In recent years Croke Park has supported many units in responding to critical incidents ranging from the tragic death of a member, suicide, road traffic accidents, or serious injuries sustained in a game/training or club activities.

While the response of our clubs, counties, officers, and volunteers has been instrumental in supporting those affected, feedback suggests that training to support the implementation of the GAA’s Critical Incident Response Plan (CIRP) would benefit all units.

To that end, at least two county-level volunteers in each county will receive Critical Incident Peer Support training; preferably the County Chairperson/Secretary, County Health & Wellbeing County Chairperson (or persons designated by them), plus a health and wellbeing tutor(s) from the county.

The two-hour training is designed to ensure that Critical Incident Peer Supporters can:
- Prepare a county-level Critical Incident Response Plan from the template/resource provided.
- Support clubs in adopting their own CIRP and support them should an incident arise.
- Respond in the most appropriate manner following a critical incident.

The Peer Supporter(s) will be assisted in their role by their County Executive and County Health & Wellbeing Committee.

**PERSONAL REQUIREMENTS**
- Good communication and interpersonal and organisational skills.
- Ability to work with community groups, other GAA officers (Children’s/Coaching Officer) and the Executive as required.
- Good standing in the community
- Ability to deal discretely with potentially sensitive issues.
- Willingness to attend training as provided by the GAA or its partners.

**ADDITIONAL INFORMATION AND SUPPORT**
- Training for the County Critical Incident Peer Supporter(s) will be provided by trained personnel.
- Supporting resources will be provided during the training.
- An annual platform to support the ‘care for the carers’ ethos will be provided.
- Further information can be sought at community.health@gaa.ie

**RECOMMENDATIONS**
- It is recommended that the County Critical Incident Peer Supporter(s) remain in the role for a minimum of two years to allow adequate time to develop and embed the role. (When a new appointment occurs its important any on-going incidences are handed over).
- Building relationships with national and local support groups and agencies is recommended.