

Heroin overdose quick response teams in Ohio and Kentucky

August 24, 2017 by [Doug Oplinger](#)

OHIO
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Quick Response Teams

The Cincinnati and Toledo areas were among the first to implement widespread use of Quick Response Teams, generally consisting of two first responders (police and EMT) and at least one social worker.

The purpose is to quickly follow up with overdose victims to check on their health and encourage them to seek help. QRTs that track the victims say that 50-80 percent accept some kind of help. Another finding is that there often is a general plea for other services, such as a ride to a doctor, clothing for children, phone numbers.

Colerain Township, a beltway community of about 56,000 on Cincinnati's northwest side, became a model for many others around the country, and dispatched people to make presentations on the effectiveness.

The Lucas County sheriff also was an innovator. He was early enough in developing a program that he had to come up with his own name: Drug Abuse Response Team, or DART.

This compilation of QRT information is a work in progress. If you are aware of a community with a QRT and it is not mentioned here, please let me know at doplinger@yourvoiceohio.org

Statewide

Project Dawn Guidelines from ODH: [Rapid Increase in Drug Overdoses Community Response Plan Template](#)

Ohio Attorney General [guidelines for heroin response](#)

[OverdosePreventionStrategies.org Ohio scorecard](#)

Southwest Ohio

Profile of Butler County programs by [EMS World 5-6-17](#), began in 2015
"Out of the 208 people we've made contact with 55 percent of those individuals walked through a treatment door."

Colerain Twp. (Hamilton Co.) was one of the first, a model, [WCPO 3-8-17](#)

80% of those contacted follow up with some type of treatment.

[Clermont County receives private grant to start up QRT, 1-23-17](#)

[Cincinnati mayor, council propose teams 9-2-16 modeled after Colerain](#)

[State lawmakers representing Wilmington area put money in a bill for Wilmington QRT 3-20-17](#)

[Oxford creates QRT, 10-24-16](#)

[Miami County task force Jan. 2017 update](#)

Northwest Ohio

The Lucas County sheriff also was an early leader in quick response, early enough that he created his own name: DART.

[Lucas County DART Facebook page](#)

Bowling Green: 8-17-17

[Wood County prosecutor proposes that a QRT be formed after losing son](#)

Troy, Ohio: 7-6-16

[Troy starts QRT after heroin spike](#)

Northeast Ohio

Coventry Township, Summit County: 5-5-17

[Coventry launches heroin-focused QRT](#)

Akron: 3-2-17

[Akron launches QRT to combat opiate epidemic](#)

Cuyahoga Falls, Summit County: 1-12-17

[Cuyahoga Falls launches QRT](#)

[Solutions piece by Cleveland Scene](#) on man in City of Green (Summit County) bringing pieces together for his community

City of Green (Summit County), home of Lt Gov Mary Taylor, [starts up QRT](#), hears presentation from Colerain Twp

Stow and Munroe Falls, Summit County: 4-2-17

[Stow and Munroe falls launch QRT](#)

Southeast Ohio

N/A

Central Ohio

Franklin County grant to Columbus: 5-24-17

[Program hopes to get overdose patients into treatment](#)

Chillicothe, Ross County among early implementers: [6-25-16](#) and [9-7-16](#)

Kentucky

[Ride-along with WCPO Cincinnati in Kenton County, Florence, Kentucky:](#)
3-9-17

Boone County, Florence, Kentucky: 6-16-17 from the Cincinnati Enquirer

[Boone County starts overdose QRT](#)

West Virginia

N/A

Related

[Quick-response teams in Ohio visiting OD victims at home](#)

I sat listening Wednesday to

Terri Nau and Christa Hyson as they talked calmly about visits with heroin-overdose victims in their homes in Quick-Response Teams. I was anything but calm. Hyson recalled visiting an apartment building in Cincinnati, harassed by some men at the doorway as she, first responders and...

August 18, 2017

In "Local Government"

[Solutions to the opioid crisis: Are these in your community?](#)

Changing the opioid crisis
These are statistically proven solutions from Ohio and around the country. Some are personal action items, some can be accomplished by organizations and others require local governments to act. For story context, see this story published as part of the Your Voice Ohio media collaborative.

Meanwhile,...

October 24, 2017

In "Coverage"