

Crisis Team Contact Information



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CART TEAMS
CONGREGATIONAL ASSESSMENT
RESPONSE & TRANSFORMATION TEAMS

**CRISIS
RESPONSE
AND CARE**



**For reporting, resources and
information go to:**
ntcumc.org/leadership-development/cart

Purpose

When a crisis occurs, congregations are thrown into distress. A crisis can include loss of property or life, illegal activities, alleged sexual misconduct by a clergy, staff or church leader, or acts of violence on a church campus. As additional information becomes available chaos can develop.

The Center for Leadership Development of the North Texas Conference of the United Methodist Church recognizes long term negative effects can be avoided with practical, sensitive and competent assistance provided during and after the crisis.

What is the Response Team?

The CART Crisis Team of the North Texas Conference was designed to:

- Assist congregations following a crisis event or allegation of misconduct
- Support the aggrieved, the alleged offender, spouses and families of both
- Hold meetings for the congregation to process feelings about what has happened, allowing healing to begin and ministry to continue

The Crisis Response Team also provides:

- Consulting by phone or in person regarding issues big or small
- Confidential phone conversations
- Resource Person for one to one help

Who serves on the Crisis Team?

Clergy, mental health professionals and other qualified lay persons trained to listen with objective compassion, give support and provide guidance during a time of crisis and loss.



What can we expect when the Crisis Team comes?

Representatives from the Crisis Team will meet with the church's Staff/Parish Relations Committee and other church leadership to:

- Explain the purpose of the Crisis Team and how it operates
- Provide guidance regarding the nature and impact of the crisis at hand
- Discuss the dynamics of grief as it relates to the church during this process
- Develop a customized plan for the needs of the church

A typical plan includes:

- Assistance with developing a communication to the congregation and public statement
- Sunday morning presence with District Superintendent, Bishop and/or Bishop representative
- Congregational and small group meetings to:

- ›state the nature of the crisis
- ›provide appropriate boundaries for transparency
- ›talk about what may be experienced
- ›allow participants to express their feelings
- ›talk about what the church can do to remain a supportive safe place for everyone

- One on one help of Resource Person for those particularly affected by the crisis or help with formal complaints
- Assistance with finding and accessing community resources
- Follow up with affected persons or groups within the church
- Specialized trainings for churches or church groups

For questions, consultation or a confidential conversation, please contact the Crisis Team Coordinator, CLD Director or Lead Resource Person. (See contact information on reverse side.)