



Continuity Assistance Review Team

The National Continuity Programs (NCP) Continuity of Operations Division develops continuity guidance to State, Territorial, Tribal, and Local (STTL) government jurisdictions. NCP provides continuity program and planning guidance; education and training through its Headquarters staff, Regional Continuity Managers, and FEMA's Emergency Management Institute (EMI). To assist the Regions in continuity outreach efforts, NCP developed the Continuity Assistance Review Team (CART).

The purpose of the CART is to provide an objective review of STTL 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. To accomplish this goal the CART objectives include:

- 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.
- Utilize NCP training resources to assist organization in closing planning gaps.

Program Focus

FEMA NCP is providing the CART as an additional resource that States, Territories, Tribes and Local jurisdictions can use to improve their continuity programs and planning. Through the use of the FEMA Continuity Assistance Tool (CAT), CART members provide a comprehensive 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 receive an After Action Report identifying program strengths and areas of improvement along with actionable recommendations. FEMA is not responsible for implementing recommendations or ensuring an organization's compliance with any applicable State, Territorial, Tribal or Local continuity policies.

Updated as of January 2015

"FEMA's mission is to support our citizens and first responders to ensure that as a nation we work together to build, sustain, and improve our capability to prepare for, protect against, respond to, recover from, and mitigate all hazards."