

A traumatic event is any incident experienced by the person that is perceived to be traumatic... Mass traumatic events include terrorist attacks, mass shootings and severe weather events." – MENTAL HEALTH FIRST AID

- 1. Learn about local resources in your community.
- 2. Ask how you can best help.
- 3. Talk with the person as an equal.
- 4. Offer support in whatever form seems right, including small things like a hug or having coffee together.
- Know that behaviors like withdrawal, irritability and bad temper may be a response to trauma. Remain friendly.
- 6. Encourage the person to talk about their reactions if they feel ready and want to do so.
- 7. Don't interrupt to share your own feelings, experiences or opinions.
- 8. Don't trivialize the person's feelings or minimize his or her experience.
- 9. If the person wants help, offer your support and connect him or her with local resources and services.
- 10. If at any time the person becomes suicidal or begins abusing drugs or alcohol, seek professional help.





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- 1. Shock, denial or disbelief
- 2. Anger, irritability or mood swings
- 3. Sadness or hopelessness
- 4. Confusion or difficulty concentrating
- 5. Anxiety or fear
- 6. Withdrawal from others
- 7. Trouble sleeping or nightmares
- 8. Easily startled
- 9. Fatigue
- 10. Racing heart, aches and pains or muscle tension



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