



OHIO CIT NEWS

Fall 2023

Crisis Intervention Team International 2023: So Much to Learn in Detroit, Michigan!

By: Em Ribnik

As part of a contingency of over 70 registrants/attendees from Ohio, staff of the Criminal Justice Coordinating Center of Excellence (CJ CCoE) and CIT partners from across the state traveled north to attend this year's Crisis Intervention Team International Conference. The conference was held August 13 (with special pre-conference offerings) to August 16, 2023, at the Marriott Detroit Renaissance Center on Lake Erie in downtown Detroit, Michigan.

Along with having the second largest group from one state to attend the conference, Ohio also boasted having three presentations. Shannon Ortiz, Licensed Professional Clinical Counselor (LPCC) and CEO and Founder of Light After Loss, presented "Postvention is Prevention: CIT in the Aftermath of a



L-R: Richanda Jackson-Birks, Doug Nichols, and Joicelyn Weems (Cuyahoga County CIT Program)

Suicide" and

shared her story of the immediate aftermath of her husband's suicide and the impact that CIT-trained law enforcement officers had on her during the unimaginable. Her presentation combined her clinical and personal experiences to discuss postvention after a suicide death and how CIT trained officers can not only support those left behind after a tragedy like suicide, but also be a part of initial healing.



L-R: Lt. Mullin (Cleveland Division of Police), Emma Borrelli (Frontline Service), Officer Charles Leonardi (Cleveland Division of Police), Kimberly Graves (Murtis Taylor Human Services System)

Douglas Nichols, Richanda Jackson-Birks, and Joicelyn Weems from the ADAMHS Board of Cuyahoga County, presented "Crisis Intervention Training for Community Partners: Our Friends without Badges". Observing the increasing nationwide trend of more communities seeking to have mental and behavioral health professionals respond to some mental health crisis calls, their presentation focused on creating, recruiting for, and facilitating a CIT training for mental and behavioral health professionals. They discussed the elements of CIT training that are transferrable to

mental and behavioral health professionals, as well as appropriate adjustments to make the training role specific for a community's crisis response system.



L-R: Spencer Grummel (Lorain County Adult Probation), Arielle Edwards (Lorain County CIT Program Coordinator), and Jeff Wilshire (Lorain County Adult Probation)

Also, from the ADAMHS of Cuyahoga County, Carole Ballard and Anya Nazarenko presented “Using CIT Data to Develop Continuous Improvement Partnerships with Community Providers”. Showcasing the Bravos Incident Reporting System for compiling their CIT crisis intervention contacts, they discussed Cleveland’s efforts to create and nurture data centric, CQI partnerships with community providers. Specifically, they highlighted the data that can be gleaned from their Bravos system to identify locations experiencing larger clusters of CIT incidents. Using their data, they fostered relationships and partnerships with community providers to address the needs of those they serve.

The attendees from Ohio had the opportunity to briefly meet and introduce themselves to each other after the conclusion of sessions on Tuesday.

With over 1,500 individuals in attendance, the 2023 Crisis Intervention Team International Conference was filled with opportunities to connect, learn, and explore CIT from across the country and the world.



L-R: Carole Ballard (Cuyahoga County CIT Program Coordinator) and Latrice Flowers (Lucas County CIT Program Coordinator)



L-R: Chief William Robinson and Dr. Heather Robinson (both Department of Veteran Affairs, Central Ohio Healthcare System)



Carole Ballard, Cuyahoga County CIT Program and Board Member of CIT International, talks to the attendees from Ohio CIT Programs.

2023 Ohio CIT International Conference registrants/attendees included, but were not limited to, representatives from: ADAMHS Board of Cuyahoga County; Adaptive Sports Ohio; Bowling Squared Consulting, LLC; Case Western Reserve University; Cincinnati Police Department; City of Cleveland – Department of Public Health; Cleveland Division of Police; Coleman Crisis Services; City of Columbus – Department of Public Health; Department of Veterans Affairs - Columbus; Criminal Justice Coordinating Center of Excellence (CJ CCoE) at NEOMED; Crossroads Health; Department of Veterans Affairs – Central Ohio Healthcare System; Department of Veterans Affairs – Cincinnati; FOCUS Recovery and Wellness; Franklin County Sheriff's Office; Frontline Service; Hopewell Health Centers, Inc.; Lakewood Police Department; Light After Loss at The Hope and Healing Center; Lorain County Adult Probation; Lucas County Sheriff's Office; Madison Township Police Department; Medina Police Department; Mental Health & Recovery Board of Union County; Mental Health & Recovery Services Board of Lucas County; Mental Health America of Northern Kentucky and Southwest Ohio; Mental Health and Recovery Services Board of Lorain County; Murtis Taylor Human Services System; NAMI Clark, Greene, and Madison Counties; NAMI Geauga County; NAMI of Greater Cleveland; NAMI Lake County Ohio; NAMI Marion and Crawford Counties; NAMI Ohio; NAMI Richland County; NAMI Urban Greater Cincinnati; National Policing Institute; Nationwide Children's Hospital; Operation to Save Lives (O2SL) and Quick Response Team (QRT) National; Oberlin College and Conservatory Campus Safety; Ravenwood Health; Responding with Empathy Access and Community Healing (REACH); Shawnee Family Health Center; Stark County Family Court – Behavioral Health Services; Stark County Mental Health and Additional Recovery (StarkMHAR); Stark County Sheriff's Office; Union County Sheriff's Office; Veterans Affairs Medical Center; Willoughby Police Department; and Wings Support & Recovery.



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Recent Ohio CIT Course Graduates

Licking County completed a CIT Patrol Officer Training Course in June 2023



Montgomery County completed a CIT Patrol Officer Training Course in August 2023



Recent Ohio CIT Course Graduates

Montgomery County completed a CIT Refresher Course in August 2023



Summit County completed a CIT Patrol Officer Training Course in August 2023



Clark, Greene, & Madison Counties completed a CIT Patrol Officer Training Course in September 2023



Recognition and Honors

Montgomery County



CIT Behavioral Health Specialist of the Quarter: Nicole Fairburn, CIT Corrections Officer of the Quarter: Joshua Sizemore, CIT Certified Peer Support Specialist of the Quarter: Kristen LaCaze, and CIT Law Enforcement Officer of the Quarter: Officer Jesse Jenk



CIT Behavioral Health Specialist of the Quarter: Jackie Allison



CIT Behavioral Health Specialist of the Quarter: Kathy DeBos

Recognition and Honors



Morrow County Sheriff's Office CIT Officer of the Year
Lieutenant Brian Newsome



Officer Brian Evans CIT Award
Lieutenant Stacie Garrick
of Mansfield Police Department



CIT Professional of the Year
for Wayne and Holmes Counties
Betty Riggs, Assistant Director of 911
at Wayne County Dispatch

Recognition and Honors

Hamilton County



Emergency Communicator of the Year: Julie Pratt (Cincinnati ECC), Department of the Year: Delhi Township Police Department, Honorable Mention: Great Parks of Hamilton County Ranger Department, CIT Champion: Chief Thomas Wells (Springdale PD), Officer of the Year: Captain Joe Richardson (Cincinnati PD)

Congratulations

Upcoming Trainings and Events

Fall 2023 CIT Coordinator Meeting

The Ohio CIT Coordinators Semi-Annual Meeting will be held on November 6, 2023, from 10AM-2PM at The State of Ohio Library: 274 East First Avenue, Columbus, Ohio 43201.

To register for the meeting, [click here](#).

Crisis Intervention Team Public Safety Telecommunicators Training of Trainers

December 11-12, 2023, from 8:15AM-4:30PM
at The State of Ohio Library
274 E. First Avenue Columbus, Ohio 43201

This advanced training of trainers will be held over the course of two days. The objective of this course is to support Ohio CITs and CIT programs providing specialized crisis response training to public safety telecommunicators (PSTs). The goal is to increase the number of CITs and CIT programs that are providing training to PSTs in their local crisis response system. On Day One, the course will provide trainers with the tools, materials, and the framework needed to facilitate the CIT Public Safety Telecommunicator Training Course. On Day Two, participants will give a brief presentation based on Day One content to practice and obtain feedback from instructors and participants*. This course is designed for trainers actively engaged in the delivery of their local CIT training and is presented free of charge.

Attending both days is required.

Additional information:

- Lunch is on your own
- Attendees must bring their own laptops
- Participants will create their Day Two presentation on their own after the completion of Day One*

Space is limited. To register for the training, [click here](#).

Further questions? Theresa Richards trichards@neomed.edu



Upcoming Trainings and Events

2024 Ohio CIT Training Conference

April 10, 2024

9AM-4PM

There will be a Call for Programs leading up to the event for those who would like to submit a proposal to present a breakout session at the conference. The Ohio CIT Awards nominations will open later in Fall. Please keep an eye out for the announcements surrounding the Call for Programs, Ohio CIT Award nominations, and registration in the coming months.

Location, additional information, and how to register to follow.

Online Training Opportunity – QPR for Law Enforcement

The Question, Persuade, Refer (QPR) Institute provides an online QPR for Law Enforcement training. This certificate training is designed to provide the skills and techniques needed in suicide prevention for those working in law enforcement. This training is completely online and takes about 3 hours to complete; however, individuals can stop and start the training as the training platform bookmarks progress. Registration is on a first come first served basis.

Please instruct law enforcement officers to register for the training [here](#). Upon registration, officers will be provided a code to access a CJ CCOE training slot.

To learn more about QPR for Law Enforcement training, please [click here](#). If you have questions or concerns, please feel free to contact Mekal Banyasz @ mbanyasz@neomed.edu



In Case You Missed It...

Collaborative Mental Health Care for Incarcerated Individuals - Part 5

On July 27, 2023, the CJ CCoE in collaboration with the Attorney General Task Force subcommittee on Mental Illness in Jails hosted a webinar titled *Fairfield County Jail Reentry and Hancock County Jail Involved Mentee Outcomes*. To view the recording, [click here](#).

Technical Assistance Sessions

The CJ CCoE hosted nine Technical Assistance Sessions so far in 2023. To access the complete list of CJCCOE [Technical Assistance Sessions](#).

Upcoming CIT Patrol Officer Training Courses

Delaware & Morrow Counties	October 2-6, 2023
Mahoning County	October 2-6, 2023
Wayne and Holmes Counties	October 2-6, 2023
Hamilton County	October 9-13, 2023
Seneca, Sandusky, Wyandot, Erie, Ottawa & Huron Counties	October 19, 26, November 2, 9, 16, 2023
Muskingum, Coshocton, Noble, Perry, Guernsey, & Morgan Counties	October 23-26, 2023
Butler County	October 30-November 3, 2023
Lake County	October 30-November 3, 2023
Stark County	October 30-November 3, 2023
Union and Champaign/Logan	October 30-November 3, 2023
Richland County	November 6-10, 2023
Fairfield County	November 13-17, 2023
Summit County	November 13-17, 2023
Trumbull County	November 14, 15, 16, 17, 20, 2023
Champaign County	December 4-8, 2023
Lucas	December 4-8, 2023
Miami, Darke, & Shelby Counties	December 4-8, 2023

Please visit our [Training Calendar](#) for a full list of trainings.

Please advise Theresa Richards @ trichards@neomed.edu of all (CIT Patrol Officer Training, Advanced, Refresher, and Role-Specific) planned CIT Courses for 2023-2024. Send photos from your CIT courses and CIT awards to be featured in our newsletter!

Ohio CIT Program Coordinator Contact information

Note: Information is subject to change

Allen/Auglaize/Hardin Rick Skilliter rskilliter@pvff.org	Defiance/Fulton/Henry/Williams (Four County) Rob Giesige rob@fourcountyadamhs.com Bethany Shirkey bethany@fourcountyadamhs.com	Lucas Latrice Flowers lflowers@lcmhrsb.oh.gov	Richland Aubrie Hall Aubrie@namirc.org Mary Kay Pierce families@namirc.org Sgt. Mark Perry jperry@ci.mansfield.oh.us
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**START YOUR PLANNING FOR THE
2024 CIT INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE
IN INDIANAPOLIS, IN
August 26 - 28, 2024
JW Marriott
10 S. West Street
Indianapolis, IN**

**CONFERENCE DETAILS WILL BE
POSTED BY OCTOBER 15, 2023**

Make sure to check <https://www.citinternational.org/> and the CIT International Newsletter for more announcements and information.



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