



# Crisis Intervention Team Utah

CRISIS INTERVENTION TEAM (CIT) Training was initiated to assist Law Enforcement Officers in effectively dealing with a person experiencing a mental health crisis, as well as the day to day interaction with mental health consumers. Officers from uniformed patrol divisions volunteer to participate, become a member of their agency's CIT, and receive specific training. The CIT officers receive training to be able to identify characteristics of various mental health disorders, and provide the safest intervention possible for the consumer, the community, and the officers. CIT officers gain an understanding of available options to assist in finding the best solution for the consumer and the community.

The Utah CITs have grown since the first academy conducted in 2001. Each year, more agencies become part of the team and the team's cadre of officers continues to grow. CIT Utah saves lives, and averts tragedies. CIT Utah also continues to increase awareness about the importance of mental health throughout the state. Mental health consumers and their families now ask for CIT Officers when contacting law enforcement for assistance. CIT Utah Regional Coordinators are involved in developing other local programs to assist with the reduction of mental health consumer's involvement in the criminal justice system through local efforts with their Local Mental Health Authority and through statewide efforts with the State Division of Substance Abuse and Mental Health.

CIT is continually being recognized as a valuable and efficient statewide model. Numerous presentations of the Utah CIT Program were given locally, statewide, and nationally. CIT interests also continue to be represented on several councils and committees searching for the improvement of the treatment of mental health consumers. Youth mental health issues have become a priority in Utah and throughout the nation. For the past two years, CIT Utah has worked in partnership with the National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI) to develop a CIT for Youth Program. The program has conducted its first trainings and although it is still in the developmental stage it will begin to expand regionally over the next three years.

A Joint Resolution of the Utah State Legislature and Governor Gary Herbert was signed during the 2011 Legislative Session identifying the CIT Utah Program as the gold standard of training and gave encouragement for the development of relationships between law enforcement agencies and mental health service providers throughout the State. The Salt Lake City Police Department, as the administrating agency for the CIT Utah program, has been selected as 1 of 6 national learning sites for specialized police response. The Council of State Governments will provide support for law enforcement agencies throughout the nation to receive counsel and training from CIT Utah.

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## **Crisis Intervention Team Training (CIT) Utah's Accomplishments and Accolades**

- CIT Utah has conducted over 125 academies during its tenure
- CIT Utah is in more than 70% of the mental health regions and in 65% of the Counties throughout the State
- 103 of 147 law enforcement agencies in the State currently have CIT Officers
- CIT Utah has trained an additional 1400 officers and non-sworn personnel
- The National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI) in their "Grading the States" report has always listed the CIT Utah program as a highlight of the Utah Mental Health system
- CIT Utah has been selected by the Council of State Governments as 1 of 6 national training sites for specialized police response to mental health calls for service
- CIT Utah has developed and is implementing, in partnership with NAMI National, CIT for Youth
- CIT Utah developed and implemented one of the first CIT for Corrections programs in the nation
- One of CIT Utah's Regional Coordinators was named CIT Behavioral Health Care Provider of the Year by CIT International
- CIT Utah was invited to be represented as a Founding Member of CIT International's Board of Directors
- CIT Utah was recognized in a Joint Resolution by the Governor of the State of Utah and the Utah Legislature as the gold standard for law enforcement training on mental health issues and partnering of law enforcement and mental health services
- CIT Utah leaders have been instrumental in the development of mental health services by representing law enforcement interests on numerous boards, committees, and councils
- CIT Utah Regional Coordinators in 2 regions were instrumental in the development of Mental Health Courts within their regions
- CIT Utah, its leadership, and its personnel have received numerous awards from law enforcement and various community agencies
- CIT Utah has been invited on several occasion to meet with and discuss criminal justice / mental health issues with members of the United States Senate
- CIT Utah Administration has been recognized as national experts at national conferences they attend for their own educational advancement of criminal justice / mental health issues

### **2011 Statistics**

- In 2011 Eighteen (18) CIT Academies were conducted throughout the State
- In 2011 Three Hundred and Seventy (370) Sworn personnel from 59 agencies and 68 non-sworn personnel from 22 agencies were certified as CIT Officers
- In 2011 Four Hundred and Five (405) Officers attended Recertification Training and were Recertified as CIT Officers
- There are currently over 1500 sworn CIT Officers in the State of Utah