



The Responder

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Website Edition

NOVA, Capitol Area Crisis Response Team and AR-CRT Host First National CRT Conference

NOVA, CACRT and AR-CRT hosted the first National Crisis Response Conference in Washington, D.C. in November. The Conference Planning Committee included: Cheryl Guidry Tyiska - NOVA, AR-CRT and CACRT, Diane Alexander and Andrea Burgo-Murphy - CACRT, and Ginger Bankston Bailey - AR-CRT. The theme of the conference was Rejuvenating Crisis Responders: Body, Mind and Spirit.

In addition to Ginger, AR-CRT Board members attending were Msgr. Jack Harris, Larence Johnson and Max Snowden. Little Rock Public School Psychologist Pam Fish - Pulaski County CRT attended along with Little Rock Public School Nurse Beverly Taylor from the Little Rock School District.

Pam and Beverly came early to stuff packets and assist with registration.

Msgr. Jack Harris and Max Snowden provided a presentation on "But That Isn't What We Learned in NOVA Training" that focused on using flexibility when in the field. Ginger co-presented with Ohio CRT member Cindy Reagan Kuhr on "Creating a Crisis Team from Scratch and Sustaining It." Msgr. Jack addressed Muslim/Christian Perspectives on Trauma.

State Crisis Teams assisted with refreshments for afternoon breaks. AR-CRT provided chocolate candy for the afternoon break.

The conference was a direct outgrowth of NOVA's meeting on "lessons learned" after September 11. One of the many lessons was to meet on a regular basis. The Planning Committee is hopeful that AR-CRT will host the next conference.

Pam Fish commented that the focus on

body, mind and spirit was especially meaningful to her. Pam has volunteered to be part of any future Planning Committee when AR-CRT decides to sponsor the conference.



Capital Area Crisis Response Team Presents U.S. Flag to AR-CRT

The Capitol Area Crisis Response Team President Jackie Lapidus, Psy.D presented AR-CRT with a U.S. Flag that was flown over the U.S. Capitol during the National CRT Conference on Tuesday, November 9, 2004.

The flag was flown in honor of the selfless dedication and support of AR-CRT to victims of crime and communities in crisis. The presentation by CACRT also extended their deepest thanks to the AR-CRT teams members for their friendship and commitment to making sure other communities may benefit from their tireless efforts.

