

In the aftermath of a crisis in Virginia, there are teams of trained responders ready to assist with the needs of the victims.



What is a Crisis Response Team?

The Virginia Crisis Response Team (CRT) is composed of volunteers trained to provide trauma mitigation and education in the aftermath of a critical incident.

Team members have received a minimum of 24 hours of skills-based, field tested training developed by the National Organization for Victim Assistance (NOVA).



Regional vs. State Response

Crisis Response Teams serve specific geographical areas of the Commonwealth. These regional teams respond to small-scale *criminal* events in which assistance is requested from the public or locality.

In the event of a State-Level response after a mass-casualty *criminal* event, the Crisis Response Teams would be coordinated by the Department of Criminal Justice Services and the Virginia Victims Fund, per §19.2-11.01 of the Code of Virginia.



What assistance is provided?

- Coordination of victim advocate response
- Provide group and individual crisis intervention services
- Respond to Family Assistance Center (ESF6) to provide assistance (state response only)
- Utilize local advocates from grant programs to work with families long term
- Provide support to local Victim-Witness programs that do not have the capacity to provide services to victims in a mass casualty event/critical incident
- Work with the locality to ensure that their policies and procedures are victim-centered and address the needs of victims (short and long term)
- Request federal funding through the Office for Victims of Crime (OVC), if applicable (state response only)
- Work with federal consultants to assess the short and long term needs of survivors and the community (state response only)
- Anniversary/Memorial Planning



How is a response requested?

Localities, schools, hospitals, or organizations may use any of the following methods:

- Email Crisis Response Coordinator directly at DCJS:
Julia.Fuller-Wilson@dcjs.virginia.gov
- Call the Crisis Response Coordinator at DCJS: (804) 840-4276
- Visit the DCJS website to request a response at www.dcjs.virginia.gov
- Email DCJS at vacrisisresponse@dcjs.virginia.gov