

HOPE

Animal-Assisted
Crisis Response

Our History

Since 2001, HOPE AACR teams have responded to the aftermath of crises and disasters, from individual traumas to large scale emergencies. Our response teams have comforted people after school shootings, hurricanes, fires, transportation accidents, the loss of first responders, and more. Teams have worked with local and national response agencies, such as VOADs, FEMA, NOVA, Salvation Army, American Red Cross, as well as fire departments, law enforcement agencies, and schools.



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© Civil Air Patrol Erie, PA

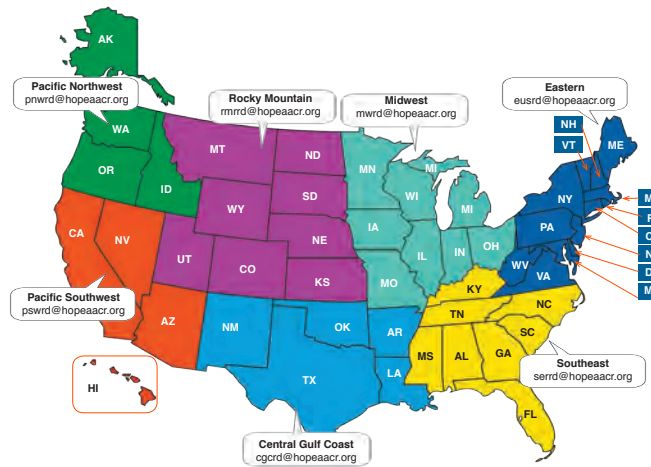
HOPE

Animal-Assisted
Crisis Response

National Headquarters

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(877-467-3597)
Email: info@hopeaacr.org
Website: www.HOPEAACR.org
A Non-Profit 501(c)(3)
Tax ID #93-1330180

HOPE AACR Regions



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“Our mission is to provide comfort and encouragement through animal-assisted support to individuals affected by crises and disasters.”

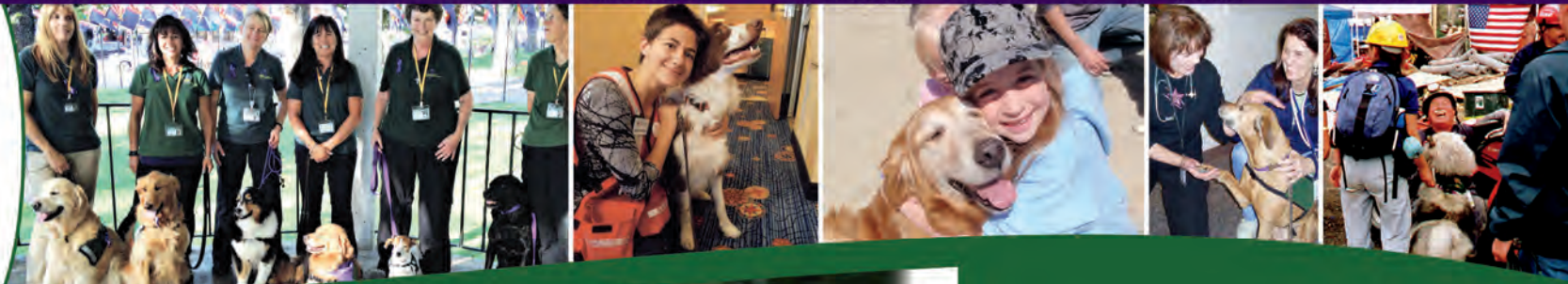
Request Crisis Teams Toll-Free

877-HOPE-K9s
(877-467-3597)

Hope AACR Teams Respond Without Charge

HOPE

Animal-Assisted Crisis Response



About HOPE AACR

- HOPE AACR was the first AACR organization and co-wrote the AACR National Standard.
- Animal-Assisted Crisis Response is based on scientifically proven benefits of the human animal bond. The comfort dogs serve as a bridge to connect individuals back to their peers and communities and to reduce stress.
- HOPE AACR comfort dog teams are available to assist in recovery from crises and disasters, assist mental health professionals on location, and are prepared for unpredictable situations. Teams can travel by various modes of transportation and are available on short notice.
- Our crisis-response comfort dog teams provide support to individuals affected by crises and disasters – which also includes first responders performing under stressful situations.
- Teams consist of a dog and handler, trained to respond to intense emotional and environmental situations. They are trained in the Incident Command System, First Aid/CPR, and emotional first aid techniques. Team Leaders work without a canine and provide support and oversight of several dog/handler teams.
- HOPE AACR is an all volunteer, national, non-profit, 501(c)(3) organization.
- HOPE teams are insured and undergo regular background checks.



© Fox 5 DC

An animal's eyes have the power to speak a great language."
- Martin Buber

National Training & Certification

- Teams must have Animal-Assisted Activity / Animal-Assisted Therapy experience before application. Team Leaders (who work without a dog) may apply immediately.
- Applicants are screened for suitability for crisis response work before being accepted for training.
- Qualified applicants are eligible to attend a three day certification training workshop, where they will receive comprehensive training in animal-assisted crisis response. Training topics include: crisis communication skills, stress management, crisis response protocols, canine behavior and welfare, and field training with emergency responders.
- Teams are required to maintain their skills through continuing education training and participation in crisis response drills.
- Submit a membership inquiry at www.HOPEAACR.org

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Volunteer

If you have a dog who is already a member of an animal-assisted activity group, please consider training to be an animal-assisted crisis response team as well. Volunteers who do not currently have a dog suited for AACR work can volunteer as team leaders, who facilitate response activities.

Donate

Donations help to defray the costs associated with training and certifying crisis teams, develop training programs and materials, pay the costs of insuring and supporting our teams, and otherwise support volunteer activity. Please mail a check to the national headquarters (address on back) or donate online at our website.

www.HOPEAACR.org