

Mobile Crisis Services

Quick Guide

Mobile Crisis Services (otherwise known as CIT) is a 24/7 program that serves all residents in Washington County, MD who are experiencing a behavioral health crisis. We provide a range of services/interventions in the following areas:

- Crisis response, intervention and assessment (suicide/homicide risk assessment)
- Stabilization of the immediate crisis/in person de-escalation
- Safety and crisis prevention planning with the client or family/friends
- Psychoeducation
- Connection to resources or services/collaborating with existing ones
- Reducing frequent utilization of 911 system for behavioral health crisis by improving outcomes of individual crisis calls
- Grief counseling/connection to supports follow a traumatic incident
- Phone/case consultation for first responders

We are a broad crisis response resource that is not solely for obvious suicidal ideation/overdose/behavioral health calls. You can use Mobile Crisis Services for all of those “gray areas” or hard to handle calls involving things like poverty, homelessness, adult and juvenile mental health, behavioral issues, addictions, domestic violence, trauma, grief support etc.

Program goals include *decreasing the use of emergency services* (EMS/first responders) and emergency departments for behavioral health crises, decreasing police use of force when responding to crises, and providing individuals and families with tools and resources to address their needs and manage crises.

Team Composition and Certifications

Mobile Crisis Clinicians: Master’s level social workers or counselors with a minimum licensure of either LMSW or LGPC. If the responding clinician has their LCSW-C or LCPC, they are able to complete an Emergency Petition. If they do not have that level of licensure, clinicians collaborate with Law Enforcement to assist in completion of EP.

Mobile Crisis Specialist: Bachelor’s level staff who have extensive training and experience with mental health, crisis work, substance use, first responder system, and special populations such as children and adolescent.

All staff receive training and certification on crisis service modalities such as Mobile Response and Stabilization, Life Space Crisis Intervention, Crisis Assessment Tool, Access to Lethal Means and Suicide Safety Risk Screening. All staff are CPR and First Aid certified and equipped to use Naloxone.

What we can’t do:

Remove children from the home, transport clients, provide immediate monetary/food/housing assistance, long term therapy/case management, assess clients when they are enroute to and/or at the hospital, and diagnose mental health conditions or prescribe medications.