



OHIO CIT NEWS



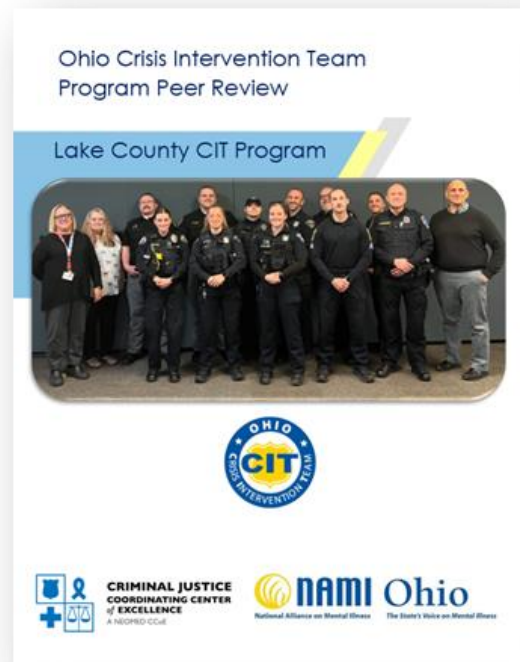
Winter 2024

The Ohio CIT Program Peer Review: *What is our program doing next?*

By: Officer Jeff Futo

Ohio CIT programs began engaging in the peer review process in 2009 when the Athens County CIT Program volunteered for the first peer review which was coordinated by the Criminal Justice Coordinating Center of Excellence and supported by NAMI Ohio. CIT coordinators from other programs used that review structure to assess activities, strategies, and training. CIT programs, coordinators and partners gained fresh perspectives on potential growth by evaluating a program's evolution since inception, highlighting the program's strengths, and providing suggestions for improvement. Another 28 programs volunteered to undergo similar reviews by their peers over the next 15 years. The ultimate purpose of these peer reviews is to positively impact the lives of people experiencing mental health crises by advancing CIT in their communities through helping local CIT programs further develop and enhance their work to achieve the goals of Ohio CIT programs. Some CIT programs have chosen to have a second peer review done to revisit growth and their goals.

Although the peer review process has existed for some time, the new 2022 Ohio CIT core elements have breathed new life into it. The updated version is streamlined to be more practical and applicable to a program's needs. This included the creation of a Standards Rubric based on the core elements so programs can see their status in practicing each of the core elements. The final report of the peer review now also includes a Next Steps Worksheet, clearly outlining logical, concrete steps and tasks for the program to continue their development. CIT coordinators and partners can make clear plans to advance their CIT program by seeing how they measure up to each of the new core elements.



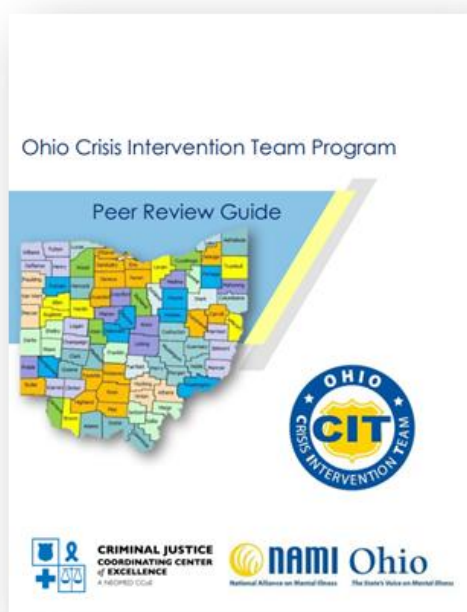
The question to explore, and one that we should always consider is, '*What is our program doing next?*'

This question could come up in different ways for each CIT program: *Should we be working with law enforcement to further their crisis response policies? Is it time to develop procedures with our receiving centers to transfer a person in crisis from law enforcement? Should we be utilizing Crisis Intervention Contact Sheets? How do we continue to improve our CIT Patrol Officer Training Course? How are individuals with lived experience, their families and advocates represented in our CIT program beyond speaking at trainings?*

Looking forward, let us remember that evolving your CIT program is a journey through a series of stages and events that help you progress and transform over time. It is about taking the next steps with purpose. Planning for the future of your program is a commitment to making a real difference for crisis response in your community.

As you think about planning for the road ahead, keep in mind that any progress you make is a step towards creating a more sustainable CIT program, building a stronger crisis response system, and advancing the goals of Ohio CIT programs. Consider using the Ohio CIT Program Peer Review, whether for the first time or to revisit a previous review, to better understand how the new Ohio CIT core elements apply to your program. Discover how you measure up to the core elements and obtain logical next steps for implementing programmatic strategies. If needed, use the process to rejuvenate stakeholder commitment and strengthen partnerships within your program and across your crisis response system.

Be deliberate and keep taking those next steps with confidence and purpose!



To talk more about the peer review or to be one of the next programs to participate, please contact Officer Jeff Futo at jeff.futo@gmail.com.

To learn more about the new Ohio CIT Program Peer Review, read the new Peer Review and Standards Rubric, and to read CIT Peer Review reports, please click [here](#).



Recent Ohio CIT Course Graduates

The Ohio Department of Rehabilitation and Correction (ODRC) held fourteen (14) 40-hour CIT classes between October 2023 and December 2023.



October 2023 – Graduates included ODRC staff from Chillicothe Correctional Institution, North Central Correctional Complex, Ross Correctional Institution, Southern Ohio Correctional Facility, and Columbus Adult Parole Authority, and officers from the Chillicothe Veterans Affairs Medical Center.

October 2023 – Graduates included ODRC staff from the Correctional Reception Center, Dayton Correctional Institution, Grafton Correctional Institution, Lorain Correctional Institution, Madison Correctional Institution, Mansfield Correctional Institution, Marion Correctional Institution, North Central Correctional Complex, Ohio Reformatory for Women, Ohio State Penitentiary, Southeastern Correctional Complex, Southern Ohio Correctional Facility, Trumbull Correctional Institution, and Toledo Correctional Institution.



October 2023 – Graduates included ODRC staff from Mansfield Correctional Institution and North Central Correctional Complex.

Recent Ohio CIT Course Graduates

The Ohio Department of Rehabilitation and Correction (ODRC) continued.



November 2023 – Graduates included ODRC staff from Allen/Oakwood Correctional Institution, Belmont Correctional Institution, Correctional Reception Center, Dayton Correctional Institution, Lebanon Correctional Institution, London Correctional Institution, Lorain Correctional Institution, Madison Correctional Institution, Mansfield Correctional Institution, Marion Correctional Institution, North Central Correctional Complex, Noble Correctional Institution, Northeast Integration Center, Ohio Reformatory for Women, Ohio State Penitentiary, Pickaway Correctional Institution, Southeastern Correctional Complex, Southern Ohio Correctional Facility, Trumbull Correctional Institution, Toledo Correctional Institution, and Warren Correctional Institution.

November 2023 – Graduates included ODRC staff from the Correctional Reception Center, Pickaway Correctional Institution, Southeastern Correctional Complex, and Columbus Adult Parole Authority.



December 2023 – Graduates included ODRC staff from the North Central Correctional Complex.

Recent Ohio CIT Course Graduates

The Ohio Department of Rehabilitation and Correction (ODRC) continued.



December 2023 – Graduates included ODRC staff from Allen/Oakwood Correctional Institution, Lebanon Correctional Institution, London Correctional Institution, Lorain Correctional Institution, Madison Correctional Institution, Mansfield Correctional Institution, North Central Correctional Complex, Noble Correctional Institution, Northeast Ohio Correctional Center, Ohio Reformatory for Women, Ohio State Penitentiary, Pickaway Correctional Institution, Ross Correctional Institution, Southern Ohio Correctional Facility, Trumbull Correctional Institution, and Warren Correctional Institution, and staff from the Ohio Department of Developmental Disabilities.

December 2023 – Graduates included staff from the Correctional Reception Center and Ohio Reformatory for Women.



December 2023 – Graduates included ODRC staff from Grafton Correctional Institution and Lorain Correctional Institution.

Recent Ohio CIT Course Graduates

Hamilton County completed a CIT Patrol Officer Training Course in October 2023



Franklin County completed a CIT Patrol Officer Training Course in October 2023



Richland County completed a CIT Patrol Officer Training Course in November 2023



Recent Ohio CIT Course Graduates

Athens, Hocking, and Vinton Counties completed a CIT Patrol Officer Training Course in November 2023



Crawford and Marion Counties completed a CIT Patrol Officer Training Course in November 2023



Recent Ohio CIT Course Graduates

Coshocton, Guernsey, Morgan, Muskingum, Noble & Perry Counties completed a CIT Training Course for Public Safety Telecommunicators in December 2023



Recognition and Honors



Congratulations!

Officer Rachael Thomas, CIT Coordinator of the Year, and Officer Robert Heinzman, CIT Officer of the Year, received their awards October 5th, 2023, from Franklin County NAMI during their annual meeting.

Upcoming Trainings and Events



2024 Ohio CIT Training Conference

April 10, 2024

9AM-4PM

Ohio Crisis Intervention Team (CIT) Awards Nomination Portal NOW OPEN!

Every year at the Ohio CIT Conference, we recognize exemplary CIT Programs and individual team members from around the state.

Do you know someone who is a standout in their work with their CIT Program in Ohio? Help us recognize these extraordinary people this year by submitting a nomination!

Award Categories:

CIT Corrections Professional of the Year

CIT Patrol Officer of the Year

CIT Program of the Year

Evelyn Lundberg Stratton CIT Champion of the Year

Health Professional of the Year

Law Enforcement Administrator of the Year

Michael S. Woody CIT Coordinator of the Year

Person with Lived Experience of the Year

Public Safety Telecommunications Professional of the Year

The deadline to submit a nomination is Friday February 16, 2024.

To read descriptions of the award categories and submit an award nomination, please visit the Ohio CIT Award Nomination Portal [here](#).

Award winners will be recognized at the Ohio CIT Conference on April 10, 2024, in Columbus.

Contact Theresa Richards @ trichards@neomed.edu with any questions.

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

Upcoming Trainings and Events

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 6 Veterans Justice Outreach Programs

This 6th training webinar in the Collaborative Mental Health Care for Incarcerated Individuals for jail and treatment personnel and others interested, covers an important Veterans Administration initiative: Veterans Justice Outreach Program (VJOs).

VJOs identify and connect veterans as they enter the jail system with VA services immediately, freeing up local resources. Two Ohio VJOs explain what they do, how to access their services both when a community does and does not have a Veterans Treatment Court, and how to use the online Veterans Reentry Search System (VRSS) to identify veterans who don't disclose their status for any number of reasons.

Watch the webinar recording [here](#).

To watch previous webinars in this series, visit [here](#) and scroll down to the listing for Attorney General Task Force Committee on Mental Illnesses and Jails Webinars for links to the other webinars in this series.

Technical Assistance Sessions

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

Upcoming CIT Patrol Officer Training Courses

Tuscarawas County	February 5-9, 2024
Medina County	February 5-8, 2024
Preble County	February 2, 9, 16, & 23, 2024
Hamilton County	March 4-8, 2024
Stark County	March 11-15, 2024
Lucas County	March 11-15, 2024
Licking County	March 11-15, 2024
Knox County	March 20, 27, April 3, 17, & 24, 2024
Gallia, Jackson, Meigs Counties	April 16, 18, 23, 25, 30, 2024
Lorain County	April 22-26, 2024
Washington County	April 29-May 3, 2024
Hamilton County	April 29-May 8, 2024
Scioto, Lawrence, Adams Counties	May 6-9, 2024
Lucas County	June 10-14, 2024
Richland County	June 10-14, 2024
Hamilton County	August 5-9, 2024

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) CIT courses that occurred in 2023 and planned for 2024.

Don't forget to 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) Bethany Shirkey bethany@fourcountynamhs.com	Lucas Latrice Flowers lflowers@lcmhrsb.oh.gov	Richland Aubrie Hall Aubrie@namirc.org Sgt. Mark Perry jperry@ci.mansfield.oh.us
Athens/Hocking/Vinton Sherri Tyree sherri@ahv317.co.athens.oh.us Captain Stephen Noftz noftzs@ohio.edu Chief Kelly Strickland Kelly.strickland@mha.ohio.gov	Delaware/Morrow Rhianna Mattix rmattix@dmmhrsb.org Officer Bob Hatcher (Retired) rbhatcher@dmmhrsb.org	Mahoning Michelle Werth Michelle.Werth@mahoningcountyoh.gov Sgt. Jerry Fulmer sgtfulmer@youngstownohio.gov	Ross/Pike/Fayette/Highland/Pickaway (Paint Valley) Kelly Dennis Kdennis@pvadamh.org
Belmont/Harrison/Monroe Patty Allen patriciaa@bhmboard.org	Fairfield Dawn Good dgood@ohiopps.org Toni Ashton tashton@ohiopps.org	Medina Gail Houk ghouk@alternativepaths.org	Scioto/Lawrence/Adams Amy Hamm a.hamm@shawneemhc.org
Brown Deanna Vietze dvietze@bcmhas.org	Franklin Karly Tennant ktennant@adamhfranklin.org Lt. Mike Voorhis mvoorhis@columbuspolice.org	Mercer/Paulding/Van Wert Sgt. Donald Bird donald.bird@mercercountysheriff.ohio.gov Alicia Bruce Alicia.bruce@tricityadamhs.org	Seneca/Sandusky/Wyandot/Ottawa/Huron/Erie (NWO Ohio CIT Program) Melanie White mawhite@namissw.org Ret. Chief David Olds dolds@namissw.org
Butler Rhonda Benson rbenson@nami-bc.org Officer Matthew Kellum kellumm@monroeohio.org	Gallia/Jackson/Meigs Amanda Davis Amanda.davis@hopewellhealth.org	Miami/Darke/Shelby (Tri-County) Beth Adkins adkinsb@tcbmds.org Brad Reed reedb@tcbmds.org	Stark Delaney Green delaney.green@starkmhar.org Major CJ Stantz 146@starksheriff.org
Champaign/Logan Sarah Ferguson Sferguson@mhdas.org Chief Joe Freyhof policechief@russellspoint-oh.gov	Geauga Brian Ayer AyerB@Ravenwoodmhc.org	Montgomery Kim Priestner kfarrier@mcadamhs.org Larry Sexton lsexton@mcadamhs.org	Summit Dr. Doug Smith DougSmith@admbd.org Sergeant Ralph Stover rstover@tallmadge-ohio.org
Clark/Greene/Madison Adam Kempf adam@mhrb.org	Hamilton Officer Beth Roach broach@mhankyswoh.org	Muskingum/Coshocton/Noble/Perry/Guernsey/Morgan (Six County) Jamie McGrew jamiem@mhrs.org	Trumbull John Myers jmyers@trumbullmhrb.org Katie Cretella kcretella@trumbullmhrb.org
Clermont Denny Moell dmoell@ccmhrb.org Officer Chad Lutson clutson@union-township.oh.us	Hancock Ret. Sgt. Dan Harmon Ptl.harmon@gmail.com	ODRC Joel Nussbaum Joel.Nussbaum@odrc.state.oh.us Gail DeWolf Gail.dewolf@odrc.state.oh.us	Tuscarawas/Carroll Jenna M. Kanter Kanterj@co.tuscarawas.oh.us
Columbiana Marcy Patton mpatton@ccmhrsb.org Officer Richard Whitfield rwhitfield@columbianaohio.gov	Lake Julie Kalina-Hammond jhammond@crossroadshealth.org Ret. Officer Joe Parkin jparkin@crossroadshealth.org	OSHP Lt. Molly Harris mjharris@dps.ohio.gov	Union MacKenzie Poling mackenzie@mhrbuc.org
Crawford/Marion Mark Light Lightcin2020@gmail.com Jennifer Jennette Ed.namimarioncrawfordoh@gmail.com	Licking/Knox Daniel Cuciak DCuciak@mhrk.org	Portage John Garrity johng@mental-health-recovery.org Officer Josh Bartholomew jbartholomew@streetsboropolice.com	Warren/Clinton Lt. Wally Stacy wstacy@clearcreektownship.com
Cuyahoga Carole Ballard ballard@adamhsc.org	Lorain Arielle Edwards aedwards@mharsic.org	Preble Autumn Cooper Autumn.Cooper@pcmhrb.org	Washington Tara Plaugher tplaugh@wcbhb.org Tim Hahn thahn@wcbhb.org
Wayne/Holmes Dawn Ross dross@namiwayneholmes.org	Wood Jessica Hartman Jessicah@namiwoodcounty.org		



Registration: Now Open [here](#)

Call for Presentations: Now Open [here](#)

Hotel Reservations: Now Open [here](#)

2024 CIT International Award Nominations: Now Open [here](#)

Be sure to check the conference website [here](#) and the CIT International Newsletter for more announcements and information.



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of EXCELLENCE**
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