The Challenge

- Approximately 1 in 20 adult Oklahomans have a serious mental illness. (NSDUH)
- Approximately 1 in 5 adult Oklahomans have experienced mental health symptoms during the past year. (NSDUH 2017-2018)

“Deinstitutionalization” of the mentally ill combined with lacking community supports lead mental health clients to:

- Self medicate with alcohol or illegal drug use
- Become homeless
- Decompensate
- All of these issues increase the chance of involvement with law enforcement.

The Solution

Crisis Intervention Teams (CIT) are a police-based first-responder program for those in mental health crisis. The program provides a 40-hour interactive law enforcement based training for aiding individuals in a mental health crisis. In addition to learning about symptoms, medications, side effects and other issues, officers are involved in role play scenarios to aid in understanding the consumer and family side of these interactions.

1,198 CIT officers trained statewide (Within the Past 10 Years)

- 972 Police & Sheriff’s Officers
- 42 Medical Complex Officers
- 77 University Campus Police
- 107 Other Officials

NSDUH (2017-2018)