



OHIO CIT NEWS



Editor: Michael Woody
dutifulmind@gmail.com

Summer 2015

The Value of Peer Reviews

Ohio has a CIT Peer Review Team that researches and assesses volunteer counties CIT training curriculum and their CIT Program. The goal is to help maintain fidelity to the Core Elements of CIT that make it so successful. And the best part is that it is offered FREE OF CHARGE! Contact the CJCCOE @ dutifulmind@gmail.com for more information or to set up a review of your CIT Program. And speaking about Core Elements...

One of the most important core elements is that of having a law enforcement CIT coordinator.

One of the most important core elements is that of having a law enforcement CIT coordinator. This individual needs to be the "CIT Champion" of their department. It really helps if they are at least in a mid-management position and have the total trust of their administration. They are the person who determines the number of CIT officers needed and on which shifts in order to have an officer available at all times in all areas.

They also select the officers that they deem suitable to interact with persons in mental crisis. This is determined by first having them volunteer to become a CIT officer. This shows desire. They then interview the candidate in an effort to ascertain just what is motivating this desire? Also, pulling the candidate's personnel file to see the number of complaints, use of force incidents, commendations, etc. should give the Coordinator a pretty good idea of the officer's maturity, communication skills and demeanor.

The Coordinator also is responsible for helping create and collect "CIT Stat Sheets" that officers fill out after completing a mental health crisis call; and, checking them to see if there are any problems between law enforcement, mental health providers, and advocates for those with a mental illness that need attention or corrected. The L.E. Coordinator then passes on these reports to the Mental Health Provider CIT Coordinator for continued evaluation. This process guarantees that all partners in this community effort are aware and working together to solve problems.

These reports can also be used to determine refresher, advanced, or additional course topics CIT officers may need. They are also useful in verifying the success of a CIT Coordinator and Team.

**Core Elements for Effective Crisis Intervention Team (CIT) Programs -
Developed by the Ohio CIT Coordinators Committee in Conjunction with the Ohio
Criminal Justice Coordinating Center of Excellence -2004**

The Law Enforcement CIT Coordinator

A CIT officer committed to the CIT concept/program will be designated as the contact person for the mental health system.

- Ideally in large agencies this officer will be designated the CIT coordinator.

- The coordinator position should be filled by a law enforcement officer who would be given the authority to oversee the program in the agency.

- The rank of this person would be established by the agency and that person would be imbued with the “staff authority” needed to coordinate and oversee the activities of the team.

University of Memphis CIT Center - *CIT Law Enforcement Coordinator*

The CIT coordinator is part of the law enforcement community and acts as a liaison by maintaining partnerships with program stakeholders in order to ensure the success of CIT. The coordinator’s involvement with CIT should start from the beginning and continue through the planning, implementation, and evaluation stages. The CIT coordinator provides support to CIT officers through training and feedback. The qualifications should include leadership ability and experience as a law enforcement officer. The job responsibilities include program development, training coordination, and maintenance of relationships with community partnership. The CIT coordinator also is a point of contact with the law enforcement agency for the community and brings stability to the program.

Click on the link for an article showing what a law enforcement CIT Coordinator in one city does!

http://www.dailystarjournal.com/news/local/article_aeb9b2e3-144d-57c9-a2fa-cb18e731f9cf.html

Need Materials and/or resources for your next CIT Course? The CJ CCOE Lending Library has them.

Just go to: www.neomed.edu to see what’s available.

From NAMI Ohio’s Betsy Johnson

**CIT Pins, Quick Reference Guides, and Hearing Voices Kits
Are available upon request.**



Chief Kral, Officer Long, Officer Gardener, Deputy Chief Kenney, Lt. Twining
Congratulations

*To Officer Long for being honored as the 2015 "CIT Officer of the Year"
Lucas County - from the Toledo Police Department!*

Congratulations

To Washington County
Conducting their very first CIT Course in May!
AND
This class put them in the "RED" on our Ohio CIT map!

Congratulations

To Scioto County
Their most recent CIT Class put them in the "RED" on our Ohio CIT map!

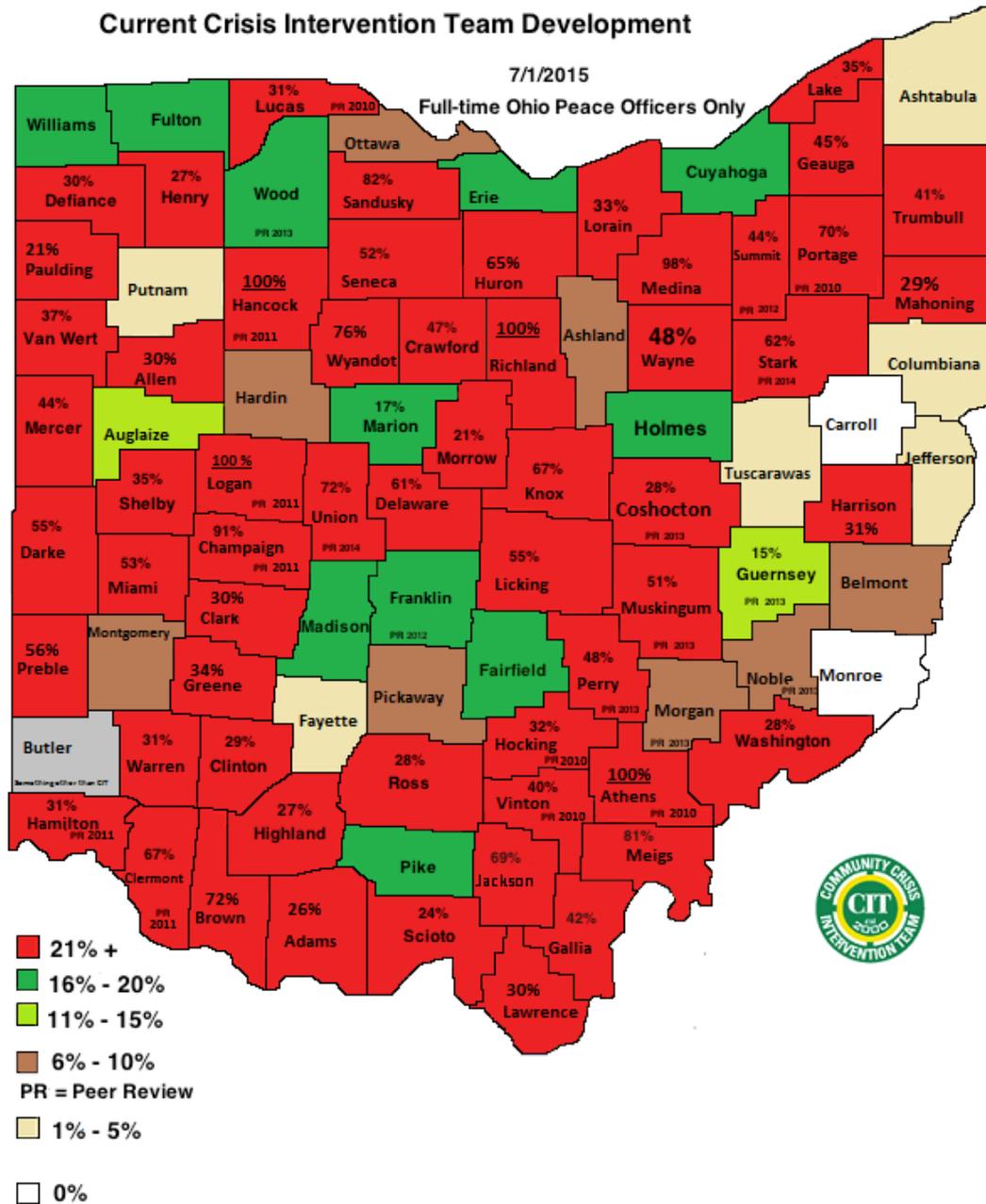
Congratulations

To Ross County
Their most recent CIT course put them in the "RED" on our Ohio CIT map!

Current Crisis Intervention Team Development

7/1/2015

Full-time Ohio Peace Officers Only



Congratulations

The following L.E. Agencies in Ohio sent officers to a **first** CIT course this spring:

Sylvania Township PD

Mount Vernon Nazarene University Campus Security

Hillsboro PD

Henry County Sheriff's Office

Beverly PD

New Washington PD

Wickliffe PD

Madison Township PD

Miami Township PD

5 Rivers MetroParks

Email from a recent Ohio graduate of a CIT course to the CIT Coordinator

"I wanted to express that after receiving the latest CIT training, I returned to work the next day. The second call of the shift for me dealt with a bi-polar male that had been off his meds for the last two years. He refused to get further evaluation. He did not have any threats of harming himself or others prior or during the call. Within 5 minutes of talking to the male subject, I was able to get him to voluntarily seek evaluation at the hospital. Without the class, things might have progressed in a different manner.

The next day I again found myself with a bi-polar male subject that takes his meds "when it is convenient" for him. Using what I had learned from the class, and a bit of improvising, I was able to calm the situation between him and his girlfriend.

I felt the need to email you because I was unaware of the need for the CIT training prior to going to the class. I quickly found that within a few calls of having the training, how valuable the course really was. This was just an opportunity to say thank you for the help in dealing with a difficult situation."

Opportunity for Educators

Several years ago Portage County developed a course for educators to recognize students that may have behavioral health issues. The goal was to get them professional help in these early stages of a possible illness. This year's course is scheduled for the week of **July 27th** and will be held at the Streetsboro Police Department. If interested contact **Carrie Suvada** – Coordinator; CIT Education Collaboration at **(330) 671-0276** or suvadas@embarqmail.com

This course qualifies for graduate study hours!

[CITEC](#) is a proactive, five-day program for school personnel designed to increase awareness of mental health issues and develop crisis management skills.

WHO: ANY school staff members: Faculty, Guidance, Administration, Bus, Custodial, Secretarial, Cafeteria

TOPICS INCLUDE: Introduction to Mental Illness; Crisis with Kids; Depression & Suicide Prevention; Child Abuse; Bipolar Disorder; Legal Issues; Bullying; Substance Abuse; Autism; Domestic Violence; Trauma; Street Drugs; School Safety Plans; De-escalation Principles; Verbal Techniques & Role-plays; Community Resources

