

**Criminal Justice/Mental Health Information Network
Specialized Police Responses to People with Mental Illness Survey**

I. Respondent and Agency Information

1. *Please provide the following information about yourself: [text responses]*
 - Name: _____
 - Title: _____
 - Agency: _____
 - Address: _____
 - City: _____
 - State: _____
 - Zip: _____
 - Email: _____
 - Phone: _____
 - Rank [if applicable]: _____

2. *May we post your contact information online so that someone looking for more information about your program may contact you?*
 - Yes
 - No

3. *May we contact you for follow-up information? [select only one]*
 - Yes
 - No

4. *Identify the type of jurisdiction in which your specialized response is located [select only one]:*
 - Urban
 - Semi-urban
 - Rural
 - Mixture of urban, suburban, and / or rural

5. *What is the name of the law enforcement agency that coordinates the specialized response program? [text response]*

6. *Which type of government operates the law enforcement agency that coordinates the specialized response program? [select only one]*
 - State
 - County or Parish
 - Municipal

- Township
- Regional
- School District
- Tribal
- Other: _____

7. *What is the approximate number of full time sworn law enforcement officers in your agency? [text response]*

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II. Specialized Response Description

8. *What is the name of the specialized response program? [text response]*

9. *When did the specialized response program begin? [text response]*

10. *Which of the following **best** describes the **primary** specialized response program in your jurisdiction? [select only one]*

- Police officers are trained to provide crisis intervention services and to act as liaisons to the mental health system.
- Mental health professionals partner with law enforcement officers to provide on-scene crisis intervention and referral.
- Mental health providers, often as members of a mobile crisis team, are called in by law enforcement to provide crisis intervention at the scene.

11. *Which of the following **best** describes the **secondary** specialized response program in your jurisdiction? [select only one]*

- There is only one specialized response program in the jurisdiction.
- Police officers are trained to provide crisis intervention services and to act as liaisons to the mental health system.
- Mental health professionals partner with law enforcement officers to provide on-scene crisis intervention and referral.
- Mental health providers, often as members of a mobile crisis team, are called in by law enforcement to provide crisis intervention at the scene.

12. *Please use the space below to provide background information about your program. For example, how did your program begin? How long did it take to become operational? Please respond in five sentences or less. [text response]*

13. *What is the total number of officers who participate in the specialized response program? [text response]*
14. *Please estimate the number of people with mental illness who came in face-to-face contact with specialized responders in the last 12 months?[select only one]*
- 0-50
 - 51-100
 - 101-200
 - a. 201-500
 - b. More than 500
15. *What area does your program serve? [select only one]*
- Part of the jurisdiction
 - The entire jurisdiction
 - More than one jurisdiction
16. *Please identify the program's funding source(s): [select all that apply]*
- Police Department
 - Sheriff's Department
 - Local Mental Health Department
 - Community Mental Health Service Provider
 - State Mental Health Authority
 - Private foundation grant funding
 - Federal grant funds
 - Public health insurance (e.g. Medicaid and / or Medicare)
 - Other_____
17. *Please identify program staff who are supported by this funding: [select all that apply]*
- Law Enforcement Officer
 - MH Service Provider (e.g. case manager, social worker)
 - Medical professional (e.g. nurse, doctor)
 - Program Coordinator
 - Other: _____
18. *Are there any other criminal justice / mental health collaborative programs which are designed to improve outcomes for people with mental illness in the criminal justice system in your community or jurisdiction? (Please describe)*

III. Program Partners and Personnel

19. Does your program have a committee that oversees its planning and administration? [select only one]

- Yes, formerly
- Yes, currently
- No (please continue to question number 20)

20. If yes, please identify committee participants [select all that apply]

- Law enforcement line-level staff
- Law enforcement supervisory-level staff
- Law enforcement leadership
- Mental health (and/or substance abuse) line-level staff
- Mental health (and/or substance abuse) supervisory-level staff
- Mental health (and/or substance abuse) leadership
- Consumers of mental health services
- Family members of consumers
- Advocates
- Other _____

21. Please identify the names of the **mental health or advocacy** agencies that participate in your program. [text response]

22. Do you and your program partners currently have a written agreement of roles and procedures? [select only one]

- Yes
- No

23. How are officers recruited and selected for this specialized assignment?[select all that apply]

- Officers volunteer and all are selected
- Officers volunteer and some are selected
- Officers are assigned
- Other: _____

24. Does a staff person act as a boundary spanner and coordinate among the various groups involved in the specialized response program?

- Yes; the program coordinator represents a law enforcement agency
- Yes; the program coordinator represents a mental health agency
- Yes; the program coordinator represents an advocacy agency
- Yes; there are multiple program coordinators
- No

- Other: _____

25. *If yes, please identify the name and contact information for the program coordinator(s). (If other than the respondent to this survey) [text response]*

IV. Training on Mental Health Issues

26. *What types of mental health training are offered to police officers? [select all that apply]*

- Pre-service training
- Basic in-service training for all patrol officers
- Basic in-service training for select patrol officers
- Basic in-service training for dispatchers and / or call takers
- Advanced in-service training for all patrol officers
- Advanced in-service training for select patrol officers
- Advanced in-service training for dispatchers and / or call takers
- Other: _____

27. *How many hours of training are generally provided to each group?[text response]*

- Pre-service training
- Basic in-service training for all patrol officers
- Basic in-service training for select patrol officers
- Basic in-service training for dispatchers and / or call takers
- Advanced in-service training for all patrol officers
- Advanced in-service training for select patrol officers
- Advanced in-service training for dispatchers and / or call takers

28. *How many officers have received **advanced** training to date? [select one]*

- 0-50
- 51-100
- 101-200
- a. 201-500
- b. More than 500

29. *Who conducts **advanced** training? [select all that apply]*

- Police officers
- Mental health professionals (crisis workers)
- Medical professionals (doctors or nurses)
- Consumers
- Community members
- Advocates
- Family member of a person with mental illness
- Other: _____

30. *What topics does **advanced** training cover? [select all that apply]*

- Recognizing symptoms of mental illness, and clinical issues

- Co-occurring disorders
- Psychiatric medications
- Community resources (mental health services, etc.)
- Legal issues concerning individuals with mental illness
- Legal issues concerning police officer liability
- De-escalation techniques
- Less lethal use of force options
- Suicide prevention
- The role of families and other supports in mental health treatment and recovery
- Other: _____

31. *What methods are used in **advanced** training? [select all that apply]*

- Presentations (including panels, lectures, and/or PowerPoints)
- Role plays
- Site visits to community mental health facilities
- Ride-alongs
- Videotapes
- Virtual reality/computerized simulations of mental illness symptoms
- Other: _____

32. *Is there anything else you would like us to know about your training? Please respond in five sentences or less. [text response]*

V. Response Procedures

NOTE: Some of the questions in this section are concerned with police department procedure and are best answered by a law enforcement staff person. If you are not in the law enforcement agency and are unable to answer these questions or confer with a law enforcement colleague, please choose "Not sure."

33. *Are call takers or dispatchers provided with standard questions to assess whether mental illness may be a factor in a call for service? [select only one]*

- Yes
- No
- Not sure

34. *How do call takers or dispatchers document that mental illness may be a factor? [select all that apply]*

- Do not document
- Document in central computer database used for all calls, such as a Computer Aided Dispatch (CAD) system
- Document in a specialized computer database for only mental health calls
- Document in paper files
- Not sure
- Other: _____

35. *How do responding officers document that mental illness was a factor in the encounter? [select all that apply]*

- Don't record information
- Relay information to dispatch who records it in general computer database used for all calls, such as a Computer Aided Dispatch (CAD) system
- Record information on a form used only for mental health calls
- Record information in a field encounter form, or other form used to document every citizen encounter
- Record information in an arrest report
- Record information in log maintained by mental health personnel at the crisis drop-off location or by some other mental health organization
- Not sure
- Other: _____

36. *If information about an individual's mental illness is stored in police records, how is it used? [text response]*

37. *Is a mental health professional available to support the police responder should it be deemed necessary? [select all that apply]*

- Yes, on site (e.g. mobile crisis team)

- Yes, remotely by telephone or dispatch (e.g. a crisis worker or psychiatric emergency room personnel)
- Yes, both on-site and remotely
- No
- Other: _____

38. *Under which of the following circumstances are officers permitted to transport people with mental illness to mental health services: [select all that apply]*

- The person has volunteered to receive mental health treatment
- The person is being brought to a hospital for emergency evaluation
- The person is being brought to a crisis center or other health care facility for stabilization or medications management

39. *Are there any circumstances under which department policies allow an officer to transport a person without handcuffing them? [text response]*

- Yes (please explain): _____
- No

40. *Do officers have access to a designated drop-off location or locations where they can bring people in crisis? [select only one]*

- Yes, open 24 hours a day
- Yes, open during normal business hours
- No (Please continue to question 45)
- Yes, but its availability varies

41. *If yes, please describe the location of the crisis drop-off center(s) [select all that apply]*

- Psychiatric emergency / crisis center
- Psychiatric emergency room in general hospital
- General hospital emergency room
- Other mental health facility: _____

42. *Does this drop-off center have a procedure for streamlined intake and a no refusal policy for police referrals?*

- Yes (please explain): _____
- No

43. *Is there a drop-off center that will accept people who have co-occurring substance abuse disorders? [select only one]*

- Yes
- No
- Sometimes: _____

VI. Program Evaluation

46. *Has the police department or another organization consistently collected data on this program?[select only one]*

- Yes
- No

47. *Is there a published evaluation of this program? [select only one]*

- Yes
- No (Please continue to question number 48)

48. *If yes, please identify the title and author(s), and copy in the url (if available online): [text response]*

49. *Has a local newspaper or another media source discussed your program? [select only one]*

- Yes
- No (Please continue to question 50)

50. *If yes, please provide identifying information: [text response]*

51. *Is there legislation, federal or state, that provides funding or other forms of support for your program?*

- Yes
- No (Please continue to question 53)

52. *If yes, please provide identifying information: [text response]*

53. *Is there anything else you would like us to know about your evaluation efforts? Please respond in five sentences or less [text response]*

54. *In your opinion, what have been the keys to your program's success? Have there been any major roadblocks? [text response]*

