The Ohio Child Abduction Response Team Program offers administrative and operational assistance to law enforcement agencies to help prepare for — and respond to — the abduction of a child.

Used in Ohio since 2006, CART emphasizes identifying staffing, offering training and locating equipment and other resources that can be brought together during a crisis.

In the event of a child abduction, CART offers assistance to the local agency. A CART coordinator helps and advises the incident commander during the search and recovery operation. The incident commander, CART coordinator and lead investigator work closely, but they fill different roles. The incident commander retains control of the operation.

How to get involved

CART coordinators are needed to act within their jurisdictions as leaders of the CART program. Good candidates know where to find resources in their region and how to tailor a response to the unique circumstances of an abduction.
Benefits
CART coordinators receive advanced training and are considered assets to their agencies and communities. They make sure rescue, recovery and investigation activities are swift and efficient in cases when lost time can mean a loss of life.

Qualifications
According to the U.S. Department of Justice, a CART coordinator:
- May be sworn or non-sworn personnel.
- Must have supervisory responsibilities within a law enforcement agency.
- Must possess a proven background in leadership and management.

In addition to the Department of Justice criteria, the Ohio CART Steering Committee has set the following qualifications. CART coordinators:
- Must have public safety or crisis management experience.
- Must be a LEADS practitioner, as defined by the Law Enforcement Automated Data System Manual.
- Must have National Incident Management Certification, including NIMS Incident Command System courses 100, 200 and 700.
- Within one year of appointment, the CART coordinator must complete:
  » CART Team Leader Training.
  » NIMS ICS course 300.

How to sign up
A law enforcement chief executive can identify and register a CART coordinator through the Ohio Law Enforcement Gateway portal. The application is available on the left side of the OHLEG home page.

For more information, call 855-BCI-OHIO (855-224-6446) or send an email to ohiocart@ohioattorneygeneral.gov.