

Kentucky Urban Search & Rescue

VMAPP September 24, 2025



Kentucky US&R Programs

- **KY-Task Force 1**
 - (3) 70-member teams provides
 - (2) 12-hour operational periods
 - 210 reimbursed personnel total
- **KY-Task Force 2**
 - (3) 22-member teams
 - Provides one 12-hour operational period
 - 66 reimbursed personnel total
- **KY-Helicopter Aquatic Rescue Team**
 - Partnerships with KY US&R, KSP, KYNG
- **KY-Incident Support Team**
 - Emergency Support Functions that support Fire & Search and Rescue operations
- **Rescue Aid Fund**
 - \$500,000.00 Grant funding to local search and rescue teams





Current Development Success

Kentucky US&R Staffing & Budget Overview



- **Staffing Structure**

- 3 full-time personnel provide operational leadership and daily management.
- 16 part-time employees support training, logistics, and team development.

- **2025 Budget – \$8.3 Million**

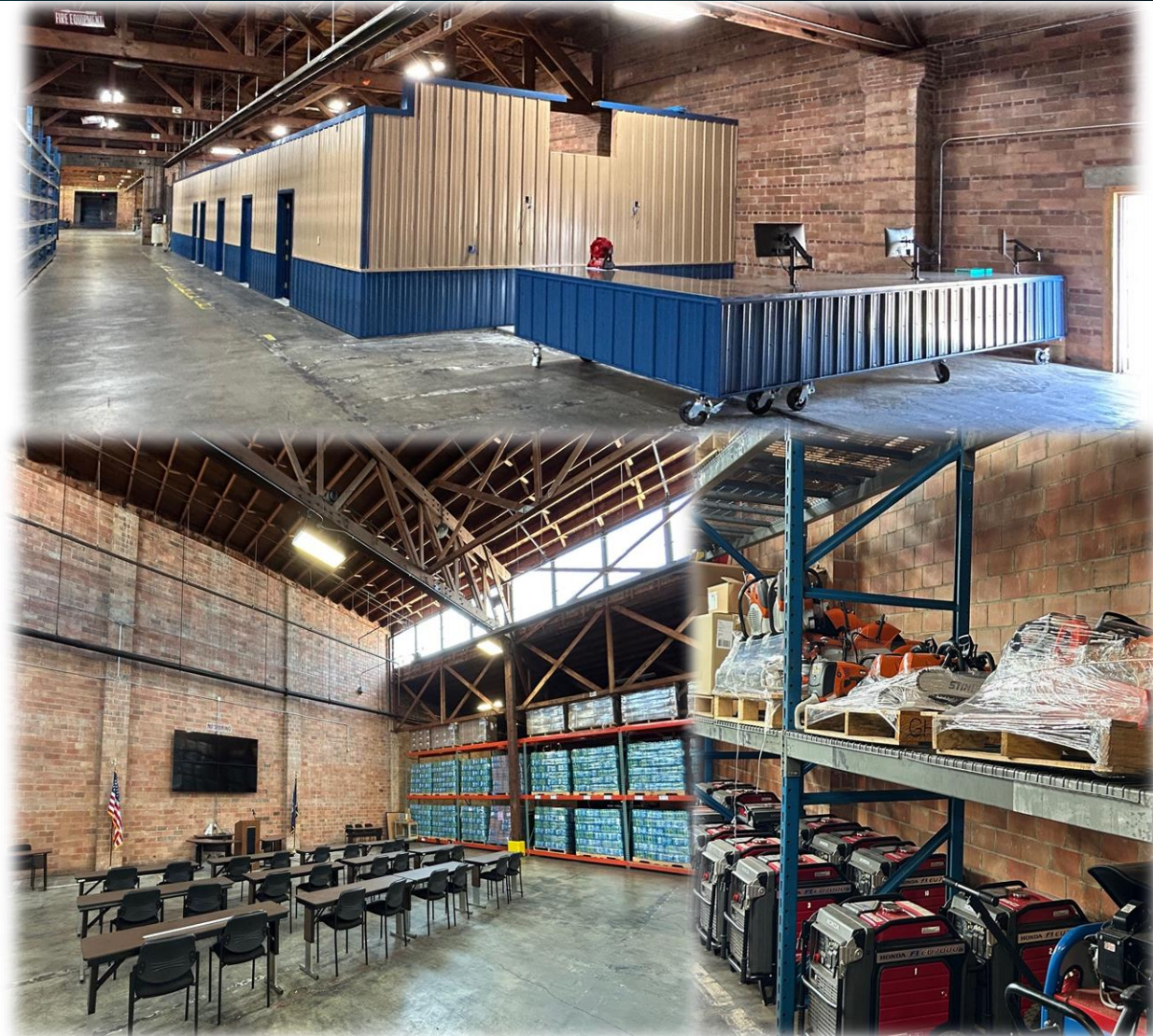
- Fully executed, with major capital purchases including fleet.
- \$482,670.73 awarded across 29 local search and rescue team grants.

- **Infrastructure Development**

- Repurposing a 1940s warehouse on DMA property.
- Transforming into a modern, mission-ready warehouse to support operations.

- **2026 Budget - \$7.8 Million Priorities**

- Enhanced personnel training and development.
- Investment in personal protective equipment and operational equipment.
- Continuation of \$493,592.69 awarded in 36 search and rescue team grants.



Building The Future of Kentucky's Emergency Response



- **4.5-Acre Training Site** – A dedicated property supporting Kentucky Urban Search & Rescue operations, logistics, and long-term growth of statewide response capabilities.
 - **Simulated Disaster Town** – Planned training grounds replicating real-world disaster scenarios,
 - **Multi-Agency Preparedness** – A hub for collaboration where federal, state, and local partners train together, building strong coordination for all types of natural and man-made incidents.
- **Statewide Education and Outreach** – Providing structured training and technical support across the Commonwealth, strengthening readiness and resilience of first responders and partner agencies.
- **Conference Engagement and Leadership** – Presenting lessons learned, future response strategies, and best practices to government leaders and first responders, ensuring shared knowledge during “blue sky” planning for seamless “gray sky” operations.



Operational Success in 2025



- Command and Control of search and rescue during activation of the State emergency Operations Center as the lead
- Organizing the deployment of SAR assets throughout the Commonwealth
- Estimated over 1500 civilians were evacuated, air lifted, or rescued during the floods in 2025
- **February Flood**
 - Deployed 22 local Swiftwater / US&R assets across the Commonwealth
 - 3 Federal US&R Teams and 2 EMAC State teams
- **April Flood**
 - Deployed 9 Swiftwater teams to include the response to Frankfort
 - 2 Federal US&R Teams and 3 EMAC State Teams
- **May Tornado**
 - Deployed state assets to the Somerset and London
 - KY US&R Command reported all SAR operations were completed in less than 12 hours.



Team Operational Timeline



Kentucky Incident Support Team

- Support the search and rescue operations with command and control
- Operational in April 2026



Kentucky US&R Team Members

- Training of personnel
- Roster of team members by January 2026



Kentucky HART program

- Helicopter Hoist Program
- Currently Operational

Kentucky US&R Teams

- KY-TF1 and KY-TF2
- Deployable by June, 2026





Questions

ARH Tug Valley Regional Hospital