



2026 Ohio CIT Conference Agenda

The Quest Conference Center

April 8, 2026

- 8:30 a.m. Check-in**
Atrium
- 9:20 a.m. Welcome and Introductions**
Luke Russell, Executive Director, NAMI Ohio
Edison Main Room
- 9:30 a.m. CIT; Transforming my Pain into POWER**
Kevin Fischer, Executive Director, NAMI Michigan
Edison Main Room
- 10:20 a.m. Break**
Please report to your first Breakout Session Room
- 10:35 a.m. Morning Breakout Session**
- Morgan Room 1** *Hamilton County's CIT Specialist Team: Bringing Together Law Enforcement from Multiple Jurisdictions*
Elizabeth Roach
- Morgan Room 2** *Different Lenses, Safer Outcomes: Using Generational Awareness to Improve CIT Encounters and Crisis Response*
William 'Guy' Burney
- Morgan Room 3** *Breaking Down Ohio's Pink Slip Process*
Officer Jeff Futo (Ret.) and Commander Chris Bowling (Ret.), MS. Ed.
- Wright Room 1** *Collaborative Impact: Leveraging CIT Concepts and Partnerships to Build Safer, Healthier Communities for High Utilizers*
Assistant Chief Scott Rotolo & Piper Davidson, M.Ed., LPCC-S
- Wright Room 2** *Driving Down Calls for Service Through Community-Oriented Policing – A Focused Response to Specialized Populations and Familiar Faces*
Teresa Russell & Deputy Javan Richardson
- 11:50 a.m. Report back to Edison Main Room for Lunch/CIT Awards Presentation**



12:00 p.m. Lunch/CIT Awards Presentation

Ruth Simera, Executive Director, Coordinating Centers of Excellence,
Department of Psychiatry, NEOMED
Edison Main Room

Award Presenters:

Evelyn Lundberg Stratton CIT Champion of the Year

Evelyn Lundberg Stratton, Retired Justice

Law Enforcement Administrator of the Year

Assistant Chief Scott Rotolo, Wooster Police Department *(2025 award winner)*

CIT Corrections Professional of the Year

Nicole M. Dehner, Executive Director, Office of Criminal Justice Services

Public Safety Telecommunications Professional of the Year

Captain Lydia G. Frey, Marion County 911 Central Dispatch *(2025 award winner)*

Health Professional of the Year

Jennifer Roach, Bureau Chief of Criminal Justice, Ohio Department of Behavioral Health

CIT Program of the Year (Agency or program)

Bree Snow, M.Ed., LPSC, OCPSA Wood County CIT Program *(2025 award winner)*

Michael S. Woody CIT Coordinator of the Year

Beth Roach, Hamilton County CIT Coordinator, Mental Health America of Northern
Kentucky & Southwest Ohio (MHANKYSWOH) *(2025 award winner)*

Person with Lived Experience of the Year

Jeannie M. Mueller, Director of Operations, Recovery Center of Hamilton County
(2025 award winner)

CIT Patrol Officer of the Year

Officer Jeff Futo (ret.), Ohio CIT Coordinator – Law Enforcement, Criminal Justice
Coordinating Center of Excellence, Northeast Ohio Medical University

**** Award winners, nominees, and presenters please stay after the presentation for pictures**

Lunch Dismissal & Networking

Ruth Simera, Executive Director, Coordinating Centers of Excellence,
Department of Psychiatry, NEOMED
Edison Main Room



1:35 p.m. Afternoon Breakout Session

Morgan Room 1 *Building Engaging & Interactive CIT Courses*
Elizabeth Roach & Kimberly Priester, LPCC-S, LICDC-CS

Morgan Room 2 *Personal Wellness: Self-Care*
Steve Click

Morgan Room 3 *Law Enforcement Custody and Use of Force on Mentally Ill: A Study on the Evolving Landscape of Important Case Law from Across the Country*
Chief Paul Hartinger (Ret.)

Wright Room 1 *Neurodivergence & Criminal Justice: Safer Interventions and Better Outcomes for Autistic People*
Kim Roschie, LISW-S & Correctional Officer Randall Larkin

Wright Room 2 *Conundrum of Care: Police and Mental Health Providers Unite to Tackle High-Utilizer Youth Cases*
Jessica Michael, MSW, LISW-S & Lieutenant Michael Voorhis

2:50 p.m. Break
Please return to the Edison Main Room

3:00 p.m. Still Standing: Why Your Leadership Still Matters
Maurice F. Martin
Edison Main Room

3:50 p.m. Closing Remarks
Dr. Em Ribnik, LPCC-S, Director
Criminal Justice Coordinating Center of Excellence
Edison Main Room

4:00 p.m. Adjournment

- ** All attendees please complete the conference evaluation form accessed below via a digital QR code or fill out the physical form provided in your conference folder.
- **Please turn in your photo release and conference evaluation form to NAMI Ohio at their table to receive a parting gift.
- ** Attendees receiving continuing education hours (CEs/CPTs) are required to attend through the adjournment to receive credit.

Conference Evaluation QR Code & Link

<https://bit.ly/4cZUuc>



Conference Materials QR Code & Dropbox Link

<https://bit.ly/3ZYxLGq>



A special thank you to the Mental Health & Recovery Board of Clark-Greene-Madison Counties, Northeast Ohio Medical University Police Department, the Ohio CIT Conference Planning Committee Members, & our Ohio CIT Partners for their generous help and support with this event:

Ohio CIT Conference Planning Committee Members:

Bryce Coder, NAMI Ohio

Gail DeWolf, Ohio Department of Rehabilitation and Correction

Officer Jeff Futo (ret.), Ohio CIT Coordinator -Law Enforcement, CJ CCoE, Northeast Ohio Medical University

Emy-Lynn Marhulik, NAMI Ohio

Patricia McCaslin, Lorain County Community College

Joel Nussbaum, Ohio Department of Rehabilitation and Correction

Adam Peacock, Criminal Justice Coordinating Center of Excellence, Northeast Ohio Medical University

Kimberly Priester, Montgomery County Alcohol, Drug Addiction, and Mental Health Services

Em Ribnik, Ph.D., LPCC-S, Criminal Justice Coordinating Center of Excellence, Northeast Ohio Medical University

Theresa Richards, Criminal Justice Coordinating Center of Excellence, Northeast Ohio Medical University

Betty Riggs, Wayne County Communications

Luke Russell, NAMI Ohio

Ruth Simera, Coordinating Centers of Excellence, Department of Psychiatry, Northeast Ohio Medical University

Sergeant Ralph Stover, Tallmadge Police Department

Melanie Swisher, Paint Valley Alcohol, Drug Addiction, and Mental Health Board

Lee Ann Watson, Clermont County Mental Health and Recovery Board

