

Mental Health and Law Enforcement Collaboration

Calls for service involving people with mental illness can be among the most time-consuming and complex types of calls for law enforcement agencies. Police officers are often the first responders to mental health calls, which may require more resources than other calls for service. These calls also necessitate increased awareness for the safety of both responders and people in crisis. To improve the outcomes of interactions between police and people with mental illness, many law enforcement agencies have adopted Police-Mental Health Collaboration (PMHC) programs, which are collaborative partnerships among law enforcement agencies, mental health providers, and community-based organizations. Within our communities, Mental Health and Law Enforcement collaboration is at an all-time high with Police-Mental Health Collaboration (PMHC) programs, such as Crisis Intervention Team (CIT), Mental Health First Aid (MHFA), and Mental Health Co-Responders.

Crisis Intervention Team (CIT) - program is a community partnership of law enforcement, mental health professionals, and individuals who live with mental illness and/or addiction disorders, their families and other advocates. It is an innovative first-responder model of police-based crisis intervention training to help persons with mental health disorders access medical treatment rather than place them in the criminal justice system due to illness related behaviors.

The CIT Model was first developed in Memphis and has spread throughout the country. It is known as the “Memphis Model.” In 2004, community stakeholders in Johnson County, Kansas formed the Kansas Law Enforcement CIT Council to bring CIT training to our community and across Kansas. In Kansas, more than 1200 individuals have been trained by the Council and Crisis Intervention Teams have been established in Johnson, Wyandotte, Leavenworth, Douglas, Reno, Lyon, Shawnee and Sedgwick counties.

CIT GRADUATES – September 2018															
JoCo Departments	05	06	07	08	09	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	Totals
Blue Valley USD 229					2				1			1			4
Eudora PD														2	2
Fairway PD			2												2
Gardner PD			1	1					2			1			5
JoCo Com College				1	3										4
JoCo Sheriff	4	8	9	10	4	26	26	28	11	10	17	11	12	10	186
JoCo Park Dept.		1	1		1	1	5	3	2			5	3		22
Leawood PD		1	2	6	5	1	2	3	2		7	5	4	5	43
Leawood Fire Dept.					1										1
Lenexa PD	2	12	9	1	15	3	5	14	9	4	8	6	3	4	95
Lenexa Fire Dept.			1												1
Merriam PD		2					2	1	2		2	3	2		14
Mission PD			1	1				1	1			3	3	1	11
Olathe PD		3			5	9	11	3		2	10	4	3	5	55
Overland Park Fire Dept.													1		1
Overland Park PD	3	3	13	18	30	16	5	7	10	10	14	15	12	8	164
Prairie Village PD		2	2	3	4	2	3	4	4	2	3	5	6	3	43
Roeland Park PD				2	1			1			1	4	4		13
Shawnee PD	4	16	14	6	6	5	5	9	6	1	3	5	5	4	89
Shawnee Mission USD				1	6								2		9
Shawnee Mission Med Ctr												1			1
Spring Hill PD					1			1	1			2	2		7
															Total
															772

Mental Health First Aid (MHFA) - Mental Health First Aid for Public Safety is an 8-hour course designed to provide law officers and staff with more response options to help them de-escalate incidents and better understand mental illnesses so they can respond to mental health-related situations appropriately without compromising safety.

MHFA- Public Safety – September 2018			
Organization:	2017	2018	Totals
JOCO Park Police	18		18
Linn County Police Department	1		1
Gardner Police Department	35		35
Shawnee Police Department	5		5
Corrections	2		2
Court Services	1		1
Roeland Park	1		1
Lenexa Police Department	3		3
Mission Police Department	1		1
Miami Police Department	4		4
Olathe Police Department	10		10
Overland Park Police Department	4	225	229
Prairie Village Police Department	1		1
Leawood Police Department	17		17
JCCC Police Academy		72	72
Total	103	297	400

Mental Health Co-Responder - The co-responder program pairs a Licensed Mental Health Professional (LMHP) with a Crisis Intervention Team (CIT) trained law-enforcement officer at the scene to effectively triage the case. Currently there are seven Co-Responders embedded in local Police Departments covering the majority of Johnson County.

Co-Responders County-wide:

- Olathe (2)
- Overland Park (2)
- Shawnee (1)
- Lenexa (1)
- Northeast (1) NE Cities – 8 cities, 5 police departments
- Budgeted for 2019 Sheriff (1), PV and Leawood (1)

Additional Law Enforcement Resources:

RSI - This crisis stabilization center was formed in 2014 through a collaboration with Wyandot Center, Johnson County Mental Health Center, Heartland Regional Alcohol and Drug Assessment Center (Heartland RADAC), and Kansas Department of Aging and Disability Services (KDADS). Its purpose is to increase 24-hour community options for individuals experiencing acute psychological distress, as well as to divert individuals from unnecessary and/or inappropriate use of State Hospital, local Emergency Rooms and Jails.

Mobile Crisis Response Team (MCRT) – This is the primary point of contact for all mental health emergencies occurring during business hours Monday through Friday. The team provides mobile mental health crisis services, as well as consultation with law enforcement personnel, hospital staff, court personnel, and various community agencies.

After-hours Team – This is the primary point of contact for all mental health emergencies occurring during evening, nighttime, weekend and holiday hours. Licensed Mental Health Professionals (LMHP) provide telephone response and on-site response to emergencies, as well as provide consultation and guidance to Hospital Emergency Departments, Law Enforcement Officers and various other community agencies.