



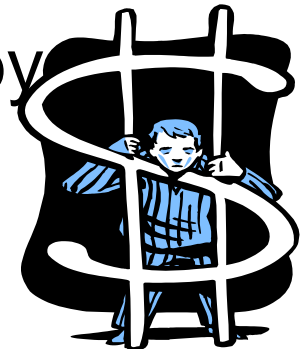
# Children's Crisis Intervention Training

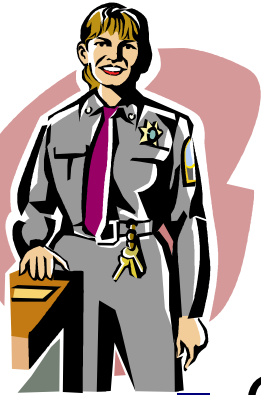
*Bexar County Judges'  
Children's Diversion  
Initiative*

# *Formation of the Children's Diversion Initiative*



- Judge Nelson Wolff & former Mayor Hardberger convened community leaders to form Children's Diversion Initiative
- Modeled after very successful Adult Jail Diversion
- Judges Specia & Mireles provided initial leadership to focus the community stakeholders
- Both judges remain involved, pulling together schools, service providers, CPS and Juvenile Probation
- 70 % of youth referred to JP are brought by school police





# *Children's Crisis Intervention Training Oversight and Planning*

- Community partners involved in the Diversion Initiative begin planning to develop training for school based police officers
- Planning partners include mental health treatment providers, school districts, school district police departments, mental health advocacy organizations, hospitals, adult CIT liaison, local law enforcement , BCJP/D
- Colorado Children in Crisis model observed
- Partner with Alamo Area Council of Governments for TECLOESE cont. ed. credit

# *CCIT Pilot - 40 hour Free Training*

## *2/3 didactic - 1/3 reality based*

- Officer tactics and safety in school campus environment
- Active listening and de-escalation techniques
- Mental, learning, developmental disorders and substance abuse in children and youth
- Psychotropic medications
- Family perspective and Community resources
- Legal issues relating to school environment and minors, emergency detention
- Role play scenarios – active listening, de-escalation techniques specific to students experiencing a crisis specific to various diagnosis including suicide



# *CCIT Community Partner Support*

- Mental health professionals, school district officers and staff, local law enforcement, BCJP, advocacy and community members volunteer to present and provide role play experience
- Oversight meetings and activities, training development and coordination, breakfast and lunch during training, all materials and training site sponsored/underwritten by local MH providers and community partners



# Role Play Scenarios

- Students or young adults volunteer provide the crisis scenario
- Students are, thus far, the children of some of our CMH presenters and an ISD partner - high school criminal justice explorer post.
- Training is provided by CMH professionals and our officer partners
- Parental permission is obtained
- Care is taken to screen out student volunteers who may have a mental health diagnosis or recent trauma
- Young adults enact the suicide role play
- CMH professional volunteers monitor psychological safety of the students who can opt out at any time
- Officer Mentors and CMH professionals assist the students during the role play to increase or decrease the intensity as needed to enhance the trainees experience
- Have more role players than needed just in case



# Other officer training highlights

- Officer trainees are graded on:
  - Completion of Emergency Detention paperwork
  - Role play – use of active listening, de-escalation techniques and MORE PIE
  - Written test which conforms to TECLEOSE standards.
  - If trainees do not pass any section, they are mentored and retest



# MORE PIE

- Minimal Encouragers
- Open Ended Questions
- Reflective Mirroring
- Emotional Labeling
- Paraphrasing
- “I” messages
- Effective Pauses



# CCIT for other School Staff

- Tailored training to administrators, vice principals
- First time went well
- Mixed audience was a bit difficult
- Surprisingly most said they would like a longer, more in-depth training



# Materials/items used in CCIT

- Training binder with all power points and handouts
- Resource materials from partners and community providers
- Evaluations, Written Tests, Role play grade sheets, blank ED forms
- COP CARDS
- Food is provided – breakfast, lunch and snacks
- “Goodie bags” – freebies from providers
- Perks - Coffee Bar

# Challenges of CCIT Collaboration

- School police and city/county local law enforcement culture
- Herding 40 or so volunteers from many different agencies
- Scheduling – school officers can attend mainly in the summer , Christmas holidays and spring break – when many presenters and other volunteers are vacationing
- Presenters and volunteers sometimes cancel at the last minute
- Unique environment/space needed – a church or school is ideal – role play



# Strengthens of CCIT

- Community investment just makes sense and is valued by all
- Community based means relationships are built
- Trainees become the next CCIT volunteers
- Can develop into a roundtable for problem solving crisis/safety net and service coordination
- Retreat Feel

# *CCIT in the Future*

- Seek funding and expand partnerships to supplement community in-kind resources
- Increase number of trainings offered per year
- Tailor training to other school based responders – school counselors, nurses, teachers
- Expand training to local law enforcement, college campus officers
- Create Toolkit/DVD
- Campaign for CCIT for MHPO Certification
- Data Collection Research





# Children's Crisis Intervention Training

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