

DUTIFUL MINDS

Ohio's CIT Newsletter



Upcoming CIT Courses:

Jan—Seneca/Sandusky/
Wyandot County (*dates TBD*)

Feb—Hamilton County (*dates
TBD*)

Meigs/Gallia County (11th—
15th)

Franklin County (25th—Mar.
1st)



First CIT Youth (CIT-Y) Training in Ohio

On October 3, 2012, the first CIT-Youth training was held in Wooster, Ohio for 15 Crisis Intervention Team officers from Wayne and Holmes Counties who had previously completed the 40-hour CIT course. The 8-hour advanced training was administered by the Wayne/Holmes CIT Program and included instruction in adolescent brain development, mental illness in youth, community resources, and de-escalation strategies and techniques.

In 2007, the John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation established the Models for Change Mental Health/Juvenile Justice Action Network, a partnership of states to work together to improve services and policies for youth living with mental illness who become involved with the juvenile justice system. The Action Network is coordinated by the National Center for Mental Health and Juvenile Justice (MH/JJ) and is comprised of eight states: Colorado, Connecticut, Illinois, Louisiana, **Ohio**, Pennsylvania, Texas and Washington.

One activity of the Action Network is developing models to divert youth with mental health needs from involvement with the juvenile system. The National Center for MH/JJ worked with three initial states to develop a Crisis Intervention Team – Youth (CIT-Y) curriculum to be used as an advanced training for law enforcement officers who previously completed the 40-hour CIT training. Train the Trainer sessions were convened by request in Connecticut, Louisiana, **Ohio**, Pennsylvania, Texas and Washington to teach law enforcement and mental health trainers how to administer the curriculum to CIT officers. After additional changes were made to the curriculum, the final product was released in the spring of 2012 to the participating communities.

Ohio has a unique arrangement with the National Center for MH/JJ for the CJCCoE to oversee the dissemination and monitoring of CIT-Y training in Ohio. We hope to learn from our partners how to make this training curriculum even better going forward.



