

OEA's

Crisis Response Team



Who We Are

The Ohio Education Association Crisis Response Team serves OEA members in a unique way by responding to crisis situations such as school shootings and natural disasters. Our group consists of 10 OEA staff, one OEA staff retiree, one OEA member and her animal-assisted therapy Yellow Labrador, Bella.



Our History

The group was formed by seven OEA staff in January of 2000. We received training from a Pennsylvania State Education Association member in 2000 and underwent a week-long training conducted by the National Organization of Victim Assistance (NOVA) in 2001. NOVA training has been provided to the additional team members as they join the team.

We have responded to two crisis situations involving the killing of OEA members—one in Gallia County in 2001 and one in Zanesville in 2002, and to other crisis situations in the Yellow Springs, Lancaster, Carrollton, Bowling Green school districts, Northwest State Community College, and Stark County Board of MR/DD, Barnesville and Chardon since 2002.

During the past few years, we have made presentations on school safety and crisis response at the NEA Mid-Atlantic Conference, NEA Northeast Conference, NEA National Conference of State Education Associations, NEA Uniserv National Skills Training, NEA State Executive Officers Conference, and the Ohio Association of Elementary School Administrators and eight of our members attended NEA's Crisis Response Team Conferences in Washington, D.C. and in San Francisco, California.



How We Operate

Assistance may be provided when there are acts of violence or disasters which affect OEA members and their students, and which occur at a school site or event. We can also provide training on the Regional or Uniserv Council level dealing with the evaluation of school district crisis plans.

The local association, the Labor Relations Consultant or, or the school administration may initiate the request.

Requests may be made by contacting Kim Lane at extension 2502 or 1-800-686-4228.

We have formed a partnership with the Ohio chapter of NOVA (National Organization for Victims' Assistance) and the Ohio Association of Elementary School Administrators. We have participated with the Ohio Office of Homeland Security and other state and national crisis responders to prepare Ohio's schools for crisis situations.

Members of the Team

Kim Lane, Chair; Marla Bell; Rod Bird; Kim Borzyn; Darren Klum; Demetrice Davis; Don Dalton; Betty Elling; Stuart Graham; Suzanne Kaszar; Lori Morgan (OEA member); Dan Mueller; Bill Pearsol; Cindy Petersen; Sam Radel; Marci Reimund; Renee Townley; Tom Williams (member emeritus); and Bella (animal-assisted therapy dog).

