Step Up Arizona
2016

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Scottsdale Police
Crisis Intervention Specialists

- Program was created in 1975

- National Institute of Justice – “Serving Crime Victims & Witnesses”

- 7 full time behavioral health / mental health professionals
  - All staff masters degreed
  - Crisis Negotiation Team (CNT) – “mental health professional” role

- Staff are not “Victim Advocates” – may advocate for individuals & families

- Available 24/7, on duty 40 hours a week

- Civilian employees assigned to the Investigative Services Bureau
Scottsdale Police
Crisis Intervention Section

- Mental health calls – most frequent responses

- Respond on-scene & detention facilities

- Primary response to law enforcement requests
  - Crisis & victim related incidents
  - Frequent calls to law enforcement & fire/ medical

- Community requests
SPD Crisis Intervention Specialists Respond to the Following Types of Calls:

- Threats of suicide/homicide
- Mental health
- Domestic violence
- Sexual assaults
- Death notifications/grief
- Homeless issues
SPD Crisis Intervention Specialists Respond to the Following Types of Calls:

- Child abuse
- Elder abuse
- Family problems
- Critical incidents
- Major events
- Traumatic events
- & more...
Canine Crisis Response (CCR)

- CCR teams are used to help people normalize the experience of a crisis
- Ground people when events seem out of control
- Act as a bridge to communication
- CCR can be used in instances of
  - Natural disaster
  - Traumatic events
  - Children in crisis
  - Other acts of violence
What Is the C.I.T. Program?

The Crisis Intervention Team (CIT) program is a model for community policing that brings together law enforcement, mental health providers, hospital emergency departments and individuals with a mental illness & their families to improve responses to people in crisis.
C.I.T. Program

- In 1988, Memphis introduced the first Crisis Intervention Team (CIT) as an innovative police based first responder program.
- The CIT Program, based on the “Memphis Model” is designed to effectively assist individuals in the community who are in crisis due to behavioral health or developmental disorders.
The History of CIT

- It was a tragedy that spurred the coming together of stakeholders to develop the original CIT program in Memphis, Tennessee.

- In 1987, 27 y/o Joseph Robinson, who had a mental illness, was shot and killed during an incident with the Memphis Police Department.

- In 1988, the Memphis Police Department joined in partnership with the Alliance on Mental Illness, mental health providers, and two local universities in organizing, training, and implementing a specialized unit.

- The community effort was the genesis of the Memphis Police Department’s Crisis Intervention Team.
C.I.T. Program

- The CIT Program, is just that, a “Program” of which just one component is the training of law enforcement.

- CIT is built on a foundation of community collaboration and the development of a responsive and accessible Community Behavioral Health Crisis System.
C.I.T. Program Overview

- Police Training
- Community Collaboration

- Vibrant & Accessible Crisis System
- Behavioral Health Staff Training
- Family / Consumers / Advocates / Collaboration - Education
Benefits of a C.I.T. Program

- CIT gives officers more tools to do their job safely and effectively.

- It helps keep people with a mental illness out of jail, and gets them into treatment, where they are more likely to get on the road to recovery.
Benefits of a C.I.T. Program

- **Improves office safety.** After the introduction of CIT in Memphis, TN., officer injuries sustained during responses to “mental disturbance” calls dropped 80%.

- **CIT is the best program.** Compared to other jail diversion programs, officers say CIT is better at minimizing the amount of time they spend on mental disturbance calls, more effective at meeting the needs of the people with mental illness and better at maintaining community safety.
Benefits of a C.I.T. Program

- **CIT saves public money.** Pre-booking jail diversion programs, including CIT, reduce the number of re-arrests of people with mental illness by 58%.

- Individuals who encounter a CIT-trained officer receive more counseling, medication, and other forms of treatment than individuals who are not diverted – services that keep them out of expensive jail beds and hospitals.
Benefits of a C.I.T. Program

- Collaboration
  - Establishment of partnerships and relationships developed through the CIT program
  - Community based policing model

- Professionalism and Community Confidence
  - Develop increased professionalism and community confidence in law enforcement agencies / public safety agencies.
The East Valley CIT Program Collaboration was created in the fall of 2014 to increase training opportunities for law enforcement agencies and to meet the identified need for additional CIT Officers. The East Valley CIT Collaboration is broadening the scope of the training to allow for additional public safety attendees, such as Dispatch, Detention, Fire & Medical personnel. The expanded mission enhances collaborative partnerships, increases awareness of mental illness and the shared responsibility that we all have to the communities we serve. Public safety partners include Scottsdale, Mesa, Chandler, Gilbert, & AZ POST.

- AZ POST
- Chandler Police
- Gilbert Police
- Mesa Police
- Mesa Fire & Medical
- Scottsdale Police

- Arizona State University
SPD CIT Program
Leadership Team

- Tracey Wilkinson, M.S.
  CIT Program, Coordinator
  Police Crisis Intervention Section, Supervisor

- Natalie Summit, L.P.C.
  CIT Program, Mental Health Coordinator

- Commander Bruce Ciolli
  CIT Program, Director

- Lieutenant Larry Marmie
  CIT Program, Law Enforcement Coordinator
Officers who choose to attend CIT advanced training, receive 40 hours of specialized instruction.

- Behavioral / mental health experts
- CIT trained officers
- “Consumers”, persons with a mental illness, and family members

Advanced-officer training is designed to help officers gain understanding and develop a foundation to build their skills.
C.I.T. - Training

- Understand signs and symptoms of mental illnesses and co-occurring disorders
- Recognize when those signs and symptoms represent a crisis situation
- Safely de-escalate individuals experiencing behavioral health crises
- Utilize community resources and diversion strategies that are available to provide emergency assistance
C.I.T. - Training

- A national CIT training curriculum has been developed through a partnership between:
  - NAMI – National Alliance on Mental Illness
  - University of Memphis CIT Center
  - CIT International
  - International Association of Chiefs of Police
C.I.T. - Training

- Legal Aspects of Officer Liability
- Psychiatric Disorders & Medications
- Suicide Intervention & Civil Commitment / Mental Health Evaluations
- Substance Abuse Assessment
- Co-Occurring Disorders
- Crisis De-Escalation
- Post-Traumatic Stress
- Memory Loss, Dementia & Alzheimer’s Disease
- Developmental Disabilities
- Family / Consumer Perspectives
- Community Resources
- Role Playing & Scenarios
C.I.T. Program – Police Training
40 hours – Initial Training

- Training Sessions – Topics
  - More than 30
- Sworn Instructors
  - Less than 10
- Civilian & Community Instructors / Presenters
  - More than 20

- Training Scenarios
  - 6-8 CIT Officer Evaluators
  - 6-8 Mental Health Professionals/ Evaluators
  - 6-8 Role Players / Actors
CIT Program
Continuing Education, In-Service Training

- Mesa PD & Scottsdale PD partnership with East Valley CIT Program Collaboration & AZ POST
- Drugs of Abuse & Street Drugs
  Developmental Disabilities & Resources – 7/15/15
- Public Safety Professional’s Response to those that Suffer from Mental Health Issues
  Robert J. Cipriano, Psy. D. – 9/29/15
- Crisis Intervention: Improving Interactions with Individuals Diagnosed with
  Developmental, Neurological, and Behavioral Disorders – 1/26/16
- Scottsdale PD CIT Program Meeting & In-Service Training – 3/5/15
- Joseph A. Gentry, Ph.D. – Psychologist and Licensed Behavior Analyst

- Post Academy – PCIS & CIT Program Instruction
  Communications Personnel Attendance
Sources & Resources

CIT International

National Alliance on Mental Illness

University of Memphis CIT Center

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