



CIT INTERNATIONAL

IMPROVING CRISIS RESPONSE SYSTEMS



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1996 – 2010 Public Defender
(Mental Health Court - Indianapolis)

2011 – 2024 NAMI Indiana
(Created and oversaw statewide CIT
Technical Assistance Center and
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SB 882: Improving outcomes of law enforcement interactions with individuals living with intellectual or developmental disabilities and/or mental health conditions

- Evaluate existing training for peace officers
- Identify gaps in existing training for peace officers
- Make recommendations for improving outcomes when peace officers interact with these special populations



CIT: CRISIS INTERVENTION TEAM – THE GOLD STANDARD FOR IMPROVING CRISIS RESPONSE



THE KEY TO SUCCESS:
“THE 3-LEGGED STOOL”
COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS



10 CORE ELEMENTS

Partnerships
Community Ownership
Policy
Data
Crisis Response Resources
Training
...and MORE!

THE VALUE OF LIVED EXPERIENCE

- Valuable insights into system gaps
- Creates community buy-in
- Decreases stigma
- Provides hope
- Increases empathy
- Reminds peace officers of their “Why?”
- Often identified as the most impactful part of a 40-hour CIT class



Where to find individuals & family members with lived experience:

NAMI – National Alliance on Mental Illness

- <https://www.nami.org/affiliate/california/>
- “Sharing Your Story with Law Enforcement” and “In Our Own Voice”

State Council on Development Disabilities

- <https://scdd.ca.gov/>

The Arc

- <https://thearcca.org/>

And more!





THANK YOU!

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