



Trauma Intervention Program  
(TIP) of Southern Nevada, Inc.

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## LOCAL CRISIS RESPONSE ORGANIZATION HAS BUSIEST YEAR ON RECORD – RESPONDS TO 1,244 SCENES OF TRAGEDY IN 2014

Las Vegas, NV, January 6, 2015 – Volunteers with the Trauma Intervention Program (TIP) of Southern Nevada, Inc. responded to 1,244 calls-for-service while assisting 5,728 Clark County citizens during their darkest hours in 2014. Ninety-five percent of TIP's calls-for-service are after a death has occurred (e.g. natural, homicide, suicide, child, traffic fatalities) Volunteers also respond to non-death related incidents including domestic violence, sexual assault, near-death experiences, and other violent crimes.

Volunteers respond to calls-for-service at the request of emergency responders, 365 days per year, 24 hours a day. TIP is partnered with and called to scenes to provide emotional and practical support by the Las Vegas Metropolitan Police Department, North Las Vegas Police Department, Henderson Police Department, Clark County Fire Department, Las Vegas Fire and Rescue, Boulder City Police Department, Nevada Highway Patrol, AMR/MedicWest, Clark County Office of the Coroner/Medical Examiner and all area hospitals.

*"2014 was an emotionally difficult year for our team with the tragic killings of two LVMPD Officers and the civilian" says Jill Bernacki, Chief Executive Officer, "but it reminded us how needed we are in the community – not just for the tragic situations that make the news, but for the ones that happen every day – right next door."*

TIP notably responded to and was very active in the June 8<sup>th</sup> shootings of two LVMPD officers and the innocent bystander; with several volunteers providing emotional and practical support on the scene, at UMC Trauma, and to LVMPD employees and citizens several weeks following the incident. TIP also handled the funeral arrangements and served as the media contact for the family of Joseph Wilcox, the bystander killed at Wal-Mart and is still providing support to the family as needed. The second busiest year on record, since TIP was established in 1994, was in 2013 with 1,217 calls-for-service.

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The **Trauma Intervention Program (TIP) of Southern Nevada, Inc.** is a non-profit organization dedicated to ensuring that those who are emotionally traumatized in emergency situations receive the assistance they need. To accomplish that goal, **TIP** works closely with local communities to establish emergency services volunteer programs. Highly-trained and screened citizen volunteers are called to emergency scenes to assist family members, witnesses, and other bystanders directly on-scene, during the investigation.

For more information on this topic, please contact Jill Bernacki at 702.301.5545 or [jill@tipoflasvegas.org](mailto:jill@tipoflasvegas.org).