



WS-102 – Is Your Response Team Ready?

Building a Ready and Resilient Disaster Response & Recovery Team





Welcome and Session Overview



WS-102 – Is Your Response Team Ready?

Building a Ready and Resilient Disaster Response & Recovery Team



Richard Fimbel, CEM, CISM

South Florida Water Management District

Director of Emergency Management

www.sfwmd.gov

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Rfimbel@sfwmd.gov

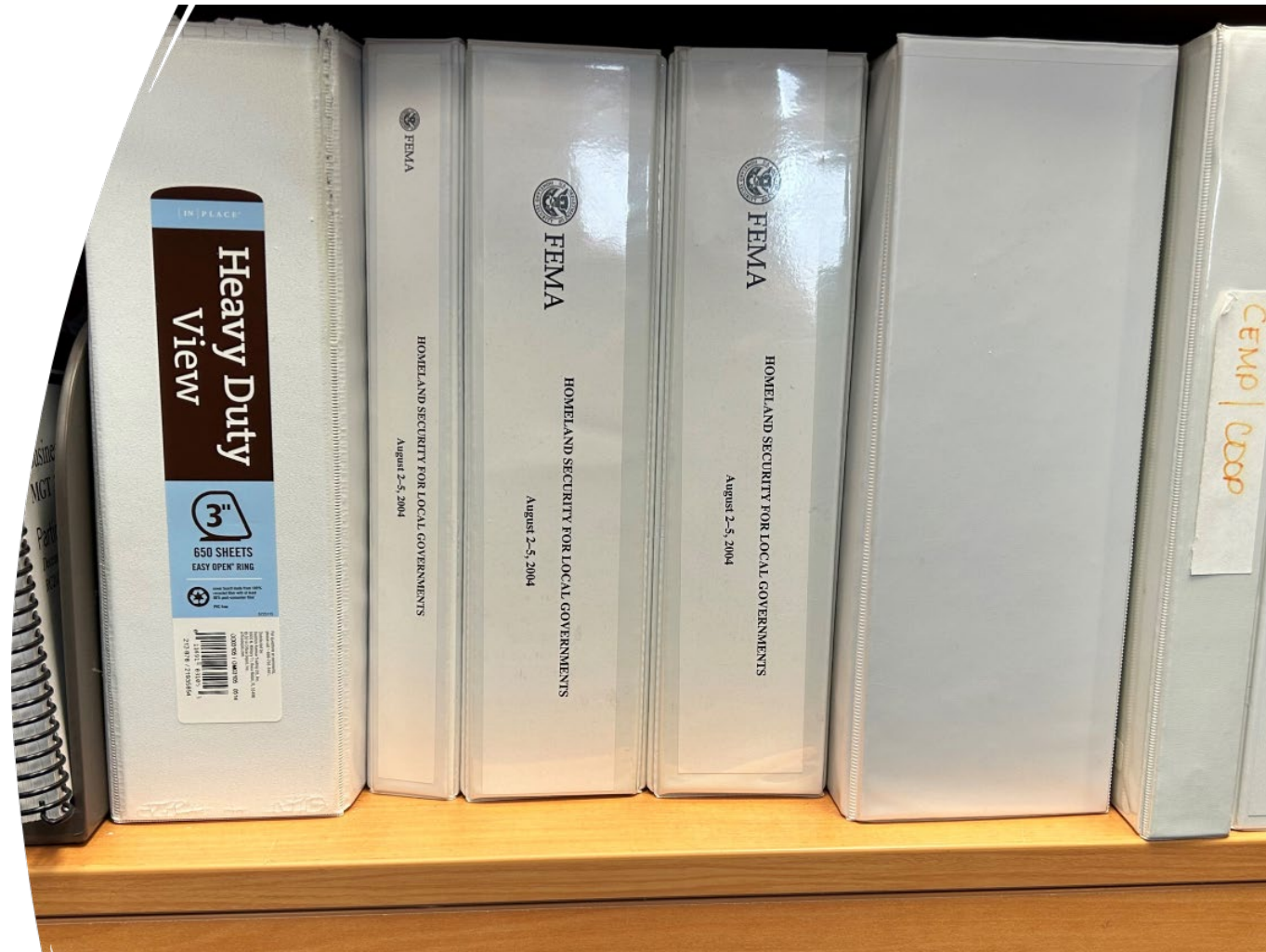


- Over 25 years of Emergency Management experience
- FEMA and Red Cross Instructor
- Credential Pastor – Served as a Disaster & Emergency Services Chaplain
- Husband and Father of 3
- Florida Native



Emergency Plans

- CEMP
- COOP
- EMP
- IMP
- Crisis Management Plans
- Crisis Communications Plans
- Etc.





- **Back-up Plan**
- **Secondary Plan**
- **Plan A**
 - **Plan B**
 - **Plan C**
 - **Plan D**





Now What?





Panelist Introductions

Amie Leigh, MBA, CISM, CCS

CEO/Clinical Director

Capacity Path LLC/Capacity Path Relief, Inc.

Resilience, Response, and Relief Programs

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Jesse Spearo, PhD, CEM, FPEM, FMI, MEP
ASSISTANT DIRECTOR,
MIAMI-DADE DEPARTMENT OF EMERGENCY
MANAGEMENT

- 25 YEARS OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT EXPERIENCE**
- PROFESSOR AT FIU, NOVA SOUTHEASTERN UNIVERSITY, AND GEORGETOWN UNIVERSITY**
- LEADING REGIONAL EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS AND TRAINING AND EXERCISE EFFORTS FOR FIFA WORLD CUP**

Billy Weinshank, MBA

City of Port St. Lucie

Emergency Operations Division Director

City Manager's Office/Emergency Management

772-812-7230

wweinshank@cityofpsl.com



- Entered Public Safety in 1998
- Transitioned to full time EM in 2008
- Attained MBA with Concentration in Homeland Security Acquisitions in 2020
- Father of 4
- Lived in the Community I serve since 1994

Mike Nevarez

Deputy Emergency Manager

City of North Port Fire Rescue

Emergency Management

Office: (941) 240-8165

mnevarez@northportfl.gov



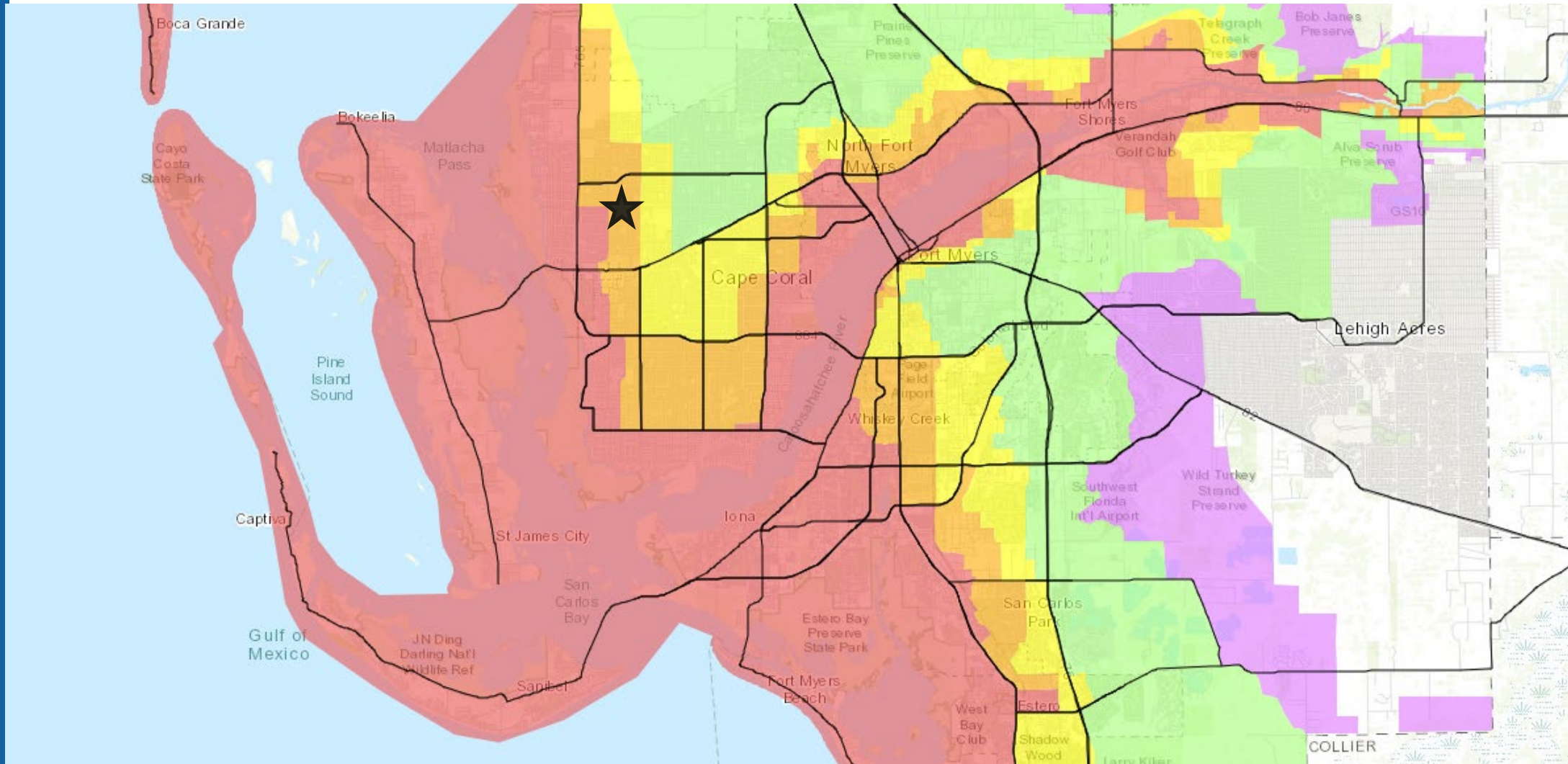
- Deputy Emergency Manager
- Transitioned to Full Time Emergency Management
2.5 years ago
- Worked with Lee Co Procurement



Mike Nevarez

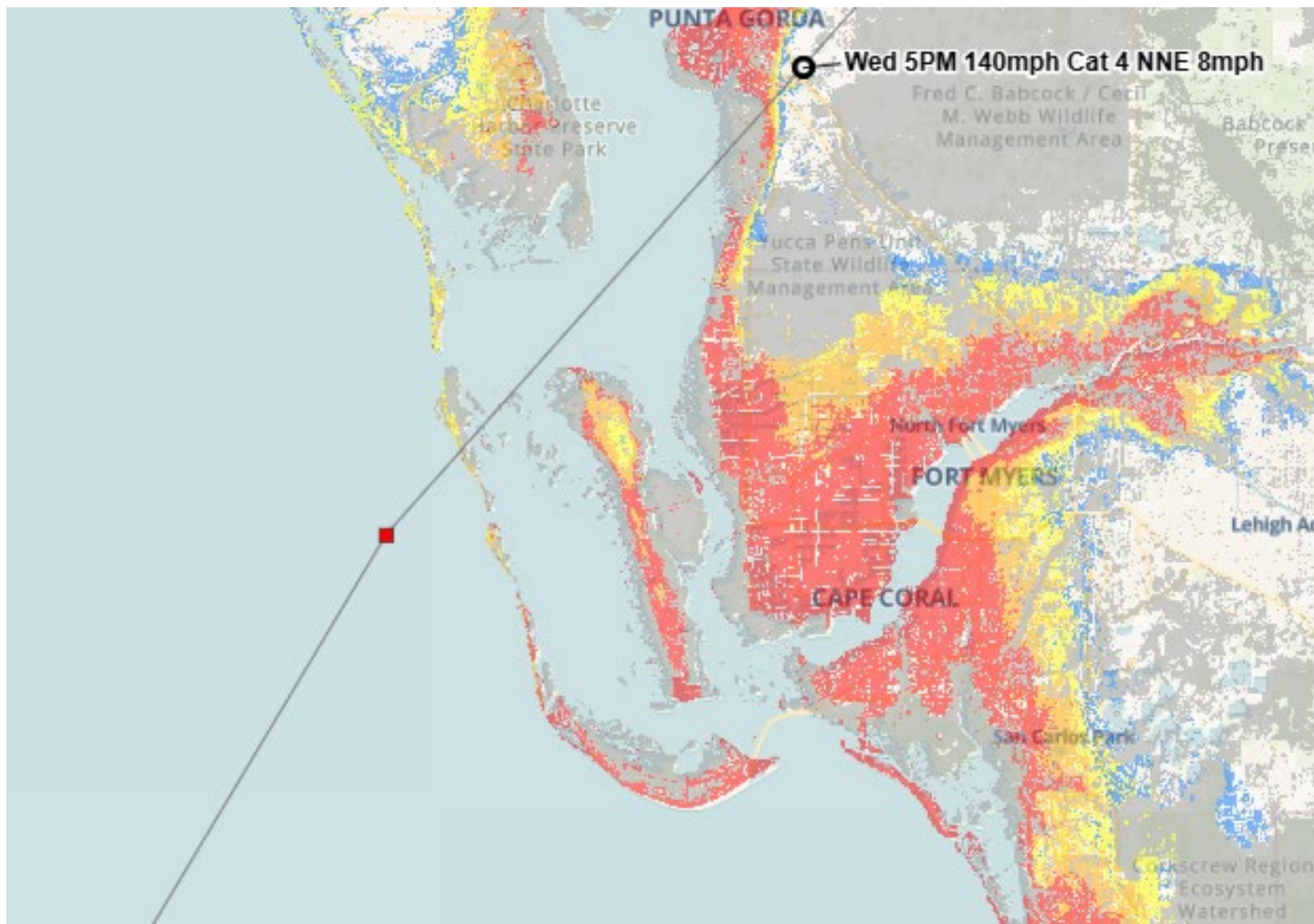
Deputy Emergency Manager
City of North Port Fire Rescue

The Lee County Ian Experience



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Landfall Potential Storm Surge

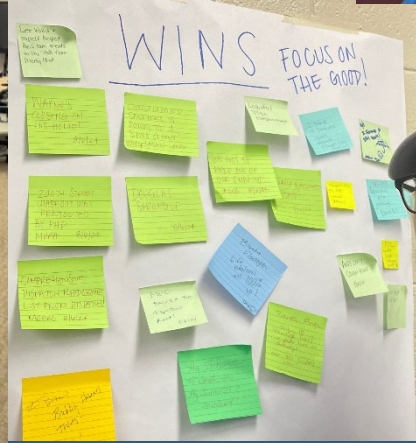
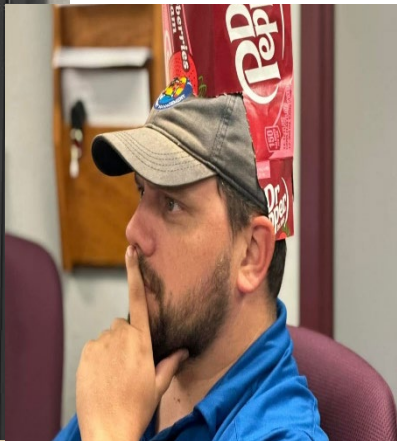




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Impact to the Community







Stress Reductions Techniques

- Responder Respite Care with Capacity Path!!!
- Win Board
- Jokes and Memes
- Mood Board
- Therapy Dogs
- Snacks!
- Coffee, Ice Cream, Donut Truck
- Coloring
- Aromatherapy



Billy Weinshank, MBA

Emergency Operations Division Director

City of Port St. Lucie



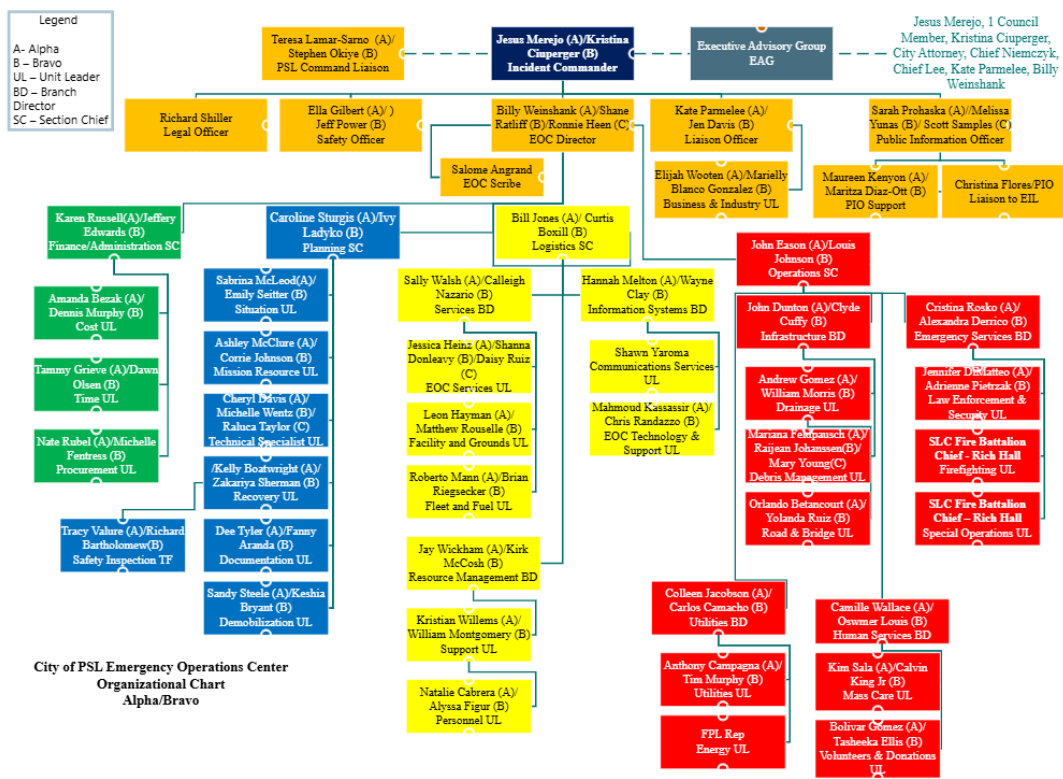
October 7

- Know Your Zone
- Make A Plan
- Build A Kit
- Stay Informed

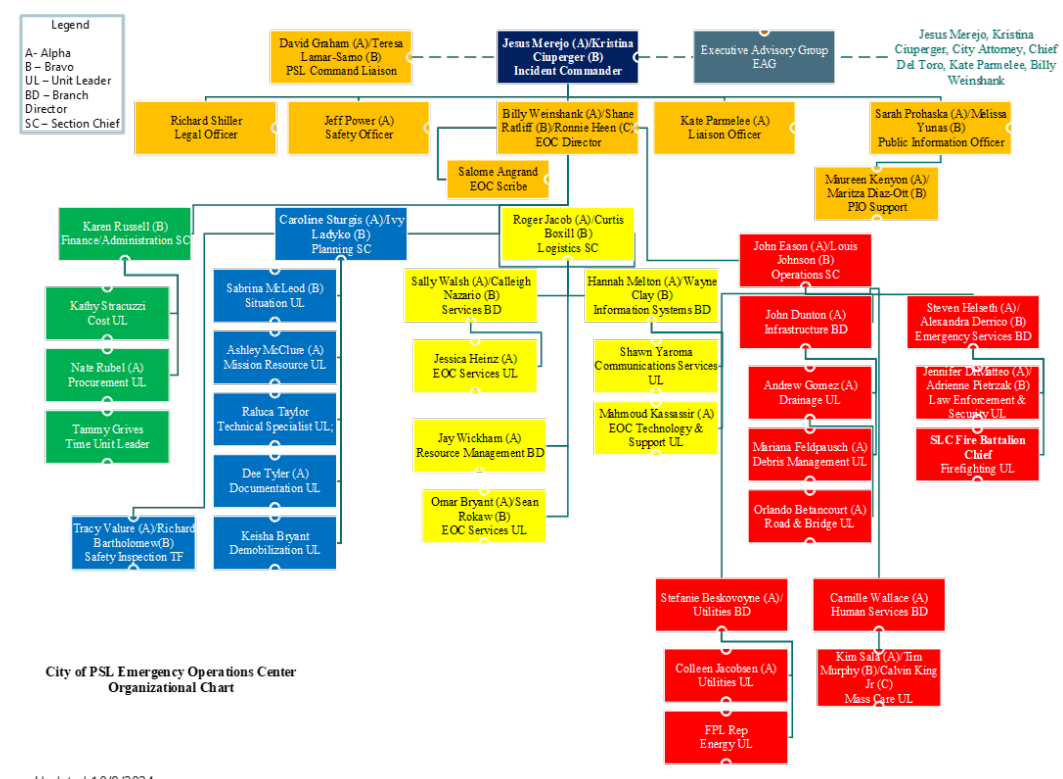




October 8, 2024



Updated 3/12/2025



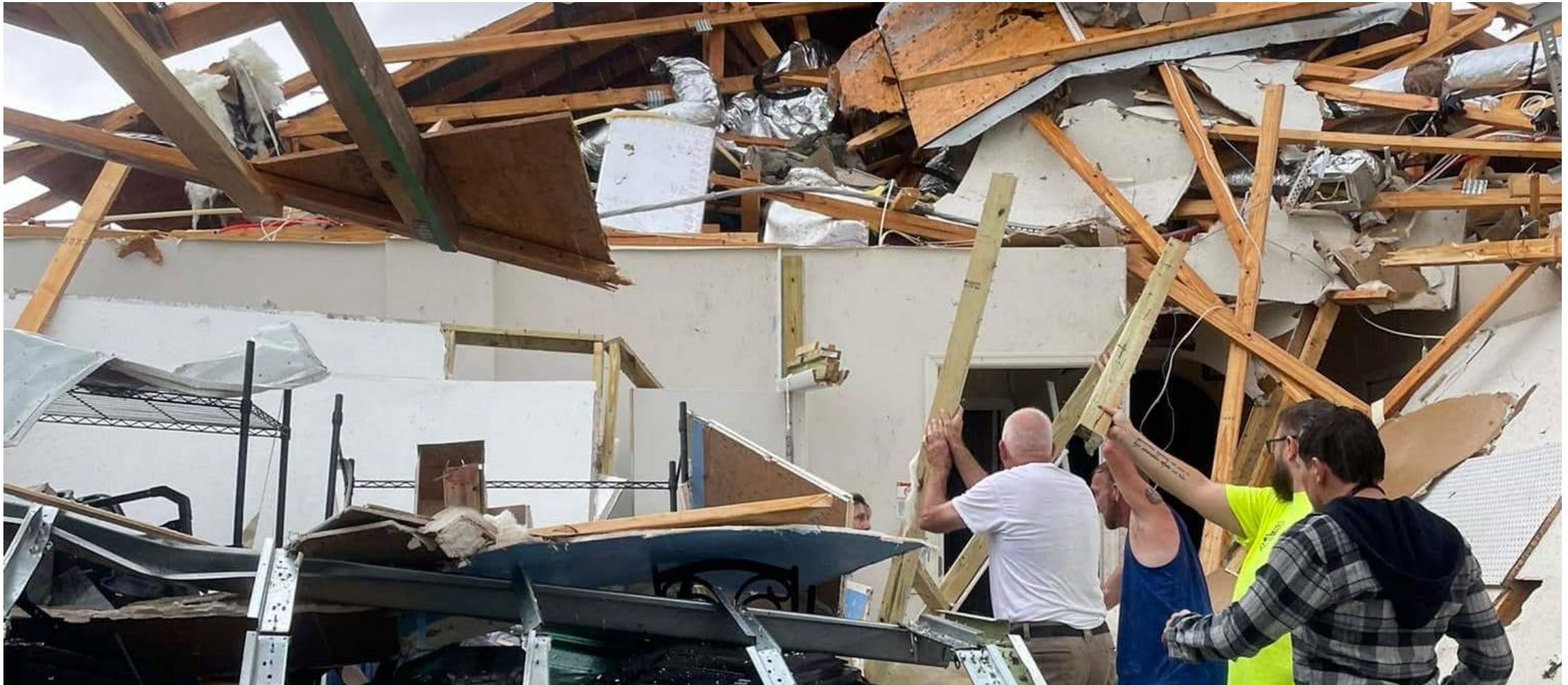
Updated 10/8/2024



Command Meeting

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Suzy's Perspective





Billy's Ride Home

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Five Minutes of Fame



BLAKE FONTENAY | Opinion *This piece expresses the views of its author(s), separate from those of this publication.*

Opinion: Can't be 'too prepared,' PSL emergency manager says after tornado destroys home



Blake Fontenay

Treasure Coast Newspapers

Published 5:08 a.m. ET Oct. 14, 2024



Billy Weinshank, director of Port St. Lucie's emergency operations division, has spent a 30-year career planning for disasters to strike.

It's his business to prepare for different scenarios that could disrupt the city's operations, the lives of local residents, or both. Yet even with his decades of training and experience, Hurricane Milton served up a surprise that affected him on a deeply personal level.

On Oct. 9, while preparing for a 5 p.m. pre-storm meeting with the city's management staff, he got a panicked call from his usually calm wife, Suzanne.

"She called me and I couldn't understand what she was saying," Weinshank said. "She was screaming and crying."



Jesse Spearo, PhD, CEM, FPEM, FMI, MEP

Assistant Director

Miami Dade Department of Emergency Management



Amie Leigh, MBA, CISM, CCS

CEO/Clinical Director

Capacity Path LLC/Capacity Path Relief, Inc.



**Disaster is a
community-wide
TRAUMATIC
event that
doesn't rapidly
stabilize on its
own.**



**People are often
defined by the crises
they have survived.**

**...Even more than
their achievements
and successes.**



**Every role and every resident is being restructured.
Things will never be the same.**

**Civilians tend
“wait it out”
or
wish/ hope/ pray
for things to
“go back to
normal”**

EM too???



Rebuilding homes and highways and hospitals is one thing. Rebuilding hearts, minds, memories, and community is another.



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Crisis Stabilization provides structured effective means to repair a community, reducing social costs & accelerating healing.



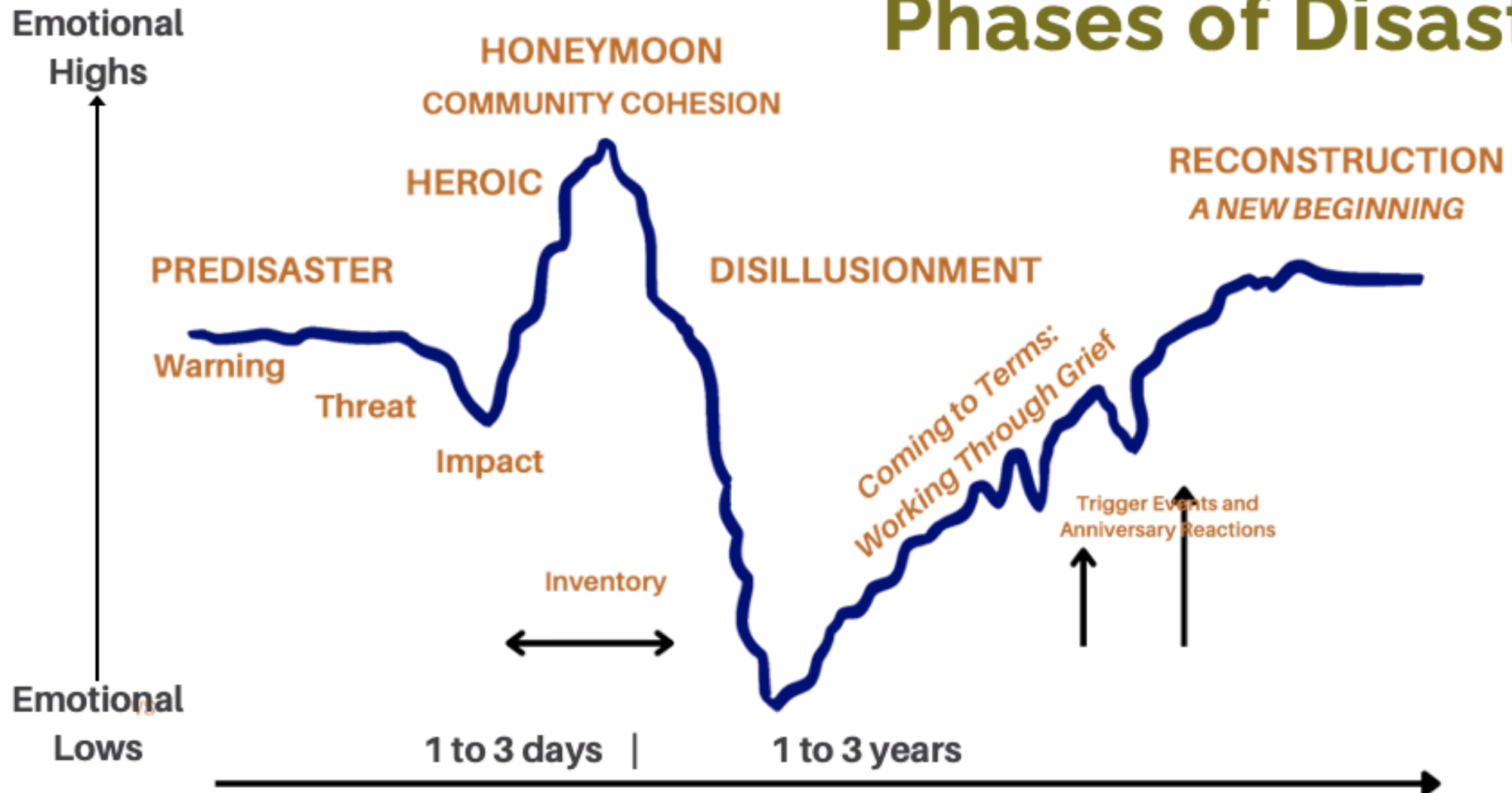
MENTAL HEALTH & WELLNESS SUPPORT SITE



Crisis Stabilization (BCS/ACS/CCS) uses body-based mental health interventions to provide structured accessible means to repair a community, reducing social costs & accelerating healing.

CRISIS INFORMED CARE IS DISASTER MENTAL HEALTH

Phases of Disaster



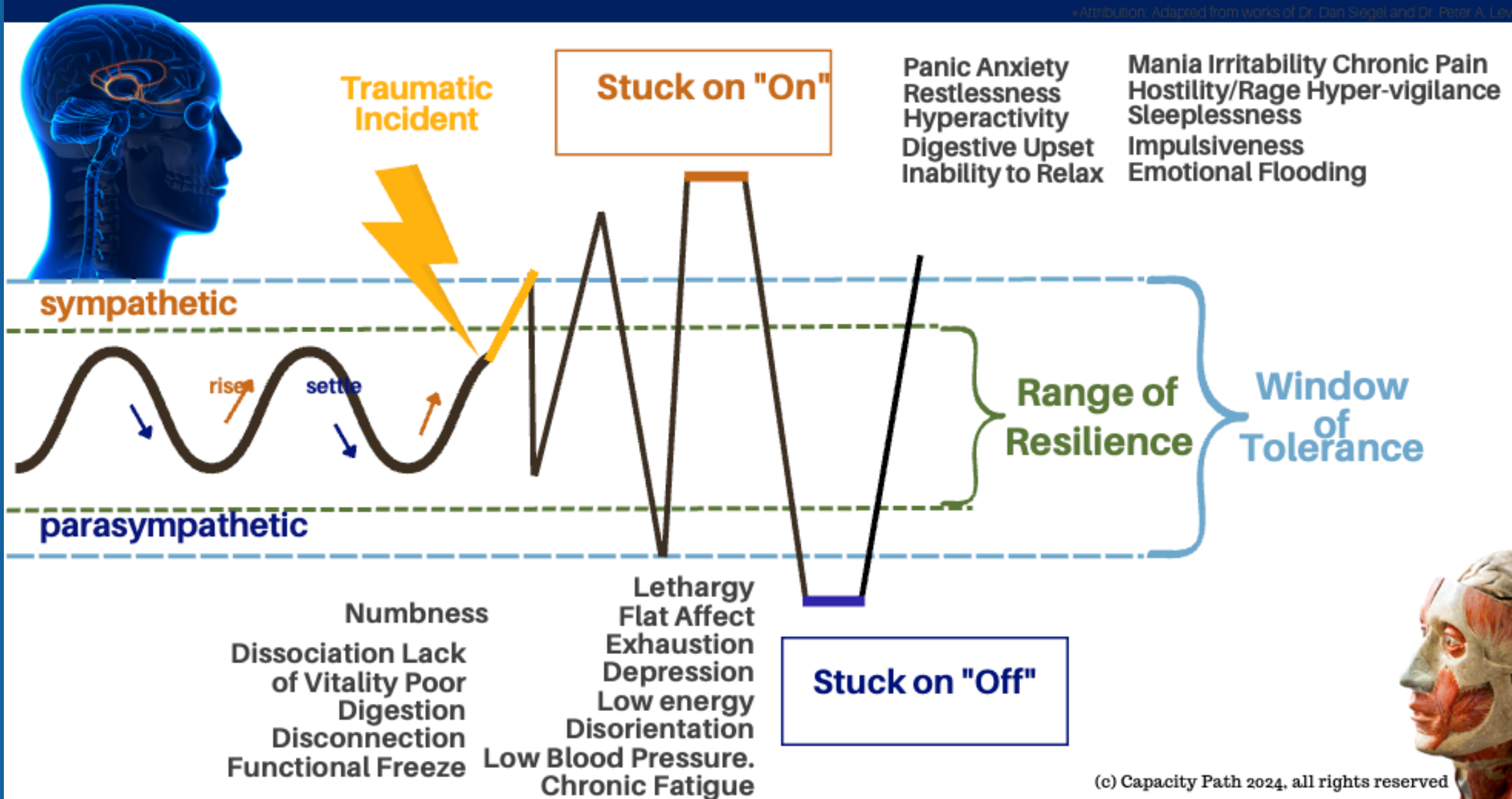
CRISIS INFORMED CARE



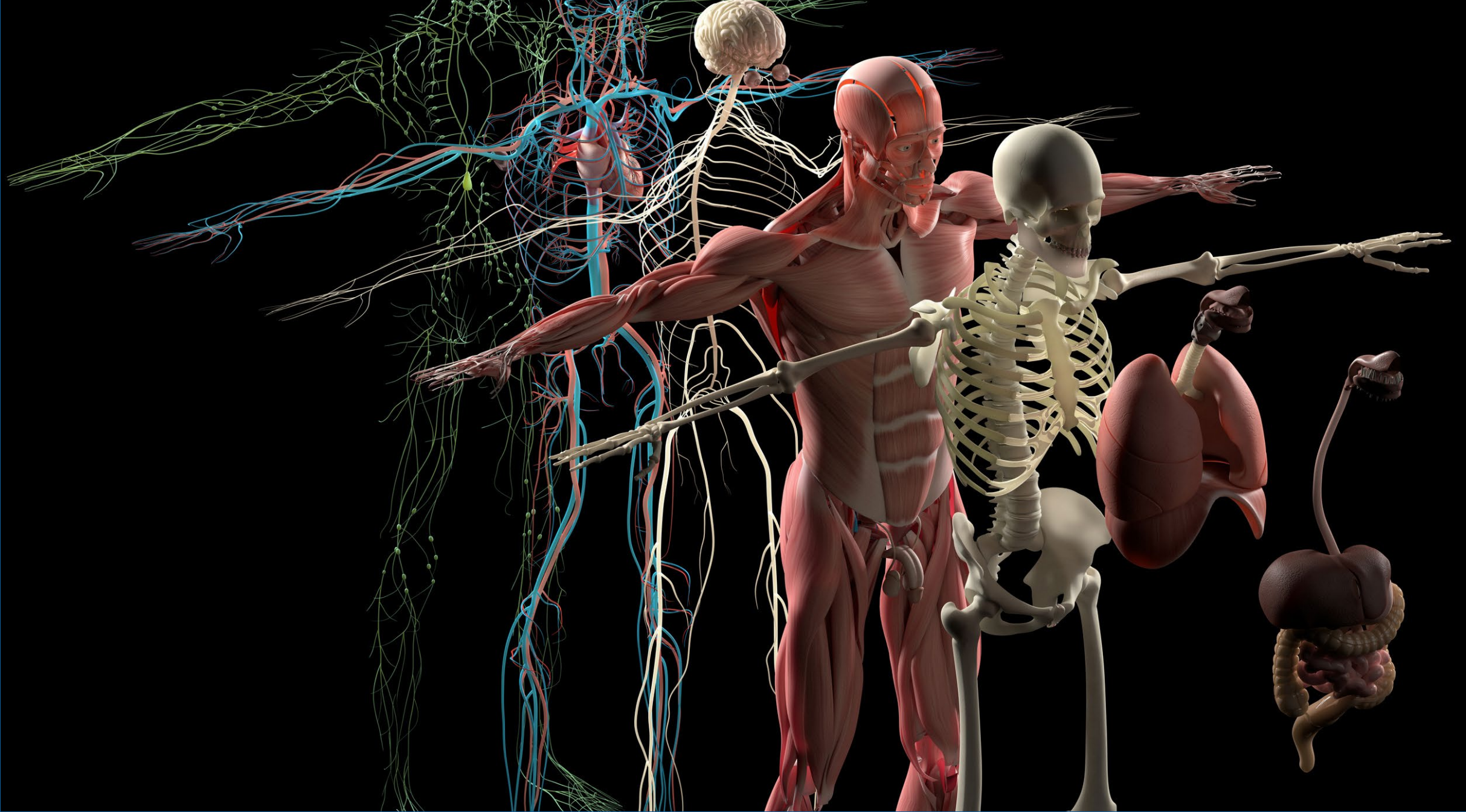
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CRISIS = UNDISCHARGED STRESS IN THE NERVOUS SYSTEM

Attribution: Adapted from works of Dr. Dan Siegel and Dr. Peter A. Levine



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Capacity path wellness site assists family with play therapy while moms take a moment of care.



Interacting with a man
on the roof



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ST. LUCIE, Ft. Pierce | Since the tornados Spanish Lakes has had a team of local sheriff's monitoring and securing the community. They have been a stabilizing force for the commu...







PINELLAS COUNTY EOC

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“

Trauma can be prevented more easily than it can be healed.

DR .PETER LEVINE

Psychologist, Medical Biophysicist, and Founder of SE™ (Somatic Experiencing)

Team Engagement Opportunities

- Set up an annual Picnic or other Event
- Provide Emergency Preparedness Resources
 - FEMA
 - NWS
 - Ready.gov
 - Floridadisaster.org
- CPR and First Aid Training
 - Employee and their families
- Raffle – First Aid Kits, Weather Radios, Etc.
- Sponsor and start a CERT program





Questions?



Contact Information



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