



OHIO CIT NEWS



Summer 2019



From the Ohio CIT Coordinator



This year's CIT International Conference will be August 26 thru 28 in Seattle, Washington. Our Criminal Justice Coordinating Center of Excellence will be presenting and touting how we now have ALL 88 counties in Ohio participating in CIT courses and programs. I am fairly certain that we lead the country in this regard (and therefore the world).

It only took us 18 years to reach this goal. I know that seems like a long time but remember this was a huge undertaking with over 25,000 sworn police officers in our state and a multitude of law enforcement agencies. We also incorporated correction, probation, parole, campus and hospital security officers into the mix among others. Six hundred and ninety seven Ohio Law Enforcement Agencies out of 968 = 72% of Ohio's L.E. agencies have CIT. This is quite remarkable!

However, we must not rest on our laurels as retirements, etc. will be a constant process. In addition, we now have what I call "a mini CIT course" for those in our police academies, which is 24 hours in length. There are those that say, "Why not give them the whole 40-hour course?" Well, as the former Director of Training for the Akron Police Department I can testify that these mostly young people need some street experience before going through the intensive full course. I am not a believer that they can "Conceal their combat-ready status" early on in their careers. In other words, I do not want to see them get hurt or worse responding to these sometime difficult calls for service.

Knock on wood, but in 18 years I have not heard one complaint from our CIT officers who volunteered to go through this course. I still believe in "Special officers for special people".

Marysville Fire Division Community Paramedic Program – Marysville, Ohio

Problem Statement: The Marysville Fire Division within Union County, Ohio protects 30,000 individuals living in the City of Marysville, Paris, Dover and a portion of Darby townships. The Fire Division responds to approximately 3,800 incidents annually. The Division began seeing the same patients call repeatedly, sometimes several times a week, for emergency medical services. These calls affected the patient's quality of life due to time spent in the emergency department of the local hospital. To aid in this concern, the Division created the Marysville Fire Division Community Paramedic program.



Program Overview: The Marysville Fire Division Community Paramedic program is intended to be a provider of public health services to the elderly, underserved and chronic condition-patient populations. The program provides care as an extension of a physician, while acting as the patient's advocate to connect them to a variety of beneficial social services outside the emergency department or hospital. Community Paramedics provide health assessments, chronic disease monitoring and education, medication care and prescription regime compliance, hospital discharge follow-up care, and minor medical procedures approved by the medical director. Paramedics provide these services while on duty and not actively involved in emergency response activities. The goals of the program are threefold: to improve the quality of life of residents; to improve health outcomes among medically vulnerable populations; and to save healthcare dollars by preventing unnecessary ambulance transports, emergency department visits, and hospital readmissions.

The program targets super-users of the Marysville Fire Division Emergency Medical Services (EMS) system. These super-users are defined as those patients that utilize EMS services more than eight times in a 12-month period. Participation in the program is voluntary. Participants must be:

1. At least 18 years of age and capable of providing consent (exceptions for minors may be made on a case by case basis)
2. Not enrolled in an inpatient or residential Psychiatric Program designed for the Severely Mentally Ill (individuals receiving outpatient services are eligible)
3. Not enrolled in Hospice
4. Not an inmate of Ohio Reformatory for Women (ORW)

Participants may be referred to the program by other service agencies or identified as meeting the super-user criteria. The EMS Bureau Chief maintains a list of all participants in the program. Participants can be un-enrolled, terminated or graduate from the program by meeting one or more of the following criteria:

1. Voluntary exit from the program by the participant
2. Death of the participant
3. Participant primary residence moves outside the Marysville Fire Division response area
4. Participant is relocated to an assisted living facility or nursing home
5. Participant no longer meets the criteria for super-user within a six-month period
6. Participant is non-compliant with the program

The program has collaborated with Wings Recovery and Support for peer support services and various other organizations throughout Union County and Central Ohio.

Outcomes: Since implementation, the program has had ten participants graduate by having less than ten calls for EMS in a one-year period. Many of these past participants no longer require EMS, thus improving their quality of life by not spending hours per week in the local hospital emergency department.

To learn more about the Marysville Fire Division Community Paramedic Program, please contact:

Chief Jay Riley

jriley@marysvilleohio.org

Forget the Bandwagon – The CIT Education Collaboration is Still on the Bus!

High school teacher Carrie Suvada was introduced to the CIT program in the spring of 2007 when her husband Andy became a CIT officer. As a special education teacher, Carrie had encountered students with many concerns, yet her training in mental illness/mental health issues had been minimal. After witnessing the changes in Andy's attitude and actions resulting from his CIT involvement, as well as the community resources and materials that he had been provided, Carrie contacted the county CIT coordinator in hopes that there was a similar program for schools. Unfortunately, at that time such a program did not exist. Within a year, that changed.

Planning for the Portage County CIT Education Collaboration began that fall after Andy and Carrie returned from the CIT conference in Memphis. Their vision for the CIT Education Collaboration was to offer mental health awareness training to all school staff members through a curriculum that mirrored that of law enforcement. For schools and police to work together, they believed school staff needed to have similar training.

Since all school staff members encounter students, parents, and/or community members throughout the day, all staff have the potential to face a crisis. The fact that mental illness often strikes individuals during adolescence and young adulthood highlights the importance of effective training related to mental health, mental illness awareness and crisis response for school personnel. Given that many schools in Portage County do not have full time school resource officers and there is often quite a distance to the nearest police officer/sheriff's department, it is necessary for school staff members to have the tools to prevent or minimize the need for police assistance.

Following a half-day administrator overview training session in June 2008, the CIT Education Collaboration inaugural class was held in August 2008 with very positive responses. Twelve classes have been held since 2008, with the most recent class graduating in June 2019. To date, over 150 participants have been trained.

The curriculum topics have evolved over the years, but the core subjects have remained, including mental health awareness, suicide prevention, substance abuse, teen and child crisis situations, de-escalation techniques, county services, and real-life scenario situations. The actors for the scenarios have included Kent State theater students, Portage County CIT officers, a Girl Scout troop, and local high school drama departments. While not "officially" professionals, actors have taken their roles seriously, asking questions, practicing, and researching mental illnesses to prepare for their roles.

The advisory team deemed it important to create realistic settings for scenario-based training. Nearly all scenarios and techniques can be transferred for use by school staff within the school building or on the grounds. To develop greater understanding and more realistic practice for situations faced by bus drivers and aides, some scenarios are enacted on an actual school bus.

The information and knowledge gained from the classes is very beneficial, but the increasing countywide network and resources are invaluable. Having police officers who have used the CIT techniques daily in the field assist with teaching the curriculum has been well received by participants. Connecting with teachers from the juvenile detention center has helped transition shared students back to home schools. Being able to confidently tell a reluctant parent whose child desperately needs

mental health assistance about the county emergency evaluation center (Coleman Access) and to contact them directly to make sure the experience is as painless as possible has been wonderful. Through these partnerships, the CIT Education Collaboration is working to create a stronger, healthier community.



Lucas County CIT Training May 13-17, 2019



Lucas County completed their 34th course in May 2019. Congratulates to all graduates!



Save-the-Date: Ohio CIT Coordinator Semi-Annual Meeting

When: Friday, November 15, 2019

Where: To Be Determined

Please save-the-date and pass word along to your local CIT Coordinators

Save-the-Date: Ohio Advanced CIT Training Conference

When: October 18, 2019

Where: State Highway Patrol Training Academy, Columbus

Please save-the-date and pass word along to your local CIT Coordinators and CIT trained officers

Welcome New County & Board Area CIT Coordinators

- Rhianna Mattix Delaware and Morrow Counties
 - Jillian Rouse Mahoning County
 - Wally Stacy Clinton and Warren Counties
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From NAMI Ohio

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



CIT Mini Grants

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

CIT Mini Grants for CIT Dispatcher and/or Corrections Training

A limited number of mini grants in the amount of \$1,000 are available through December 31, 2019 for those communities wishing to offer CIT dispatcher and/or corrections training. To request a mini grant, please send an email that includes:

1. Date of the training
2. A sentence about how you plan to use the funds such as printing, room rental, speaker fees, etc. (these funds cannot be used for food or travel)
3. A list of the members of your CIT Steering Committee
4. Name and address of the entity to whom the check should be made payable
5. Acknowledgment that you will forward a completed roster of all graduates to Mike Woody

dutifulmind@gmail.com) upon the completion of your training

CIT Mini Grants for First-Time Implementation of CIT Dispatcher Training

A limited number of mini grants in the amount of \$500 are available July 1, 2019 – June 30, 2020 for those communities wishing to develop and implement their first CIT Dispatcher Training. These funds CAN supplement the mini grants referenced above and are strictly limited to those communities that have not offered dispatch training in the past. To request a min grant, please send an email that includes:

1. Date of training
2. A sentence describing how you plan to use the funds such as printing, room rental, offset of staff time for curriculum development, supplies, etc. (These funds cannot be used for food)
3. A list of the members of your CIT Steering Committee and Dispatch trainers
4. Name and address of the entity to whom the check should be made payable
5. Acknowledgment that you will forward a completed roster of all graduates to Mike Woody (dutifulmind@gmail.com) upon the completion of your training

CIT Mini Grants for Law Enforcement Agencies to Send Dispatchers and Corrections Officers to Training

A limited number of mini grants in the amount of \$1,000 are available through December 31, 2019 for law enforcement agencies sending dispatchers and corrections officers to a CIT training. To request a mini grant, please send an e-mail that includes:

1. Date of the training
2. Name of the dispatchers and/or corrections officers to attend
3. A sentence that states that the law enforcement agency is only able to participate if financial assistance is provided
4. Name of a CIT Coordinator or contact person for the law enforcement agency
5. Name and address of the law enforcement agency to which the check should be made payable

CIT Mini Grants for Data Collection and Cross-System Collaboration

A limited number of mini grants in the amount of \$500 are available July 1, 2019 – June 30, 2020 for those communities wishing to initiate or expand CIT data collection and cross-systems collaboration utilizing information sharing across law enforcement and mental health systems (not to include officer roster updating or maintenance) To request a mini grant, please send an e-mail that includes:

1. Description of planned process, e.g., what data will be collected, by what jurisdiction(s) it will be collected, how the data will be analyzed and reported, how the data and related information will be shared across systems and for what purposes
2. Date of implementation of data collection or information sharing process
3. Anticipated timeline for reporting on the process and outcomes, and name of person who will provide report to NAMI and CCoE
4. Name and address of the entity to whom the check should be made payable

CIT Mini Grants for Advanced Training

A limited number of mini grants in the amount of \$500 are available July 1, 2019 – June 30, 2020 for those communities wishing to offer CIT officers advanced training. To request a mini grant, please send an e-mail that includes:

1. Topic of the training

2. Date of the training
3. Number of hours of the training
4. A sentence about how you plan to use the funds such as printing, room rental, speaker fees, etc. (these funds cannot be used for food)
5. Name and address of the entity to which the check should be made payable

Dustin McKee – NAMI Ohio CIT Coordinator dustin@namiohio.org

Upcoming Ohio CIT Courses

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|--|-----------------|
| • Hamilton County – Colerain Township | July 15-19 |
| • Montgomery County | July 15-19 |
| • Lucas County | August 12-16 |
| • Summit County | September 9-13 |
| • Hamilton County – Hamilton County
Mental Health and Recovery Services Board | September 16-20 |

Please advise Haley Farver at hfarver@neomed.edu of your planned CIT Courses for 2019!



Ohio CIT Program Coordinator or Contact Information

Note: information is subject to change

Allen/Auglaize/Hardin Rick Skilliter rskilliter@pvff.org Ed Monfort jamesmonfort@gmail.com
Athens/Hocking/Vinton David Malawista dmalawista@ci.athens.oh.us
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Lorain Vicki Montesano vmontesano@lcmhb.org
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Trumbull John Myers jmyers@trumbullmhrb.org Lana Hennings lhennings@trumbullmhrb.org
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Wayne/Holmes Helen Walkerly hwalkerly@namiwayneholmes.org
Wood Jessica Schmitt Jessica@namiwoodcounty.org



In Grateful Memory

The Ohio CIT Community lost two long-standing county program coordinators in the past six months. They will be remembered for their meaningful contributions to Ohio CIT programs and so much more.



Michele Petrello
Mahoning County



Carole Vesely
Stark County

National News and Updates

CIT International

CIT International's annual Conference will be held on August 26-28, 2019 in Seattle, Washington. To register visit <http://www.citinternational.org/events>. Please pass word along to your local CIT officers and Law Enforcement agencies.



San Francisco Police Department CIT 2018 Figures

Demonstrating the value of good data collection, San Francisco Police Department's Crisis Intervention Team released 2018 figures showing that mental health calls result in use of force in less than 0.2% of all incidents. To learn more, please visit <https://sfist.com/2019/06/13/sfpd-touts-fewer-use-of-force-incidents-in-mental-health-calls/>

