

## Meet the Team

**C. Kay Best, MSW, LCSW**, School Social Worker, West Central IL Special Education Coop - Dallas and Warsaw Schools

**Susan Conlon, MS Ed., LCPC**, School Counselor Lincoln Elementary, Macomb School District

**Karen Kuras, MS Ed.**, School Counselor, West Prairie High School

**Gary Eddington, MS Ed.**, Regional Superintendent, Regional Office of Education #26

**Arthur Hasbargen, Ed.D.**, University of Illinois - Clinical Psychologist, Counselor, Teacher - Western Illinois University Professor Emeritus

**Ann Logan, MS Ed.**, School Counselor, LaHarpe High School

**John Meixner, MS Ed.**, Assistant Regional Superintendent, Regional Office of Education #26

**Sandy Sellers, MS Ed., LCPC, NBCC**, Mental Health Counselor, McDonough District Hospital Behavior Health Services

**Diana Sharpe, MS Ed.**, School Counselor, Edison School, Macomb School District

**Rev. Randy White, BS**, Senior Pastor, Golden's Point Christian Church, Hamilton Police Chaplain

**Sheryl Yoder, MA, LCPC**, Therapist, North Central Behavioral Health Systems, Macomb

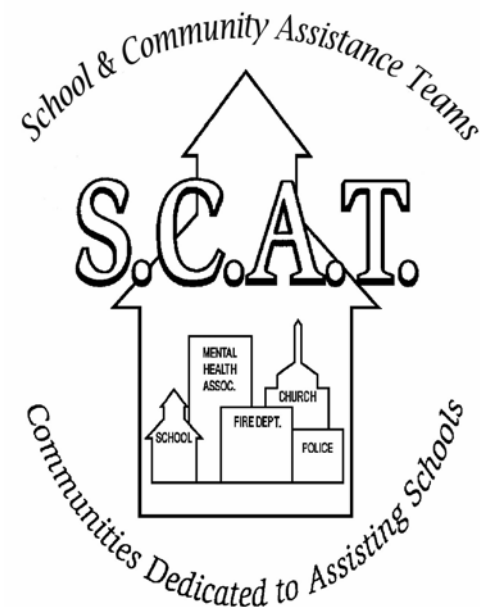
**Ellie Zoerink, MSW, ACSW**, School Social Worker, West Central IL Special Education Coop - Macomb Schools



## How to Contact SCAT

*In response to a school or  
community crisis, activate  
SCAT 24 hours a day by  
calling the  
McDonough County Sheriff  
At  
(309) 833-2323*

*For Information, Contact  
Gary Eddington  
Regional Office of Education  
130 S. Lafayette - Suite 200  
Macomb IL 61455  
Office Hours:  
8:00 A.M. - 4:00 P.M.  
Monday - Friday  
Phone: (309) 837-4821*



**Regional Office of Education #26**

*Here to help Hancock and  
McDonough Counties deal with  
crisis as it arises and prepare for  
crisis situations before they  
emerge*

## What is a SCAT Team

A SCAT team is a team of crisis interveners, who are available 24 hours a day, to help schools and the communities in Hancock and McDonough County respond to tragedy.

Led by Regional Superintendent Gary Eddington, the Hancock/McDonough County Regional Office of Education has gathered volunteers from schools, mental health professionals, and clergy to form a regional SCAT program.

In an effort to prepare for traumatic crisis of any kind, the Mental Health Association in Illinois, in collaboration with the Office of Illinois Attorney General, the Community Behavioral Healthcare Association of Illinois, the National Organization for Victim Assistance, and the Illinois State Board of Education, has assembled and trained forty-six regional School & Community Assistance Teams (SCAT's). The goal of this initiative is to develop trained teams, in a state-wide network, to be used by Illinois schools and communities for assistance during and following a violent or other traumatic incident, on school grounds, or within the community.

## Our Mission

*To serve as consultants to the leaders and caregivers of Illinois, to provide crisis intervention services in the immediate aftermath of a critical incident, to help local leaders and caregivers identify at-risk individuals to ensure they are provided necessary mental health services, to seek opportunities within Illinois communities to enhance public awareness of the effects of trauma, and to provide necessary information and assistance to Illinois schools and their communities on how to cope with a traumatic incident which affects members of an Illinois school or community*

## Our Purpose

The purpose of the Region 26 SCAT Team is to help Hancock and McDonough Counties deal with crisis as it arises and prepare for crisis situations before they emerge.

### We will achieve this purpose by:

- Actively contacting the communities of our region to make them aware of our services.
- Making ourselves available to respond to any school or community request for our assistance in a crisis situation in a way that is timely and professional.
- Making ourselves available to help school and community crisis teams in planning for a crisis response.

## When We Can Help

The SCAT Team is able to respond to any trauma that occurs on school grounds or that significantly affects our communities. This includes, but is not limited to:

- Violent Acts
- Accidents
- Natural Disasters
- Any time the administration of a school or community sees the need for crisis intervention and requests the SCAT's presence.

## How We Can Help

Preceding or immediately following a traumatic incident, and at the invitation of a school district, or community official, the SCAT members will assist.

### Possible services include:

- **Individual Crisis Intervention** - with students, parents, teachers, staff or citizens
- **Group Crisis Intervention** - with students, parents, teachers, staff or community
- **Education and Consultation** - on the predictable human crisis reactions including physical, emotional and cognitive trauma, stages of crisis intervention, and aftercare needs of schools and the community
- **Death or Injury Notification**