



Law Enforcement Crisis Intervention Team (CIT) Training

Taking a Regional Approach

Town of Windsor, Connecticut Police Department, Community Health Resources (CHR), Connecticut Alliance to Benefit Law Enforcement (CABLE).

During May 2016, the Windsor, CT Police Department and Community Health Resources (CHR) which serves as a mental health partner and mobile crisis responder with WPD, in partnership with a non-profit mental health service provider, the CT Alliance to Benefit Law Enforcement (CABLE) (<http://www.cableweb.org/>), provided the 40 hour Crisis Intervention Team (CIT) Training to enhance awareness and recognition of behavioral health issues and mental health crisis, de-escalation and intervention strategies, and how to better link consumers with the appropriate mental health and behavioral health services.

This training differed from the previously conducted “standard” CIT training model however because this training was conducted on a regional level encompassing a much larger audience of participants. Instead of the typical forty (40) students per class, this training consisted of ninety-three (93) students in an effort to maximize awareness and provide CIT to as many first responders and providers as possible. Personnel from the Windsor Police Department, Connecticut State Police, and seventeen (17) other police departments attended.

This training was also unique based upon the composition of the students attending the CIT training. This training was offered to non-traditional agencies usually not present in CIT courses. Participating students included Connecticut Adult and Juvenile Probation Officers, Emergency Medical Services Ambulance staff, mental health clinicians, staff from the CT Veterans Home, municipal Human and Social Services personnel, Public Safety Dispatchers, and the Windsor Emergency Management Director.

It is the intention of the Windsor Police and CHR to implement these attending agencies in the development of a regional CIT roundtable partnership for sharing general information,

trends, and techniques. This will afford all area police departments and mental health providers the opportunity to learn from one another.

This effort at Specialized Policed Response was made possible through the Justice and Mental Health Collaboration Program federal grant awarded to the Windsor Police Department by the United States Department of Justice.

For more information please visit Hartford Courant:

Keeping Calm In Crisis
[Police Train In De-Escalating Mental Health Incidents](#)