



## A Safe Place to Remove Your Cape

A discussion regarding the KC Regional commander level peer support team

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### Introductions

**Lt. Dan Davis**  
Belton Missouri  
Police Department



**Undersheriff Matt Kelly**  
Miami County Kansas  
Sheriff's Office



Co-Chairs of Mid-America Regional Council's  
Commander Level Peer Support Team

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## PEER SUPPORT

### What are we talking about?

- Offers immediate, nonjudgmental emotional support
- Helps with day-to-day operations
- Catches people before a crisis



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## PEER SUPPORT

What are we talking about?

- Provides support from trained peers
- Offers referral to specific or higher levels of care
- Is **CONFIDENTIAL**




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## PEER SUPPORT

What are we talking about?

- Is **NOT** a substitute for Critical Incident Stress Debriefings
- Is **NOT** used in place of EAP or professional-level care
- Peer supporters are **NOT** clinicians




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## Why Do Command Level Staff Need Peer Support?

**Commanders**

- 20 years plus experience
- Prior job-related stress
- Feelings of isolation




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## Why Do Command Level Staff Need Peer Support?

### Commanders

- Should not discuss personal issues
- Can be vulnerable in the right setting
- Feel responsible for employee wellbeing




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### Why does it matter?

#### Toxic leadership creates:

- Bad morale
- High turnover
- Liability issues
- Poor public perception
- Decreased staff productivity

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### Why does it matter?

#### Toxic leadership creates:

- Lack of communication and avoidance
- Negative impacts on health
- Toxic work environment

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## Why does it matter?

### Healthy leadership results in:

- Low turnover
- Employees who feel supported
- Improvement in family dynamics
- Accountability

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### Lt. Dan Davis

Belton, Missouri, Police Department




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### Undersheriff Mike Kelly

Miami County, Kansas, Sheriff's Office




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**Commander Level  
Peer Support Team  
Training**

**Customized Training**

Offered by Dr. Jenny Prohaska,  
Founder of Insight Public Safety &  
Forensic Consulting

Training partners include War Horses  
for Veterans and Morgan Farms

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**Commander Level  
Peer Support Team  
Training**

**Discuss topics**

- Toxic leadership
- Mental illness
- Suicide prevention
- Mitigating burnout
- Domestic violence
- Substance misuse

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## Onsite Leadership Clinics



**Morgan Farms**

**War Horses for Veterans**

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**Morgan Farms**

A local nonprofit organization educating first responders in effective communication and leadership skills through farm and ranch activities.

[VIDEO LINK](#)

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## How and when we activate team members?

- Personal one-on-one and formal CISDs
- AlertSense notifications
- Calls come from across the U.S.
- First Responder Support Team - Midwest coordinates formal CISDs for front-line staff.
- MARC coordinates CISDs for commanders and 911 dispatchers.
- A public safety specific clinician always participates.

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**Take Care of  
YOU!**

### Contact Information

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**Undersheriff Matt Kelly** [mkelly@sheriffmiamicountyks.gov](mailto:mkelly@sheriffmiamicountyks.gov)

**MARC Website**  
<https://www.marc.org/Emergency-Services-9-1-1/Regional-911-System/Training/911-Peer-Support-Program>

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