School Safety Specialists

Emergency Preparedness and Emergency Response Plans

Utah State Board of Education School Safety Center
January, 24 2024 | 10:30 - 11:30 AM

Welcome!

- Please update your Zoom name to **First Name Last Initial, LEA Name.**

- Complete the **Poll Everywhere** by 10:35 AM.
  - (Registration is not required.)
  - **Hint:** Find the School Safety Specialist Overview PDF

    attached in a previous email.

- Housekeeping:

  - Throughout our training, if you're in Zoom use the Q and A feature to ask questions. If you're in YouTube, use the Chat feature. (We love to keep track of all questions!)

    - Shaleece will facilitate all questions in the Q and A feature.

  - Check your SPAM folder for emails from schoolsafetyprograms@schools.utah.gov.

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Law and Policy

- The Utah State Board of Education is tasked by the legislature to make administrative rules regarding various topics within education. These rules have the effect of law and govern many areas that impact all levels of the education community.

- Statute & Rule

  - https://le.utah.gov/ & https://www.schools.utah.gov/administrativerules

  - Statute: 53G-4-402(20)

  - R277-400: School Facility Emergency and Safety

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R277-400-3: Establishing LEA Emergency Preparedness and Emergency Response Plans (1)

- (1) By July 1 of each year, an LEA shall certify to the Superintendent that the LEA's emergency preparedness and emergency response plan has been:
  - (a) practiced at the school level; and
  - (b) presented to and reviewed by its teachers, administrators, students and parents, local law enforcement, and public safety representatives consistent with Subsection 53G-4-402(18).

- (2)(a) An LEA's plans shall be designed to meet individual school needs and features.
  - (b) An LEA may direct schools within the LEA to develop and implement individual plans.

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R277-400-3: Establishing LEA Emergency Preparedness and Emergency Response Plans (2)

- (3)(a) An LEA shall appoint a committee to prepare or modify plans to satisfy this Rule R277-400 and Section 53G-4-402(18).
  - (b) The committee shall consist of appropriate school and community representatives, which may include:
    - (i) school and LEA administrators;
    - (ii) teachers;
    - (iii) parents;
    - (iv) community and municipal governmental officers; and
    - (v) fire and law enforcement personnel.
  - (c) The committee shall include governmental agencies and bodies vested with responsibility for directing and coordinating emergency services on local and state levels.

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R277-400-3: Establishing LEA Emergency Preparedness and Emergency Response Plans (3)

- (4) An LEA shall review plans at least once every three years.

- (5) The Superintendent shall develop Emergency Response Plan models under Subsection 53G-4-402(18)(c).

Emergency Preparedness and Emergency Response Plans

- School Safety Specialist Overview

  - Updating the school's Emergency Preparedness and Emergency Response Plan in accordance with R277-400-3.

- School Safety Center Resources

  - Utah State Board of Education: Emergency Preparedness Planning Guide for Utah Public Schools

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Utah School Safety Trends and Purpose (1)

SafeUT K-12 & Higher Ed Annual Report User Activity

2018 - 2019	2019-2020	2020 - 2021	2021- 2022	2022- 2023
Total number of Chats & Tips received from August 1, 2018 to May 31, 2019	Total number of Chats & Tips received from August 1, 2019 to May 31, 2020	Total number of Chats & Tips received from July 1, 2020 to June 30, 2021	Total number of Chats & Tips received from July 1, 2021 to June 30, 2022	Total number of Chats & Tips received from July 1, 2022 to June 30, 2023
32,418	30,850	30,311	37,009	39,707

Top Tip Categories

1) Suicide	1) Suicide	1) Suicide	1) Suicide	1) Suicide
2) Bullying	2) Bullying	2) Bullying	2) Bullying	2) Crisis
3) Depression	3) Depression	3) Depression	3) Crisis	3) Bullying
4) Drugs	4) Drugs	4) Crisis	4) Mental Health	4) Potential Threats
5) Cutting	5) Cutting	5) Other	5) Depression	5) Acts of Violence
		6) Mental Health	6) Other	6) Mental Health
		7) Cutting	7) Drugs	7) Other
		8) Drugs	8) Cutting	8) Depression
		9) Cyber Bullying	9) Harassment	9) Cutting
		10) Harassment	10) Cyberbullying	10) Harassment

Potential School Threats or Acts of Violence

1) Explosives	1) Guns	1) Fighting	1) Guns	1) Guns
2) Guns	2) Planned Attacks	2) Violence	2) Planned Attacks	2) Assault
3) Knives	3) Weapons	3) Assault	3) Assault	3) Fighting
4) Planned Attacks	4) Knives	4) Guns	4) Fighting	4) Planned Attack
5) Weapons	5) Explosives	5) Knives	5) Weapons	5) Violence
		6) Crime	6) Crime	6) Weapons
		7) Planned Attack	7) Violence	7) Threats
		8) Weapons	8) Threats	8) Crime
		9) Planned Fights	9) Knives	9) Planned Fights
		10) Fire Starting	10) Planned Fights	10) Knives
			11) Explosives	11) Explosives
			12) Fire Starting	12) Fire Starting
			13) Stalking	

SAFEUT ANNUAL REPORTS @ https://safeut.org/about-us *Data Dashboard Updated Daily*

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Utah School Safety Trends and Purpose (2)

Districts Top 2023 Monthly Tips

	May	Jun - Aug	Sept - Oct	Dec
Abuse	28	53	98	
Abuse Self Harm		27	94	54
Bullying	111	128	546	240
Crisis	152	50		
Cutting	31			
Drugs	47			
Harassment	38			
Interpersonal			58	
Mental Health	36	35	115	
Other	45			
School Complaint		26	161	90
Stressors			54	
Substance Use		43	180	96
Suicidality		108	407	184
Suicide	136	28		
Vaping	24			
Violence		30	79	
Totals	**648**	**528**	**1792**	**664**

Districts Top 2023 Potential Threat Tips

	May	Jun - Aug	Sept - Oct	Dec
Assault	13			
Crime	X			
Explosives	X			
Fighting	X	X		
Fire Starting	X	X		
Guns	24	X		
Knives	X			
Planned Fights	X			
Planned School Attack	19	X		
School Threat			53	8
Threats	X			
Violence	X	30	79	42
Weapons	X	11	31	15
Totals	**56**	**41**	**163**	**65**

2023 Year End Totals

	May	Jun - Aug	Sept - Oct	Dec
Chat	2182	4141	4977	1610
Tip	958	643	1918	869

SAFE UT

- Top Tip Categories
- Top Potential Threat Tips
- Years End Totals

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Utah School Safety Trends and Purpose (3)

CRISIS CHATS & TIPS

Figure 1 shows use (which includes both crisis chats and tips, which are reports to the user's school) has gradually increased over the past three years. On average, SafeUT sees 104 new users per term (e.g., fall term, winter term, summer) per 100,000 enrolled students. Note use tends to drop off in summer months, and tends to peak in the middle of the school year, either March (2018, 2019) or November (2019, full data not shown here for ease of interpretation). Use decreased during the COVID-19 pandemic, largely because of reductions in tips, but with a slight increase in chats (data in preparation).

104
ADDITIONAL UNIQUE USERS ACCESSING SAFEUT EACH TERM, ON AVERAGE

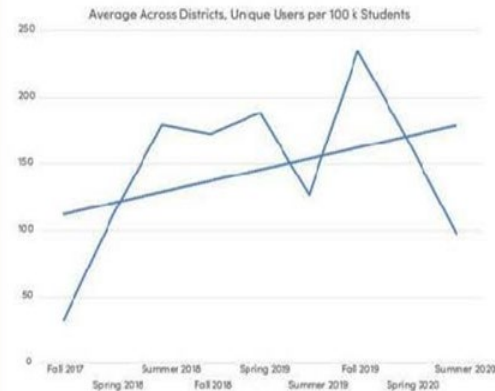Average Across Districts, Unique Users per 100 k Students

Figure 1. Average number of unique users per month, per 100k students, across the entire state of Utah, since the broader rollout in Fall of 2017. An important disclaimer is SafeUT users have the option of sharing their location information. Based upon this selection by users, nearly 63% of users indicate their location. In result, all data provided here is only based upon that 63% of users. The other 37% could be using SafeUT in a distributed way across Utah, or could be using it in places where SafeUT utilization is lower. A second disclaimer is the data is included by unique users, based upon the Apple or Android app that was accessed. It is possible siblings or family share a particular device, so the data may underrepresent the actual number of unique users. Conversely, some users could delete and reinstall the app, artificially increasing the apparent number of unique users. Nonetheless, it is likely the data generally reflects the number of unique users, on a monthly basis, as a rate of 100k students.

HIGHEST & LOWEST UTILIZATION DISTRICTS

In Figure 2, use in the highest utilization districts are displayed. These districts are the main drivers of increased utilization over the past four years. Figure 3, on the other hand, illustrates the districts with lowest utilization to date. There are a small number of districts that have fairly sporadic use. This suggests the possibility of increasing SafeUT uptake in those areas through additional marketing and outreach. As a number of these districts are quite small, it is also possible there are other means by which children with mental health crisis needs are accessing resources.
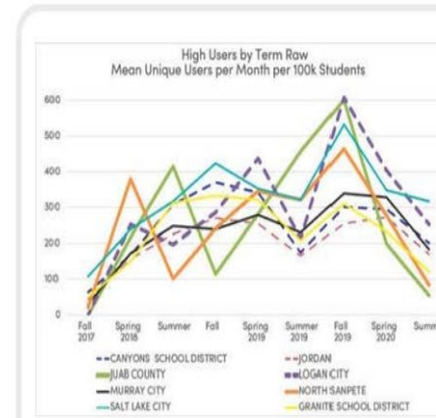
Figure 2. Average unique numbers of users in the highest utilization school districts. While most of these are in the Wasatch Front, they do extend north to south and do include central and southern districts.
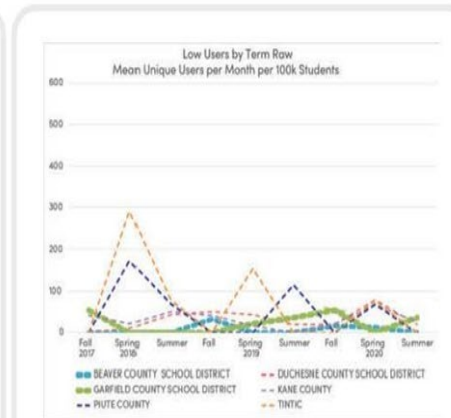
Figure 3. School districts with low utilization, Fall 2017-Summer 2020
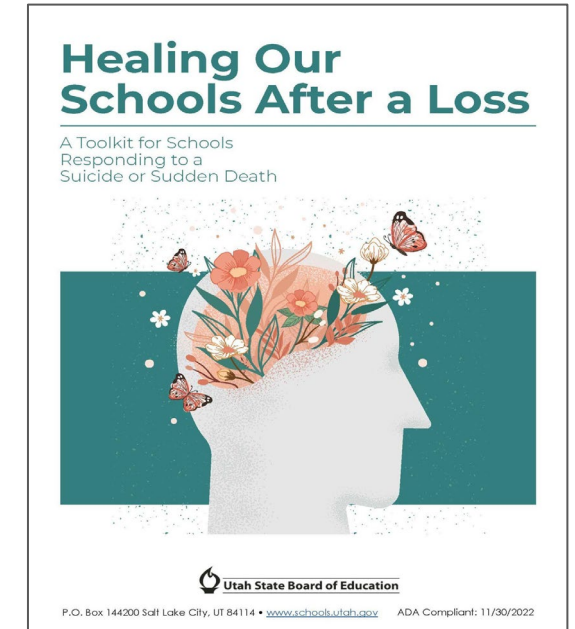
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Prepare and Readiness

- Work through incidents by utilizing:
  - SafeUT (students, parents/guardians, staff)
  - SIAC (Statewide Information and Analysis Center)
    - siac@utah.gov
  - Readiness and Emergency Management for Schools (REMS)
- Dealing with tips, hoaxes, and bomb threats:
  - Refer to local emergency operations plans
  - December 15, 2023
  - Coordinate with local first responders
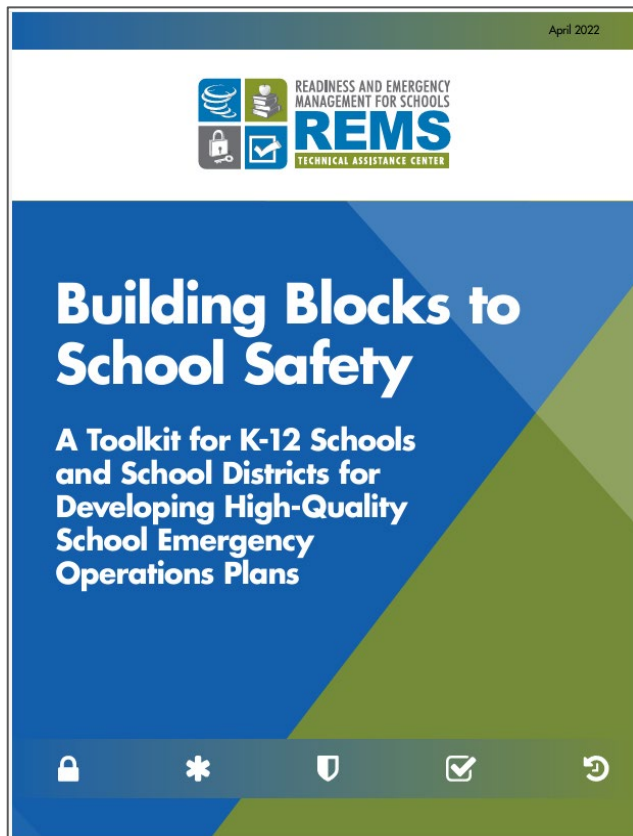
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Helpful Resources

- Refer to local School Policies, Procedures and Agreements
- Report to Local Law Enforcement
- Encourage reaching out to SafeUT
- USBE
  - Healing Our Schools After a Loss
  - After a Suicide: A Toolkit for Schools
  - Crisis and Emergency Response Protocol
  - Suicide Prevention
  - Utah's School Current August 2022 Behavioral Health Toolkit
  - Protecting Young People from Online Exploitation
  - Human Trafficking in Youth-serving Programs: A Blueprint for Organizations

Healing Our Schools After a Loss
A Toolkit for Schools Responding to a Suicide or Sudden Death

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P.O. Box 144200 Salt Lake City, UT 84114 • www.schools.utah.gov   ADA Compliant: 11/30/2022

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Developing High Quality Emergency Operation Plans

5 Mission Areas:

Mission Areas	Timing
1. Prevention	**BEFORE**
2. Protection	
3. Mitigation	**DURING**
4. Response	
5. Recovery	**AFTER**

Building Blocks to School Safety

A Toolkit for K-12 Schools and School Districts for Developing High-Quality School Emergency Operations Plans

READINESS AND EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT FOR SCHOOLS
REMS
TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE CENTER

April 2022

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Preparing for recovery in advance of disaster

RECOVERY CONTINUUM

National Disaster Recovery Framework (NDRF)

National Response Framework (NRF)

SIZE AND SCOPE OF DISASTER AND RECOVERY EFFORTS

PREPAREDNESS
ONGOING

DISASTER

SHORT-TERM
DAYS

INTERMEDIATE
WEEKS-MONTHS

LONG-TERM
MONTHS-YEARS

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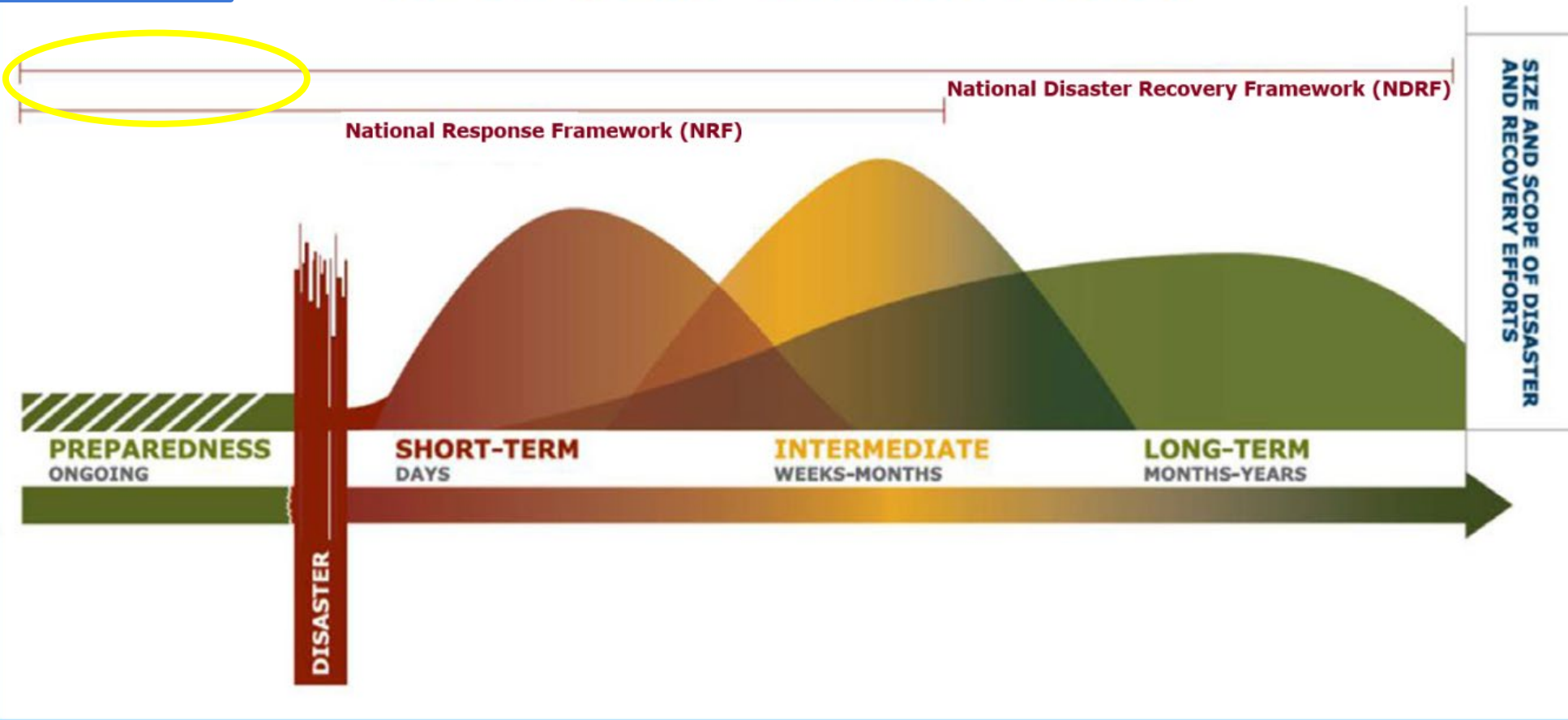
What Exactly *is* Recovery?

- School Climate - describes the conditions that influence student learning (ie; environment, safety, engagement)
- Recovery - a return to a normal state of health, mind, or strength
  Also includes:
- Disaster Recovery - the actions taken in the aftermath of a crisis to return organizational operations to their previous state and to mitigate the potential effects of future crises

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Four Components of Recovery for Schools and Local Education Agencies (1):

1. **Academics recovery.** Learning is the primary purpose of schools, and the ability to resume academic activities is essential to a school's recovery. The resumption of teaching and learning begins to restore normalcy to the school environment through routines, which can be very important in the psychological and emotional health of students, teachers, and staff.

2. **Physical and structural recovery.** This type of recovery is needed to support education and involves the restoration of the school's buildings, equipment, and supplies.

Four Components of Recovery for Schools and Local Education Agencies (2):

3. **Business functions recovery.** The school's or school district's business operations that also serve as a support function to education, such as payroll and contracts, need to be fully restored if impacted by an emergency.

4. **Social, emotional, and behavioral recovery.** Even though academics, physical and structural, and business functions recovery may have ended, the social, emotional, and behavioral recovery of students, teachers, and staff may continue long after. For students, the emergency event may have led to a lack of engagement, poor attendance, tardiness, incomplete assignments, antisocial behavior, and withdrawal.

Recovery is Not Linear

SAMHSA "phases of disaster"
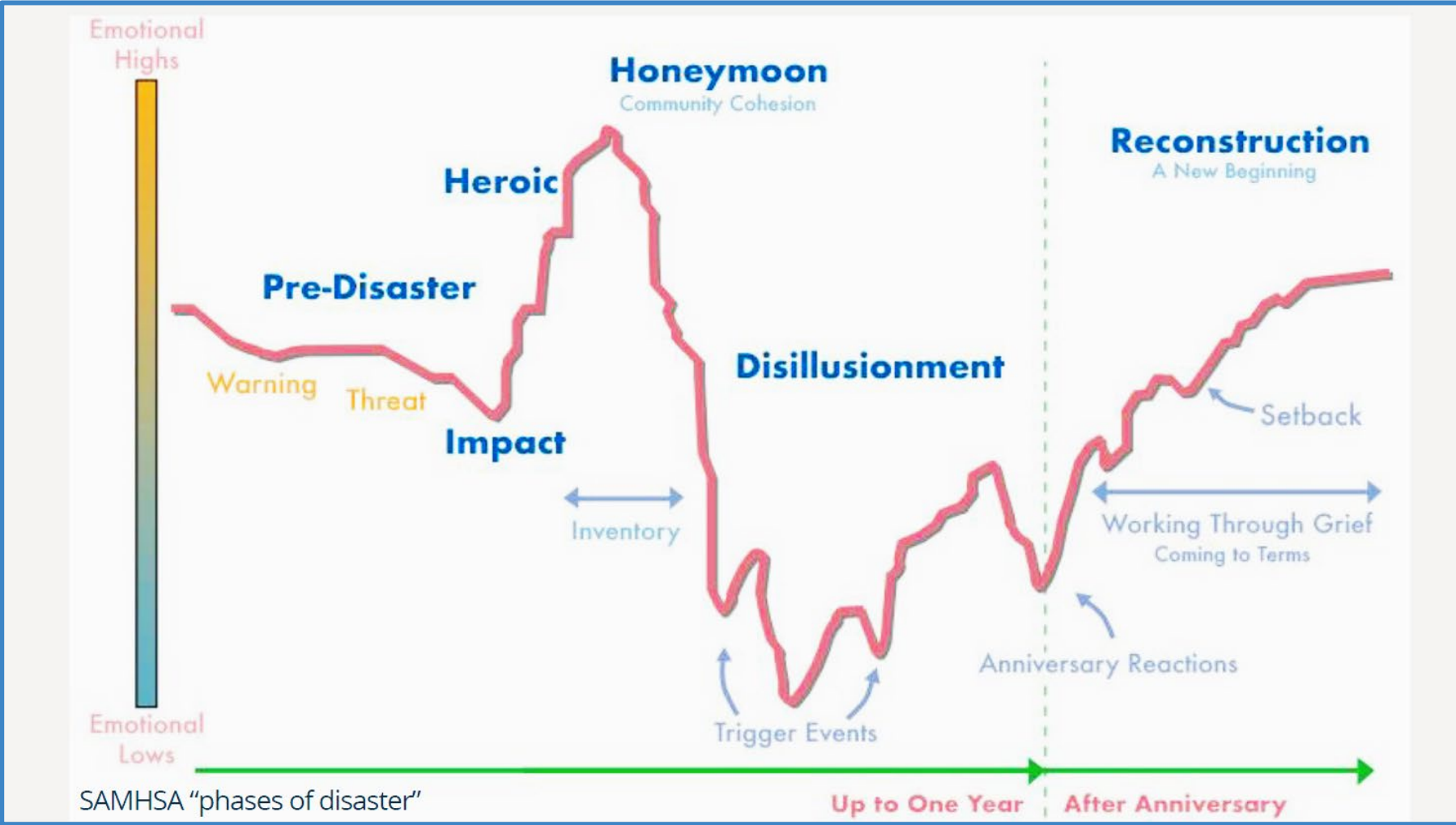
Proximity Influences Recovery

Population Exposure Model

Those closest to the "epicenter" of the disaster in terms of immediate and severe impact are most likely to be affected psychologically.

A) loss or serious injury of friends/family

B) Exposed to the incident and disaster scene but not injured

C) Knows persons who are bereaved, live in area where homes are destroyed, first responders, medical examiner's staff, professionals immediately involved.

D) behavioral health and crime victim assistance, clergy and chaplains, hospital personnel, govt officials, media

E) Groups that identify with the victim / survivor group, businesses with financial impact, community at large, distant communities exposed via media

Adapted from : U.S. Dept of Heatlh and Human Services. (2004). Mental Health Response to Mass Violence and Terrorism: A Training Manual. DHHS Pub. No. SMA 3959 Rockville, MD; Center for Mental Health Services, Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration. p. 11.

Being Prepared Supports Recovery

Preparedness Matters

- Preparation can limit or prevent certain disasters

- Preparation can save lives

- Preparation can reduce fears

- Preparation can make it easier to recover

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Resources

- [Emergency Preparedness Planning Guide for Utah Public Schools](#) on the [USBE website](#).

- [Building Blocks to School Safety A Toolkit for K-12 Schools and School Districts for Developing High-Quality School Emergency Operations Plans](#) REMS

- **Save the date** - Standard Response Protocol / Standard Reunification Method Train-the-Trainer
    - Wednesday, February 28, 2024 | 8:00 AM - 4 PM | Alpine Learning Center

- [Training Request Portal](#)

- Reach the USBE School Safety Center at schoolsafetyprograms@schools.utah.gov

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Call to Action

1. School Safety Specialists will be aware of the location of your school's and local education agency's (LEA's) emergency response protocols.

2. By our next webinar, March 27, 2024, School Safety Specialists will:

   a. Work with the appropriate administrator to review your school's Emergency Preparedness and Emergency Response Plans.

   b. Create/Update the emergency response protocols with your school and community stakeholders.

      i. To be completed by the state deadline of July 1, 2024 (R277-400-3).

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Questionnaire and License Renewal Hour

[Complete this Questionnaire](#)

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