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**Paula K. Rauch**

Paula Rauch, MD, Timothy C. Davidson  
Chair of Psychiatry, Founder and Director,  
Marjorie E. Korff Parenting At a Challenging  
Time (PACT) Program,  
Massachusetts General Hospital

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## **Promoting the Healing of Our Children after Disasters & Community Violence**

School safety, including emotional and physical safety, is linked to academic performance and school outcomes, and as a community of educators, leaders, parents and youth serving adults, we are always advocating for all children to have access to meaningful opportunity—including safe, welcoming, and quality schools. But what about when terrorism, disaster, or mass violence does happen? Without proper interventions, trauma related distress can have a long term impact on students, families, and communities. Join this session to learn how research increasing demonstrates that raising awareness of the scope and serious impact of disasters on the behavioral health of children, families, and communities; shaping public policy to promote effective behavioral health policy before, during, and after mass casualty events; and developing effective evidence-based programs for use immediately after mass casualty events and during the long-term recovery or adjustment phase can have long-lasting positive influence on trauma-related distress and promote the behavioral health of children and families.