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disaster mental health institute

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Continuing Professional Education for Psychologists

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Gerard A. Jacobs, Ph.D. is serving as the Acting Director of Continuing Edu

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The Disaster Mental Health Institute is approved by the American Psychological Association as a sponsor continuing education for psychologists. The DMHI maintains responsible programs and their content.

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The Disaster Mental Health Institute (DMHI) at The University of South Dakota is under the direction of Gerard A. Jacobs, Ph.D. The institute resides in the **Department of Psychology** and all DMHI faculty are the clinical faculty of the American Psychological Association Accredited Doctoral **Clinical Training** at the University of South Dakota.

The mission of the DMHI is the promotion, development, and application of both practice and research in disaster mental health. While the DMHI's educational focus is the education and training of undergraduate students at The University of South Dakota, DMHI faculty also recognize the importance of providing continuing professional education, particularly in disaster psychology, to interested persons who are not enrolled as university students.

The mainstay of our continuing education offerings is the annual DMHI conference **Innovations in Disaster Psychology**. Specific information regarding that conference is provided below. However, the DMHI also sponsors or co-sponsors a number of other events which provide the opportunity for continuing education. Information may be obtained by calling the DMHI at 1-800-522-9684.

Criteria for Earning Continuing Education Credit

- You must attend all sessions of the designated activity in their entirety. (A generous allowance for breaks is scheduled for breaks in the DMHI annual Innovations in Disaster Psychology conference.)
- No "partial credit" will be allowed.
- You must return a completed program evaluation form at the end of each day.
- An additional charge of \$25.00 for a continuing education certificate must be paid upon completion of CE credit. (In some activities this fee has been included in the registration fee. If not, please **email** the DMHI.)

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Resolving Participant Complaints

It is the policy of the Disaster Mental Health Institute at the University of South Dakota to provide assurance to any consumer of our educational programs. Any expression of dissatisfaction by a participant in any Continuing Education program sponsored by the Disaster Mental Health Institute at the University of South Dakota should wish to express a complaint or objection regarding any continuing education program, they may initially address their reaction with the conference organizer or with any other member of the Disaster Mental Health Institute staff. If the issues cannot be readily and immediately resolved, the complaint will be forwarded to the Director of the Disaster Mental Health Institute for consideration and response. Should the process require further consideration and resolution, the Continuing Education Committee will take the matter under consideration for discussion and resolution. Should the issues remain unresolved, the University of South Dakota standard appeals process will be followed. The matter would proceed to the Department Chair, then to the appropriate Dean, then to the Vice President, followed by the Vice President and ultimately to the University President.

Information Specific to the annual DMHI conference **Innovations in Disaster Psychology**

Each year this conference has a specific focus. Participation in Innovations in Disaster Psychology is open to anyone interested in the field of disaster psychology or disaster mental health and draws an international group of presenters and participants from diverse backgrounds and occupations. The DMHI faculty ensure that both the presenters and the presentations involved in the annual conference are of high quality.

Contact Information:

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Institute**

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Last Modified: 02/21/06

educational value, both generally and for psychologists and other mental health professionals. Psychologists and other mental health professionals who are interested in receiving continuing credit from the DMHI are required to complete a separate CE registration at the conference and an additional charge of \$25.00 for a continuing education certificate.

Interested parties may preview the learning objectives for the annual conference on the **confe page**. These are generally posted at least a month prior to the conference.

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