



Montana Board of Crime Control

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Amy Tenney
Chief Executive Officer, Boyd
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TO: Law and Justice Interim Committee
FROM: Natalia Bowser, Director, Board of Crime Control
DATE: August 22, 2022
RE: Crisis Intervention Team (CIT) report per MCA 44-7-110 (5)

The Montana Board of Crime Control (MBCC) is directed by MCA 44-7-110 to administer and support a crisis intervention team training program to increase the number of law enforcement officers, behavioral health providers, and community stakeholders who are trained to respond safely and effectively to incidents that involve an individual who is experiencing a behavioral health crisis.

Crisis Intervention Team (CIT) training is a 40 hour, week-long, in-person training program. Its purpose is to assist law enforcement officers, detention staff, dispatchers and first responders of many community service providers in engaging, assessing, and assisting individuals in crisis with mental and/or co-occurring substance disorders. CIT teaches and/or enhances skills needed to better engage individuals in crisis that present with mental health and/or co-occurring substance disorders. This training exposes the participants to materials and experiences from trained mental health and medical professionals to better prepare them to work with this unique population effectively and safely.

MBCC solicited for programs to support Crisis Intervention Team training programs and initiatives based on the Memphis Model that is evidence-based in its ability to respond safely and effectively to incidents that involve an individual who is experiencing a behavioral health crisis. Dedicated CIT funding is provided through a combination of marijuana sales tax (\$150,000) and the general fund (\$75,000) for a total of \$225,000 per state fiscal year.

CIT Montana

MBCC contracts \$189,862.50 in funding to this non-profit entity:

- To support the existing 9 counties that currently have ongoing CIT training academies.
- To continue the building of 3 additional counties that are in various stages of developing CIT academies.
- To establish and maintain a dedicated CIT website to provide access and information to the entire state of Montana to help educate, answer questions, and promote the use of CIT.
- To expand the number of trainers in the CIT Memphis Model.

- To supply the materials and supplies needed for instructors and students of CIT academies.
- To conduct CIT Coordinator training workshops to ensure all Montana entities training in CIT are certified and using the latest, evidence-based training models of CIT.

Jefferson County Sheriff's Office

MBCC awarded \$4,500 in funds to the Jefferson County Sheriff's Office:

- To pay for the expense to train all staff of the Jefferson County Sheriff's office to attend a CIT academy (to include deputies, dispatchers, detention staff and administration employees).
- To ensure every employee who has direct contact with the public to achieve organizational goals of enhancing community service, safety, and awareness for all they serve through the tools taught in CIT. This includes defusing and de-escalating volatile situations, reducing violent engagements, "suicide by cop" incidents and unnecessary incarceration of individuals suffering from mental health crisis and or co-occurring substance abuse issues.
- To ensure all staff in direct contact with the public are better prepared for the anticipated future increase of mental health and or co-occurring substance abuse crisis issues.
- To establish a base for the future goal of having internal personnel to be "Trained Trainers" in the CIT Memphis Model. Having internal certified trainers will allow Jefferson County Sheriff's Office to provide community wide CIT training to other members of the community such as school personnel, community volunteers, Reserve Deputies, and other first responders.

City of Glasgow

MBCC awarded \$30,458.82 in funds to the City of Glasgow:

- To establish a Law Enforcement Coordinator and Mental Health Coordinator/CIT Grant Manager within the City of Glasgow to be trained in the Memphis Model of CIT through a certified CIT academy and become a certified trainer in the same CIT Memphis Model.
- The Law Enforcement Coordinator and the Mental Health Coordinator/CIT Grant Manager will develop and conducting CIT trainings to law enforcement officers in Northeastern Montana.
- To hold community meetings and CIT committee meetings to discuss matters related to CIT, trainings and what the communities need.