

[Topics--WHO *Building Back Better*, International Humanitarian Day]

From: **Kelly O'Donnell** <mcaresources@gmail.com>
Date: Tue, Aug 20, 2013 at 5:55 PM
Subject: new WHO publication on MHPS--Building Back Better
To: Member Care Associates <mcaresources@gmail.com>

Dear Global Health and Global Mental Health colleagues,

FYI below and encouragement. Many thanks to the efforts of the dozens of colleagues around the world who contributed to this significant project/publication.

[Just Posted: *Building Back Better: Sustainable Mental Health Care after Emergencies*](#) (WHO publication launched in Geneva on International Humanitarian Day, 19 August 2013; three broad emphases: crises as opportunities to develop mental health care, 10 national case examples, lessons learnt).

Warm greetings,

Kelly

PS

Yesterday I attended the memorial event at the UN marking the 10th anniversary of the Canal Hotel bombing in Baghdad and the loss of 22 UN staff---a key focus of International Humanitarian Day. As you can imagine, it was very moving and the UN New York had a live broadcast as well that was streamed immediately after the the Geneva event into one of the main UN Salles. There were also discrete but clear calls for greater staff security and ratifications of the *Convention on the Protection of UN and Associated Personnel* (only about 90 countries so far). The recent release of the UNHCR's report on mental health and psychosocial support for its staff (<http://www.unhcr.org/51f67bdc9.html>), along with historic/foundational works such as Daniel's edited book from 2002 on safety/support of UN and humanitarian staff, are two key examples that are vital to this effort to promote staff well-being.