



# Ventura County Peer Support

CWDA Conference  
October, 2019

The background of the slide features a vertical strip on the left side showing a close-up of ocean waves with white foam. The rest of the slide has a dark teal gradient background.

# Presenters

- Kate Andrews – Children and Family Services Supervisor
- Carmen Franco – Children and Family Services Senior Administrative Specialist
- Taryn Massey - Children and Family Services Supervisor
- Shelley Townley - Children and Family Services Supervisor

# Children and Family Services

- Peer Support and Resiliency Support Groups



COUNTY OF VENTURA  
HUMAN SERVICES AGENCY

# Why?

“Soul crushing. PTSD symptoms showing up in more than half of Children's Services workers.”

A recent study shows that 53 percent of Ohio's children's services caseworkers have symptoms of post-traumatic stress disorder. That compares with national incidences that range from 35 percent to 75 percent of child-welfare staff.

March 6, 2019 Cincinnati Enquirer Article



# Katie's Story

# How?

- Counseling Team International “How To” for management
- Peer Support Coordinator/Team
  - Develop Peer Support Team among Agency staff
    - Nominated by peers and interviewed by Coordinator
- Basic Peer Support Training
- CISM (Critical Incident Stress Management)
- Critical Incidents
- PSPSA (Public Safety Peer Support Association) Conference

# What?

- Peer Support
- Resiliency Support Groups
- Debriefings/Critical Incidents
- Therapy Dogs: Hope Animal Crisis Response Dogs
- Ventura County Peer Support Coalition (VSPSC)



# Ventura County Peer Support Coalition Members:

- Children and Family Services
- Ventura County Fire Department
- Oxnard Fire Department
- Ventura County Sheriff's Department
- Ventura County Probation Department
- Oxnard Police Department
- Simi Valley Police Department
- Ventura Police Department
- Dispatch & EMS
- Medical Examiner Office
- District Attorney



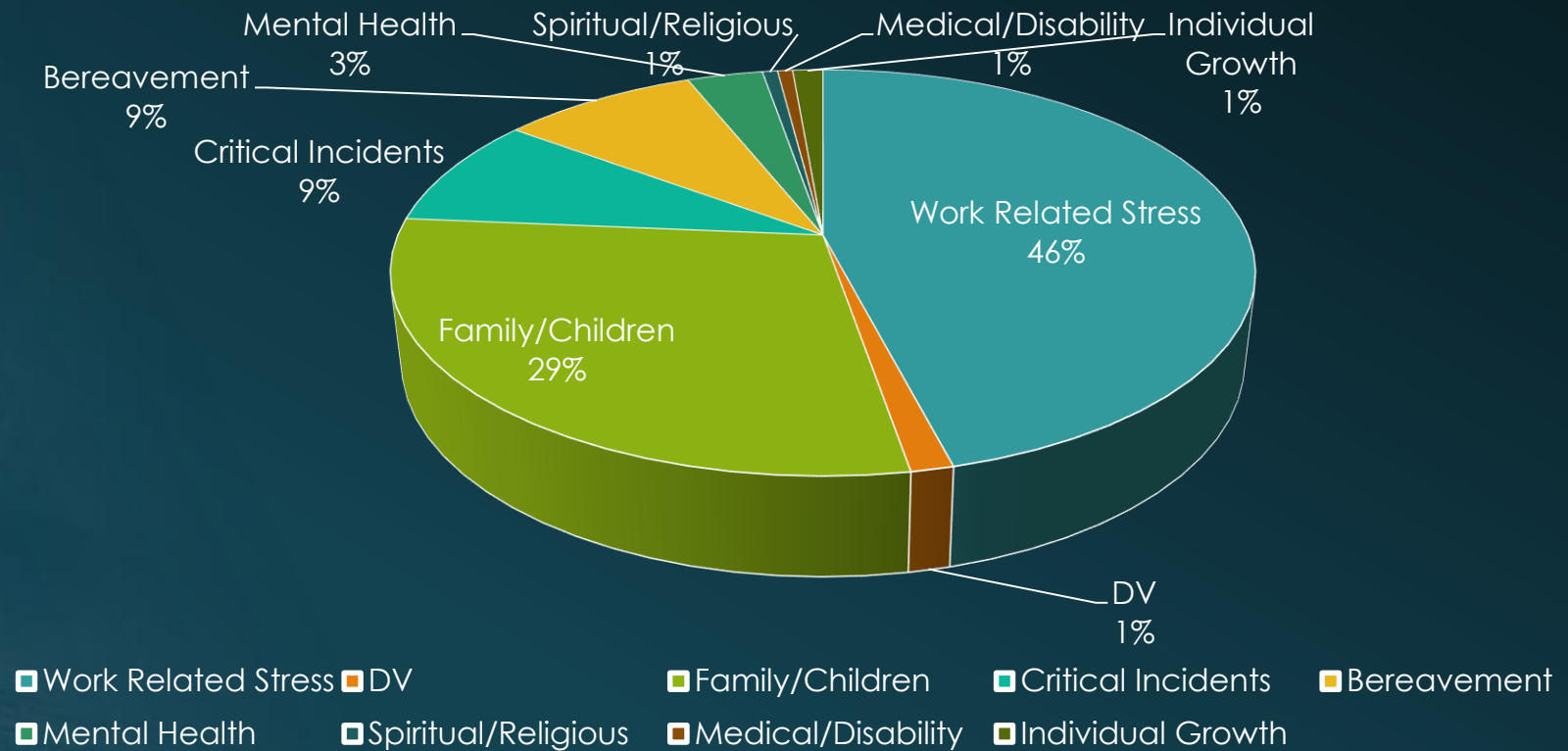
# Current and Future State

- January-July 2019  
Resiliency Support Group Attendance - 77 Staff
- Peer Support Statistics

Year	Staff	Hours
2018	241	214

Year	Staff	Hours
2019	267	265

# Peer Support Topics





## Hope Assisted-Animal Crisis Response Dogs



# Peer Support Team

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# Peer Support Team

