

# **Mecklenburg County Crisis Intervention Team**

## **A pre-booking Jail Diversion Program**

CIT is a community-based collaboration between law enforcement, mental health agencies, consumers and family members, National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI)-Charlotte, and Central Piedmont Community College (CPC).

Law Enforcement Officers are frequently front-line responders to persons in crisis with a serious mental illness. In an effort to better prepare officers to respond to these individuals, a number of communities (more than 500 in the US) have developed a **Crisis Intervention Team (CIT)** program. These initiatives are modeled after the parent program which began in 1988 in Memphis, Tennessee. At the end of 2021, Mecklenburg County had trained over 1800 sworn law enforcement officers.



### **The Three Components of CIT Programs:**

- 1. Intensive training** - Police officers and other first responders receive up to 40 hours of training regarding mental illness, co-occurring disorders, and response strategies.
- 2. Strong mental health partnerships** – Police and mobile crisis workers who respond to people in crisis seek viable options for linking individuals with mental health treatment in lieu of arrest.
- 3. Significant mental health consumer and family involvement** - Consumer and family advocates are integrally involved in the design and implementation of local CIT programs.

**CIT** is a specialized law enforcement response to people in serious mental health crisis. Carefully selected volunteer patrol officers receive Crisis Intervention Team training in a 40-hour certification course where they learn:

- Recognizing signs of mental illness for persons in crisis
- Basic diagnosis and medication knowledge
- Verbal de-escalation skills
- Community resource information
- How CIT works and how it fits into each department's operations

### **CIT STEP-BY-STEP**

Family member or other person calls 911 for mental health crisis.

1. Patrol Officer dispatched; when mental health crisis is identified CIT officer is called to the scene.
2. CIT Officer assesses situation utilizing verbal de-escalation and other learned skills then determines best course of action; if more extensive mental health assessment is needed Mobile Crisis can be called to the scene.
3. Mental health consumer receives appropriate services while coordination with Criminal Justice System maintains accountability.

## 2022 CIT for Law

### Enforcement Training Dates

- February 28-March 4 \*Dual Class
- April 4-8
- June 13-17
- August 1-5
- September 12-16
- October 24-28 \*Dual Class



### Contacts

For more information and additional contacts, visit: [MeckNC.gov/CIT](https://MeckNC.gov/CIT)

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### Community Partners

[Atrium Healthcare](#)

[Alliance Health](#)

[Alexander Youth Network](#)

[Charlotte Mecklenburg Schools](#)

[CIT Center at the University of Memphis](#)

[Abound Health \(formerly DDRI\)](#)

[Hope Haven](#)

[InReach](#)

[Independence Fund](#)

[KinderMourn](#)

[Mecklenburg County CIT Video](#)

[Mecklenburg County Criminal Justice](#)

[Services](#)

[Mental Health America](#)

[Monarch](#)

[Pat's Place Child Advocacy Center](#)

[The Relatives](#)

[NAMI CIT Center](#)

[Roof Above](#)

[Veteran's Bridge Home](#)

[Anuvia Prevention and Recovery](#)

[Alzheimer's Association](#)

[Brain Injury Association of NC](#)

[Charlotte Resiliency Project](#)

[CIT International](#)

[CPCC](#)

[Hope House](#)

[Innervision](#)

[International House](#)

[Let's Talk About It.. The Autism Center](#)

[Mecklenburg County Community Support](#)

[Services](#)

[Mecklenburg County Community Resource Center](#)

[Mecklenburg County Recovery Court](#)

[Mobile Crisis Team](#)

[Moore Place](#)

[NAMI Charlotte](#)

[Promise Resource Network](#)

[Teen Health Connection](#)

[Thompson's Child and Family Focus](#)

[The Arc of NC](#)