



PMHC

Police-Mental Health Collaboration



BJA
Bureau of Justice Assistance
U.S. Department of Justice

WWW.BJA.GOV/PMHC

The Police-Mental Health Collaboration Toolkit provides resources for law enforcement agencies to partner with mental health providers to effectively respond to calls for service, improve outcomes for people with mental illness, and advance the safety of all.

What is the purpose of the website?

To safely and effectively respond to people with mental illness, law enforcement agencies have relied upon Police-Mental Health Collaboration (PMHC) programs for 30 years. What started in a handful of agencies has expanded to thousands of agencies across the country. Effective PMHC programs are defined by collaborative partnerships with law enforcement agencies, mental health providers, and other community based entities. PMHC programs are producing better outcomes for consumers, officers, and agencies.

What is a Police-Mental Health Collaboration?

A PMHC is a law enforcement-based program that enables officers to respond appropriately and safely to people with mental illness. Mental health calls for service are among the most complex, time-consuming, and dangerous for law enforcement. PMHC programs allow officers to be safer, reduce repeat calls for service, minimize the strain on agency resources, and connect people with mental illness to services.

How can my agency program, design, and implement a PMHC?

The PMHC program design must be specific to the unique characteristics of the community being served. Each location is characterized by different people, cultures, skills and resources, and the best approach takes these characteristics into consideration. The program design must be guided by the problem, there is no “one-size-fits-all” approach that will work in every community.

To access the Police Mental-Health Collaboration Toolkit, go to www.bja.gov/pmhc
For questions, contact AskPMHC@usdoj.gov

