

Citizens Helping Citizens in Crisis

503.940.7997 24-Hour Number

Citizen Resource Guide



Columbia River Gorge Volume 1 4800 NE 122nd Avenue Portland, OR 97230 Office 503.823.3937



IMPORTANT INFORMATION

TRAUMA INTERVENTION PROGRAM NORTHWEST	24-Hour Number 503.940.7997 Key in your return phone number or leave a voice message for an immediate call back.
► TIP Volunteer(s)	
Agencies Involved	
Important Phone Numbers	

What is TIP?

Trauma Intervention Program (TIP) is a group of specially trainedand thoroughly-screened citizen volunteers who provide emotional and practical support to survivors of traumatic events and their families in the first few hours following a tragedy. TIP Volunteers are called through the emergency response system — by police, firefighters and hospital personnel.

TIP is a national non-profit, tax-exempt organization. Services are provided to survivors and their families free of charge and are made possible by donations from local government, businesses and individuals.

Trauma Intervention Program of Portland/Vancouver, Inc. was founded in 1992. 180 local volunteers are available to respond immediately to crisis situations on a 24-hour, 365 days-a-year basis.

You Matter to Us

We'd like to hear from you. Please visit us online to give feedback, ask questions or get more resources.

www.tipnw.org

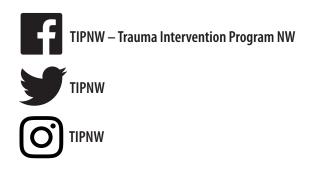


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Donations in Memory of a Loved One may be sent to:



4800 NE 122nd Avenue Portland, OR 97230 Office 503.823.3937

To Donate Online, Visit us at www.tipnw.org and Click "Donate".



ALCOHOL/DRUGS

Al-Anon Meetings (District 12 -Wasco & Hood River Counties) oregonal-anon.org/district-12

Stevenson, The Dalles, White Salmon, Carson, Goldendale, Hood River, Moro......800-999-9210 / 833-423-3863 aaoregon-district14.org or www.aa.org

Celebrate Recovery (Meetings at Hood River Alliance Church) 541-806-4415 celebraterecovery.com

ANIMAL CONTROL

Goldendale Animal Control...... 509-773-3067

Stevenson Animal Control 509-427-9490

Home At Last Animal Shelter

(Wasco & Sherman Counties)..... 541-296-5189 Serves a five county area for unwanted, stray, and injured animals. https://homeatlasths.org

White Salmon Animal Control ... 509-493-2660

BEREAVEMENT

Community Health

- and Hospice (Vancouver) 360-749-2429 Chhh.org

Hayden's Helping Hands Support for stillborn baby hospital bills. haydenshelpinghands.com

Sesame Street Bereavement sesamestreet.org/grief

BOARD UP/RESTORATION

BODY & ANATOMICAL DONATION

OHSU Body Donation Program
Donate Life Northwest 503-494-7888

CHILDREN/YOUTH RESOURCES

Child Abuse Hotline	. 800-4A-CHILD
Child Abuse Hotline (Oregon)	855-503-7233
Child Abuse Hotline (Washington)	855-420-5888

The Dougy Center 503-775-5683 Bereavement resources and support for children, teens, young adults, and families. dougy.org Hood River County Juvenile Department541-386-1030 Klickitat County Juvenile National Runaway Safeline 800-786-2929 1800runaway.org Oregon Youth Authority: Part of Oregon's Juvenile Justice System. 503-373-7205 oregon.gov/oya/Pages/default.aspx Programs for Peaceful Living 24-hour Crisis Line -wagap.org/programs-for-peaceful-living Safe Kids Columbia Gorge......541-980-1019 Carseat, bike helmet, life safety vests for children. Stepping Stones/Hope **Bereavement Services** (or text "TEEN" to 839863) Teen line providing emotional support to youth. Nonjudgmental peer-to-peer support for a variety of topics. ccteentalk.clark.wa.gov The Trevor Project

Wasco County Juvenile	
Department	.541-506-3715

Youthline (Lines for Life)877-YOUTH-911 (or text "teen2teen" at 839863) Free teen-to-teen crisis support and help line. oregonyouthline.org/

CLEAN UP/BIOHAZARD

COMMUNITY RESOURCES & SUPPORT 211info211 OR 866-698-6155 Helpina people identify, naviaate and connect with the local resources they need (in Oregon and SW Washington. 211info.org Caring Bridge Online tool for sharing health updates. caringbridge.org Household Item Pick Up pickupplease.org Lotsa Helping Hands lotsahelpinghands.com/about-us/ Meal Train mealtrain.com Mid-Columbia Community Community partnerships and equity-centered programs that prevent and eliminate poverty and houselessness. mccac.com/ Skamania County Community Health (at Hegewald Center) 509- 427-3850 Improving the health of individuals, families and communities. www.skamaniacounty.org/departments-offices/ community-health Spoonful of Comfort - Get Well Packages spoonfulofcomfort.com The Next Door Hood River 541-386-6665 Over two dozen programs that support and empower people in the community. nextdoorinc.org Washington Gorge Action Programs (WAGAP) 509-493-2662 A multipurpose organization helping individuals, families, and communities with basic human needs. wagap.org When Tragedy Strikes whentragedystrikes.org

CRIME VICTIM, DOMESTIC VIOLENCE & SEXUAL ASSAULT RESOURCES

Crime Victim's Assistance

Hood River County...... 541-386-3103 bit.ly/hoodrivercountyvictimassistance

Crime Victim's Assistance

Crime Victim's Assistance

bit.ly/wascovictimassistance

Domestic Violence and Crime

Victims - 24 Hour Crisis Line 844-493-1709 thehotline.org/help/

Goldendale Domestic Violence Task Force
Haven From Domestic and Sexual Violence (Gilliam, Sherman, Wasco & Wheeler Counties)
Helping Hands Against Violence
Lutheran Community Services NW
National Domestic Violence Hotline
Programs for Peaceful Living (Klickitat County)
wagap.org/programs-for-peaceful-living
Skamania County Council on Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault 509-427-4210 Serving victims and survivors of domestic violence and/ or sexual assault. Skamaniadvsa.webs.com
WCA Vancouver
CRISIS & SUICIDE HELP SERVICES

Emergency	1
Clark, Klickitat & Skamania County Crisis Line	::

clarity relicities a bitamaria county	C11515	Luic.
Crisis Connections (24/7/365		
Regional Crisis Line)80	0-626	-8137

Suicide, military, and youth helpline. linesforlife.org

Substance Abuse and Mental

Health Helpline (SAMHSA) 1-800-662-4357 Free treatment referral and information service for individuals and families facing mental and/or substance use disorders.

Mid-Columbia Center

For Living Crisis Hotline 24/7 crisis support provided for adults and children at risk to harm themselves and/or others, and/or an inability to care for oneself due to mental health problems. www.mccfl.org/

National Suicide

Prevention Lifeline	
Free and confidential support for people in distress.	
suicidepreventionlifeline.org	

Providence Gorge Counseling & Treatment	
Center Crisis Line	541-387-6138
Suicide Crisis Line	360-626-8137

Trauma Informed Oregon	503-725-9618
traumainformedoregon.org	

Therapy in the Gorge	
therapyinthegorge.com/	

FOOD SECURITY

FISH Food Bank (Hood River, Cascade Locks & Parkdale)(541) 386-3474 fish-food-bank.com

Meals on Wheels 541-386-2060 hrvac.org/meals-on-wheels

Congregate Meal Program - Klickitat County		
White Salmon		
Goldendale		
klickitatcounty.org/347/Nutrition-Program		

Salvation Army (The Dalles)

Food pantry. Call for hours. 541-296-6417 thedalles.salvationarmy.org/the_dalles/

St. Vincent De Paul (The Dalles)

Food bank. Call for hours. 541-296-9567 svdpthedalles.org/

EMERGENCY NUMBERS LAW ENFORCEMENT/EMS/FIRE

Arlington Police Department..... 360-403-3400

Bingen-White Salmon Police Department509-493-1177
Columbia River Inter-Tribal Police Department (CRITFC)541-386-6363
Goldendale Police Department509-773-3780
Hood River County Emergency Management541-386-2098
Hood River County Sheriff's Office
Klickitat County Department of Emergency Management 509-773-0582
Klickitat County Sheriff509-773-4545
Klickitat County Sheriff509-773-4545 Northern Oregon Correctional Facility (NORCOR)541-298-1576
Northern Oregon Correctional Facility
Northern Oregon Correctional Facility (NORCOR)

EMERGENCY NUMBERS EMS/FIRE

EMERGENCY! Police, Fire & Medical
Bingen Fire Department 509-493-2100
Camas/Washougal Fire Dept. (Washougal - Station 43)
Hood River Fire & EMS541-386-3939
Klickitat County Fire District #1 (Trout Lake)509-395-2043
Klickitat County Fire District #2 (Bickleton)509-896-5445
Klickitat County Fire District #3 (Husum)509-493-2996
Klickitat County Fire District #4 (Lyle)509-365-2500
Klickitat County Fire District #5 (Centerville)509-773-1919
Klickitat County Fire District #6 (Dallesport)509-767-1252
Klickitat County Fire District #7 (Goldendale/Rural)509-773-4246
Mid-Columbia Fire & Rescue (The Dalles)541-296-9445
North Bonneville Fire & Rescue Department509-427-8182
Skamania County Fire District #1 (Carson)509-427-8698
Skamania County Fire District #2 (Stevenson)509-427-5970
Skamania County Fire District #3 (Underwood)509-493-1700
Skamania County Fire District #4 (Washougal)
Skamania County Fire District #5 (Skamania)509-427-8187
Skamania County Fire District #6 (Northwoods)
Skamania County EMS 509-427-5065 skamaniaems.com
White Salmon Fire Department509-493-1133

EMERGENCY SUPPLIES & INFO

American Red Cross - Central and Eastern Orego Toll-free	
American Red Cross - SW Washington Toll-free	

Get Ready Gorge! getreadygorge.com Information regarding emergencies and preparation in The Gorge.

HIV/AID TESTING & RESOURCES

HOSPITALS

Klickitat Valley Health (Hospital) 310 S Roosevelt Ave, Goldendale, WA 98620 Call 509-773-4022 kvhealth.net Legacy Salmon Creek Mid-Columbia Medical Center (The Dalles) 1700 E 19th St, The Dalles, OR 97058 www.mcmc.net Peacehealth SW Washington Medical Center 400 NE Mother Joseph Pl, Vancouver, WA 98664 Providence Hood River Memorial Hospital 810 12th St, Hood River, OR 97031 Call 541-386-3911 Skyline Health Hospital - White Salmon 211 NE Skyline Dr, White Salmon, WA 98672 myskylinehealth.org LEGAL Clark County Volunteer ccvlp.org Evergreen Legal Clinic 509-575-5593

Six Rivers Mediation Services (Columbia Gorge Region)......541-386-1283

LGBTQIA+

Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, Transgender National Hotline.... 888-843-4564 pflag.org

PFLAG (Parents & Families of Lesbians & Gays...... 202-467-8180 pflag.org

The Trevor Projectthetrevorproject.org

MENTAL HEALTH & COUNSELING

MENIAL REALING	
Catholic Community Serv ccsww.org/get-help/	vices360) 567-2211
Columbia River Mental Health Services crmhs.org	
Emotional Empowermen Women Behavioral Health, Mindfulnes Suicide Attempts, Drug & Alco Hoodriverdbt.com	
Goldendale Comprehens Health	
Human Services Council. hsc-wa.org	
Klickitat Valley Behavioral Health	509-773-4017
Mid-Columbia Center for (Hood River County) Hood River County Sherman & Wasco Counti Recovery-oriented, trauma-ini persons with mental health ar	
National Alliance on Men for SW Washington (NAN namiswwa.org	
NAMI Gorge (Hood River, The Dalles)	/ 541-980-7264
One Community Health Hood River County Wasco County Medical, dental, behavioral he and substance use), educatior onecommunityhealth.org	541-296-4610 ealth (mental health
Skamania County Comm Hegewald Center (24/7) Counseling, Crisis Support, Gre Assessments & Medication Ma Case Management	
White Salmon Comprehensive Health	509-493-3400
Better Help Online professional therapy convenient and affordable.	

POPULATION SPECIFIC SERVICES

IRCO - Immigrant and Refugee

SENIORS & DISABILITIES

Elderfriends - Vancouver, WA 360-896-9695

Senior & Disabled Service (The Dalles).....541-298-4114

VETERANS /	MILITARY
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Mental Health Services/ Vet Combat Call Center
Mid-Columbia Community Action Council - Veteran's Services Hood River
Military Help Line
Veteran's Affairs (The Dalles541-296-3937
Veteran's Affairs Portland Health Care System
Veteran's Crisis Helpline

FUNERAL HOMES & CORONER/ MEDICAL EXAMINER'S OFFICE

andersonstributecenter.com

 Gardner Funeral Home (White Salmon) 1270 N Main Avenue, While Salmon, WA, 98672 Call509-493-1323 gardnerfh.com

Herland Forest Natural Burial Cemetery (Natural Green Burial) 55 Windward Lane, Wahkiacus WA 98670

Call509-630 6848 herlandforest.org

Hood River County	
Medical Examiner	541-386-1115

Klickitat County Coroner's Office......509-773-5838

Skamania County Coroner's Office......509-427-3790

spencerlibbyandpowell.com

....

Wasco County Medical Examiner......541-506-2600

CRISIS LINES 24/7 SUPPORT/HELP WHEN YOU NEED IT

CLARK COUNTY CRISIS SERVICES 800-626-8137

Behavioral health crisis services are available 24/7 bit.ly/clarkcountycrisisservices

CLARK, KLICKITAT & SKAMANIA COUNTY CRISIS LINE 800-626-8137

Crisis Connections (24/7/365 Regional Crisis Line) crisisconnections.org/24-hour-crisis-line

LINES FOR LIFE 800-273-8255

Suicide, military, and youth helpline. linesforlife.org

MID-COLUMBIA CENTER FOR LIVING CRISIS HOTLINE (THE DALLES & HOOD RIVER) 888-877-9147

24/7 crisis support provided for adults and children at risk to harm themselves and/or others, and/or an inability to care for oneself due to mental health problems. mccfl.org

NATIONAL SUICIDE PREVENTION LIFELINE

800-273-8255 *Free and confidential support for people in distress.* suicidepreventionlifeline.org

PROVIDENCE GORGE COUNSELING & TREATMENT Center Crisis Line......541-387-6138 Suicide Crisis Line......360-626-8137

SKAMANIA COUNTY 509-427-3850

Mental Health and Public Health / 24 Hour Crisis Line bit.ly/skamaniacommunityhealth

SUBSTANCE ABUSE AND MENTAL HEALTH HELPLINE (SAMHSA) 800-662-4357

Free treatment referral and information service for individuals and families facing mental and/or substance use disorders. samhsa.gov



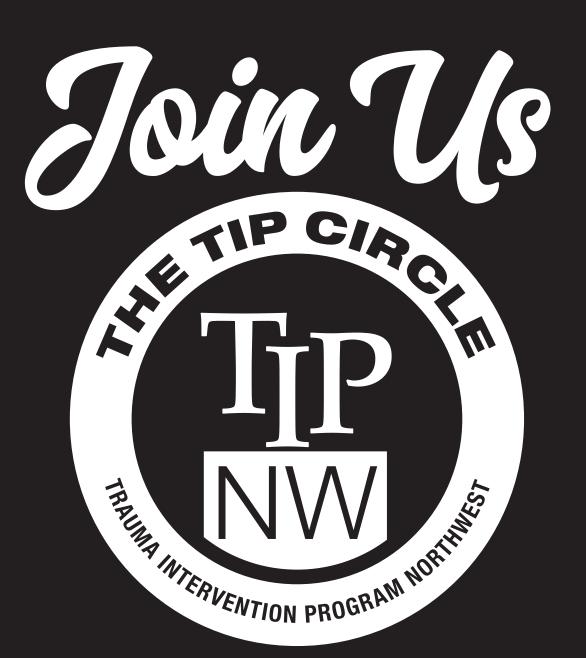
In our community, 1 in 17 children will have a parent or sibling die before they turn 18. Dougy Center serves these children, teens, young adults, and their adult family members through peer grief support groups in the Portland Metro area, including through virtual groups during the pandemic.

Dougy Center also provides resources and training world-wide to schools, organizations, and individuals seeking to assist children in grief.

Dougy Center's services are completely free for families. We we rely on the generousity of individuals, businesses, and foundations to support our programs.

Dougy Center | 503.775.5683 | dougy.org | help@dougy.org

(Trauma Intervention Program NW cannot recommend nor endorse any business. Without their advertising support, this Citizen Resource Guide would not be possible.)



The TIP Circle is a group of dedicated citizens who support TIP's Mission by promoting events and fundraisers, aiding in recruitment, encouraging active volunteers, participating in community events, and celebrating TIP's achievements.

Being an active TIP Volunteer is just one way to be involved with TIP, and The TIP Circle is another avenue for those who cannot actively volunteer but want to support the TIP mission of "Citizens Helping Citizens in Crisis".

There is no time commitment for members of The TIP Circle. To join the TIP Circle or learn more, please email tipstaff@tipnw.org.

DEALING WITH STRESS

CRITICAL INCIDENT STRESS INFORMATION

You have experienced a traumatic event or a critical incident (any event that causes unusually strong emotional reactions that have the potential to interfere with the ability to function normally). Even though the event may be over, you may now be experiencing or may experience later, some strong emotional or physical reactions. It is very common, in fact quite normal, for people to experience emotional aftershocks when they have passed through a horrible event.

Sometimes the emotional aftershocks (or stress reactions) appear immediately after the traumatic event. Sometimes they may appear a few hours or a few days later. And, in some cases, weeks or months may pass before the stress reactions appear.

The signs and symptoms of a stress reaction may last a few days, a few weeks, a few months, or longer, depending on the severity of the traumatic event. The understanding and the support of loved ones usually causes the stress reactions to pass more quickly. Occasionally, the traumatic event is so painful that professional assistance may be necessary. This does not imply craziness or weakness. It simply indicates that the particular event was just too powerful for the person to manage by himself/herself.

Here are some common signs and signals of a stress reaction:

Physical*	Cognitive	Emotional	Behavioral
chills	confusion	fear	withdrawal
thirst	nightmares	guilt	antisocial acts
fatigue	uncertainty	grief	inability to rest
nausea	hyper-vigilance	panic	intensified pacing
fainting	suspiciousness	denial	erratic movements
twitches	intrusive images	anxiety	change in social
vomiting	blaming someone	agitation	activity
dizziness	poor problem solving	irritability	change in speech
weakness	poor abstract thinking	depression	patterns
chest pain	poor attention/decisions	intense anger	loss or increase of
headaches	poor concentration/	apprehension	appetite
elevated bp	memory	emotional shock	hyper-alert to
rapid heart rate	disorientation of time,	emotional outbursts	environment
muscle tremors	place or person	feeling overwhelmed	increased alcohol
shock symptoms	difficulty identifying	loss of emotional	consumption
grinding of teeth	objects or people	control	change in usual
visual difficulties	heightened or	inappropriate emotional	communications
profuse sweating	lowered alertness	response	etc
difficulty breathing	increased or	etc	
etc	decreased awareness		
	of surroundings		
	etc		

*Any of these symptoms may indicate the need for medical evaluation. When in doubt, contact a physician.

Critical Incident Stress Management (CISM): Group Crisis Intervention, 4th Edition, June 2006, International Critical Incident Stress Foundation, Inc.

DEALING WITH STRESS

THINGS TO TRY

- WITHIN THE FIRST 24-48 HOURS periods of appropriate physical exercise, alternated with relaxation will alleviate some of the physical reactions.
- Structure your time; keep busy.
- You're normal and having normal reactions; don't label yourself crazy.
- Talk to people; talk is the most healing medicine.
- Be aware of *numbing* the pain with overuse of drugs or alcohol, you don't need to complicate this with a substance abuse problem.
- Reach out; people do care.
- Maintain as normal a schedule as possible.
- Spend time with others.
- Help your co-workers as much as possible by sharing feelings and checking out how they are doing.
- Give yourself permission to feel rotten and share your feelings with others.
- Keep a journal; write your way through those sleepless hours.
- Do things that feel good to you.
- Realize those around you are under stress.
- Don't make any big life changes.
- Do make as many daily decisions as possible that will give you a feeling of control over your life, i.e., if someone asks you what you want to eat, answer them even if you're not sure.
- Get plenty of rest.
- Don't try to fight reoccurring thoughts, dreams or flashbacks they are normal and will decrease over time and become less painful.
- Eat well-balanced and regular meals (even if you don't feel like it).

FOR FAMILY MEMBERS & FRIENDS

- Listen carefully.
- Spend time with the traumatized person.
- Offer your assistance and a listening ear if they have not asked for help.
- Reassure them that they are safe.
- Help them with everyday tasks like cleaning, cooking, caring for the family, minding children.
- Give them some private time.
- Don't take their anger or other feelings personally.
- Don't tell them that they are "lucky it wasn't worse;" a traumatized person is not consoled by those statements. Instead, tell them that you are sorry such an event has occurred and you want to understand and assist them.

Critical Incident Stress Management (CISM): Group Crisis Intervention, 4th Edition, June 2006, International Critical Incident Stress Foundation, Inc.

CHILDREN & TRAUMA

CHILDREN & TRAUMA: SUGGESTIONS FOR PARENTS

by Wayne Fortin, Founder and CEO, Trauma Intervention Programs, Inc.

CHILDREN ARE TRAUMATIZED BY A WIDE variety of events which include but are not limited to: natural disasters, crime, auto accidents, serious illness, community violence, hostage situations, violence in the home and the death of a parent or loved one.

Parents play a vital role in their child's successful recovery from a traumatic event. Following are ways parents can help their child following a traumatic event:

- Reassure your child that he/she will be taken care of, loved and cherished just as they were before the traumatic event.
- Nurture your child. Children who have been traumatized need physical contact. Cuddling, rocking, massaging and reading quietly help relieve stress and anxiety.
- Pay special attention at bedtime. Nighttime is particularly difficult for traumatized children. It may help to read to your child, rub their back, play music and leave a light on.
- Encourage your child to tell his/her story. Your child may need to tell their story repeatedly. Listen attentively and allow your child to talk about the traumatic experience at his/her own pace.
- Provide physical outlets. Your child may have pent up anger/energy in their body. Provide appropriate, fun and physical activities for your child.
- Give your child choices and help him/her develop a sense of control.
- Provide consistent, predictable patterns for your child. If something new is about to happen, explain to your child before hand what they can expect.
- Be tolerant and patient. No set timetable exists for the recovery of children. Some recover quickly and others may take more time. Don't compare your child to other children who have experienced the same event.

- Protect your child from repeated news coverage.
- Make it clear to your child that you are "in control". It is very frightening and confusing for a child to sense that parents themselves are disorganized, confused and anxious. If your own response to the event interferes with your ability to care for your child, ask for help! Professionals who specialize in working with traumatized children can be very helpful.

For more assistance, please call 503-823-3937.

EFFECTIVE WAYS OF COPING AFTER A TRAUMATIC EVENT

- 1. Accept the fact that you have been a victim and accept the feelings that result. Remember: others may not validate your feelings. In fact, they may minimize your experience: "You were only a witness", or "You were really lucky", or "It has been two weeks! Why are you still bothered?"
- 2. Accept all the feelings you are having as normal reactions to an extraordinary event. You are not "crazy". You are reacting normally to a "crazy" event. Be patient with yourself. It takes time to recover emotionally from a traumatic event.
- 3. Combat any guilt you might have by:
 - Accepting it as normal.
 - Talking to others about your role or their role in the event. You are probably not alone in your reaction to this event.
 - Realizing you were a victim and are not a trained rescuer.
 - Recognizing what you "did right"!
 - Recognizing the extenuating circumstances related to the event — the suddenness, the dangers, etc.
- 4.Don't revert to "bad habits" (alcohol, drugs, overeating) to cope. They will only make matters worse.

EFFECTIVE WAYS OF COPING continued...

- 5. Maintain normalcy. Go about your daily routines and "take care of business."
- 6. Attempt to understand what happened by getting the facts.
- 7. Ventilate. TALK and write about the event.
- 8. Thank those who helped you and apologize to those you hurt during and since the tragic event.
- 9. Help each other.
 - Reach out to those who are particularly traumatized.
 - Respect each other's ways of coping.
 - Don't victimize each other by judging other's individual coping style. Let the "grievers" grieve and allow the "doers" to do.

10. Decide as a group how you want to help:

- The victim
- The family
- Each other

10. If a death has occurred:

- Implement or participate in a "saying goodbye" ritual
- Attend services
- Contribute to a memorial fund
- Establish a memorial on scene
- Wear a symbol on clothing

HELPFUL HINTS

Some of the following ideas might help you or others alleviate some of the aftershocks of a traumatic event.

FOR YOURSELF

- Try to rest a bit more
- Contact a friend
- Have someone stay with you for at least a few hours or periods of time for a day or two.
- Recurring thoughts, nightmares and flashbacks are normal — don't try and fight them. They will decrease over time and become less painful.

- Maintain as normal a schedule as possible.
- Eat well-balanced and regular meals. (Even if you don't feel like it!)
- Try to keep a reasonable level of activity.
- Fight against boredom.
- Physical activity is often helpful.
- Reestablish a normal schedule as soon as possible.
- Express your feelings as they arise.
- Talk to people who love you.
- Find a good counselor if the feelings become prolonged or too intense.

FOR FRIENDS AND FAMILY

- Listen carefully!
- Spend time with the traumatized person.
- Offer your assistance and a listening ear even if they have not asked for your help.
- Reassure them that they are safe.
- Help with everyday tasks like cleaning, cooking, caring for the family and minding the children.
- Give them some private time.
- Don't take their anger or other feelings personally.
- Don't tell them that they are "lucky it wasn't worse" — traumatized people are not consoled by those kinds of statements. Instead, tell them that you are so sorry this event has occurred and you would like to understand and assist them.

If you find that you are still suffering severe symptoms (sufficient to disrupt any of your normal functioning) after six weeks, professional counseling may be indicated.

Contact your employee assistance program, physician, or a mental health professional in your community for a referral to a therapist who specializes in this kind of work.

Additional Resources can be obtained at www.sesamestreet.org/grief

WHEN TRAGEDY STRIKES

10 THINGS TO DO AND NOT TO DO

All of us face dilemmas when something bad happens to someone we know. Many times we inadvertently say the wrong thing and increase the hurt they're already feeling. Or, we don't do or say anything for fear that we'll be in the way. So here's a practical list of 10 do's and don'ts when it comes to helping someone who's just experienced a death or trauma.

- 1. DO listen. As a rule, if you're talking more than they are, you're not being helpful.
- 2. DON'T tell your story. It's not about you. "When my father died ..." language isn't helpful. Don't try and relate your pain that's essentially emotional theft. No matter how similar your story is, it's not theirs. Their experience is different and happening right now. Let the focus be on them.
- 3. DO send a note. It may seem insignificant to you, but a thoughtful, short, handwritten note can mean the world to someone in a particular kind of hell. Even if it's months after the death, that note will mean a lot.
- 4. DON'T use platitudes like, "It was God's will," or "She's in God's hands now," or "At least he had a good life," or "You can have other children," Such loss is devastating and so are the mental wounds from such mindless platitudes. Discounting statements like "at least ..." hurt because nothing is going to make this situation okay. Instead, simply acknowledge the loss and express your sadness at the pain they are going through.
- 5. DON'T be vague. "Call me if there's anything I can do" is practically useless. They're not going to call; they're too overwhelmed and too upset to even remember the offer. To someone in the immediacy of a trauma, the phone weighs 2,000 pounds and is simply too heavy to pick up for any reason, including asking for help.
- 6. DO be specific. Tell your friend; "I'm cooking dinner at your house on Thursday at 6 p.m." The smells of cooking can be extremely comforting and calming. Offer to pick up friends or relatives from the airport. Take the kids to school or babysit after school. Vacuum their house. Take their trash to the curb on trash day. Imagine what you would least like to do in their situation then volunteer to do it for them.
- 7. DON'T bring by a lasagna. People under extreme duress do not eat meals, they snack. Bring fresh fruit, vegetables, cheese and crackers foods that you can eat with your fingers that don't require cooking or clean up. Stress shuts down the digestive system. Heavy meals that require prep and clean up just add to the stress.
- 8. DO bring essentials. The three things that people most need immediately after a death or trauma are tissues, bottled water, and toilet paper. As family members, friends, and neighbors arrive they all need tissues and water. Water bottles eliminate the need for cups and clean up. More people means more bathroom visits so the need for more toilet paper becomes essential.
- 9. DO be human. If you see this person at the grocery store, don't duck behind the soup display because you can't think of anything to say. This just makes the person feel alienated and lonely. Acknowledge what happened by saying something like, "I'm so sorry this happened." You don't have to save them or provide a counseling session. They might want to talk, they might not. Your lack of comfort will only make them feel more alienated. A simple hug goes a long way.
- 10. DON'T judge. No matter what your feelings about the situation, use neutral language, "I remember Mike's smile. He was also so helpful to us. I'm sorry. How are you doing?" In fact, a simple "How are you doing?" can go a long way. These situations are uncomfortable for everyone. But with a little thought we can avoid increasing the hurt and even help when the worst happens to people we know.

For more information on how to help visit www.whentragedystrikes.org

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COPING WITH SUICIDE AS A FAMILY

It is important to sit down together to talk, cry, feel rage, guilt and even be silent.

Communication is the key to survival in the aftermath of suicide. At the same time, there should be respect for each person's individual way of handling grief. Some family members will grieve privately, others openly, and others a combination of these two styles. In many ways, each family member must grieve alone. Here are some suggestions to help with family grief.

Pay attention to your family members when you are with them. Let them know that you love them. Be sensitive to how other family members feel. Listen to what is meant as well as what is being said. Accept the other person and what they say.

Don't give each other the silent treatment. This has many negative effects. Sit back and listen. Let other family members have an opportunity to talk. Be sure to hug and touch each other at every opportunity. Recognize that anniversaries, birthdays, and holidays will be difficult for each member of the family.

Remember, you can't help anyone if you're falling apart. Do what you can do for yourself – and get help for what you can't do. If depression, grief, or problems in your family are getting out of control, seek the advice of a counselor.

Studies show that a bereaved person's self-esteem is extremely low. Survivors should work on their image of themselves, and to help each family member to think and feel good about them.

If there is a suicide note, discuss as a family what to do with it. If you think it will only bring you pain, then have a private burning and commit its contents to God or a higher power.

www.sbsnw.com

CLICHES – WHAT NOT TO SAY

Well-meaning people who don't know what to say often use cliches. Sometimes they cause more aggravation than comfort. Here are a few that shouldn't be said in time of grief:

- I know how you feel
- Calm down
- It will be better tomorrow
- It's God's will
- They are better off
- They're happier in heaven
- You will get married again
- Time heals all wounds
- It was part of God's plan

- I just don't know how you are so strong
- I don't know what I would have done if it had been me
- Don't cry, it's ok
- You don't want to do that
- Don't feel
- They will never hurt again
- Had they lived, they would never be the same

- You will/can have another child
- You have other children
- It's time to get on with your life
- Life goes on
- It is divine to forgive
- Call me if you need me

UNDERSTANDING AND COPING WITH YOUR GRIEF

Most people find the loss of a loved one the most intense and difficult experience of their lives. To lose someone is a universal experience. To mourn is a universal emotion, yet many people, both members in the helping profession and the bereaved themselves, are confused about the nature of mourning. Many of those who grieve try to hide their sorrow. Many in our culture believe that mourning should be suppressed. We now know that to suppress our sorrow; to thwart the mourning process, further disorients us and makes us more at risk for both emotional and physical illness.

If you are newly bereaved, you may find it very difficult to concentrate on what you are reading, and that is perfectly normal. We will discuss specific topics in depth to be used when it's not so difficult to think. Let me mention some errors many mourners make.

THE MOST COMMON ERRORS

The most common errors made by mourners usually begin with the people believing that mourning should be over in a short period. We know, on the basis of specific polls, for example, that a majority of the people believe mourning should be over in 48 hours to two weeks. THIS ASSUMPTION IS FALSE. Loss of your loved one will have a measurable and visible impact on you well beyond a year's time.

A second common error is that many people believe that they can suppress their sorrows, at least to other people's eyes. They try to use alcohol or tranquilizing drugs or magical thinking to suppress their emotions. They inevitably fail. Our emotions and their expressions are the only means we have to reorient ourselves after major change in our lives. It is important for your emotional, physical health to express emotions in non-destructive ways. One of the most effective ways of recovering from sorrow is to cry. Whether you are a man or a woman, to cry seems to be necessary for your health. To cry with others who grieve makes the task of reorientation easier.

A third common error of mourners is to try to make their sorrow a private matter. A famous poet, John Donne, was quite correct when he wrote, "No man is an island unto himself." No matter how overwhelmed, lonely or impotent you feel, your loss is other's loss also. It is very important that you include, not exclude, others in mourning your loss.

A fourth common error is an attempt to escape the pain of loss by making even more changes in their lives; selling the house, changing jobs, going on long trips. All of these may be appropriate in time; not when we mourn. Like our shadows, our feelings of sorrow cannot be run away from. Buying binges...radical changes in living habits... taking flight from our routines of care...these are but a few examples of how we can erroneously try to avoid sorrow. What is important for you is to make as few changes in your circumstances of living as possible. While there will be many changes you cannot avoid, postpone as many as you can.

A fifth common error of mourners is to ignore their own health. For some, it seems to be going to the extreme of feeling the best way of honoring the dead is to die with them. For others, it is to abandon self-esteem. Whatever your reason, you need to care for your own health.

Taken from video tapes by Dr. Glen Davidson, Ph.D., and produced by Twenty-Twenty media, a subsidiary of Dodge Chemical Compny, Cambridge, Massachusetts.



DEVELOPMENTAL STAGES OF TRAUMATIZED CHILDREN

When talking to your child, please consider their age, maturity, personality and cognitive ability.

AGE	TRAUMA RESPONSES
Infant to 2 years	 Sleeping/eating disturbance Fussiness, whining Clinginess Sense of change
2 to 5 years	 Sleeping/eating disturbance Regressive behaviors Death/traumatic experience seen as reversible, not permanent Brief, intense responses Fearful Clinginess
5 to 8 years	 Magical thinking – child's words or actions caused the traumatic event Death seen as reversible, not permanent Repetitive questioning Nightmares Aggressive behaviors The child worries who will take care of him or her
9 to 12 years	 Understand the finality of death Joking inappropriately about death/traumatic event Want complete details – morbid curiosity Aggressive behaviors Problems in school – changes in grades and/or behaviors
13 to 18 years	 Similar to adults, but fewer coping skills Risk-taking behavior – behaves impulsively Delayed grief work May prefer to talk with people outside the family Depression, anger, guilt Problems in school – changes in grades and/or behaviors May assume the role of the deceased

TALKING WITH TRAUMATIZED CHILDREN COMMON QUESTIONS

Children must be told the truth. Start by saying: "A very sad thing has happened..."" I have some very sad news I need to share with you..."

Be straightforward. Use correct words: "Died" instead of "passed away": Killed in a car accident. Died from Cancer.

ANSWER CHILDREN'S QUESTIONS HONESTLY AND OPENLY

What does dead mean? Dead means your body has stopped working. It is not breathing, it doesn't need to sleep or eat.

What is cremation? The dead body is placed in a room with a high temperature that turns the body into ashes (cremains). These ashes can be put in a special container called an urn. They can also be scattered in a favorite location.

Why is their body cold or hard? The body is warm when it is working correctly. The person has died so the body doesn't need to stay warm anymore.

Why did my loved one die? That is a hard question to answer, just say honestly - "I don't know."

Will this happen to you? (addressed to parent/guardian) "I am hoping to live a long time; we just don't know when we will die.

Who will take care of me if this happens to you too? Share with them a relative or friend will take care of them, but you are hoping to live a long time.

Children may ask questions regarding their safety. Listen to your child, reassure them, provide a daily routine, and let them express their fears.

BEHAVIORS THAT SUGGEST A CHILD IS ANXIOUS OR STRUGGLING

- Quiet and withdrawn
- Acting out
- Overachieving
- Refusing to go to school or child care
- Changes in eating and sleeping habits (depression)
- More active and restless
- Unrealistic fear for personal safety
- Any significant changes in personality

This information provided by Jodi Wicks, MS., Bereavement Manager Hospice SW/ "Stepping Stones"

CHECKLIST FOLLOWING A DEATH

- Decide on type of Service.
- □ Check Pricing. Make appointment to meet with a funeral director. Make funeral or memorial service arrangements.
- Decide on a time and place for the funeral and/or memorial service.
- □ Make a list of immediate family, close friends, and employer or business colleagues. Notify each by phone.
- □ If flowers are to be omitted, decide on appropriate memorial to which gifts may be given (a church, library, school, or charity).
- □ Write an obituary. Normally, the mortuary does this, but you may wish to consult with them. Include age, place of birth, occupation, college degrees, membership(s) held, military service, outstanding work, list of survivors in immediate family. Give time and place of services. Fax a copy to deceased's hometown.
- □ Purchase a Guest Book.
- □ Notify insurance companies (including automobile insurance) of immediate cancellation and request any refund.
- □ Check carefully all life and casualty insurance and death benefits, including Social Security, credit union, trade union, fraternal, military, etc.
- □ Check also on income for survivors from these sources.
- Arrange for family members or close friends to take turns answering the door or phone, keeping careful record of calls.
- Arrange hospitality for visiting relatives and friends.
- □ Arrange appropriate childcare.
- □ Coordinate special needs of the household, e.g. cleaning, grocery shopping, etc., which might be done by friends.
- Select who will conduct the service, give the eulogy, speakers, music, and reception, if any.
- □ Select pall bearers and notify them (avoid men with heart or back difficulties, or make them honorary pall bearers).
- □ Notify the lawyer and Executor of the Will. Get several copies of the death certificate.
- Plan for disposition of flowers after the funeral (can be given to a hospital or rest home).
- □ Prepare a list of distant persons to be notified by letter and/or printed notice and decide which to send each.
- Prepare a list of persons to receive acknowledgements of flowers, calls, etc. Send appropriate acknowledgements (can be either written notes or printed acknowledgements).
- □ Check promptly on all debts and installment payments. Some may carry insurance clauses that will cancel them. If there is to be a delay in meeting payments, consult with creditors and ask for more time before payments are due.
- □ If the deceased was living alone, notify utilities and landlord and tell the post office where to send mail. Take precautions against thieves.

DEALING WITH TRAGEDY IN THE WORKPLACE A Supervisor's Checklist

- □ Have I identified everyone affected by the event?
 - □ Co-workers
 - □ Family members
 - □ Witnesses
 - □ Clean-up workers
- Have I sent supervisors to all the sites where the survivors are?
- □ Have I set-up and staffed a *"safe room"* where employees can support one another and receive the information they need?
 - Is the "safe room" equipped with:
 - □ Tissue
 - □ Water
 - □ Writing Materials
- Have I acknowledged to employees the difficulty of the event?
- Have I obtained accurate information about the incident and presented it to all employees?
- Have I ensured that employees will be protected from the media through the aftermath?
- □ Have I distributed *"How to Cope"* resources to employees and given them resources for follow up care?
- □ Have I given employees information on how other survivors are coping, i.e. *"The family has lots of support."*?
- Have I given the family members information about how employees care?
- □ Have I taken concrete steps if necessary to make employees feel safe? (locks, lighting, etc.,)
- Have I given employees information about upcoming viewings and memorial services?
- Have I initiated a planning process for how employees will honor the victim(s)?
- □ Have I gotten the company back to *"normal"*? (Cleaned up, back to daily routines?)
- Have I followed up on an individual basis with those most affected?
 ("How are you doing _____?" It's been _____weeks since the tragedy. I know it was very difficult for you. Are you ok?")



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(Trauma Intervention Program NW cannot recommend nor endorse any business. Without their advertising support, this Citizen Resource Guide would not be possible.)

Learn more at https://greatgoodbyes.com

GENERAL INFORMATION GUIDE

Includes information for Oregon and Washington State

Please note: The information listed below is being provided as a courtesy to you. All of the information may not apply to your individual situation.

DEATH CERTIFICATES

There is always a fee for the death certificate. Fees very by state. Certified copies are suggested for insurance, insured loans, stocks and bonds, and any joint ownership, real property in joint ownership, etc. If copies are needed within 10 days of the date of death, please check with your funeral director. After 10 days please use the following:

IN PERSON

Identification such as a current driver's license or I.D. card will be required for all record orders.

Oregon: Vital Records Office 800 NE Oregon Street, Room 205 971.673.1190

Washington: Vital Records Office 2000 Fort Vancouver Way 360.236.4313

US MAIL

Oregon PO Box 14050 Portland, OR 97293-0050

Washington 2000 Fort Vancouver Way Vancouver, WA 98661

FAX

Oregon only: You may send a fax directly to 503.234.8417. Please include complete record information, return address, credit card number, expiration date and your daytime telephone number.

INTERNET

For both Oregon and Washington: www.VitalCheck.com

TELEPHONE

Oregon 971.673.1190

Washington 360.236.4313

You will always need to provide the following information about the deceased:

- Full name of person on the record
- Spouse's name (if applicable)
 Date of death, marriage or divorce (or the time period to search)
- Place of death, county which issued marriage license, or county granting divorce
- Your name and relationship to the person on the record, or
- Your reason for needing the record

SOCIAL SECURITY

Your funeral director will file for SSA-721 "Statement of Death." You must also contact a local Social Security Office to file the lump sum death benefit, if applicable. You can reach them at 1.800.772.1213 or on the web at www.ssa.gov.

VETERANS ADMINISTRATION

Your funeral director will secure the flag for you at the time of death for an honorably discharged veteran. Additional benefits apply if the death occured in a VA facility or of the veteran is under special VA care. The funeral home will assist you in the completion of the burial benefits claim. You will need a copy of the deceased's "DD-214". If you have further questions, contact the Veterans Administration at 1.800.827.1000.

INSURANCE

If the deceased is a Veteran, contact the Veterans Administration at 1.800.827.1000 for individual insurance coverage. Notify other personal insurance companies or local agents of same on those policies held by the deceased. Also, check for coverage, health and accident insurance, life insurance, savings and checking accounts, and department store and credit card accounts that may have death insurance coverage. If the deceased was a homeowner, check for the possibility of mortgage insurance. A certified copy of the death certificate is usually needed for each policy.

BANKS

Notify the bank of person's death and inquire about checking accounts, government bonds, time saving certificate, etc. If joint account, consider transferring all money accounts to your name and adding additional names to bank accounts and safety deposit boxes for protection.

DEPARTMENT OF MOTOR VEHICLES

Certified copies of the death certificates are required to change a car title. Take one original certified copy of the death certificate and the DMV will make a photocopy. If you can't get a copy of the death certificate, an obituary will suffice.

UNION BENEFITS

Employment could include benefits through a labor organization. Since membership benefits are so varied, it is advisable to check with the individual organizations. A certified copy of the death certificate may be needed for application of benefits.

DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE

For assistance on necessary forms: Oregon 1.800.356.4222

Washington 1.800.647.7706

INTERNAL REVENUE SERVICE

Contact the office of the IRS by calling 1.800.829.1040 or by going to their office. Oregon 1220 SW Third, Suite 272 Portland, OR 97204

Washington 500 SW 12th Street, Suite 200 Vancouver, WA 98660

YOUR HOME AND REAL PROPERTY

Contact the County Assessor's office in the county where your home is located. Be sure to have a certified copy of the death certificate available if needed.

Hood River County......541.386.4522 Klickitat County.......509.773.3715 Skamania County509.427.3720 Wasco County541.506.2510

PUBLIC EMPLOYEES RETIREMENT SYSTEM (PERS)

If the deceased is or was a memeber of PERS by being a public, county, state, or public school employee, notify PERS at 888.320.7377.

WASHINGTON STATE DEPARTMENT OF RETIREMENT SYSTEMS (DRS) 800.547.6657

DEATH CERTIFICATE

REQUIRED INFORMATION FOR A DEATH CERTIFICATE

Arrangements for:				
First	Name	Middle Name	Last Name	
Date of Birth	Birthplace		Sex:	
			0000 M/F	
		Social Security #:		
Y/N	Y/1	Ν		
Marital Status: Spouse's Name:				
Married, Div	orced, Widowed, Never Married	If Married/Wide	owed, include Maiden Name	
Race [.]				
White or Caucasian	Black or African American		lative-Tribe	
Asian Indian	Chinese	Filipino		
Japanese	Korean	Vietnamese		
Other Asian (specify)	Native Hawaiian	Guamanian or Chamorro		
Samoan	Other Pacific Islander (speci	ify) Other (specify)		
Hispanic Origin:				
Not Hispa		n American, Chicano Puerto Ri	can	
Cuban		lispanic/Latino (Specify)		
Education:				
8th grade or less	9th-12th grade, no diploma	High School Graduate or GED	Some college credit, no degree	
Associate's degre	e Bachelor's degree	Master's degree	Doctorate degree	
Usual Occupation:		Industry:		
Street Address				
City Cou	inty State	Zip Code	Inside City Limits?	
			,	
F	irst	Middle	Last	
Mother's Full Name: Mother's Maiden Name:				
Next of Kin/Responsible Pa	rty Name:			
Address:				
Dhone Number	Deleterate			
Phone Number:	Kelationship	:		
Method of Disposition:				
. —	Burial Cremation	Whole Body Donation	Removal from State	

DEATH CERTIFICATE

Name and Relationship of Family Members:		
Name:	Relationship:	Address & Phone:
Names of Organizations,	/Lodges etc. to be contacted:	
	no service. Your funeral service provider should	honor and respect all of your wishes. A service can be an ormal or expensive, but a time to commemorate a life well lived.
Service at: 🛛 Funeral H	Home 🔲 Church 🔲 Private Home	Lodge Other
Memorial Service:	Funeral Service:	Celebration of Life:
Viewing: Yes: No: _	Viewing at Service:	Private Viewing Only:
Details of service: (speak	er, special music selections, musician(s)	, etc.)
Memorial Contributions	То:	
Obituary (List which pap	ers in which obituary(s) is to be placed:	
Note: Some papers will charge	e for this service. Your funeral service provider sh	ould advise you if there is a fee.
If available, would you lil	ke an obituary on the Funeral Home's w	ebsite for no fee? 🛛 Yes 🗌 No

INFORMATION

DISPOSITION CHOICES AT THE TIME OF DEATH ABC's - Anatomical Donation, Burial and Cremation

At the time of death, a family has one of three disposition choices, either anatomical donation, burial or cremation.

There is no right or wrong to these choices, only what best suits the wishes of the deceased or the next of kin. It is important to note that the Power of Attorney (POA) ceases at the time of death. Thus, the POA does not have the authority to make decisions regarding human remains.

ANATOMICAL DONATION

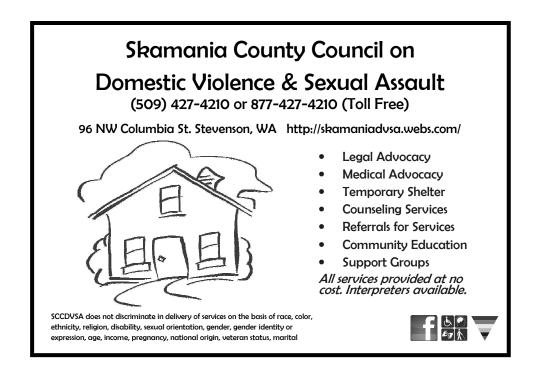
Time sensitive decision at the time of death. A person may donate their body or the body of a loved one to an organization who accepts these gifts. Facilities and organizations accept human remains on a case by case basis and have specific procedures and an extensive questioning process to determine if a donation is possible. Depending on the institution, there may be costs to the family associated with an anatomical donation.

BURIAL

Burial usually takes place within a week of the death but in some cases later. (Refrigeration is required by law after 24 hours of the death). Embalming is not required by law but is determined by the type of funeral service the family chooses. It is required when a body is transported via airlines, or burial in an above ground mausoleum (or crypt). There are two types of burial – direct and traditional. Direct burial does not include any viewing, services or family present at the cemetery. The funeral home caskets the body and delivers it to the cemetery. Traditional burial usually includes the following: dressing, viewing, funeral or graveside service. Some funeral establishments are limited by their license as to what services they can provide.

CREMATION

Families or individuals choose cremation for various reasons, but there are still options that can be made within this choice. The most minimal is a direct cremation where there is no viewing or service involving the funeral home. A family can also choose a cremation with a funeral service which takes place at a funeral home. This may include a viewing, dressing, and casketing, either in a rental or cremation casket. Families may also choose a cremation with a memorial service, which may or may not use the funeral home facilities. The cremated remains may or may not be present at the service.





A crisis can happen at any time. The Southwest Washington Crisis Line can help.

The Southwest Washington Crisis Line can help when you, your child, or someone else is:

- Talking or thinking about harming oneself or others
- Acting recklessly or violently
- Having hallucinations, delusions, or is not able to care for oneself
- Having a substance use crisis

It's free and confidential. Available 24/7.

(800) 626-8137 | TTY (866) 835-2755

wa.beaconhealthoptions.com

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