



Building Bridges, Connecting Communities

Your collaborator in **strengthening Mobile Crisis Systems**

Maximize your impact with customized support from a trusted partner in community health.

For over 30 years, we've worked alongside changemakers—bridging research and practice to create impactful, community-centered solutions.

Who We Are

The **Center for Applied Research Solutions (CARS)** is a California-based nonprofit dedicated to strengthening workforce capacity in community health. With 50+ training and technical assistance (TTA) initiatives since 2001 and serving over 150,000 professionals, we are a trusted partner in advancing community health efforts. Our dynamic team offers customized support to help realize your unique vision.

Areas of Focus

- Behavioral Health
- Crisis Response & Recovery
- School Climate
- Community Wellness

Ways We Collaborate

We provide **customized training, coaching, and consulting** to ensure community health programs are impactful and responsive to communities served.

Services include:

-  **Workshops & Training** – In-person & virtual learning tailored to your needs.
-  **Coaching & Consulting** – Hands-on guidance to strengthen programs.
-  **Product & Resource Development** – Tools that drive sustainable impact.
-  **Event Planning** – Strategic support for conferences and community gatherings.
-  **Evaluation & Project Management** – On-going support Ensuringfor success at every stage.

Who We Serve

We're adept at supporting capacity building at every level—from local coalitions, providers, and organizations; to county and state agencies; to federal staff, Tribal and territorial agencies, and national audiences. In California, we have worked extensively with both urban and rural county behavioral health agencies, mobile crisis units, and their crisis response system partners.

Our Partners in this Work

We contract with hundreds of recognized subject-matter experts who supplement our team's competencies. We enthusiastically partner and collaborate with other trainers, TTA centers, higher education institutions, groups representing people with lived experience, and research entities, among many others.

Featured Projects

M-TAC

Medi-Cal Mobile Crisis Training and Technical Assistance Center



Medi-Cal Mobile Crisis Training and Technical Assistance Center (M-TAC)

Funded by the California Department of Health Care Services (DHCS). CARS provides trainings, resources, and coaching and consultation to assist California's counties and their mobile crisis teams with implementing the new Medi-Cal Mobile Crisis Services Benefit ([website](#))

Crisis Care Mobile Units (CCMU)

CARS is the technical assistance provider that supports counties, city, and Tribal programs funded by DHCS to implement new or enhanced crisis care mobile units.



Youth Suicide Prevention and Response Network (YSPRN)

CARS provides intensive TTA to 10 pilot counties funded by the California Department of Public Health to improve their approaches to preventing and responding to suicides and suicide attempts



Crisis and Recovery Enhancement (CARE) TA Center

State-funded project. CARS supported California's counties with building effective systems for mental health crisis response and justice diversion, with an emphasis on diversity, equity, justice, and inclusion ([website](#))



School Crisis Recovery & Renewal (SCRR)

Funded by the national Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA). National Child Traumatic Stress Initiative (NCTSI) Category II site to foster trauma-informed responses in schools after crisis ([website](#))



National Guidelines for Child & Youth Behavioral Health Crisis Care

CARS worked closely with SAMHSA to develop a comprehensive set of best practices, implementation strategies, and guidance for designing and implementing youth crisis services ([view](#))

Customized Offerings

Looking for tailored solutions? Whether you need guidance in developing a Community of Practice to foster collaboration, finding a keynote speaker to inspire your audience, or implementing hands-on training and coaching to strengthen your team, we've got you covered. Annually, CARS provides over 400 training events and thousands of hours of customized support.

Examples of Customized Mobile Crisis Support:

- Suite of more than 30 trainings for California's mobile crisis systems on topics such as crisis assessment, de-escalation, systems and infrastructure, cultural responsiveness, and more ([access](#))
- Annual virtual conferences focused on building an equitable, recovery-oriented crisis continuum of care throughout California ([learn more and view recordings](#))



Download our "Advancing Mobile Crisis Response: A Scalable Model for Statewide Implementation" Overview

We've developed a comprehensive training and **technical assistance (TTA) model** to prepare states, counties, and county-contracted providers to build the capacity needed to **meet federal and state-defined requirements for mobile crisis response**. Our model has been instrumental in helping states establish and expand **Federal Medical Assistance Percentage (FMAP)-eligible mobile crisis response systems that align with Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) guidelines**.

SCAN TO
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Key Team Members



David Eric Lopez, MACP,
TTA Specialist

David brings extensive experience in crisis care and suicide prevention, including inpatient crisis stabilization, 988 call center, and mobile crisis settings. He currently provides training and consultation to mobile crisis and justice diversion programs throughout California.



Tina Rocha, MSW, PPSC,
TTA Specialist

Working with youth who have, or at risk of, justice involvement helped fuel Tina's love of social work. She has worked with young people in alternative education settings and developed a diversion program. She is highly trained in Critical Incident Stress Management, threat assessment, community crisis response, and other areas.



Leora Wolf-Prusan, EdD
Managing Director

Leora is a sought-after facilitator with deep expertise in trauma-informed, healing-centered approaches to school mental health, grief, crisis recovery and renewal, and workplace wellness. Nationally, she has provided extensive training and coaching to support leadership following school or community crisis.



Danielle Raghib, LCSW, PPSC,
TTA Specialist and
Field Manager

Danielle oversees training and consultation services to crisis response systems throughout California. Her clinical background is in providing mental health services for children, youth, and families, and working in mobile crisis settings.



Angela Castellanos, LCSW, PPSC,
Managing Director

More than 20 years' experience in school mental health, including crisis response and threat assessment. Numerous certifications, including Critical Incident Stress Management (CISM), Non-Violence Crisis Intervention Training, and Certified Threat manager.



Alex Filippelli, MSW
Project Co-Director & TA
Liaison

Alex has dedicated their career to promoting health equity, racial, and gender justice. His work has focused on creating and delivering trans and LGBTQ+ affirming care in crisis/overnight, residential, and drop-in settings. They have volunteered and worked in emergency, stabilization, and residential substance use recovery services.

Let's work together to strengthen your capacity and impact.

Whether you're looking for tailored training, expert guidance, or strategic support, **we're here to help you take the next step.**

Get in touch with us today.



Learn more about our work:
cars-rp.org



Request support:
bit.ly/work-with-cars



Explore partnership opportunities:
carsinfo@cars-rp.org