

PUBLIC COMMENT SIGNUP SHEET

NOVEMBER 7, 2016

Pursuant to N.C. Gen. Stat. §153A-52.1, the Henderson County welcomes public comment at its meetings. Please note that each speaker is limited to three (3) minutes, unless a different time limit is announced. Also, the Board may adopt rules limiting the number of persons speaking taking the same position on a given issue, and other rules regarding the maintenance of good order.

Each speaker should be aware and by their signatures hereto they agree that their comments may be recorded (by audio-visual recordings, photography or other means), and may be (but are not required to be) broadcast by the County as a part of the broadcast of this meeting, or as a part of the County's programming on its local video channel(s). By their signature they further agree that Henderson County is and will be the sole owner of all rights in and to such programming. The undersigned hereby indemnifies Henderson County, its employees and agents, against any and all claims, damages, liabilities, costs and expenses arising out of the use of the undersigned's images and words in connection therewith.

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November 7, 2016

To: The Henderson County Board of Commissioners

Subject: Proposal to Designate the Stillwell Building as Historic Landmark

Gentlemen:

In view of the impasse that exists regarding the future of Hendersonville High School's Stillwell Building, I wish to propose that the structure be designated as an historic landmark in accordance with state law and an existing Henderson County ordinance. I think that all parties agree on the need to preserve the building, whatever its future use may be. I wish to emphasize that I speak only for myself and a few friends, and not necessarily for the Alumni Association.

Back in March of this year Vannoy Construction examined the building in response to your request. Their report showed that the building is structurally sound and estimated the cost of renovation at \$13.5 million. This would include a new roof, and replacement of the auditorium seating, as well as all new mechanical, electrical, and plumbing systems in the building. Proper sequencing of the construction should eliminate any need for temporary classrooms.

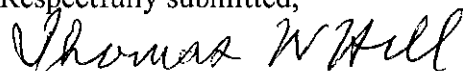
Why not open the examination and renovation project to any major construction firm that may choose to compete, and require separate line itemization for each category of construction? A number of such requirements are "soft" in terms of desired as opposed to necessary, and I personally believe that the Vannoy estimate can be lowered considerably. Perhaps the Commissioners and the Board of Education can agree to continued use of the auditorium indefinitely, and use of Stillwell's classroom facilities for some period of time.

I wish to point out that the gutting of the Stillwell Building as a part of some of the options being advocated would eliminate the possibility of a later historic designation for Stillwell. Also, it will be necessary to amend the controlling ordinance to accommodate buildings older than 90 years of age as opposed to 100 years. But since the Commissioners have the power to amend the ordinance and have done so in the past, this should not present a problem.

A part of the agreement would be the immediate beginning of construction of a new Edneyville Elementary School. Students are leaving the outdated Edneyville school because of its poor condition, and the claim that enrollment will continue to drop cannot be sustained in view of the numbers of Hispanic farm workers who are continuing to move into the area. If you are worried about building too much classroom space, build only what is projected for the next ten years with the option of adding on. The site location is ideal for building whatever is justified. The option of busing kids to another area is untenable. First, what area? Second, if someone were proposing busing from a more affluent area of the county, we would be in a bare knuckles fight.

I hope that my request will be considered by the Commissioners and the Board of Education.

Respectfully submitted,



Thomas W. Hill, HHS Class of 1956
2700 Mt. Olivet Road,
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How to Help Survivors of Tragedy

- Get by the survivor's side, and at their level.
- Say "I'm sorry. Can you tell me what happened?"
- Listen quietly.
- Acknowledge what the survivor is saying: "If sounds to me like what you are saying is ____."
- Provide protection. Be the survivor's eyes, ears and voice.
- Give or get as much information as possible about what happened, what is happening and what will happen.
- Help the survivor get organized "What is most important for you right now?"
- Help the survivor find their source of strength (family, clergy, pet, positive thought...).
- Don't try to "fix" the survivor. Don't try to make it all OK.
- You don't need to DO anything to be helpful. What the survivor needs most is your Caring Presence.

For More Information About Helping Others

Go to

www.whentragedystrikes.org

TIP

"A great program. It appears the TIP program is an idea whose time has come."

—Giselle Fernandez, NBC Today Show

"I am aware of several victim assistance programs. However, none can come close to TIP Inc in terms of performance, consistency, cost, scale of activity, supervision and morale."

— Mr. James Stewart, Former Director
National Institute of Justice

"A shining example of an organization at its best."

—New York Times

"On many occasions we depend on the dedicated volunteers from TIP. These incredible volunteers provide emotional first aid to our citizens at a time when they need it most. Their gentle care, comfort, and presence allow emergency first responders to return to duty knowing our citizens are in good hands."

—Fire Chief

"I could just feel her quiet comforting presence in the middle of chaos. She also facilitated my being able to hold my husband's hand before the coroner took him away and that meant the world to me."

—TIP Client

TIP

Trauma Intervention Programs Inc.

*Citizens Helping
Citizens In Crisis*

Get Involved and Donate
at
www.tipnational.org

www.tipnational.org

714-314-0744

About TIP

Trauma Intervention Programs Inc (TIP) is a nonprofit organization which was founded in 1985 in San Diego, Ca. by a group of mental health professionals and police officers who had become aware that survivors of tragedy and victims of crime were not receiving the on scene support they needed. TIP's mission is to provide immediate emotional first aid to survivors of tragedy in order to ease their immediate suffering and facilitate their healing and long term recovery.

Today, TIP is a highly respected provider of on scene support services to survivors of tragedy. First responders, healthcare professionals and public safety officials praise TIP not only for its services to survivors, but also for the support TIP provides to public safety and emergency medical systems.

Why TIP?

When tragedy strikes, the "emotionally wounded" are often left to fend for themselves. Typically it takes family and friends time to learn about and respond to the tragedy, and they are not immediately available to support their traumatized loved one. Also, emergency responders and health care professionals are busy with their emergency tasks and don't have the time to provide the "shoulder to lean on" that survivors desperately need. Without immediate support, survivors can feel alone and abandoned and often suffer a lifelong "second injury."

Research has indicated that the quality of support a survivor receives immediately after a traumatic event is a major determining factor in their long term recovery. TIP is committed in providing that immediate support through it's local affiliates, it's remote assistance sites and it's training programs.

What is a TIP Affiliate?

A TIP Affiliate is a team of specially trained citizen volunteers who are called to emergency scenes by hospital and public safety personnel to assist family members after a sudden death, victims of crime, witnesses to tragedy, children left alone after the death or injury of a parent, and anyone traumatized by a crisis event.

The TIP Affiliate is unique in that volunteers respond within 20 minutes of the time called on a 24/7 basis. The benefits communities receive from TIP Affiliates include saving the emergency response system time and money, involving citizen volunteers in public safety, and providing a valuable service to survivors of tragedy who are often experiencing the worst hours of their lives.

The first TIP Affiliate was started in San Diego County in 1985. Since then TIP Affiliates have been established across the country forming a national network of TIP Volunteers helping citizens in crisis.

What TIP volunteers do

- Provide emotional comfort and support
- Help arrange for shelter, clothing, food, and transportation
- Assist police officers with death notifications
- Serve as liaisons between the survivors and the emergency personnel
- Provide information and referrals to appropriate agencies for ongoing support
- Serve as temporary protectors for vulnerable survivors

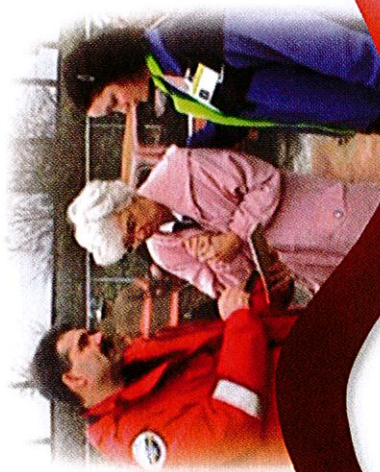
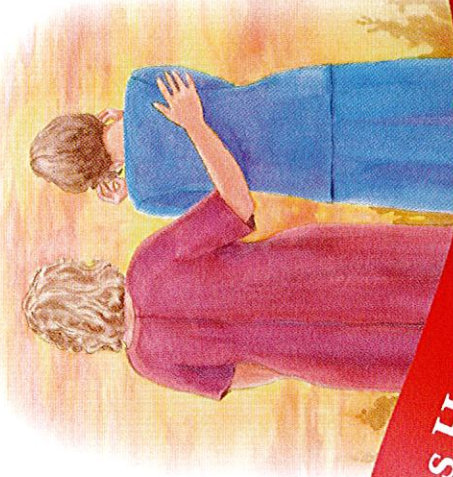
What is a TIP Remote Assistance Site?

Many communities do not have the capacity to establish a TIP Affiliate. However, they do want to serve survivors of tragedy. In these communities, TIP works with public safety officials to establish Remote Assistance Sites. In these sites, TIP trains emergency responders to provide support and resources to the survivors of tragedy they encounter in their work. Also TIP provides survivors in areas served by a Remote Assistance Site with helpful coping information and access to the assistance of TIP staff.

TIP Training

TIP is committed to providing emotional first aid training to the general public, to emergency responders, and to health care professionals. TIP's "Helping Survivors After Tragedy Strikes" seminar is offered across the country and is available to organizations as an in-house seminar.

TIP



Citizens Helping Citizens in Crisis

Trauma Intervention Program of WNC
"Citizens helping citizens in crisis"

Rebecca Croft
Crisis Team Manager

828-513-0498 Office
828-552-7439 cell

828-207-2904 Emergency Pager
rebeccacroft@outlook.com
www.tipofwnc.org



Trauma Intervention Programs, Inc.
"Citizens helping citizens in crisis"

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Trauma Intervention Programs, Inc.

Providing immediate emotional and practical support to survivors of crime and tragedy

I. The TIP Model

- 24/7/365 Availability
- "Always ready.....Always there"
- Utilizes citizen volunteers
- Controlled by emergency responders
- 20-minute response time
- Broad brush approach
- Cost effective: regional/multi-agency/public private partnership/volunteers

II. TIP Responds to:

- Natural Deaths ▪ Accidents ▪ Homicides ▪ Sudden Infant Deaths ▪ Medical Emergencies ▪ Suicides ▪ Fires ▪ Anxious Citizens ▪ Chronic callers ▪ Critical Incidents

III. Examples of TIP Clients

- Elderly female awakens to find her spouse dead
- The family of a man who commits suicide
- Victims of a home invasion robbery
- A driver who accidentally kills a child
- Witnesses to a horrible accident
- Confused elderly person who calls 911 frequently for support
- Major incidents
- Fire victims

IV. TIP Volunteers

- Represent a broad segment of the community - all ages/backgrounds
- Must graduate from a 55-hour training academy
- Must pass a police background check
- Must complete a three-month field training period
- Attend a monthly mandatory continuing education meeting
- Closely supervised

V. TIP Volunteers Provide Emotional First Aid

- A caring presence
- Protection
- Information
- Resources



Trauma Intervention Program ~Outcomes~

Outcomes for Public Safety

- ✓ TIP allows emergency responders to offer support to residents at the worst time of their lives
- ✓ TIP volunteers are available to assist 24/7/365 and arrive within 20 minutes with a 100% response rate
- ✓ TIP is an effective tool used by emergency responders to save time and to reduce their job stress:

*87% of responders report TIP volunteers free them to get back into service sooner
92% of responders report TIP volunteers allow them to concentrate on their job
97% of responders report TIP volunteers relieve their stress*

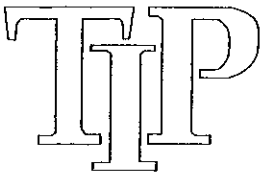
- ✓ TIP is available to provide assistance with "repeat callers"
- ✓ TIP volunteers are a cross section of the local population resulting in the availability for emergency responders to request bilingual volunteers, seniors, teen support etc.
- ✓ TIP provides **Public Relations Benefits** by completing the circle of care
- ✓ TIP is an important part of public safety's **Disaster and Critical Incident Preparedness** by providing a well trained critical incident response team to respond to major incidents
- ✓ TIP is a grassroots cost-effective organization that spreads the cost across jurisdictions and between public and private sectors allowing agencies to only pay a fraction of the total costs of operating the TIP program

Outcomes for Citizens in Crisis

- ✓ TIP clients will have support and guidance in the first hours following a crisis event
- ✓ TIP clients will have in information and tools needed to help them obtain community services in the weeks and months after the crisis event
- ✓ TIP clients will have on-scene support necessary to prevent PTSD and begin the healing process
- ✓ TIP has a professional counselor who will counsel clients at no cost for up to three sessions
- ✓ Recipients of TIP services are very grateful when they discover the person helping them is a fellow resident of their community who is there on a volunteer basis

Outcomes for Volunteers

- ✓ Residents who become TIP volunteers will gain the skills and experience necessary to provide crisis support outside of TIP when tragedy occurs in their families, neighborhood or workplace.
- ✓ Volunteers gain a better understanding and therefore become greater supporters of public safety agencies
- ✓ Residents will have an opportunity to make a hands-on difference in the lives of others in crisis



Trauma Intervention Programs, Inc.

**Providing a bridge between emergency situations and
community resources**

TIP volunteers on scene can help victims gain access to:

- ✓ **Mental Health Providers**
- ✓ **Senior Services**
- ✓ **Religious and Cultural Practitioners**
- ✓ **Food/Clothing/Shelter**
- ✓ **Transportation**
- ✓ **Legal Services**
- ✓ **Counseling'**
- ✓ **Family Justice Centers**
- ✓ **Support Groups**
- ✓ **Military/Veteran's Services**
- ✓ **Grief Support**
- ✓ **Mortuary and Cremation Services**
- ✓ **Children and Youth Services**
- ✓ **International Services**
- ✓ **Clean Up Services**

"Citizens Helping Citizens in Crisis"

8 Reasons to Have a TIP Program in Your Community

- #1 TIP is a strong and stable organization with a *proven track record*. The local TIP Chapter is part of a national organization and has access to all of the innovations developed by other TIP Chapters and all of the support services provided by TIP National
- #2 TIP provides *comprehensive* services to residents including *special services* to teens, children and the elderly.
- #3 TIP volunteers will play a crucial role in the event of a *major disaster* or a terrorist attack.
- #4 TIP services are very *important* to survivors of tragedy. The quality of on scene support dramatically affects the ability of survivors to recover. Residents deserve this support from their public safety system.
- #5 TIP is an *effective tool* used by emergency responders to save time and to reduce their job stress.
 - 87% of responders report TIP volunteers free them to get back into service
 - 92% of responders report TIP volunteers allow them to concentrate on their job
 - 97% of responders report TIP volunteers relieve their stress
- #6 TIP *involves* residents in the public safety system in a meaningful way.
- #7 TIP is a grassroots *cost effective* organization providing direct services to residents. Because TIP spreads the cost of the program across jurisdictions and between the public and private sectors, the City pays only a fraction of the total costs of operating a TIP program.
- #8 Use of local citizen volunteers: TIP uses lay citizen volunteers to provide its crisis intervention services. The use of local residents as volunteers has multiple advantages:
 - a. Recipients of TIP services are very grateful when they discover the person helping them is a fellow resident of the community who is there on a volunteer basis.
 - b. TIP gives local residents — regardless of race, sex, religious affiliation — the opportunity to volunteer in the public safety system in a meaningful way.
 - c. TIP volunteers do not confine their TIP skills to their TIP volunteering. They use their skills to help others in their families, in their workplaces, and in their neighborhoods. TIP volunteers (and ex-TIP volunteers) report they are much more effective and responsible citizens capable of helping when tragedy strikes.
 - d. Because TIP volunteers are local residents and represent a cross section of the community they can provide services that are culturally relevant and often in the client's own language. TIP's large pool of local volunteers allows the program to frequently match a volunteer with the needs of a particular client (for example, sending a female volunteer to be with a female domestic violence victim).