



Continuity Assistance Review Team

The National Continuity Programs (NCP) Continuity of Operations Division develops and provides continuity guidance to state, territorial, tribal, and local government jurisdictions. NCP provides continuity program and planning guidance; education and training through its headquarters staff, regional continuity managers, and Emergency Management Institute. To assist in continuity outreach efforts, NCP developed Continuity Assistance Review Team (CART) as a mechanism to review continuity programs and plans against Continuity Guidance Circular 1.

The purpose of the CART is to provide an objective review of state, territorial, tribal, and local government organizations' continuity plans and programs, and to help them identify strengths and weaknesses while providing actionable recommendations and guidance for continuity planning improvement. CART members understand that all organizations are at various stages of continuity planning and have varying capabilities and resources. The goal is to assist organizations in developing continuity programs and plans that maximize their ability to continue essential functions in all hazards emergencies or other situations that disrupt normal operations.

Continuity Assistance Review Team Objectives

- Provide a comprehensive continuity program review;
- Create a framework for budget, staff, and resource justification;
- Enable the development of plans to address deficiencies;
- Provide actionable recommendations to address areas for improvement;
- Identify grant assistance where possible and if applicable; and
- Utilize NCP training resources to assist organization in closing planning gaps.

Program Focus

NCP is providing the CART as an additional resource that state, territorial, tribal, and local jurisdictions can use to improve their continuity programs and planning. Through use of the Continuity Assistance Tool, CART members will provide an objective review of an organization's continuity program with the goal of providing assistance in addressing identified gaps in planning. The review process is flexible enough to meet the needs of any organization regardless of location, size or status of continuity programs or plans. Upon completion of the review, organizations are encouraged to address identified weaknesses; however, FEMA is not responsible for implementing recommendations or ensuring an organization's compliance with any applicable state, territorial, tribal, and local continuity policies.

Updated as of June 2014