# Training and Partnership Models for Police Mental Health Response

## MPTC/Police Academies Training Programs

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<th>Towns Utilizing Model</th>
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| **Statewide Police Academy Training** | The Municipal Police Training Committee provides trainings that give police officers an introduction to mental health and basic techniques for effective mental health crisis response.  
- New Recruit Training – 16-hour curriculum for new municipal officer recruits. Co-taught by a mental health clinician and veteran police officers  
- In-Service Training – a 3-hour curriculum for existing municipal officers. Should reach all 17,000 municipal officers in 2015 | All |

## Advanced Models for Mental Health Training and Partnerships

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<tr>
<th>Name</th>
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<th>Examples</th>
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| **Crisis Intervention Team (CIT)** | 40 hours of training for law enforcement covering:  
- Overview of mental illnesses and how to recognize them  
- Information about the local mental health system and laws  
- First-hand perspectives from peers and family members  
- Verbal de-escalation training and role-plays  
Focuses on building strong community partnerships between law enforcement and local mental health providers to:  
- Facilitate referrals to mental health treatment  
- Reduce burden on police, courts, and corrections  
An evidence-based model:  
- Significantly reduces arrest rates of people with mental illness – up to 58%  
- Increases safety – up to 80% reduction in officer injuries; lower numbers of police shootings  
- Effectively connects people with mental illness to services | Belmont, Brockton, Brookline, Cambridge, Chicopee, Danvers, Egremont, Everett, Fitchburg, Holyoke, Nantucket, Newton, Northampton, Salem, Somerville, Springfield, Wakefield, Westfield, Worcester |

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| **Community Crisis Intervention Team (CCIT)** | A CIT-based model developed in Taunton, MA. Key components include:  
- Trainings open to both police and other stakeholders (mental health providers, library staff, homeless outreach, etc)  
- Trainings divided into two sections: 3-day training focused on adult issues, and 2-day training focused on youth issues  
- Monthly case conferences that gather relevant stakeholders to discuss how best to meet the needs of specific individuals in the community  
- Consultation and technical assistance to other communities in organizing community coalitions and trainings | Taunton. Other towns trained include Attleboro, Barnstable, Brockton, Chatham, Raynham |
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| **Co-response** | A mental health clinician works at the local police department and rides along with officers to mental health-related calls.  
- Clinician evaluates the need for hospitalization, makes referrals, and can provide follow-up services  
- Clinician can also serve as a training resource for local officers | Examples: Arlington, Ashland, Boston (B2, D4, C11), Framingham, Holliston, Hopkington, Lawrence, Lynn, Marlboro, Milford, Quincy, Salem, Sherborn, Waltham, Watertown, Worcester |
| **Mental Health First Aid** | A program teaching basic skills in responding to mental health emergencies.  
- 8-hour curriculum  
- Taught by a certified mental health clinician  
- Appropriate for a broad-based audience | Examples: Arlington, Bedford, Brookline, Danvers, Fitchburg, Somerville, Waltham, Worcester |
| **Community Connections and Stakeholder Groups** |  
- Sustainable community stakeholder meetings and/or case conferences to find collaborative solutions to mental health issues  
- Policies and procedures both within police departments and between departments and other stakeholders for best response to mental health crises  
- Increased communication and awareness of resources between the criminal justice, mental health, and other systems  
- Learning from other communities with successful jail diversion programs | Examples: Belmont, Brookline, Cambridge, Lynn, Quincy, Somerville, Walpole |