



U.S. Department of Education  
Office of Safe and Drug-Free Schools  
Emergency Management for Higher Education



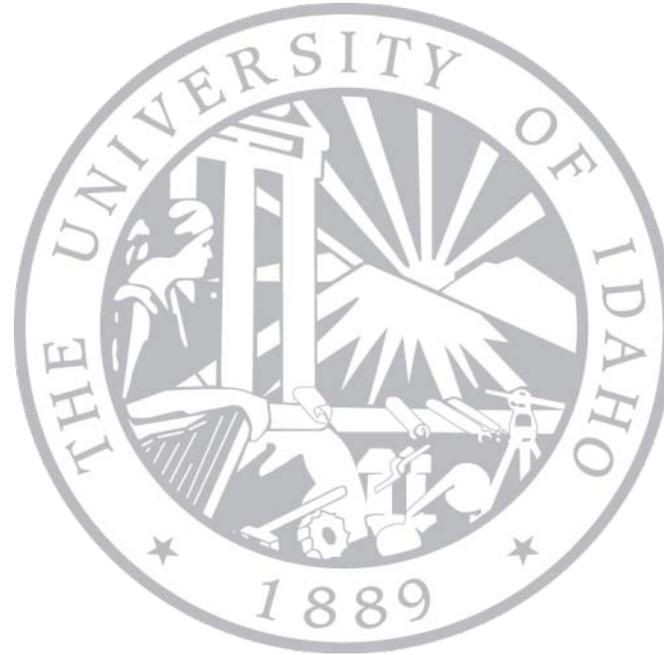
FY 2009 Final Grantee Meeting ♦ Philadelphia, PA ♦ August 5 – 6, 2010

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**EMHE Grantee Showcase #2:  
Infectious Disease and Special Needs Planning**

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# The University of Idaho



## **Infectious Disease and Special Needs Planning** August , 2010

# Agenda

University of Idaho emergency management challenges and solutions related to

- Special needs
- Mental health
- Infectious disease

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# University of Idaho and Moscow



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# University Emergency Management Plan

- Web-based and uses National Response Framework (NRF), NIMS
  - 16 Emergency Support Functions (ESF)
  - Incident Annexes (IA)
  - Support Annexes (SA)
- Compatible with State of Idaho and county plans
- ESF #8 is public health
- SA to include mental health, special needs
- Prepare - Respond - Recover



# Challenges for Emergency Management

- Largely rural, limited services for mental, physical health & special needs
- Main campus hilly, part of City of Moscow
- Mission is state-wide in 44 counties
- Large research presence



# Special Needs - Challenges

## CHALLENGE:

Many types of needs

Differently abled

Physical and mental

Children

Diverse cultures

Limited English proficiency

Non-English speaking

Transportation disadvantaged

## CHALLENGE:

Who needs the help?

Individuals must

voluntarily self-identify

## CHALLENGE:

Wide range of emergencies

Fire

Evacuation

Natural disaster

Man-made, cyber & power

Security threat

Severe weather

Mass care needs

Public health

Level 1, 2 or 3 in scale

Short or long duration

# Special Needs - Challenges

DISABILITY LISTS BY TYPE (SPRING 2010)			
Visual impairment	9	Mobility / upper body	0
Hard of hearing	13	Mobility / orthopedic wheel chair	4
Traumatic brain injury	6	Mobility / ortho / non-wheelchair	10
Temporary	3	Mobility / fine motor skills	3
Substance abuse	0	ADHD	52
Specific learning disability	84	Low IQ	0
Mental / Psychological disorder	50		

## Disability Services' goals:

- Excellent service in a safe environment for traditional students, non-traditional with newly documented disabilities, returning veterans
- Rights + responsibilities + mandated access

# Special Needs – Potential Solution

- Needs may exist before, during, and after an incident
- Focus on the **functions** you need to provide
- Special needs populations have additional needs in functional areas, including but not limited to:
  - Maintaining **independence** – ESF#1 (Transportation), ESF #3 (Public Works / Infrastructure)
  - **Communication** – ESF #2 (Communication)
  - **Transportation** – ESF #1 (Transportation)
  - **Supervision** - ESF #6 (Mass Care)
  - **Medical Care** – ESF #6, 8 (Public Health)

# Mental Health - Challenges

One size does not fit all

Social stigma

University silos

Limited state services

Need to coordinate information

Need to coordinate services

Temporary trauma v. mental disorder

Need for individual care v. mass care

Need for early intervention for maximum effect

Only professionals can treat the mentally ill

I wouldn't know what to say

No hope of recovery

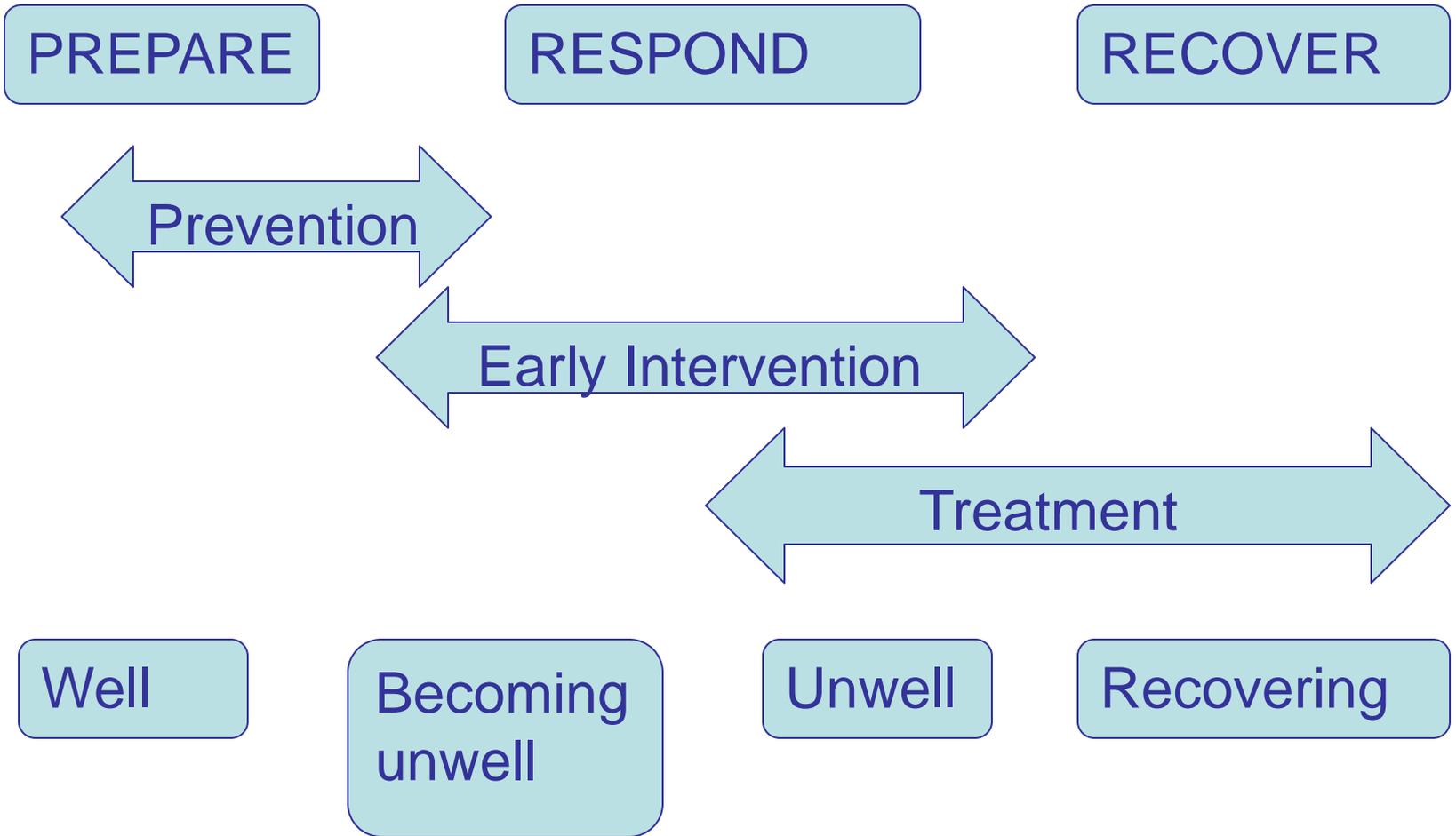
Need to avoid diagnosis by non-experts

# Mental Health – Solutions - MHFA

## Mental Health First Aid (MHFA)

- Change the paradigm – embrace the notion of recovery & wellness
- No matter how long a person has experienced symptoms of mental illness, or how severe the symptoms appear, people can and do recover
- I can intervene, listen and refer

# Mental Health – Solutions - MHFA



# Mental Health – Solutions – Jed Model

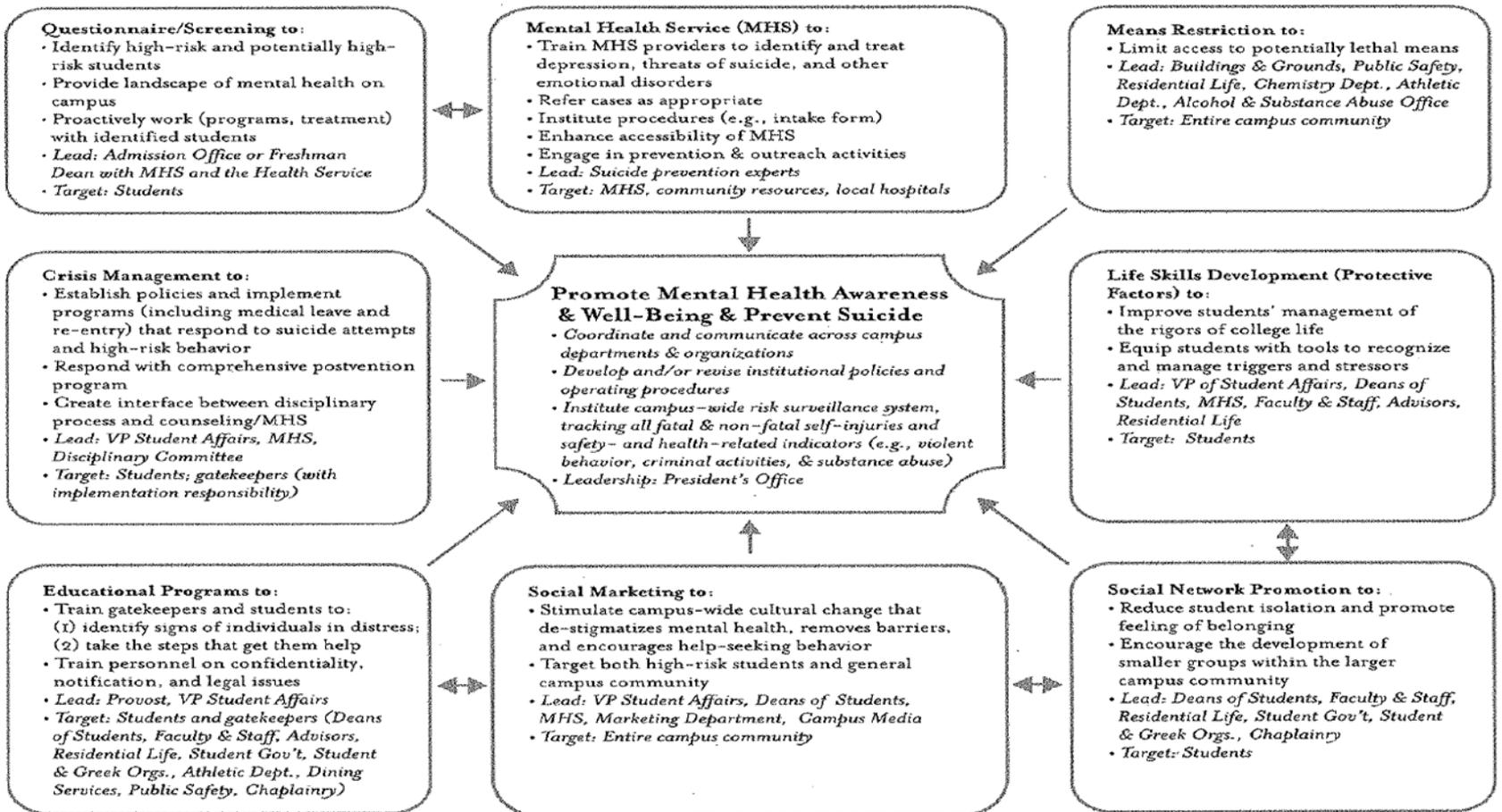
- Coordinating services
- Coordinate and communicate across campus departments and organizations
- Develop and/or revise institutional policies and operating procedures
- Institute campus-wide risk surveillance
- <http://www.jedfoundation.org/>

# Mental Health – Solutions – Jed Model

- Screening
- Mental health services
- Educational programs
- Social marketing
- Social network
- Life skills development (protective factors)
- Means restriction
- Crisis management

# Mental Health – Solutions – Jed Model

## Prescription for Prevention: Model for Comprehensive Mental Health Promotion and Suicide Prevention for Colleges & Universities

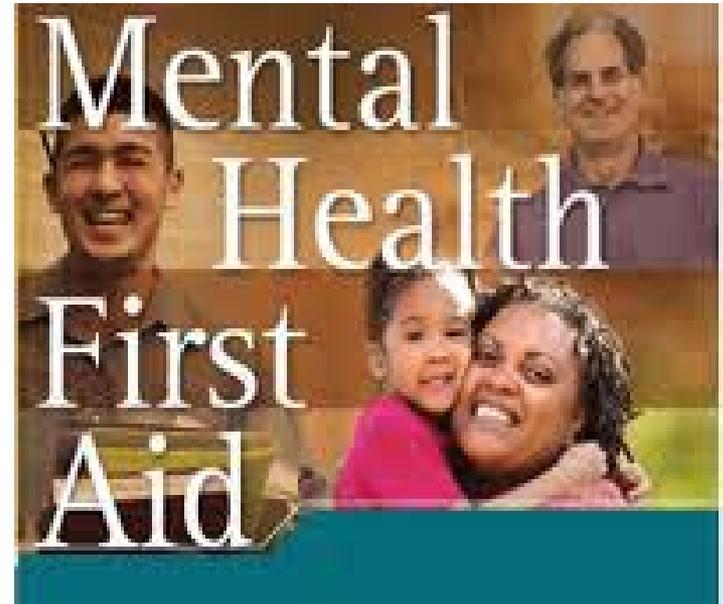


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# Mental Health - Solutions

## PREPARE

- Screening
- Raise awareness
- Training to recognize signs & symptoms – MHFA
- Individuals and university can intervene on behalf of individuals or for mass events
- Counseling and medication for chronic conditions
- Counseling for anyone



<http://www.thenationalcouncil.org/cs/programoverview>

# Mental Health - Solutions

## RESPOND

- Compassion for individuals and belief in recovery
- Protection for communities
- Counseling and medications for acute conditions
- Threat Assessment and Management Group actions



## EMP & ESFs & IAs

- Lockdown
- Evacuation
- Mass care
- Communication

# Mental Health - Solutions

## RECOVER

- Immediate comfort and aid for first responders, volunteers and victims
- Applying MHFA steps
- CISM – Critical Incident Stress Management
- EAPs
- Student counseling
- Private counseling

**CISM - <http://www.icisf.org/>**



# Mental Health – Solutions - Recovery



Process of healing and restoring health and wellness during stressful episodes of life

A deeply personal process of (re)gaining the physical, spiritual, mental and emotional balance and the ability to live a fulfilling and productive life.

# Infectious Disease - Challenges

- Public health issue
- Pandemic planning doesn't apply to wide range of disease scenarios
- Need to assess impact on university
  - Transmission
  - Severity
  - Timing of outbreak
- Public communications
  - Prevention
  - Signs & symptoms
  - Treatment

# Infectious Disease - Solutions

- UI draft mirrors new format, based on the National Response Framework (NRF)
- Public health lead integrated into plan
- Establishes UI Advisory Committee on Communicable Disease (ACCD)
- ESF #8 – Public Health
- Scalable- severity and spread
- Prepare, respond, recover

# Infectious Disease - Solutions

## PREPARE

- Develop and train ACCD
- Communicate plan
- Develop web-based communications (H1N1)
- Develop business continuity plans

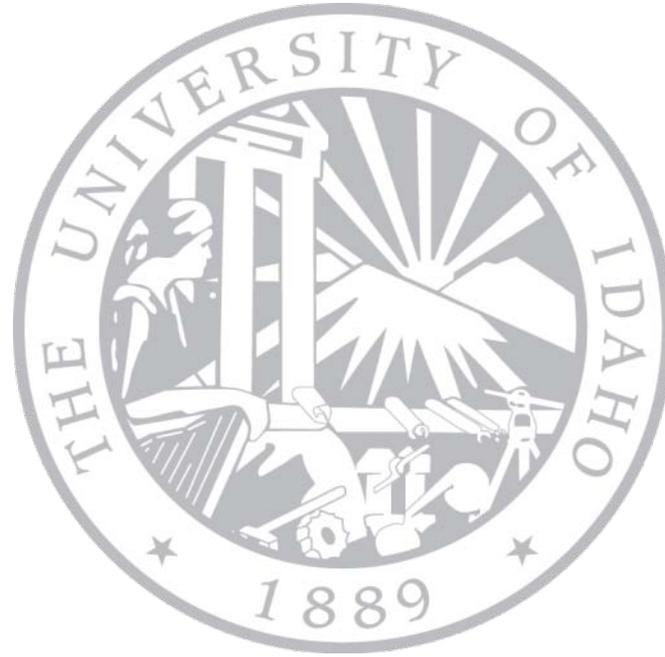
## RESPOND

- Partner with Public Health
- ACCD assessment
  - Spread
  - Severity
  - Duration
  - Impact
- Activate needed portions of EMP

## RECOVER

- Restore business and academic functions
- Emotional recovery

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*Thank you!*