



## Trauma Intervention Programs, Inc.

Trauma Intervention Programs, Inc. (TIP) is a national voluntary nonprofit organization that ensures those who are emotionally traumatized in emergencies receive the assistance they need. To accomplish that goal, TIP, Inc. works closely with local communities to establish emergency service volunteer programs. Well-trained citizen volunteers are called to emergency scenes to assist family members, witnesses, and other bystanders whom the emergency system must often leave behind.

Since 1985, TIP, Inc. has established 16 affiliates serving over 250 cities. In each of these programs, citizen volunteers demonstrate that, given the opportunity, they can play an essential role in the emergency response system.

# TIP Works!

"There are some voluntary programs that are simple, cost nearly nothing, and make you say, "What a good idea"...It's called TIP."

*Jackie Nespral*  
Today Show

"An example of volunteering at it's best."

*James K. Stewart*  
Former Director  
National Institute of Justice

"Emotional aid is what we are talking about tonight. What happens to those who are witness to tragedy, crime of accident? They too, as it turns out are often the forgotten victims. Well, now there's help."

*Tom Brokaw*  
Reporting on TIP



Trauma Intervention Programs  
*Riverside County*



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"Compassion in Action"



## What is TIP?

Trauma Intervention Programs (TIP) is a group of specially trained citizen volunteers who provide emotional and practical support to victims of traumatic events and their families in the first few hours after a tragedy.

## Why TIP?

Following a traumatic event, the persons involved often feel helpless, confused and in emotional shock. They are unprepared. Often there is no one available in the immediate aftermath of a tragedy to guide the victims through these difficult hours. The TIP volunteer provides the necessary support until the persons involved in the crisis can depend on family, friends, neighbors, and others.

## When is TIP called?

TIP volunteers are available 24/7/365. Police, fire, and medical personnel call on TIP volunteers to assist family members and friends following any trauma or tragedy resulting from:

- Death of a loved one (illness, suicide, homicide, accident, or age-related).
- Victims of violent crime: rape, assault, robbery, burglary, and intimate partner violence.
- Crimes against property.
- Victims of fire, flood, or accident.
- TIP volunteers also support those who are distraught, lonely, disoriented, or seeking immediate support.

## Who Pays for TIP Services?

Trauma Intervention Programs, Inc. is a nonprofit, tax-exempt organization. Services are provided to victims and their families free of charge and are made possible through grants from local government, individual donations, and fundraising efforts.

## What TIP Volunteers Do

- Provide emotional support.
- Help arrange shelter, food, clothing, and transportation.
- Accompany on notification to family.
- Serve as liaison between survivors and emergency responders and hospital personnel.
- Help arrange follow-up services.
- Provide information and referral to appropriate agencies for ongoing assistance.

## Who are TIP Volunteers?

TIP Volunteers are community members of all ages and occupations who desire to help others. Many volunteers have been through a traumatic experience themselves and realize the importance of immediate support from a caring and knowledgeable person.

## TIP Training

TIP is committed to helping everyone in the community become more effective helpers when confronted with someone in crisis. Emotional first aid (EFA) training is available to groups upon request. TIP volunteers attend a 9-day training course. Volunteers will be familiarized with victimology, EFA skills, working in the emergency system, street smarts, dealing with death, and policies and procedures.