

Taunton Pre/Post Arrest Jail Diversion Program

The Taunton Jail Diversion Program (JDP), an outgrowth of the CCIT, pre-dates the nationally acclaimed **Sequential Intercept Model (SIM)**. This community initiative consists of several components that allow for multiple points of entry, including incarceration release. The genesis of the **JDP** evolved from a desire to bring varied disciplines together to conference problematic cases that pose unique issues for police officers, mental health practitioners, probation officers, and concerned staff from a wide range of state and local agencies.



In summary: The Taunton CCIT/SIM offers the following:

- Three days of comprehensive training focused on adult issues and two days focused on youth issues.
- “Train the Trainers” training including instructor and trainee manuals.
- Instructors for any combination of the program components.
- Consultation and technical assistance in organizing community coalitions and training.

“Inmates, families, guards, judges, prosecutors, and police are in unique agreement that our broken system of punting the most seriously mentally ill into the criminal justice system must be fixed.” U.S. House Committee on the Judiciary

Sequential Intercept Model

The **Sequential Intercept Model (SIM)** provides a conceptual framework when considering the criminalizing of mental illness. It has a primary purpose of Jail Diversion but goes beyond traditional models in a consideration of a series of points of interception where appropriate interventions can be made to prevent an individual from entering or penetrating deeper into the criminal justice system.



Within the context of the SIM, case conferences are a mainstay with multiple ports of referral for team

Inquiries to: Kathy Lalor

Community Counseling of Bristol County
 Mill River Professional Center
 One Washington Street
 Taunton, Massachusetts 02780
 508-977-8138
 kathy.lalor@yahoo.com
<http://www.ccittauntonma.weebly.com>

Major funding provided by:

Massachusetts Department of Mental Health
 United Way of Greater Attleboro/Taunton
 National Alliance on Mental Illness /S.E. Massachusetts



COMMUNITY CRISIS INTERVENTION TEAM

Taunton, Massachusetts

A Sequential Intercept Model For Jail Diversion



The CCIT is a community initiative for Southern New England and beyond since 2001.

“WITHOUT BETTER MENTAL HEALTH CARE, BETTER PARTNERSHIPS AND AN IMPROVED FOCUS IN CRIMINAL JUSTICE, WE CAN EXPECT UNACCEPTABLE OUTCOMES TO CONTINUE... INAPPROPRIATE POLICE ENCOUNTERS, UNNECESSARY ARRESTS AND INCARCERATIONS; DELAYED RELEASE FROM JAIL AND PRISONS; INCREASED RECIDIVISM OF PERSONS WITH MENTAL ILLNESSES TO THE CRIMINAL JUSTICE SYSTEM; AND DELAYED LACK OF NEEDED MENTAL HEALTH TREATMENT.”



NEW FREEDOM COMMISSION ON MENTAL HEALTH

CCIT Statement of Mission

A genuine community partnership, the mission of the Community Crisis Intervention Team is two-fold. Principally it exists to promote communication and enhance the response of public and private agencies when summoned to intervene with individuals who are mentally ill, developmentally disabled or experiencing trauma in their lives. Secondly, team members are specifically trained and equipped to assist other communities in their quest of identifying the components and collaboration necessary to replicate a similar Community Crisis Intervention Team initiative of their own.

The Taunton CCIT has achieved community wide acceptance and a reputation for quality training in meeting the needs of the mentally ill and developmentally disabled persons that are involved with or at-risk of involvement with the criminal justice system. CCIT's success is achieved through two program components consisting of: **Training and Case Conferences.**

Training

Core members of the Taunton CCIT, with the assistance of others, provide three successive days of training in May and November for police officers, emergency department nurses, hospital security staff, mental health and developmental disability providers, court personnel, first responders and other community professionals.

Program Components include:

- Understanding Mental Illness and Developmental Disabilities
- Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder
- Co-occurring Disorders
- Suicide Assessment and Prevention
- "Hearing Voices"

- Psychotropic Medications
- National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI)
- Community Resources
- Emergency Petitions
- Court Interventions
- Probation Interventions
- Police Officer Safety, "Do's and Don'ts"
- Interviewing and De-escalation Techniques
- State Hospital Visit and Patient Interviews
- Critiqued Role Play Scenarios

Participants of CCIT training will be equipped with the skills required to assist in identifying and defusing escalating situations, and will have the knowledge base and comfort level necessary to navigate the bureaucracy of institutions that often times seem counter-productive to the successful resolution of crisis situations.



Several members of the Taunton Area CCIT have participated in local, regional, and national trainings and have developed a comprehensive classroom training program.

Technical Assistance: Training Program

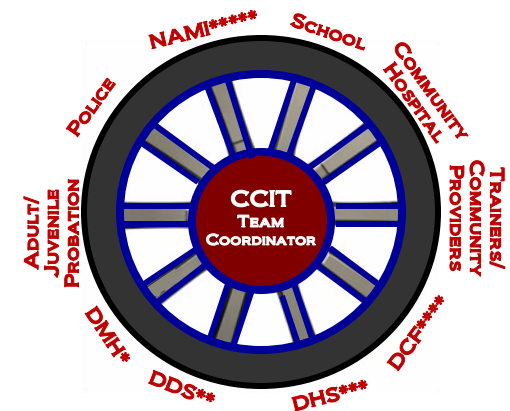
This presentation explores and explains the initial organization of a community crisis team and the requisite training that should be the foundation of intervention teams. We also address the crucial component of "staying power" ... or how to keep the team cohesive.



Case Conferences

CCIT Case Conferences have proven to be an effective method of conducting pre-crisis and diversion planning, probation coordination, and re-entry planning. A Core Team of community members meets monthly for interagency collaborative and cooperative efforts and provides clinical, law enforcement, and criminal justice staffing to the case conferences.

The following spokes on a wheel graphic demonstrates how CCIT's mission is accomplished by interagency collaboration and the active involvement of all stakeholders in the monthly meetings process. The CCIT Team Coordinator acts as the "hub" and is the coordinator of all trainings and case conferences.



* Department of Mental Health
** Department of Developmental Services
*** Department of Human Services, City of Taunton
**** Department of Children and Families
***** National Alliance on Mental Illness, Southeast Area