

CIT Basic Academy

Final Report / April 12-16, 2021



Goals of Crisis Intervention Team



Increase Safety:

Officer/Responder,
community & person in crisis



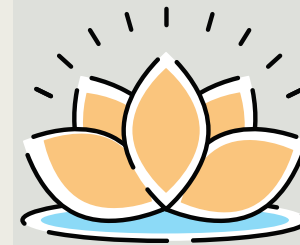
Increase Connections:

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

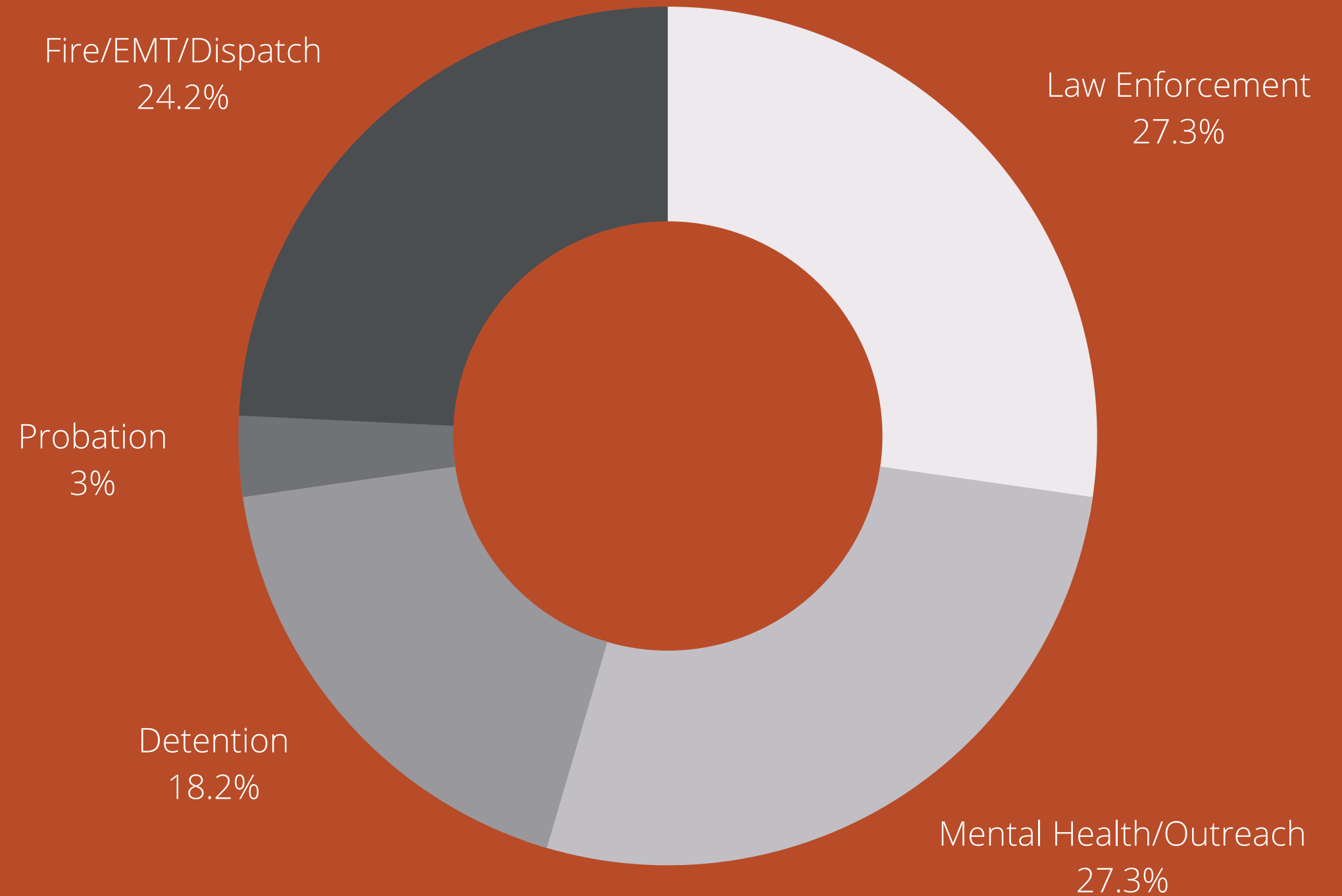
**Mel Brooks and Gretchen Neal were participants in the Academy;*

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."

— Missoulain 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



CIT MONTANA



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."



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

— Aristotle

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!