

## **Life Matters Contributes Lessons Learned in Mental Health Response to Terrorism**

**New York, NY, November 2004** — Life Matters, Inc. founders Drs. Evelyn Llewellyn and Michael Lonski have contributed a chapter to a book that aims to provide mental health professionals with experiential and practical knowledge about mental health responses to terrorism.

Entitled: *On the Ground After September 11: Mental Health Responses and Practical Knowledge Gained*, the book was edited by Yael Danieli, Ph.D., and Robert Dingman, renowned experts in the mental health impact of disasters and trauma who were involved in the healing response to the September 11th attacks. The editors describe this publication as "A heartfelt collection of extraordinary first-person accounts that delve into every level of the experience of September 11th."

The book was a finalist in the "Current Events (Political/Social)" category of the "Best Books 2005" awards, issued by USA Book News. This organization covers unique books from both the mainstream and independent press and looks beyond the best-seller lists to find books that are worthy of attention.

Dr. Danieli is the Director, Group Project for Holocaust Survivors and their Children; Past President, Representative to the United Nations, International Society for Traumatic Stress Studies. Mr. Dingman is a Professor Emeritus of Marshall University in Virginia in the field of counseling, and a 20-year veteran of the American Red Cross, where he has coordinated the mental health response in scores of disasters.

In concluding their chapter, Drs. Llewellyn and Lonski wrote, "Our on-going work involves a determined effort to find ways of reaching everyone so that no person associated with trauma or terror will ever again grieve over the suicide of a man of youth and promise. From the losses of those horrific days has emerged a network of support that is a testimony to man's love of man and capacity for good to triumph over evil. The heart will be healed as we help to rebuild our hopes for a stronger future. They may have brought down the towers but they will never destroy our capacity to care for one another."

Life Matters is a not-for-profit organization whose mission is to provide and promote prevention and awareness of predictable after-effects related to psychological and medical trauma, grief and loss. Our educational programs help people to regain their emotional well-being following traumatic events.

The book is available at most major booksellers or by contacting the publisher:

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