community. Even normal reactions, such as grieving after a death, can become problematic if not understood and responded to with cultural sensitivity and developmental appropriateness. We also know that adjustment following major loss is an ongoing process that requires support over a period of several years, as the child's developmental needs evolve, anniversary dates occur, and new loss events cause trauma and grief reactions to resurface or even trigger the re-experiencing of the initial trauma itself.

PROGRAM OVERVIEW

TIG prepares school districts to have appropriate mental health support in place when they must respond to events involving trauma, violence, illness and death. Each participating district forms a TIG team and becomes a member of the multi-district trainings sessions. These teams are then responsible for crisis response planning and the further training of school staff within their own district. TIG Teams also serve as the linkage between school personnel seeking assistance and the other resources of the Consortium.

TIG Teams have access to:

- the eight-module core training curriculum and training manual. Advanced trainings are offered on supplemental topic areas;
- consultation with TIG Staff to facilitate implementation of TIG within the school district;
- the TIG website (www.tigconsortium.org) containing materials on various relevant topics which can be downloaded for teachers, other school staff, and families. Team members also have access to password protected online training materials;
- a community based TIG resource library of research articles, school curricula and training materials, psychosocial intervention materials, and materials for parents and children;
- a backup support and response system activating other TIG Teams in the event of district-wide crisis.

For more information on how to implement TIG in your community, please contact:

Elizabeth Meeker, PsyD
Senior Associate
Child and Family Service Quality & System Development
Coordinated Care Services, Inc.
1099 Jay Street, Building J
Rochester, NY 14611
(585) 613-7632
emeeker@ccsi.org