ASPR TRACIE Speaker Series Brief Speaker Biographies

COVID-19 and Healthcare Professional Stress and Resilience: Speaker Series

Rachel E. Kaul, LCSW, CTS

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Ms. Kaul is a clinical social worker who received her training at the University of Michigan. Ms. Kaul is the Team Lead for Behavioral Health in the Office of Emergency Management and Medical Operations of the Department of Health and Human Services. In this capacity she provides guidance to the disaster mental health community throughout the country in promoting expansion and improvement of behavioral health services to foster individual and community resilience. She has also served as a Federal Project Officer responsible for planning, organizing, directing, and evaluating mental health crisis counseling services to survivors of Presidentially declared disasters. Ms. Kaul provided oversight and guidance for the FEMA funded crisis counseling projects in Mississippi and Texas for evacuees from Hurricanes Katrina and Rita. Prior to joining Federal service, Ms. Kaul was a responder for community and workplace crisis teams and a disaster mental health responder with the American Red Cross. She was the Coordinator of Crisis Response Services with the Employee Assistance Program at the Pentagon for two years after the 9/11 attack. She has published articles and book chapters on disaster mental health and emergency response, death notification, stress management and crisis intervention.