

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**Crisis Care Network and Behavioral Medical Interventions form Collaborative Partnership to Integrate Disability Management Practices with Critical Incident Response Services**

**Grand Rapids, MI --- September 15, 2006** – Grand Rapids, Michigan-based Crisis Care Network, Inc. and Minneapolis-based Behavioral Medical Interventions have announced a collaborative partnership aimed at integrating leading disability management practices and critical incident response services.

This collaborative relationship teams BMI's behavioral healthcare-focused disability management expertise with CCN's critical incident response services. While almost all employees receiving critical incident response services benefit from immediate onsite and, or teleweb support and return to work without lost time, a small percentage of employees warrant additional disability management services including further assessment, treatment and return to work planning.

In particular, employees reporting the persistence of distressing symptoms, interest in pursuing additional services from their health care providers, those seeking legal counsel, and those who feel they need more time at home will benefit most from the immediate delivery of behavioral healthcare-focused disability management services. By working together, CCN and BMI provide a highly effective solution for mitigating the risk associated with an employee's inability or failure to return to work as planned following a critical incident

While many employers will be served through existing relationships with their EAPs behavioral healthcare services and, or workers compensation medical case management vendors, the CCN-BMI relationship provides a highly effective solution to employers without access to these resources. These specialized behavioral health care-focused disability management resources may also be utilized by EAPs responding to an employer-client's request for a disability-management oriented behavioral healthcare approach to individuals exposed to critical incidents.

The primary goal of these services is to facilitate early recovery and return to work for those employees who, while few in number, represent the greatest risk in terms of potential employer costs. Working together, CCN and BMI deliver:

- The leading nationwide network of critical incident response services
- Immediate onsite and teleweb response to critical incidents
- Absence management protocols in support of the customers' existing resources
- Trauma psychologists specializing in assessing the need for ongoing care
- Return-to-work focused telephonic and outpatient counseling by trauma psychologists,
- Job analyses to determine essential job functions

- Independent Medical Evaluations by psychiatrists experienced in evaluating employees exposed to critical incidents
- Functional capacity evaluations to determine employee's ability to return to work
- Return to work planning and job development for employees recovering from exposure to critical incidents

"CCN's mission has always been to facilitate individual recovery and return to work following critical incidents, and our relationship with BMI, the nation's leading provider of behavioral health care-focused disability management, now enables us to extend an even broader spectrum of highly specialized, trauma-response focused absence and disability management services. By teaming with BMI we can ensure that those employees with the greatest risk of failure to return to work are provided with immediate, appropriate and effective care. This solution benefits all stakeholders including employees, their employers, EAPs and others partnering in support of individual and organizational wellness.", said Lyle Labardee, CEO of Crisis Care Network.

"This collaborative partnership between CCN and BMI provides a win-win solution for employees and employers. Employees get the support and professional services they need to recover and return to work. Employers keep valuable employees and positively impact morale by extending this level of support for recovery after a critical incident," said Kate Harri, VP of Operations of BMI.

#### **About Crisis Care Network, Inc.**

Crisis Care Network, Inc. is the leading provider of critical incident response services, training, and resources in North America. Having responded to over 25,000 requests for service, CCN specializes in equipping EAP care managers and HR professionals with business-focused critical incident services and is the principal supplier of those services to the EAP industry.

#### **About Behavioral Medical Interventions**

Headquartered in Minneapolis, MN BMI is a leader in the absence and disability management field in the country.

BMI's record of success is well documented by numerous satisfied customers, including employers (large and small), insurance carriers, consumers and attorneys. BMI approaches each case with a team concept to work toward a common goal: ensuring each individual receives the best possible treatment, thereby facilitating recovery and return to work.

BMI reduces employer costs, including that of lost time, low morale, forgone business opportunities and reduced productivity. BMI applies sound clinical knowledge and vast practical experience to develop effective strategies and improve employees' lives.

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