



32nd Nebraska Statewide Critical Incident Stress Management Conference

Holiday Inn, Kearney, NE
September 6 & 7, 2025

Nebraska CISM Members and Non-Members Welcome

CONFERENCE INFORMATION

TRAVEL & LODGING: Holiday Inn, Kearney, NE. Conference participants must make their own travel and lodging arrangements. A block of 30 rooms has been reserved at Kearney Holiday Inn until August 22nd. Rooms are priced at \$144.95 per night plus taxes. Indicate the room is for the Critical Incident Stress Management Conference when making reservations. Call (308) 237-5971.

CONTINUING EDUCATION: This program meets the criteria of an approved continuing education program for mental health practice, EMS, and law enforcement for a total of **9.0** hours. **There are NO nursing CEU's offered during this conference.**

This conference is brought to you by:

Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services - Office of Emergency Health Systems
Wallace Barnett Jr. CISM Memorial Foundation
Nebraska Preventive Health and Human Services Block Grant

Questions: Contact Becka Neumiller, CISM Program Manager at 402-560-4949 or email is becka.neumiller@nebraska.gov

CONFERENCE SPEAKERS

Kevin Erickson



Kevin Erickson is the co-owner and Managing Partner of A & K Consulting. He medically retired in 2021 after serving 16 years in both the U.S. military and civilian law enforcement in Iowa. His roles included Executive Protection, Team Leader in Afghanistan, and later a law enforcement officer focused on mental health instruction, hostage/crisis negotiation, and peer support.

Kevin holds a Master's Degree in Forensic Psychology from Nova Southeastern University and brings extensive training and experience in both Critical Incident Stress Management (CISM) and peer support. He has trained first responders across the United States and developed "A Guide to Survive for First Responders™", a program focused on mental wellness and resilience.

He has hands-on experience building, training, and sustaining peer support teams for both first responder agencies and military units. In 2019, he helped launch a peer support program for the 185th Air Refueling Wing, training 30 personnel to serve their own. Kevin continues to instruct at the Iowa Law Enforcement Academy and works with agencies nationwide to build peer support programs, wellness initiatives, and implement policies that strengthen support for those who serve. In April 2025, he spoke at TEDx on "The Cost of Moving Forward: What We Leave Behind," focusing on the unseen weight first responders carry.

Matt Jenatscheck



Officer Matt Jenatscheck is a certified police officer in Iowa for almost three decades. He is currently employed with the Cedar Rapids Police Department and is a member of their Police Community Action Team (PCAT). PCAT is a unit that is deployed in troublesome areas, and its primary focus is to reduce gun violence and gang activity. Throughout his career, Officer Jenatscheck has held various positions, including DEA Task Force Officer, Homeland Security Investigations Task Force Officer, Detective Bureau, Field Training Officer, and Patrol Sergeant, among others.

Matt has been involved in many cases during his career that tested his mental health and have taken a toll over the years. Like a Rolodex full of index cards, these traumas flipped around vigorously and became entangled on the spool. He was resistant to getting any help. He was, after all, brought up by 'old cops', who rubbed dirt on things and that made it all 'better'.

Matt has become open and honest about how he was tested, being resistant to help, the help he has received, how he has worked on it, and how he has overcome the stigma associated with mental health in the world of First Responders. This is a conversation about taboo topics in the first responder world. Substance use/abuse. Suicide. Admittance. Asking for help. Matt is willing to share his story, knowing that others out there have been, or currently are, in the same shoes he has worn for so many years.

CONFERENCE SPEAKERS



Brandon Miller, FF/EMT-P, EMS-C

Brandon is a third-generation firefighter/paramedic with over 25 years of experience in emergency services and emergency management, with a specialized focus on first responder mental health. Currently serving as an EMS Manager at Methodist Healthcare in San Antonio, Texas, he also acts as the handler of a Trauma Response Facility Dog, offering critical support to colleagues and first responders during crises. Brandon is a dedicated advocate for advancing the EMS profession and promoting mental health and resilience programs for first responders.

Frankie Trifilo, NRP, EMS-I, CADS



Frankie Trifilio is a Nationally Registered Paramedic, Texas-certified EMS Instructor, and proud Facility Dog Handler to Lady—a calm, four-legged partner bringing comfort to those who serve and those in need. As EMS Relations Manager for Methodist Healthcare in San Antonio and a part-time provider with Schertz EMS, Frankie is passionate about advancing prehospital care through education, data, and advocacy. A vocal proponent of mental health in EMS, he works to elevate the profession by championing compassion, connection, and continuous learning. Whether in the hospital, on scene or speaking at conferences, Frankie—alongside Lady—is dedicated to inspiring and empowering the EMS community.



Chillon Montgomery, RN, CEN, FF/LP

Chillon Montgomery is a Division Director, Trauma & Emergency Management at Methodist Healthcare based in San Antonio, Texas. EMS Relations Managers Brandon Miller and Frankie Trifilio and EMS Relations Director Chillon Montgomery — this trio has been on the front lines supporting first responders responding to the mass shootings in El Paso in 2019, Uvalde in 2022, and in Nashville, Tennessee in 2023.



Sarah Maldonado, Licensed Professional Counselor

I am a Licensed Professional Counselor in the state of Texas. I have a Masters of Education in Counseling and graduated in August 2018 from the University of Houston. I am a mental health counselor with experience working with children, adolescents, and adults using a variety of theoretical perspectives in individual and group therapy sessions.



Jeff Kaiser, Lead Chaplain

The golden retriever is a trained therapy dog who makes the rounds with his owner, Lead Chaplain Jeff Kaiser, with Sarpy County Sheriff's Office. "I realize I've become chopped liver compared to Henry when I've walked into a room, but it's really something to watch people respond, they just open up," said Kaiser. As a chaplain he provides support to law enforcement officers as they deal with emotions that can impact work and home life.

CONFERENCE AGENDA

FRIDAY, September 5, 2025

7:00 - 10:00 pm **Social Time** (chips, dips and drinks available) **Executive Room above Lobby**
Everyone is Welcome to Social Time—Please Join Us

SATURDAY, September 6, 2025

7:00 - 8:00 am **Registration**

8:00 - 8:15 am **Welcome**

8:15 - 9:30 am **Bringing PAWs to the Cause: Launching a K9 Resiliency Program - Brandon Miller, Frankie Trifilio, Chillion Montgomery, and Sarah Maldonado**

Thinking about incorporating a dog into your EMS department? Let's dive in! While strolling with a friendly pup, enjoying casual conversations, smiles and wagging tail may be the image that comes to mind, there's much more to creating a successful K9 resiliency program. This journey offers incredible benefits, but it can also feel like an uncertain walk around the dog park without the right guidance. In this session, we'll explore the essentials of starting a program, from selecting and training the right dog and handler to setting realistic expectations. We'll discuss how to avoid common pitfalls, share strategies to protect and support handlers and their K9 partners, and highlight the trans-formative potential of facility dogs in CISM. Whether you're an experienced provider or simply curious about this unique approach, this session will inspire you to unleash the full potential of canine companionship in your department.

9:30 - 10:00 am **Utilizing K-9 Henry during Interventions in Nebraska - Chaplain Jeff Kaiser**

Jeff and his Golden Retriever - Henry, are a Certified Pet Therapy Team that bring a lot of comfort, joy, and smiles to people who are struggling, feeling anxious, or have been through a traumatic event. Kaiser and Henry work part time, but they can also be found in other buildings like the Sarpy County courthouse, juvenile justice center, Bellevue Police Department and the 911 dispatch center.

10:15 - 12:30 pm **First Responder Mental Wellness & Resiliency - Kevin Erickson**

This presentation is built around real-world peer support work and the evolving needs of first responders. In the first hour, we dive into how peer support teams' function, what makes them effective, and how they align with CISM efforts to create a lasting support system. We'll look at what's working, where teams are struggling, and how to build trust and resilience from the inside out. In the second hour, we'll shift focus to legal protections and updates to the CISM Act, opening up space for a practical and honest conversation about what first responders truly need—and how to make that happen.

12:30 - 1:30 pm **LUNCH - Wally Barnett Foundation Annual Meeting - Education Update & Awards**

1:30 - 2:45 pm **Lessons Learned from Kerrville, Texas - Brandon Miller & Frankie Trifilio, Chillion Montgomery, and Sarah Maldonado**

The response to the flooding in Kerrville, TX, was a significant and multifaceted effort involving first responders, volunteers, and community support. They have also responded to the Allen, Texas mall shooting, Uvalde-Robb Elementary School Shooting and the El Paso Walmart Shooting.

CONFERENCE AGENDA

SATURDAY, September 6, 2025 continued

3:00 - 5:00 pm **Unraveling the Rolodex of Trauma as a First Responder - Matt Jenatscheck**

Officer Jenatscheck has been a certified police officer in Iowa for 29 years. He has worked for 3 departments during that time. He is currently employed by the Cedar Rapids Police Department and a member of their Police Community Action Team (PCAT). PCAT is a unit that is deployed in troublesome areas, and their primary focus is to reduce gun violence and gang activity. Throughout his career, Officer Jenatscheck has been a DEA Task Force Officer, Homeland Security Investigations Task Force Officer, assigned to the Detective Bureau, a Field Training Officer, and a Patrol Sergeant, to name a few. Officer Jenatscheck has been involved in many cases during his career that have led to struggles with his mental health and have taken a toll over the years. Officer Jenatscheck has become open and honest about these struggles, how he has worked on them, the help he has received, and how he has overcome the stigma associated with mental health in the world of First Responders.

5:00 - 5:15 pm **Q & A and Wrap Up**

6:00 - 8:30 pm **Tail Gate Party & Watch the Nebraska Football Game**

7:30 - 11:00 pm **Social Time** (Executive Board Room upstairs by Lobby)

Everyone is Welcome—Come Join Us!

SUNDAY, September 7, 2025

9:00 - 10:00 am **CISM Troop Area Meetings**

10:00 - 10:30 am **Scenario #1**

10:30 - 11:00 am **Scenario #2**

11:00 - 11:45 am **Testimonials from Agencies that have requested Interventions - Panel**

What are individuals feeling after a debriefing and the team leaves? What did the team do well and what can we do better? Let's ask the source.

11:45 - 12:00 pm **Evaluations and Wrap Up**





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Name _____

Address _____

Email _____

Phone Number _____

MAIL-IN REGISTRATION FORM

Please check the appropriate line(s):

_____ PRE-REGISTRATION for CISM Members (Now - August 22nd) - \$85

_____ LATE REGISTRATION for CISM Members (After August 22nd) - \$100

_____ REGISTRATION for Non CISM Members - \$125

_____ Extra Lunch Ticket(s) \$15 for non-registered person.

\$_____ TOTAL ENCLOSED

Mail Registration and check to: Wally Barnett CISM Foundation, 802 Country View, Firth, NE 68358



For Online Registration and Payment Options, visit
our website wallybarnettfoundation.org/training





CISM Conference Activities



Social Time

Friday - 7:00-10 pm
Executive Room - up the steps in the lobby. It is above the Lobby Desk.



Chips, dips,
& drinks

Feel
good
Friday



Saturday - 6:00-8:30 pm

Nebraska Football game & Tail Gate Party



Hospitality Room
Saturday - 7:30-10 pm



Awards at Saturday Luncheon