



Why C.I.T.?

The ADM Board's Perspective

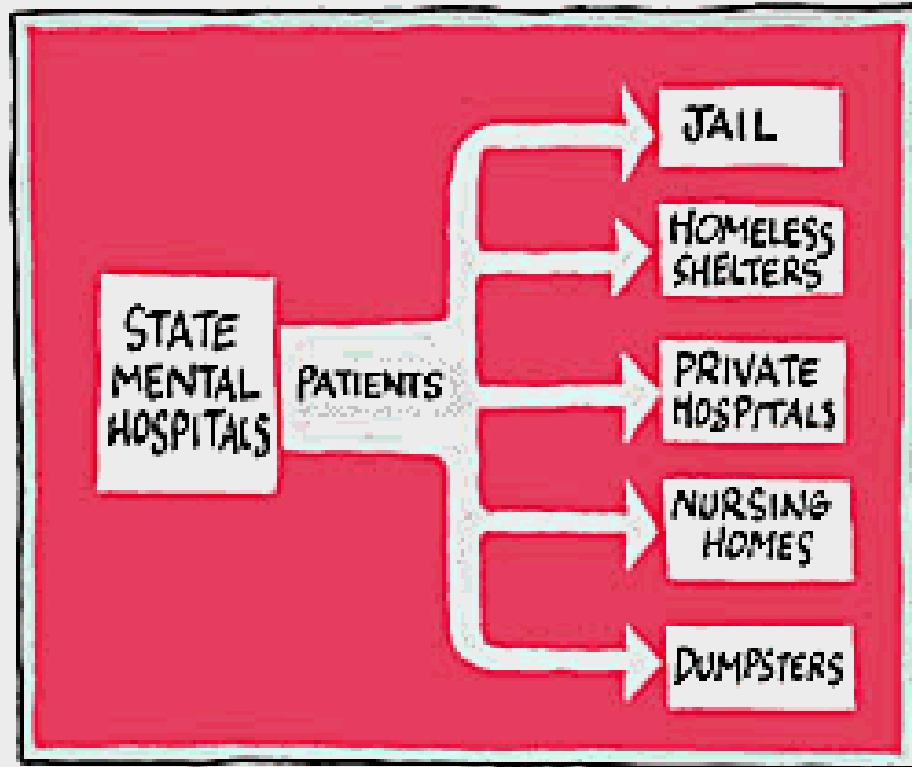
Why C.I.T. ?

- Not because -
 - Problems with Akron/Summit County police officers and the seriously mentally ill
 - ADM wants to turn police departments into mental health agencies and turn officers into social workers
 - ADM is soft on crime and wants to excuse people for criminal behavior



Why C.I.T.?

WE HAVE A
PLAN THAT WILL
SAVE EVEN
MORE MONEY!



Why C.I.T.?

Criminalization of the Mentally Ill

- 1996 national estimates (BJS, July 1999)
 - 283,800 mentally ill offenders incarcerated in jails and prisons
 - 16% state prison inmates
 - 7% Federal prison inmates
 - 16% local jail inmates
 - County jails have become the largest institutions for the mentally ill in U.S.
 - 3300 seriously mentally ill people in L.A. C.J.

Why C.I.T.?

Criminalization of the Mentally Ill

- In Ohio prisons (ODRC March 2000 stats)
 - 6393 mentally ill inmates
 - 3051 severely mentally disabled
- In Ohio psychiatric hospitals
 - 1050 individuals
 - about 50% are “forensic patients”
 - NGRI
 - IST

Why C.I.T.?

- Summit County, like all of U.S., has a problem with criminalization of the seriously mentally ill
 - in one study 1 in 12 of individuals with an SMD in Summit County had at least one incarceration in the SCJ in a one year period
 - most were also substance abusers
 - half appeared to be candidates for diversion

Why C.I.T.?

- Encounters between people with mental illness and police officers can result in harm to the ill person and the police officer
- The Memphis CIT program was a direct result of a police shooting of a person with a serious mental disorder

Tragedies across the country

The Treatment Advocacy Center has identified 87 incidents in which a mentally ill person was killed by law enforcement

Example:

Ohio - February 23, 1998

Patient killed by law enforcement officer

Summary: Police shot and killed Lorenzo Collins, a mentally disturbed theft suspect with many prior arrests and convictions, when he failed to drop a brick when ordered to do so.

Source of Information

The Cincinnati Enquirer, December 2, 1997

Tragedies across the country

The Treatment Advocacy Center has identified 52 incidents in which a law enforcement officer was injured by a mentally ill person.

Example: District of Columbia - October 26, 1994

Police officers shot and critically wounded Sara Jones, 53, after she stabbed Officer Wendel R. Palmer, 26, in the face with a butcher knife. The police had been called to Jones's apartment after she had allegedly failed to open her door for staff members of Washington, D.C.'s, Community Mental Health Center. Jones was to be committed for treatment to the Center.

Why C.I.T.?

- Summit County wants to be pro-active in approaching the problem of the “criminalization” of people with serious mental illness

Why C.I.T.?

- The ADM system is looking at a multi-level approach to reduce criminalization of the seriously mentally ill
 - Best clinical practices
 - C.I.T.
 - Post-arrest diversion programs including Summit Link and Mental Health Court

Why C.I.T.?

- ADM System want police officers to be as well prepared as possible to deal with the large number of individuals they encounter every day.
 - 1 in 10 calls involve mentally disturbed individuals.

Why C.I.T.?

- Because it is the right thing to do
 - It is to the mutual benefit of the local law enforcement departments, the A.D.M. System and the community we both serve

The Akron CIT program works

First 52 months in Akron

- 2103 encounters between APD and individuals believed to have a mental illness
 - 758 (36%) referred to PES
 - 656 (31%) referred to General Hospital ED
 - 130 (6.2%) referred to Children's Hospital
 - 320 (15.2%) advised only/referred to outpatient
 - 127 arrested (6%)

Goals for C.I.T.

- Increase officer, patient and overall community safety
 - Better prepare officers to handle crises involving persons with mental illness
 - Make mental health system more understandable to the police
 - Make mental health system maximally responsive to law enforcement

Goals for C.I.T.

- Appropriately refer individuals in need to the mental health treatment system
- Improve access to the public mental health system to people in need
- Reduce the incarceration rate of mentally ill people in need of treatment

Goals for this week

- Learn a lot
- Develop some relationships
 - Get to know key players in the mental health system
 - Get a feel for walking in each other's shoes
- Have a great time