



Behavioral Health Awareness and De-Escalation Training Resources for Law Enforcement

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The Centers of Excellence (COE) within the Governor's Office of Crime Prevention and Policy¹ is pleased to provide technical support to local governments, agencies, and crisis service providers to assist with the development and implementation of a crisis intervention team (CIT) program for the purposes of redirecting individuals with behavioral health needs from the criminal justice system to the healthcare system and improving officer and consumer safety.

¹ Please note that the Governor's Office of Crime Prevention, Youth, and Victim Services (GOCPYVS) **was renamed to the Governor's Office of Crime Prevention and Policy** by the Moore-Miller Administration, effective immediately, on 1/18/2024. This change does not invalidate previous, current, or future agreements or documents referencing the agency as GOCPYVS.



Training Standards for Law Enforcement

- CIT International supports CIT as a specialist role: [CIT positional paper](#)
- One Mind Campaign endorses training and certifying 100% of sworn officers (and selected non-sworn staff, such as dispatchers) in mental health by providing Crisis Response Training (CIT), Crisis Response and Intervention Training (CRIT), or equivalent crisis response training to a minimum of 20% of sworn officers (and selected non-sworn staff) and providing Mental Health First Aid training (or equivalent) to the remaining 80% of officers (and selected non-sworn staff)

Crisis Response/Behavioral Health Training

- CIT (Crisis Intervention Team) developed by CIT International
 - CIT International offers the full range of certification (Program, Coordinator, Train-the-Trainer, 911 Support): <https://www.citinternational.org/>
- CRIT (Crisis Response and Intervention Training) developed by Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA):
 - BJA offers a no-cost, CIT-equivalent full training curriculum downloadable online at the Academic Training website: <https://www.informedpoliceresponses.com/crit-toolkit>
 - CRIT is based on the Memphis Model of CIT Training
 - The week-long (40-hour) curriculum covers topics related to mental health, substance use, and effective responses to people who experience mental health or substance use-related crises in the community



- CRIT reflects extensions to the CIT Training model by incorporating information on intellectual and developmental disabilities (IDD) and effective responses to people with IDD
 - CRIT is designed to support law enforcement agencies in their implementation of many different crisis response models in their community including but not limited to Crisis Intervention Teams
- Creating Safe Scenes developed by SAMHSA
 - This free, online training course accredited by the Commission on Accreditation for Pre-Hospital Continuing Education (CAPCE) is designed to help first responders (police, fire, and emergency medical services) work with individuals experiencing a mental health and/or substance use crisis:
<https://www.samhsa.gov/dtac/creating-safe-scenes-training-course>
- ICAT (Integrating Communications, Assessment, and Tactics training) developed by Police Executive Research Forum (PERF)
 - PERF and the FEMA Center for Domestic Preparedness offer the base 12-hour training as well as an additional 4-hour Train the Trainer at no cost to address patrol officer response to non-firearm incidents with a focus on integration of crisis recognition/intervention, communications, and tactics:
<http://www.policeforum.org/about-icat>
- Mental Health First Aid
 - Grant-funded programs with limited seats are available for both MHFA (in person, blended, or virtual) and MHFA Instructor (virtual) in Maryland; group classes are available for a fee: <https://www.mentalhealthfirstaid.org/>
 - MHFA virtual: 2 hours self-paced prework and 7 hours of live virtual instruction
 - MHFA Instructor: 8 hours of self-paced prework and 3-days of live virtual instruction
- Trauma-Informed Response Training developed by SAMHSA:
<https://www.samhsa.gov/gains-center/trauma-training-criminal-justice-professionals>



- 20-24 hour model in development by CIT International

Rural Communities

- IACP Webinar: Crisis Response for Rural Communities: Using Technology and Peer Support to Meet People in Crisis, Where They Are (Presented September 16, 2021)
- Video: <https://vimeo.com/619130655/16b96adad7>
- Slides: <https://www.theiacp.org/sites/default/files/IDD/CrisisResponseRural-508.pdf>
- Transcript: https://www.theiacp.org/sites/default/files/MHIDD/Academic%20Training%20Crisis%20Response%20for%20Rural%20Communities%20Webinar_Transcript.pdf

Online Supplemental Resources

Training Facilitator	Title of Training	Website	Format	Days/Hours of Training	Cost	MISC
PATC	1. Crisis Communications for Dispatchers 2. Crisis De-escalation for Police Communicators (Part 1) 3. Crisis Intervention 4. Excited Delirium (EXD) 5. Negotiating with Suicidal Individuals 6. Responding to Armed Suicidal Subjects 7. Safely Engaging Psychopaths and Sociopaths	https://www.patceducation.com/online-training	Pre-recorded Webinar	2 hours / webinar		



Calibre Press	Responding to People Experiencing a Mental Health Crisis: Understanding Mental Illness, Autism, and Developmental Disorders	https://secure.calibrepress.com/event-category/mental-illness/	Live Online	3 hour	\$139	
Street Cop Training	De-Escalation and Crisis Intervention That Actually Works	https://www.streetcoptraining.com/event/de-escalation-and-crisis-intervention-that-actually-works-3/	On Demand (30 day access)	Self-paced	\$249	
PoliceOne Academy	Emotionally Disturbed Persons	https://www.policeoneacademy.com/law-enforcement-training/emotionally-disturbed-persons-edp/	Subscription Access	1 hour / course	Individual vs Dept	MPCTC certified