MENTAL HEALTH AND DISASTERS

Since the attacks of September 11, 2001, disaster preparedness and response has developed into a discrete subspecialty in medicine and has become a national health priority. The mental health consequences of disasters are an important area of study. Disasters are associated with substantial short and long-lasting psychological burden, at both an individual and a community level. The range of psychopathologies associated with disaster is broad and includes different types of psychiatric disorders and behavioral problems, including posttraumatic stress disorder, depression, and prolonged grief. This book is the definitive reference on mental health and disasters, focused on the assessment and treatment of the full spectrum of psychopathologies associated with different types of disasters. Considerations about the use of preexisting community-based mental health services, as well as the development and the testing of new treatment programs, are covered in depth. Detailed case studies, incorporating lessons from major disasters such as Hurricane Katrina and the September 11, 2001, terrorist attacks, are included.

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To Mariana, Michal, Oren, and Maya, forever with love (YN);
For Margaret, Oliver Luke, and Isabel Tess, as always (SG);
To my husband, Michael, for his unending support, and
my brother, Fred, for a lifetime of love (FHN).
Mental Health and Disasters

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