

# DUTIFUL MINDS

## Information for Ohio's CIT Graduates

Education & Advocacy

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### CIT IS SPREADING

As of January 1<sup>st</sup>, 2007 CIT has spread throughout Ohio to approximately **2,066 sworn police officers**. A total of **55 of our 88 counties** now tout that they have officers trained in this life-saving program. There are currently **175 Ohio police departments, 43 county sheriff's departments, and 17 Ohio colleges and universities** on-board!

**Forty three** counties in Ohio now offer CIT training. We have also trained **7 State Highway Patrol Officers, 130 Corrections & Court officers, 33 Park Rangers**, 15 officers from other states, and at least 2 officers from other countries!

Below is the breakdown of law enforcement agencies that have sent officer(s) to CIT sites by county:

**Adams/Scioto/Lawrence CIT:** Adams County S.O., Ironton PD, Lawrence County S.O., Portsmouth PD, Scioto County S.O.

**Allen/Hardin/Auglaize CIT:** Allen County S.O., Bluffton PD, Kenton PD, Lima PD, Pandora PD, St. Mary's PD, St. Rita's Hospital PD, Auglaize County S.O., Wapakoneta PD, Perry Twp. PD, Fort Shawnee PD.

**Athens/Hocking/Vinton CIT:** Albany PD, Athens PD, Athens County S.O., Glouster Village PD, Hocking College PD, Logan PD, Nelsonville PD, Ohio University PD, OSP Post, Vinton County S.O., Hocking County S.O.

**Brown CIT:** Brown County S.O., Georgetown PD, Mt. Orab PD.

**Cuyahoga CIT:** Bedford Heights PD, Cleveland PD, Highland Heights PD, Bedford PD, Pepper Pike PD.

**Delaware/Morrow CIT:** Powell PD, Genoa Twp. PD, Delaware PD.

**Franklin CIT:** Clinton Twp. PD, Columbus PD, Columbus Regional Port Authority PD, Columbus State Community College PD, Franklin County S.O., Grandview Heights PD, Hilliard PD, Ohio State University PD, Westerville PD.

**Hancock CIT:** McComb PD, Findlay PD, Hancock County S.O.

**Lake CIT:** Mentor PD, Eastlake PD, Willoughby PD, Willowick PD, Kirtland PD, Fairport Harbor PD, Lake County S.O., Gates Mills PD, Painesville PD, Grand River PD, North Perry PD, Waite Hill PD, Willoughby Hills PD, Kirtland Hills PD, Lakeland Community College PD, Notre Dame College PD, Lake Metro Parks Rangers.

**Licking CIT:** Newark PD, Heath PD, Licking County S.O., Union Twp. PD, Buckeye Lake PD, Reynoldsburg PD.

**Lorain CIT:** Amherst PD, Avon Lake PD, Elyria PD, LaGrange PD, Lorain PD, Lorain County S.O., North Ridgeville PD, Sheffield Lake PD, Sheffield Village PD, Vermilion PD, Oberlin PD.

**Lucas CIT:** Antwerp PD, Greensprings PD, Lucas County S.O., Maumee PD, Medical College of Ohio PD, Ohio Veterans Home PD, Ottawa Hills PD, Sylvania PD, Toledo Metro Parks PD, Toledo PD, University of Toledo PD, Washington Twp. PD, Marion PD.

**Mahoning CIT:** Youngstown PD, Mahoning County S.O., Austintown Twp. PD, Beaver Twp. PD, Canfield PD, Mill Creek Metro Parks PD, Youngstown State University PD.

**Medina CIT:** Brunswick Hills PD, Brunswick PD, College of Wooster PD, Hinckley PD, Lafayette Twp. PD, Medina County S.O., Medina PD, Medina Twp. PD, OSP Post, Wadsworth PD, Montville Twp. PD, Seville PD, Medina County Parks PD.

**Miami/Darke/Shelby CIT:** Covington PD, Greenville PD, Miami County S.O., Piqua PD, Tipp City PD, Troy PD, Darke County S.O.

**Montgomery CIT:** Montgomery County S.O., Sinclair College PD, University of Dayton PD, Dayton PD, Centerville PD, Kettering PD.

**Muskingum/Coshocton/Guernsey/Morgan/Noble/Perry CIT:** Zanesville PD, Muskingum County S.O., Coshocton County S.O.

**Portage CIT:** Brady Lake Village PD, Brimfield Twp. PD, Aurora PD, Kent PD, Streetsboro PD, Hiram Village PD, Kent State University PD, Portage County S.O., Ravenna PD, Windham PD, Hiram College PD.

**Richland CIT:** Mansfield PD, Lexington PD, Ontario PD, Shelby PD, Plymouth PD, Richland County S.O.

**Ross/Pike/Fayette/Highland CIT:** Greenfield PD, Waverly PD, Ross County S.O., Fayette County S.O., Highland County S.O.

**Scioto CIT:** Portsmouth PD, Scioto County S.O., OSP Post, Chesapeake PD, South Point PD, Proctorville PD.

**Stark CIT:** Alliance PD, Canal Fulton PD, Canton PD, Hartsville PD, Jackson PD, Louisville PD, Magnolia PD, Marlboro Twp. PD, Massillon PD, North Canton PD, Perry PD, Stark County S.O.

**Summit CIT:** Akron PD, Summit County S.O., Barberton PD, Cuyahoga Falls PD, Hudson PD, Northcoast Behavioral Health Center PD, Norton PD, Richfield Twp. PD, Springfield Twp. PD, University of Akron PD, Stow PD, Lakemore PD, Bath PD, Tallmadge PD, Boston Heights PD, Copley PD, Sagamore Hills PD, Northfield PD.

**Trumbull CIT:** Warren PD, HMHP Hospital PD, Girard PD, Hubbard PD, Niles PD, Hubbard Twp. PD, Trumbull County S.O., Lordstown Village PD, Liberty Twp. PD, Howland Twp. PD.

**Wayne/Holmes CIT:** Creston PD, Dalton PD, Loudonville PD, OSP Post, Ohio State University – Wayne Branch PD, Orrville PD, Rittman PD, Wooster PD, Wayne County S.O.

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### **CORE OUTCOMES OF CIT**

1. Lower incidents of injury to officers and others
  2. Fewer repeat calls for service of patrol officers with mental health consumers
  3. Enhanced working relationship of patrol officers with county crisis workers
  4. Increased involvement of family and friends of the consumer as a crisis response alternative
  5. Increased knowledge of community resources available to the consumer and family members which may assist in recovery
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### **Recent & Future Ohio CIT Courses**

Summit County completed its 14<sup>th</sup> CIT course in December. In January Fairfield County will be having their very first CIT course. Gallia County is looking into CIT with a Luncheon presentation on Jan. 9<sup>th</sup>.

Please keep NAMI Ohio and/or the CCoE/CJ informed of upcoming CIT courses you will be having. We get lots of calls on these classes and it helps to at least know the month you may be having yours so that we can direct inquiries to the nearest location.

### **Welcome NAMI's New Associate Executive Director**

Betsy Johnson has replaced Blair Young at NAMI Ohio. She is eager to get involved with our CIT initiatives. Betsy can be reached at: [betsy@amiohio.org](mailto:betsy@amiohio.org) or (800) 686-2646. She will be trying to keep NAMI's website [www.namiohio.org](http://www.namiohio.org) current with CIT training dates and the latest developments here and throughout the country. If you have not gone to the website, which has a link to CIT you should check it out!

Speaking of websites, the CCoE/CJ site is full of information on CIT: [www.neoucom.edu/cjccoe](http://www.neoucom.edu/cjccoe)

### **Need Articles**

This is your newsletter. Please send us information of interest to CIT graduates. We would love to have officer success stories, training tips, awards, recognition, news articles, and etc. and/or any other tidbits of information that would benefit our CIT Officers. After all, the program needs "Feeding & Nurturing". CIT Officers are the "Knights in shining armor" for all those who suffer from mental illness and their loved ones.

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### **Did You Know?**

We have a State CIT Coordinators Group that meets twice a year in Columbus. We have over 70 members, and at our last meeting about 40 of them were present. We discuss CIT, advanced training, OPOTA requirements and just about anything else. We "feed & nurture" each other around fidelity issues and ways to make Ohio's program even better. We believe that a job worth doing is worth doing well. The reason I say this is because there are agency heads that want to reduce the 40-hour CIT course. I recently talked to Memphis, Tenn. CIT founder and expert Dr. Randy Dupont on this issue. He says that "in the 18 years we have been putting on CIT 40-hour classes, not once has an officer -level attendee stated that the 40-hours was enough, or that it was too long. In fact they usually want more".

CIT is so much more than just training, yet many organizations treat it that way. They do not ask for volunteers, to make sure the officers heart is in it. Sometimes they actually order officers to attend or they decide that their entire department must go through the training. This is not how it is supposed to work! It is not the 40-hour training that makes CIT officers experts in handling persons with a mental illness in crisis. It is the repeated exposure to these types of calls and the familiarity the CIT officer gains with persons in his/her community that need help. The rule of thumb is that 20% of a police agency's patrol force should eventually be a CIT officer. You then have sufficient coverage around the clock. The mental health crisis calls are funneled to them. This means that they handle 3 times the crisis calls that they would have if they were not CIT officers.

If an agency feels compelled to train all their officers they should still pick the best ones to be the "CIT Team". And, they need to actually have a CIT Coordinator. Someone on their staff needs to support the CIT officers. Would a police agency have a SWAT Team without a Commander? I think not! CIT needs to be looked at just like the SWAT team. You would not put just anyone on the SWAT Team would you? Some do not have the aptitude. CIT is exactly the same way. Some officers do not have good communication skills and never will. They may not be empathetic to person in crisis, or have little patience. They would not make a very good CIT officer.

**Remember, a job worth doing is worth doing well, and CIT really is more than just training!**

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