

# Preface

This book represents the integration of work conducted by a task force jointly sponsored by the Society of Clinical Psychology (Division 12 of the American Psychological Association, APA) and the North American Society for Psychotherapy Research (NASPR) with treatment tools for survivors of mass trauma events. Specifically, this book introduces the concept of using the principles of therapeutic changes identified by this Task Force as a framework for staged treatment for mass-trauma survivors. This approach is offered to the reader as one of many potential alternatives that are available for use in their efforts to address the needs of mass trauma survivors.

Given the preponderance of recent disasters, we find ourselves in a time when many mental health care professionals throughout the world are working to determine what approaches may be the most efficient and effective in assisting survivors. We acknowledge that there are many varied approaches available at this time and anticipate even more being available in the future. Our hope is that this program will serve as a contribution to these efforts, inspire additional ideas, and will be a foundation from which additional work can grow. We do not profess to have all the answers, but the following text offers to you some of our thoughts, intended to be of use to you in your disaster response efforts.