

CIT Basic Academy



Final Report / April 12-16, 2021

Goals of Crisis Intervention Team



Increase Safety:
Officer/Responder,
community & person in crisis



Increase Connections:
Effective & timely behavioral
health services



**Increase Community
Supports:** Only use LEO for
criminal concerns or
imminent threat to safety



Improve Client Outcomes:
Reduce Trauma for person in
crisis and promote long-term
Recovery

CIT Core Elements

CIT is more than just a training.



ONGOING ELEMENTS

1. Partnerships: Law Enforcement, Advocacy, First Responders, Mental Health
2. Community Ownership: Planning, Implementation & Networking
3. Policies and Procedures

OPERATIONAL ELEMENTS

4. CIT: Officer/Responder, Dispatcher, Coordinator
5. Curriculum: CIT Training
6. Mental Health Receiving Facility: Emergency Services

SUSTAINING ELEMENTS

7. Evaluation and Research
8. Continuing Education
9. Recognition and Honors
10. Outreach: Developing CIT in other communities

CIT Academy Coordinators/Instructors

Ben Slater, Missoula Police Department

Tom Hodgetts, St. Patrick Hospital

Theresa Williams, Missoula Fire Department

Joe Burger, Missoula Fire Department

Alex Hall, Missoula County Detention Facility

Cole Moden, Missoula County Detention Facility

Elise Watts, MSW Student

John Petroff, Missoula Fire Department

Brad Hickok, Gallatin County Sheriff's Department

Paula Sullivan, Flathead County Sheriff's Department

Dennis Nyland, Montana Mental Health Ombudsman

Dan Mendonca, Ravalli County Sheriff's Department

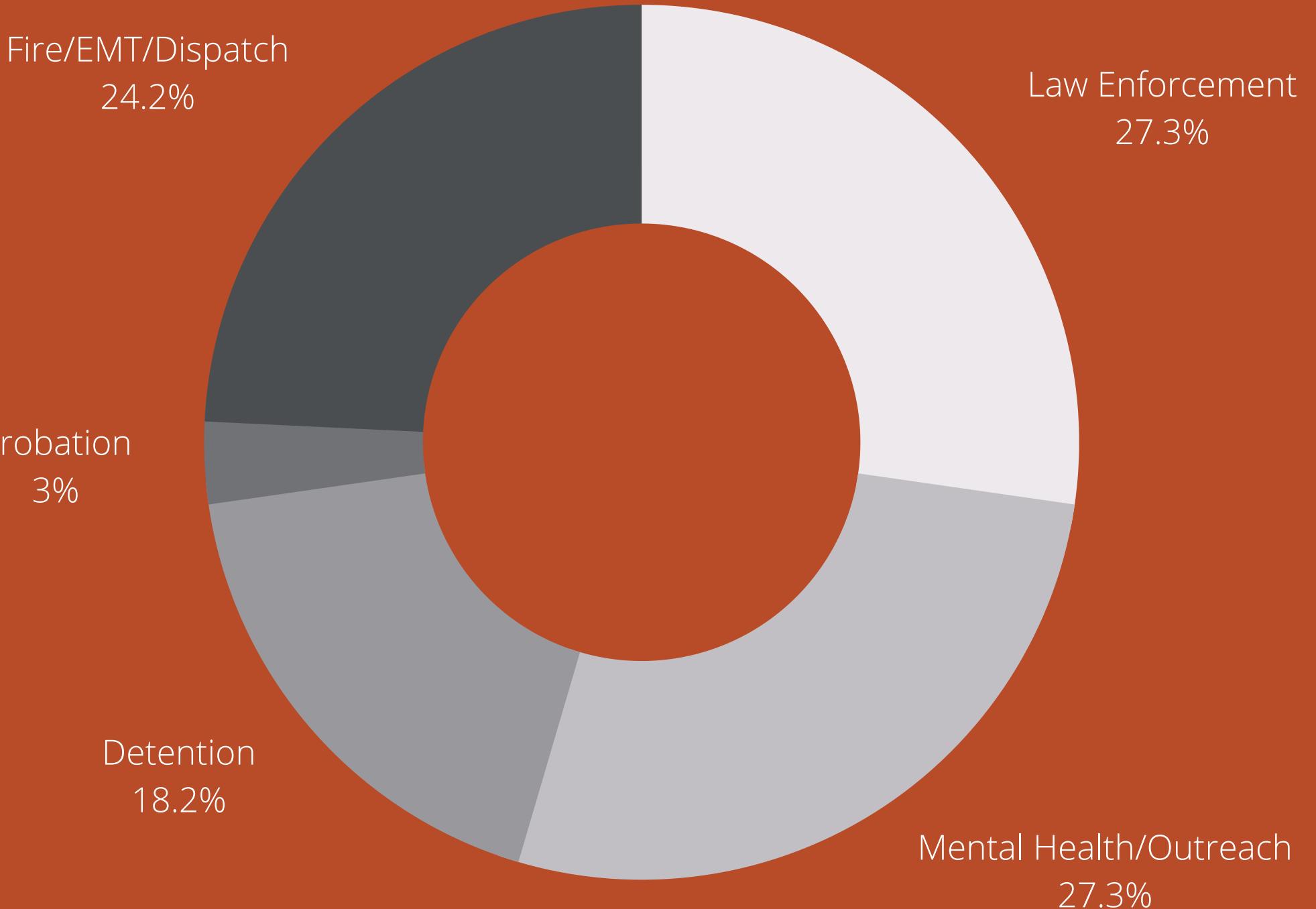
**Mel Brooks and Gretchen Neal were participants in the Academy;*

Ryan Kamura was in New York for a training.



33 CIT Graduates

Coordinators reduced the class size and followed all City-County Health Department regulations in order to reduce the spread of COVID-19.



Missoula law enforcement participates in crisis intervention training

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Excerpts:

“It gets everyone on the same page,” Jacobsen said. “The skills that are taught here are incredibly useful and really well-rounded. I think by getting a bunch of service providers and law enforcement together, it builds those relationships between agencies and also gives us the skills so we can handle a situation effectively.”

“Some of the skills program participants worked on include reflective listening, de-escalation tactics, emotional labeling and the importance of maintaining the same eye level as the person they are responding to.

The program also teaches an acronym: DBEAT, which stands for distance, backup, empathy, awareness and time, all important skills and factors to be aware of when responding to a crisis situation.”

— Missoulian Article

Topics Covered in Class and in the Learning Mgmt Software

Age-Related Behaviors

Child/Youth Crisis Behaviors and Resources

Civil Commitment Laws

Community Resources

Consumer Panel

Crisis De-Escalation Plan/Universal Greeting

Hearing Voices Simulation

LGBTQ+ Community Considerations

Montana State Hospital Panel

Mood Disorders

NAMI Family and Consumer Perspective

Native Community Cultural Considerations

Neurodevelopmental Disorders

Personality Disorders

Practiced Repetitions throughout the week and Final Scenario Testing and Evaluation at the end of the week

Psychotropic Medications

PTSD and TBI and Veteran Panel

Safety Considerations – 720 4D/Situational Awareness

Safety Considerations – Position of Readiness/Body Language

Substance Use and Co-Occurring Disorders

Suicide Assessment and Intervention

Thought Disorders

Use of Force Cases

WMMHC Dakota Place Tour

WMMHC Day Treatment Panel

WMMHC PACT Team Panel



Participant Key Takeaways

Mental Health:

"Empathy for Law Enforcement and getting to collaborate with all professionals was meaningful."

"Reminder for collaboration--offering compassion and empathy are key."

Fire/EMS:

"The amount of work being done in Missoula, by so many different groups/agencies, to address some serious issues in our community."

Law Enforcement:

"Learning how to actively listen and be more patient"
"Feel like I am understanding the need to ask questions in a more meaningful way."

"Understanding that the way people experience mental health disorders differ from person to person."

"How hard it is to function while hearing voices. I plan to give people more time."

"More patience and slow instructions to people in crisis"

"Apply empathy in place of being too much 'like a cop'"
"Networking so I can do a better job at connecting clients to services/keep them out of jail."

Volunteer Key Takeaways

"It was a good reminder of what I learned in CIT previously. I enjoyed being able to put students in a real life position."

"Loved seeing the diversity of experience and community organizations/agencies working together."

"I feel the scenario I was in is absolutely a real life situation which could easily happen in Missoula."



What barriers might you have that would interfere with implementation of new information learned from this training?

"Constraints of work load & schedule not allowing the time with significantly mentally ill."

"Time management skills. Sometimes work is very busy."

"Bias in my job. Stereotypes. Learning to know when to spend time. Preset ideas."



“Educating the mind
without educating the
heart is no education at
all”

— Aristotle

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THANK
YOU

Kudos to the community speakers and presenters, including people with lived experience and their family members, for your time and support; without you, this Academy wouldn't be successful.

Shout out to Waypoint Church for hosting us.

And, thank you, CIT Leadership Roundtable, for supporting this effort!