Crisis Intervention Teams (CIT) are community-based programs that bring together law enforcement, mental health professionals, advocates, people living with mental illness and their families, and other partners to improve community responses to people experiencing mental health crises.

Goals of CIT:

1. To improve safety during law enforcement encounters with people experiencing a mental health crisis, for everyone involved.
2. To increase connections to effective and timely mental health services for people in mental health crisis.
3. To use law enforcement strategically during crisis situations – such as when there is an imminent threat to safety or a criminal concern – and increase the role of mental health professionals, peer support specialists, and other community supports.
4. To reduce the trauma that people experience during a mental health crisis and thus contribute to their long-term recovery.

The information above was taken directly from pages 4-5 of CIT International’s Crisis Intervention Team (CIT) Programs: A Best Practice Guide for Transforming Community Responses to Mental Health Crisis (https://www.citinternational.org/bestpracticeguide/).

For more information about getting started, program resources, training calendars, news and announcements and CIT reports for Ohio, visit https://www.neomed.edu/cjccoe/cit/.

For assistance with connecting to your local CIT program, please contact the CJ CCoE at cjccoe@neomed.edu.