

First Responders Animal-Assisted Crisis Response Certification



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HOPE
Animal-Assisted
Crisis Response



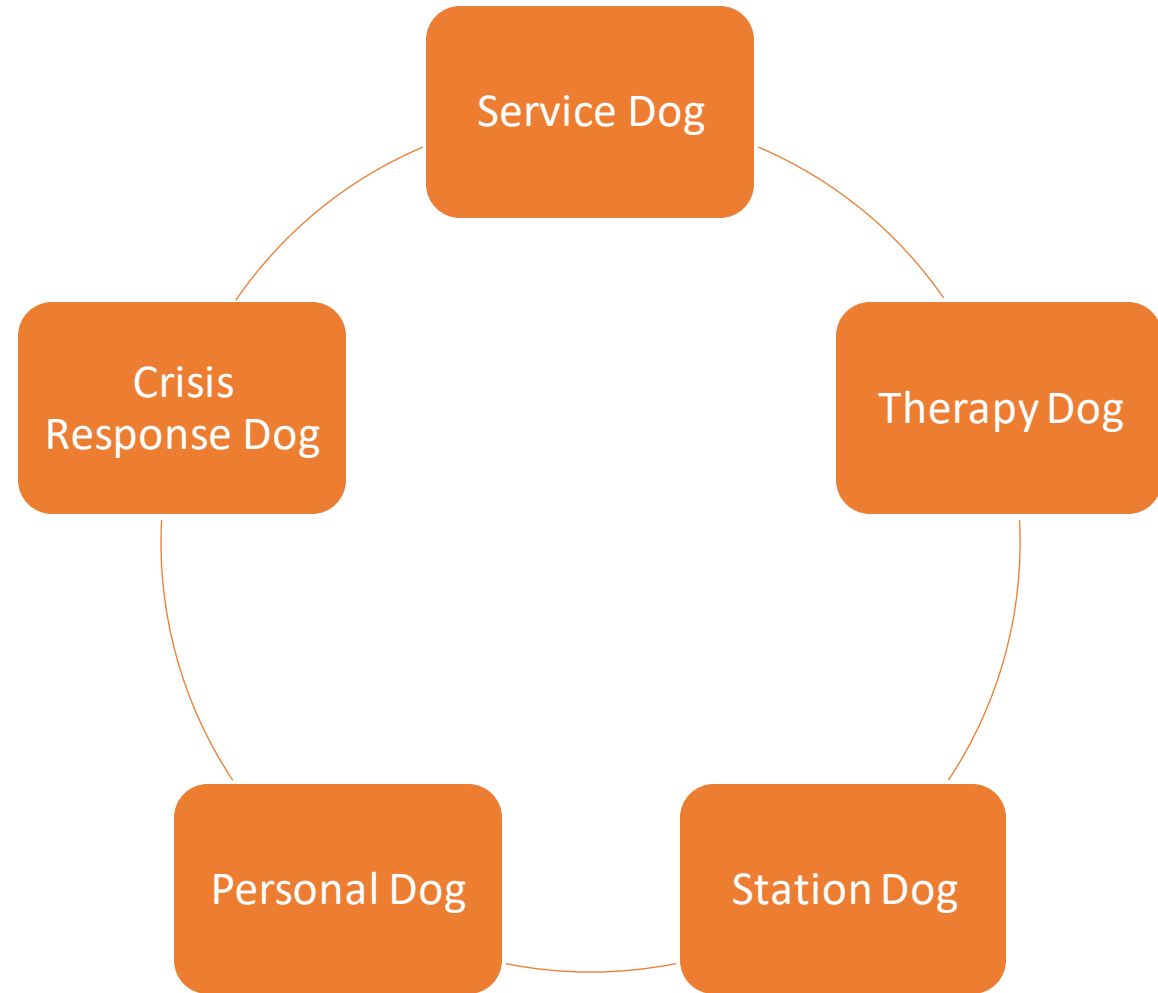
AGENDA

- Why we care
- Animal-Assisted Crisis Response National Standards
- HOPE Certification for First Responders and Canines for Peer Support
- Recertification and Customization to fit any First Responder Organization



Amber Ribbon Report Best Practices for Fire Service Canines – August 2023

- Published by the VCOS – International Association of Fire Chiefs
- Provide foundation
- Defines roles and standards for use of canines with fire and EMS
- Describes developing programs and existing programs



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WHY WE CARE



"I know they're treating you kindly but are they treating you ethically?"

Our Focus

Animal-Assisted Crisis
Response Trained
Teams for 1st
Responders Peer
Support



"The dog is a magnet of celebrity-like attraction, *opening doors and hearts*, which promotes the human-to-human encounter of care and compassion."

~Rev. Michael E. Rogers, LMFT

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1st Responder

Canine Partner

The Organization



ANIMAL-ASSISTED CRISIS RESPONSE NATIONAL STANDARDS

12:00 DAY #1 - Saturday, May 21, 2022						
7:30	8:00	0:30	Open Room & Set up			
8:00	9:00	1:00	Mental Health - Identify & Managing you own Stress	0:45	0:15	
9:00	9:30	0:30	Prep for Airport (Team Leader & Dog Team Roles)		0:15	0:15
9:30	10:30	1:00	Travel to Airport - Car & Lightrail			1:00
11:00	12:00	1:00	Airport: Check-in Process & TSA			1:00
12:00	13:00	1:00	Trip from Airport - Lightrail & Car			1:00
13:00	14:30	1:30	Lunch & Debrief the Airport Trip	1:30		
14:30	15:00	0:30	Mental Health - Concepts & Phases of Disaster	0:30		
15:00	15:45	0:45	Mental Health - Listening & Communicating	0:45		
15:45	16:00	0:15	BREAK		0:15	
16:00	17:00	1:00	Role Playing	1:00		
17:00	18:00	1:00	CISM: Strategic Planning	1:00		
10:00 DAY #2 - Sunday, May 22, 2022						
6:00 DAY #3 - Monday, May 23, 2022						



- Core Function: Training the AACR Team
 - Disaster/Crisis Concepts
 - Crisis Intervention
 - Care of the Caregiver
 - Canine Handling
 - Team Leader
 - Simulated Crisis Exposure
 - Developing the Canine
 - Continuing Education

AACR
National
Standards
drive the
success of the
organization's
program



PLANNING
BEFORE
IMPLEMENTING
CANINES



Proof Of Concept Planning

Tasks Required by Board

- Develop Training
- Implement Training
- Report back to Board on Feasibility

First Responders Animal-Assisted Crisis Response Training

Purpose of Certification

- Adhere to AACR National Standards
- Ensure the health and care of the canines
- Provide the highest quality and professionalism of this service
- Align with the mission of peer support - support people as needed and get them back into their assignment and working productively

First Responders Animal-Assisted Crisis Response Training

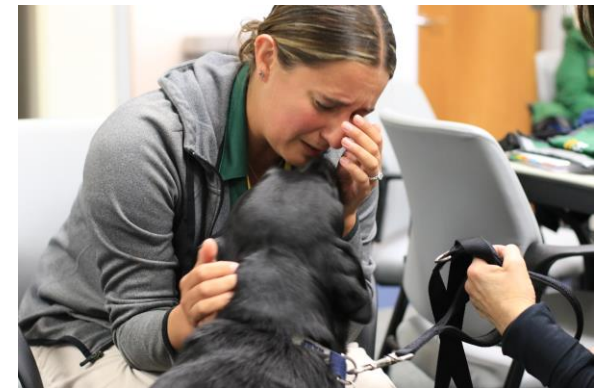
Benefits

- Education by Canine Behaviorists and Mental Health specialists familiar with AACR and First Responders
- Strengthen the human-animal bond in a supportive environment

Proof Of Concept Planning

HOPE AACR Screening and Workshop Requirements

- Prerequisites
- Training Requirements
- Role Playing and Simulation



First Responders Animal-Assisted Crisis Response Training

Prerequisites

- Certificate of completion of ICISF GRIN or equivalent.
- Peer Support Team Member for minimum of 6 months.
- Letter of recommendation from Peer Support Coordinator.
- Canine at least 2 years of age.
- Letter from Vet that canine is healthy and evidence handler has known canine for at least 6 months.
- CGC, AKC Community Canine, AKC Urban CGC certifications.

First Responders Animal-Assisted Crisis Response Training

Level 1 (must successfully complete to move to Level 2)

- 1-day focused on canine and handler to include
 - Logistics of canines into the Peer Support Team
 - Canine body language, stress, and healthy boundaries
 - Situational awareness
 - Team welfare

First Responders Animal-Assisted Crisis Response Training

Level 2

- 1-day focused on the role of the canine in
 - Individual interventions
 - Follow up intervention vs morale interaction
 - Group interventions
 - Crisis Management Briefing
 - Defusing
 - Debriefing

First Responders Animal-Assisted Crisis Response Training



- **Ongoing Training and Evaluation**
 - 8 hours of annual continuing education on dog behavior or peer support
 - Re-evaluation every 2 years by HOPE to ensure the team is willing and able to continue to serve at the level required by AACR National Standards

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Thank You