



OHIO CIT NEWS



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Spring 2018

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From the Ohio CIT Coordinator

By Mike Woody



If you look at the graph further down in the newsletter, you will see the upward trend in CIT courses and attendance dating back to Ohio's beginning in May of 2000. In my opinion, it is quite impressive. The recent addition of the Ohio Department of Rehabilitation and Corrections CIT Program Initiative has contributed greatly to the recent spike as they are running courses regularly. I often tout Ohio as having the most robust CIT training of any State, or for that matter the world. I do believe this to be true but... **CIT is more than just training!**

It is also and more importantly about **partnerships**. The partnership between law enforcement entities, correctional institutions, mental health providers, those with mental illnesses, and advocates for those with this illness are imperative. That partnership should not end with training being the only goal. The "T" in CIT stands for "Team" and for good reason.

Other extremely worthy goals are the immense need to have easy and affordable access to the mental health providers for families, those with the illness, and law enforcement officers. In addition, efforts to eradicate the stigma faced by those with this illness and the misunderstandings of the public need to come to light. What better way than to expand partnerships that can get this message out. We absolutely need to divert those with this illness away from the criminal justice system and to the mental health system when appropriate. It is just the right thing to do.

I remember a few years back after giving a speech on this subject somewhere in Ohio an older couple approached me with possibly the best compliment I have ever had (of course I have not had that many). They stated, "You must have a child that has a mental illness because you are so passionate about changing the way those with this illness are treated". I told them that I did have two children, a boy and a girl, and that knowing what I do now about those with this illness and how our society treats them the likelihood of being homeless as adults or in jail or prison seemed to be high. Of course, these parents did have a child with this illness. They were very concerned because they were aging, and their biggest worry was what would become of their child once they were gone!

Therefore, my message to you, our Ohio CIT partners, is to remember and strive to make sure your Crisis Intervention TEAM is just that. Working together to make things much better than they currently are when it comes to the treatment of those with this illness. Together we can and are making a difference!

Portage County 2017 CIT Officers of the Year



The Mental Health & Recovery Board of Portage County, the Portage County Police Chiefs Association and the Portage County Sheriff's Office honored Sgt. John Pettit and Officer Anne Spahr at the 2017 CIT Officers of the Year. To learn more, please visit the [Record-Courier](#).

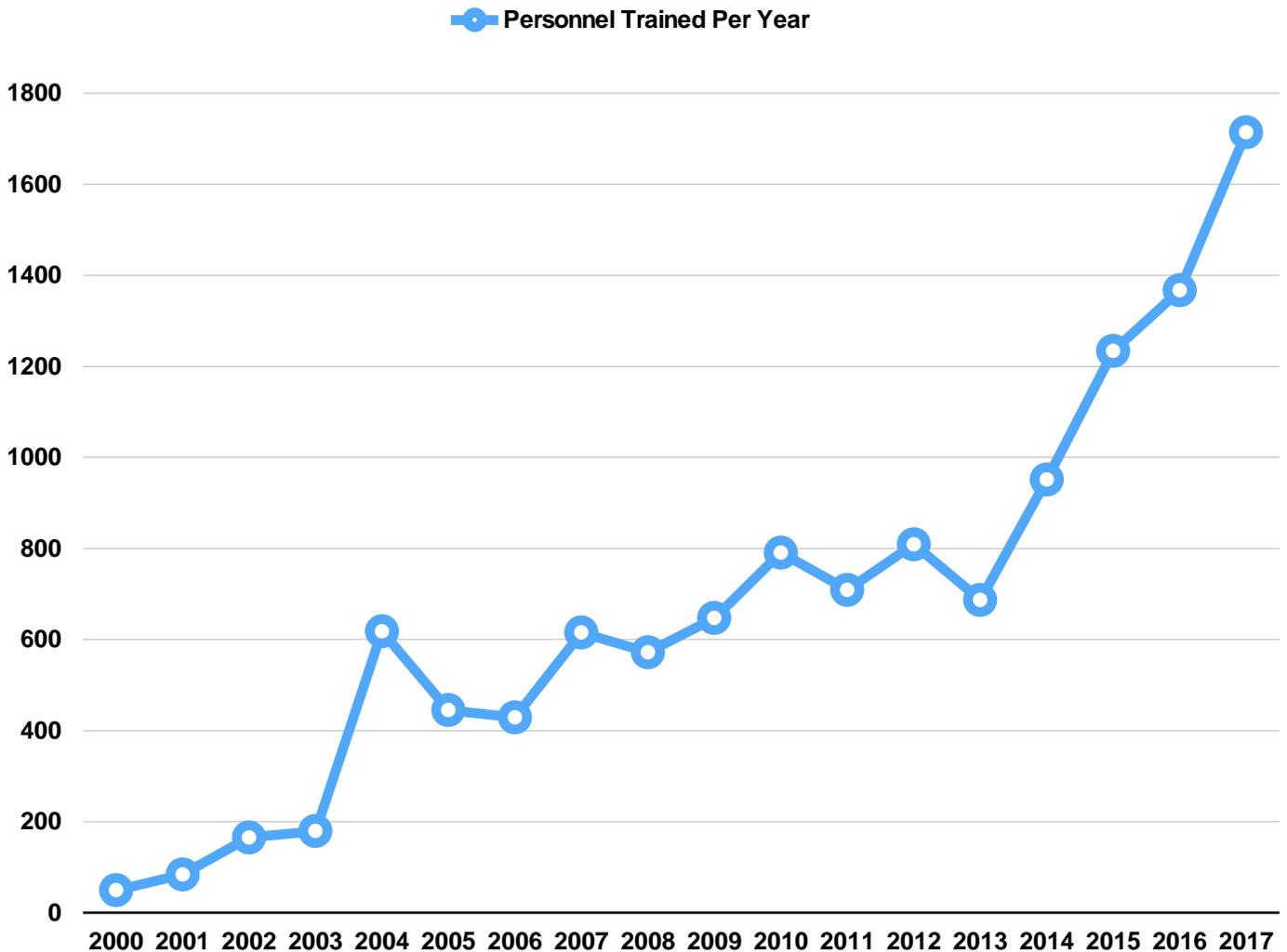
Ohio CIT Advanced Training Conference

Registration is now open for Ohio's annual CIT Advanced Training Conference on Friday, May 4, 2018 in conjunction with the 2018 NAMI Ohio Conference, "Fulfilling the Promise." The conference will be held at the Hyatt Regency Hotel on 350 North High Street in Columbus, Ohio, 43215. Two afternoon workshop tracks will be dedicated to CIT. Morning conference activities will be shared, and CIT awards will be presented during lunch.

To register for the conference, click below, create a username and password to login, and follow the directions on the next page to choose the CIT option. If you have any trouble registering, please email NAMI Ohio: karen@namiohio.org or dustin@namiohio.org. Please forward registration information to CIT officers, law enforcement agencies, and stakeholders in your community.



This graph shows the increase of CIT courses and attendance in Ohio since its beginning!



Over 12,000 attendees!

From NAMI Ohio

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



CIT Mini Grants for Officer Recognition, Data Collection and Cross System Collaboration, and CIT Program Policy and Procedure Development

All mini grant requests should be made to Dustin McKee at NAMI Ohio: dustin@namiohio.org.

CIT Mini Grants for Local CIT Program Officer Recognition

Mini grants in the amount of \$250 are now available for local CIT programs to offset the expense of activities associated with recognizing CIT Program Officer Recognition. To request a grant, Dustin McKee at NAMI Ohio will need an email from the CIT Coordinator that includes all the following:

1. Date of the Program Officer Recognition (between July 1, 2017 – June 30, 2018)
2. A sentence about how you plan to use the funds such as creation of awards (plaques, etc.), sponsoring an awards ceremony, etc. (food not a permissible expense)
3. Name of the Officer(s) recognized
4. A list of the members of your CIT Steering Committee
5. Name of the entity that the check should be made out to
6. Address to send the check (please let the appropriate party know to expect the check)

CIT Mini Grants for Data Collection and Cross System Collaboration

Mini grants in the amount of \$1000 are now available for local CIT programs to offset the expense of activities associated with Data Collection and Cross System Collaboration utilizing information sharing across law enforcement and mental health systems. To request a grant, Dustin McKee at NAMI Ohio will need an email from the CIT Coordinator that includes all the following:

1. A paragraph about what new data collection activities, cross system collaborations or information sharing practices you engaged in between July 1, 2017 – June 30, 2018 (e.g. implemented use of new encounter collection form, engaged with ADAMHS Boards and Providers in new ways, initiated case discussion meetings, etc.)
2. A list of the members of your CIT Steering Committee
3. Name of the entity that the check should be made out to
4. Address to send the check (please let the appropriate party know to expect the check)

CIT Mini Grants for Policy and Procedure Development

Mini grants in the amount of \$500 are now available for local CIT programs to offset the expense of activities associated with Policy and Procedure Development and Revision. To request a grant, Dustin McKee at NAMI Ohio will need an email from the CIT Coordinator that includes all the following:

1. A paragraph about what new CIT Policies and Procedure development you engaged in between July 1, 2017 – June 30, 2018 (e.g. implemented new policies, procedures, or established work group to begin development of policies, evidenced by meeting minutes, etc.)
2. A list of the members of your CIT Steering Committee
3. Name of the entity that the check should be made out to
4. Address to send the check (please let the appropriate party know to expect the check)

*Please note that you can apply retroactively for **new activities** you engaged in since July 1, 2017 to promote the growth of core elements in each county/jurisdiction.*

The number of mini grants issued will be dependent on the category of the requests and will be honored on a first-come, first-served basis.

The deadline for submission is May 31, 2018



The Value of Peer Reviews

Many Ohio Counties have gone through the Peer Review process over the years and gained valuable insight and information on improving not only their CIT Course but also their CIT Program. A three-member team is sent to your community to meet with your Steering Committee to mutually finalize the team's findings after the community provides the team with materials and evaluations from your course and program. Of special interest, your community will receive **\$1,000** from NAMI Ohio just for going through the process. Make sure you are striving to incorporate the Core Elements of what makes a CIT Program so successful as developed by CIT Ohio and CIT International.

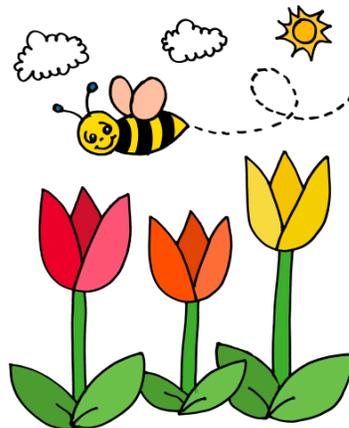
For more information or to set up a review of your CIT program please contact Mike Woody at dutifulmind@gmail.com.

To view past reports, visit the [CJ CCoE website](#).

Upcoming Ohio CIT Courses

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| • Columbiana County | March 21-23 and 26-27, 2018 |
| • Franklin County | April 2-6, 2018 |
| • Knox County | April 4, 11, 18, 25 and May 2, 2018 |
| • Montgomery County – Dayton PD | April 9-13, 2018 |
| • Lorain County | April 16-20, 2018 |
| • Montgomery County – S.O. | April 16-20, 2018 |
| • Summit County | April 16-20, 2018 |
| • Wood County | April 16-19, 2018 |
| • Cuyahoga County | April 23-27, 2018 |
| • Four County | April 23-27, 2018 |
| • Paint Valley | April 30-May 4, 2018 |
| • Mercer, Paulding and Van Wert Counties | April 30-May 4, 2018 |
| • Franklin County | May 7-11, 2018 |
| • Hamilton County – Blue Ash PD | May 7-11, 2018 |
| • Washington County | May 7-11, 2018 |
| • Lucas County | May 14-18, 2018 |
| • Geauga County | May 21-25, 2018 |

Please advise Haley Farver at hdurig@neomed.edu of your planned CIT Courses for 2018!



Guest Articles Invited for Upcoming Newsletters

We are interested in expanding the scope of our newsletter to include an informative article from an Ohio CIT Coordinator in each issue. If you have a topic that you think is timely and want to recommend, we will be happy to search for an “expert” to write the article, or if you would like to submit an article, please contact Mike Woody at dutifulmind@gmail.com or Ruth Simera at rsimera@neomed.edu and we will be happy to assist you. Guest writers will also be invited to include their CIT logo on the front page of the newsletter along with the state logo. The Summer Newsletter will highlight Coordinated Specialty Care for First Episode Psychosis.



AOT Community of Practice Webinar – Treatment Advocacy Center

In February, Betsy Johnson, Legislative and Policy Advisor for the Treatment Advocacy Center invited Mike Woody; Carole Ballard, CIT Coordinator for the Cuyahoga County ADAMHs Board; and Capt. James Purcell, CIT Coordinator for the Cleveland Division of Police to join two mental health professionals from New York to co-present a webinar titled, *CIT Engagement in Assisted Outpatient Treatment (AOT)*. AOT is court-ordered outpatient treatment for individuals meeting specific legal criteria, who are often too ill to recognize their need for treatment.

The presentation provided real life examples of how CIT and AOT programs complement each other when the teams of both programs collaborate and communicate with one another. Through this partnership, the entire community reaps the benefits in the form of reduced arrests, hospitalizations, homelessness and victimization.

Oftentimes, CIT officers encounter the same individuals repeatedly. Having a mechanism for communicating about these cases with the AOT program can help ensure that many of these individuals will get the help they need and greatly reduce the number of times they will require police intervention.

At times, the AOT program must rely on CIT officers to help convey an individual on AOT who is not adhering to his or her outpatient treatment plan and is having difficulty functioning in the community. Having a mechanism for sharing information about that individual beforehand helps ensure the safety of the officer, the safety of the person being conveyed, and the safety of the community.

This webinar covered the many ways the two programs can make the most of this partnership for the betterment of the community. Expect to see a similar workshop at the Advanced Training Conference in May.

To view the webinar, [click here](#).

Ohio CIT Program Coordinator Information

Note: information is subject to change

Allen/Auglaize/Hardin Rick Skilliter rskilliter@pvff.org Ed Monfort jamesmonfort@gmail.com
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Lucas Robert Kasprzak rkasprzak@lcmhrs.org
Mahoning Aimee Schweers aschweers@mahoningcountyoh.gov
Medina Gail Houk ghouk@alternativepaths.org
Mercer/Paulding/Van Wert Gery Thobe Gery.thobe@mercercountysheriff.org
Miami/Darke/Shelby (Tri-County) Kim McGuirk m McGuirk@tcbmids.org Brad Reed reedb@tcbmids.org
Montgomery Jodi Long JLong@mcadamhs.org
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Wayne/Holmes Helen Walkerly hwalkerly@namiwayneholmes.org
Wood Jessica Schmitt Jessica@namiwoodcounty.org

National News and Updates

CIT International's annual Conference will be held on August 15-17, 2018 in Kansas City, Missouri at the Sheraton Crown Center. Please save the date and pass word along to your local CIT officers and Law Enforcement agencies.



CIT International has produced 3 Position Papers to address common issues facing communities pertaining to CIT Training. Ohio CIT Coordinators recently reviewed and discussed the position papers at their statewide CIT Coordinators meeting. Links to the papers are provided below, and they can be found on the homepage of CIT International's website: www.citinternational.org

[CIT: A Generalist/Specialist Model](#)

[CIT: Not in Pre-service Academy](#)

[CIT: Non-Law Enforcement participants in CIT Training](#)

hello
spring