

What do Early Response Teams do?



EARLY RESPONSE TEAMS

- The ERT Training lasts a full day. After completion of the training participants receive credentials which are required for site access during a disaster response. Participants may either join an existing team or form their own team.
- To join or start an ERT in your council or church, contact your Indiana State Council or Catholic Charities Disaster Response Coordinator.
- An ERT usually consists of 30 or more people so that there can be at least seven able to deploy on short notice.
- Team members must be at least 18 years of age.
- Team members may be either male or female.
- If you are the kind of person who enjoys helping others in a time of need, doesn't mind getting dirty doing it and loves to serve God, this may be the ministry for you!
- Training is most effective when hands-on opportunities can be made readily available.



Early Response Team Training

A collaborative effort of

Catholic Charities Arch Indy Disaster Response and the Knights of Columbus Indiana State Council Disaster Response



Providing a caring Christian presence in the aftermath of disaster.

Volunteers Trained and Deployed by CC Arch Indy and the Indiana State Council Disaster Response Network

ERTs are Volunteers in Mission who have been trained by skilled trainers and are required to deploy as part of an ERT at least once during their three year certified period to qualify for recertification.



Mission

All disasters are local. The local church is a major thread in the overall fabric of a community's disaster defenses; the visible presence of the local church is essential in any type of disaster. Disaster response is an effective ministry by which we become instruments of God's healing and hope. By becoming the hands and feet of Christ, we share in a commitment to the spiritual, emotional and physical needs of people in a time of crisis.

The Early Response Team is neither a first response group of emergency workers nor a recovery, rebuild or repair team. Rather, it fills a specific need in the early days after a disaster to establish the presence of the Catholic response efforts and to help survivors with immediate needs.

It is important to understand that ERTs are trained primarily to respond within their own community, but may be asked to travel to another district at the request of that area's ERT coordinator.

All ERTs are trained by authorized CC Arch Indy or K of C trainers and given badges by those trainers. We encourage all ERTs to wear Teal colored T-shirts as a means of recognition.



Logistics

The ERT class takes an average of six to eight hours in order to complete.

Suggested attendance of the class is between 10 and 35 people.

While there is no upper age limit, all participants need to be in good physical health.

No one under the age of 18 years should serve on an ERT.

Both men and women are welcome.

**Contact:
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or

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Training Overview

- Covenant agreement
- Equipping a team
- Team safety
- Spiritual & Emotional Concepts
- What exactly does an ERT do?
- Instructions for tasks
- Team building activities
- Forms
- Test your knowledge

