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Section: Global Crises
Interventions

in WFMT’s Eight Regions
AMTA Disaster Response Program includes both resources and a structured response protocol. CAMT has no official disaster response program yet, however individual colleagues are active in North America and other countries.

Examples (US):
- September 11, 2001 attacks: NYC Music Therapy Relief Project
- Gulf coast hurricanes (2005, 2008)
- Southern California wildfires (2008, 2009)
- Preparedness and advisories regarding the current flu pandemic.

(Else, 2009)
Dr. Petra Kern, WFMT President

Latin America

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**Crisis Intervention**

- National bodies of music therapy do not have any specific crisis intervention policies

- Flooding in Maranhão, Brazil
  - A team of the “Humanitarian Help Program” including a music therapist to help flood victims according to protocol of the International Critical Incident Stress Foundation (Loureiro, 2009)

- Child Poverty & Violence
  - Many music therapists are working with homeless children offering programs for re-socialization (Loureiro, 2009)

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Flooding in Maranhão, Brazil

Photo Source: www.agenciabrasil.gov.br
National bodies of music therapy in China, Japan, Korea, Taiwan, Hong Kong, and Singapore do not have any specific crises intervention policies.

Earthquake, Chengdu, China: Music Therapy and Crisis Intervention (Gao, 2009)
- Music therapy interventions to change and improve the survivors' emotions, re-established a sense of safety, motivation to live, and hope for the future.
- Development of music therapy response and training manual for crises situations.

Tsunami, Samoa, Flooding, Philippines, and Mudsslides, Taiwan (Magill, 2009)
- Contact made with colleagues to offer support.
National bodies of music therapy (APMTSA and SANATO) do not have any specific crises intervention policies.

The Music Therapy Community Clinic in Cape Town, South Africa offers:
- Ongoing program addressing psycho-social needs of children, youth, and adults infected or affected by HIV & AIDS pandemic.
- Short-term interventions for children and their parents who were displaced by the xenophobic attacks (2008) (Fouche, 2009).
Australia/New Zealand

Crises Intervention

- National bodies of music therapy (AMTA) does not have any specific crises intervention policies

- Black Saturday Bushfires in Victoria (2009)
  - A “Day of Rejuvenation” for bushfire recovery workers including massage, Tai Chi, relaxation exercise; and conversations (Tanhane, 2009)

- Yea Bushfire Refugees: Post-bushfire service to adolescents in schools using structured and thematic improvisation as well as singing and song writing activities to cope with the traumatic event (Teggelove & McFerran, 2009)
National bodies of music therapy in Europe do not have any specific crises intervention policies

The Pavarotti Center in Mostar: The War Child

Over the past 9 years, various teams of music therapists came from Australia, Denmark, Germany, The Netherlands, the UK, U.S.A., Belgium and Canada to work with special needs children, youth, orphans, and refugees suffering from an array of PTSD-like symptoms (Woodward, 2009)

Brescia, Italy: Poverty, War, Refugee Children

Music Therapy allowed children from different cultures to interact with each other, increased self-expression and self-esteem (Cominardi, 2008)
WFMT
Supporting Music Therapy Worldwide

Crisis Intervention

- **Current Status**
  - Most national music therapy organizations do not have a policy and programs for crises interventions in place
  - Global Crises Intervention based on music therapy is still an endeavor of individuals
  - Increasing demands calls for action

- **Present and Future Steps**
  - Develop functional disaster response and recovery programs for different parts of the world
  - Develop a global support system
  - Study the effects of music therapy interventions in response to crisis and trauma

Dr. Petra Kern, WFMT President 10-24-2009
Thank you to all contributors of this presentation!

This section has been prepared by Dr. Petra Kern as part of her keynote.