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**DPO & NYDIS Offer Dialog for Chaplains-MH Providers**

On Tuesday, May 24, 9:00 am-1:00 pm, NYDIS-Disaster Psychiatry Outreach are co-sponsoring a dialog for chaplains and mental health providers who served at Ground Zero. The event is being funded by the American Red Cross and Episcopal Relief and Development. The event will be held at NYU's Kimmel Center, 60 Washington Square South. The dialog will include presentations from each field with significant time to engage in discussion. Registration is free, and breakfast and lunch will be provided. Reservations are requested and can be made on line or by fax, 212-669-6101.

**Featured speakers include:**

- **Todd Essig, Ph.D.**  
Fellow, Supervising Psychoanalyst William Alanson White Institute  
Clinical Assistant Professor of Psychiatry, New York Medical College  
Founder and Director, The Psychoanalytic Connection  
Chair, Board of Directors, New York Disaster Counseling Coalition
- **The Reverend T. Kenjitsu Nakagaki**  
Head Resident Minister, NY Buddhist Church, Jodoshinshu Temple  
Chairperson, BCA Eastern District Buddhist Ministers Association  
Former President, Buddhist Council of New York  
UCM Buddhist Chaplain, Columbia University

To download a registration form or to register on line, go to:

[www.nydis.org/resources/headlines/04-20-05.php](http://www.nydis.org/resources/headlines/04-20-05.php)

For Information, contact:

Dr. Grant H. Brenner  
Disaster Psychiatry Outreach  
(212) 721-9235

Daniel H. Bush  
New York Disaster Interfaith Services  
(212) 669-6105

Dear Friends of NYDIS:

Welcome to NYDISnet, our bi-weekly e-newsletter. We hope this resource will keep you updated about NYDIS and developments in disaster readiness, response and recovery initiatives that impacts the faith communities, our agencies and our partners.

Please feel free to copy and share any information from NYDISnet you find helpful, simply credit us as the source when appropriate.

Faithfully, Peter

Peter B. Gudaitis, M.Div.  
Executive Director & CEO

To share news or information, or to distribute NYDISnet to your agency, clergy or congregational list, contact:

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## **NYDIS Holds Clergy Preparedness Summit**

New York Disaster Interfaith Services held its second annual Clergy Preparedness Summit this week with 140 religious leaders from various faith communities in attendance. The Rev. Susan Lockwood, Director of Disaster Planning and Training, said, "The bottom line of ministry is it's always all about the people, about people who are empowered. Preparing for terrorism and other emergencies is empowering." She also stressed that spiritual leaders become resources in times of crisis.

Joseph Bruno (pictured), Commissioner of the NYC Office of Emergency Management, and Lloyd Sederer, Executive Deputy Commission of the Dept. of Health & Mental Hygiene, were featured speakers.



An unplanned evacuation of the Rosenthal Pavilion when a smoke detector went off on another floor provided a reality and experiential element that made the point of the Summit and set the stage for the keynote address by The Rev. Alfonso Wyatt, Vice President of the Fund for the City of New York, who urged faith leaders to be motivated by the experience of 9/11 to think and act differently with an interfaith context.

In addition, Arturo Guzman, Disaster Spiritual Care Services—NY, Pastor Khader El-Yateem, Salam Lutheran Church, Sarah Sayeed, Women in Islam, Inc., and Amardeep Singh, Sikh Coalition, spoke of the vital role of religious leaders in providing spiritual care, advocacy, and peace building in times of emergencies and disasters, particularly for the underserved and immigrant populations.

Workshops provided participants the opportunity to both share their knowledge and learn new information about Spiritual Care, Disaster Ministry & Preparedness, Community Peace Building, and the interface between Mental Health & Spiritual Care.

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## **Mt. Sinai Reopens WTC Screening Enrollment**



Mt. Sinai Hospital will begin accepting new patients into the World Trade Center Worker and Volunteer Medical Screening program. The program ended last year but was revived by a federal grant. Thousands of recovery workers have been diagnosed with physical and mental ailments, showing the demand for medical care.

If you think you might qualify, call 888-702-0630.

For more info or to download eligibility forms, go to: [www.wtcexams.org](http://www.wtcexams.org)

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## **Rules Committee Rejects Rep. Maloney's Amendments to Help Sick & Injured 9/11 Responders & Improve Future Response**

On May 17, Congresswoman Maloney offered amendments to the Dept. of Homeland Security Authorization Act for 2006 (HR 1817) that would

have 1) directed the federal government to respond adequately to the extensive health needs of thousands of 9/11 responders, and 2) improved the federal response to first responder health needs after potential future national disasters and terrorist attacks. Both amendments were rejected by House leaders of the Rules Committee.

Maloney's first amendment was based on HR 566, the Remember 9/11 Health Act, a bill she introduced with Congressman Christopher Shays (R-CT) that would provide medical monitoring and treatment for individuals who are sick or injured as a direct result of the attacks of 9/11.

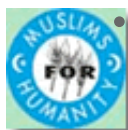
Congresswoman Maloney's second amendment would have established a framework for medical monitoring programs for responders following certain major disasters where the health of responders is at risk. The need for this legislation is evidenced in the uneven and inadequate federal response to 9/11 health needs, where no federal agency can say that it is fully in charge of the health response to the terrorist attacks and its aftermath.

For full description of the bill, go to:

[www.house.gov/maloney/press/109th/20050430Health911.htm](http://www.house.gov/maloney/press/109th/20050430Health911.htm)

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## From Our Members and Partners



- **ICNA Staff Member Responds to NY Post Offense**

Adem Carroll, staff member of Islamic Circle of North America, sent a letter to the editor of the New York Post after a 5/17 front page headline used Shiite Islam in a disrespectful way. The text of the letter is below.

Dear Editor:

Your 5/17 front page headline "Holy Shiite" juxtaposed with an image of Newsweek being flushed down a toilet, is truly infantile. While we understand the competitive urge to bash fellow media, this front page is also needlessly offensive and provocative of your Muslim friends and neighbors in New York.

I ask you, what does Shiite Islam have to do with the issue of journalistic standards? The whole thing is in such poor taste, and given the constant smears in talk radio, yet another oppressive burden on a struggling community of faith. Would you get away with this against other minority groups? I don't think so.

Such a casual lack of respect adds fuel to the fire of resentment -- not helpful to moderates, to peacemakers, or for our future generations. No wonder most of the world will believe the worst of us Americans. Have we really no sense of decency?

Adem Carroll  
Islamic Circle of North America

- **LDRNY Coordinator to Open Play about 9/11 Experiences**

Mikki Baloy, LDRNY coordinator, is preparing for the debut of her one-woman show, "eleven," which opens June 7 at the critically-acclaimed Brick Theater in Williamsburg, Brooklyn. Eleven tells the stories of the wave effects of 9/11.



Baloy, who worked in the financial district before coming to LDRNY, has firsthand experience with that.

Go to [www.LDRNY.org](http://www.LDRNY.org) for upcoming information.

- **New Ground Day Camps Embark on Fourth Summer**



New Ground Day Camps are poised to debut this summer for a fourth year in the New York metropolitan area. New Ground was launched in the summer of 2002 as a way for kids to express their feelings and work through the events of 9/11 in a safe and

loving church camp environment. Run by Koinonia NYC, with generous funding from Lutheran Disaster Response of New York, New Ground takes place at more than 18 church sites from July 5 to Aug. 19.

To read more about New Ground, go to [www.LDRNY.org](http://www.LDRNY.org) and click on Top News.

- **NYDIS Sends Observers to Bioterrorism Exercise**

OEM Commissioner Joseph Bruno has invited NYDIS to have observers present for a bioterrorism exercise being conducted by NYC OEM, NYPD, DOHMH and Homeland Security on June 2. Executive Director Peter Gudaitis and Director of Planning & Training Susan Lockwood and three NYDIS board members will attend.

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## Preparedness Corner

### Above Average Hurricanes Predicted

Forecasters are predicting another above-average hurricane season for the United States.

Read the full story at [www.disasternews.net/news/news.php?articleid=2639](http://www.disasternews.net/news/news.php?articleid=2639)

### Hurricane Preparedness Week 2005 (MAY 15-21)

Did you know New York City ranks behind only Miami and New Orleans among U.S. cities most vulnerable to hurricane-related damage? Contrary to popular belief among many New Yorkers, coastal storms, including hurricanes, can and do impact the city. OEM encourages New Yorkers to take steps to prepare for the 2005 hurricane season, which runs from June 1 to November 30.



<b>Español</b>	<a href="#">brochure</a>	<a href="#">map</a>
<b>Kreyòl Ayisyen</b>	<a href="#">brochure</a>	<a href="#">map</a>
<b>中文(繁體)</b>	<a href="#">brochure</a>	<a href="#">map</a>
<b>Русский</b>	<a href="#">brochure</a>	<a href="#">map</a>

- Learn more about [coastal storms and hurricanes](#).
  - Review [NOAA's 2005 Atlantic hurricane season outlook](#).
  - Read the [Governor's proclamation](#).
  - Download [Ready New York: Hurricanes and New York City](#) (in [PDF](#)) & [NYC's hurricane evacuation zone map](#) (in [PDF](#)).
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### We Recommend...

- For case management and mental health resources, go to: [www.nydis.org/9-11recovery/9.htm](http://www.nydis.org/9-11recovery/9.htm)
  - For good preparedness resources, go to the American Red Cross website: [www.redcross.org/prepare/makeaplan.html](http://www.redcross.org/prepare/makeaplan.html)
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### Make a Gift to NYDIS



If you'd like to make a donation to assist NYDIS in its mission of providing faith-based disaster services, [click here](#), or send a check to NYDIS at 22 Cortlandt Street, 20th Flr, New York, NY 10007. Contributions are tax deductible. It is a great way to honor or memorialize someone and we will send an acknowledgement of your gift.

To donate on line, go to the NYDIS homepage and click on "Make a Donation": [www.nydis.org](http://www.nydis.org)