

**CRISIS INTERVENTION TEAM TRAINING
BEXAR COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE**

Purpose and History

INSTRUCTORS:

Objective

- **The Beginnings of CIT and its purpose.**
- **State/City/ and County Beginnings of CIT.**
- **Legal and societal concerns and perspectives.**
- **Homelessness and the Mentally ill.**
- **Stigma and Societal discrimination**

The Beginning of CIT

- **Developed out of Memphis TN.**
- **1987**

State, City & County Beginnings

- **The Mental Health Unit is established in 1973 for the BCSO to assist the courts with hospital transports.**
- **Texas mandated crisis intervention and de-escalation training for all PO's. (Senate Bill 1473)**
- **1997 The BCSO had the first active role in producing a 40hr.CIT Course at the State Hospital to make officers aware of Mental Illness for both Detention and Law Enforcement Officers.**
- **The Center for Health Care Services starts a jail diversion program in 2001.**
- **San Antonio Police obtained training from Houston Police Department in May 2003, and held their first CIT class which later became a collaboration of agencies.**

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Unit Goal: 5.0. To explore the world of the mentally ill through a discussion of legal and societal concerns and perspectives

5.1. Discuss the mentally ill person in the situation of being homeless.

- **On any given night approximately 600,000 Americans are homeless**
- **More than 2 million people are homeless throughout the year**
- **One-third of the people who are homeless have a serious mental illness**
- **One-half also have a substance abuse disorder.**

5.2. Discuss the mentally ill individual as a victim of crime.

“People with mental illness are more likely to be victims than perpetrators of violence”

National Institute of Justice, 1996

Statistics:

- **4-13% of mentally ill consumers are perpetrators of crime**
- **Mentally Ill consumers are 140 times more likely to be victim of theft**
- **3 million Mentally Ill consumers are estimated to be victimized each year**
- **In a year, more than one-quarter of mentally ill consumers say they are victimized**

5.3. Evaluate the stigma and societal discrimination that exists toward persons who are mentally ill.

Stigma is a mark of disgrace or shame. It is made up of various components, including:

- **Labeling someone with a condition**
- **Stereotyping people with that condition**

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- **Creating a division (i.e., a superior “us” and a denigrated “them”)**
- **Discriminating against someone on the basis of their label**

Notes: