

Ventura County Law Enforcement
Crisis Intervention Team



Program Administrator Mark Stadler

Program Assistant Scott Walker



VENTURA COUNTY
BEHAVIORAL HEALTH



NAMI
National Alliance on Mental Illness

Ventura
County



Hillmont Psychiatric Center



Ventura County Law Enforcement's Crisis Intervention Team

Ventura County CIT

- **Agencies that financially support the program**
 - Sheriff's Office (contract cities & unincorporated)
 - Ventura PD
 - Oxnard PD
 - Port Hueneme PD
 - Santa Paula PD
 - Simi Valley PD
 - **Ventura County Behavioral Health**

- **Agencies that are partners**
 - **NAMI**
 - CSUCI PD, Community Colleges
 - Fire, AMR
 - Naval Base Ventura County
 - CHP, State Parks, Lake Casitas
 - District Attorney Investigators
 - FBI



History of CIT

- Memphis, 1988
 - Officer Involved Shooting
- Ventura County, before 2001
 - Factors Unique to our Community
 - Closure of State Hospital
 - Good weather
 - Services
 - Officer Involved Shootings
 - Lawsuits
 - PTSD



Mission Statement

The mission of the VC CIT program is to ***develop partnerships*** with mental health consumers and their family members, and other agencies and organizations.

CIT officers will respond to individuals who are in crisis as a result of a mental health disorder and shall ***assess and assist*** those individuals in the ***most effective and compassionate manner*** possible.



Policy Statement

It is the policy of Ventura County law enforcement agencies to utilize CIT officers in calls-for-service involving known or suspected mentally ill individuals when the officer(s) are available, and circumstances are appropriate.



Law Enforcement

- De-escalate crisis situations.
- Reduce the necessity for use-of-force.
- Reduce the use of jail.
- Decrease recidivism.
- Facilitate the empowerment of mentally ill individuals by increasing their lawful self-reliance and health-enhancing behaviors.

Calls for Service

- Who is the best person to respond in a mental health crisis?
 - **Firefighter?**
 - **Paramedic?**
 - **Mental Health worker (therapist, doctor, etc.)?**
 - **Police Officer?**
- The reality is that the Police Officer is available 24/7, arrives on scene first, and can handle someone who is aggressively out of control.

Why Train Law Enforcement?

- 1. It's the right thing to do**
- 2. First responders can assess and stabilize**
- 3. De-mystify mental illness and reduce anxiety**
- 4. Teach them to connect people to resources**
- 5. Limited Crisis Team availability**

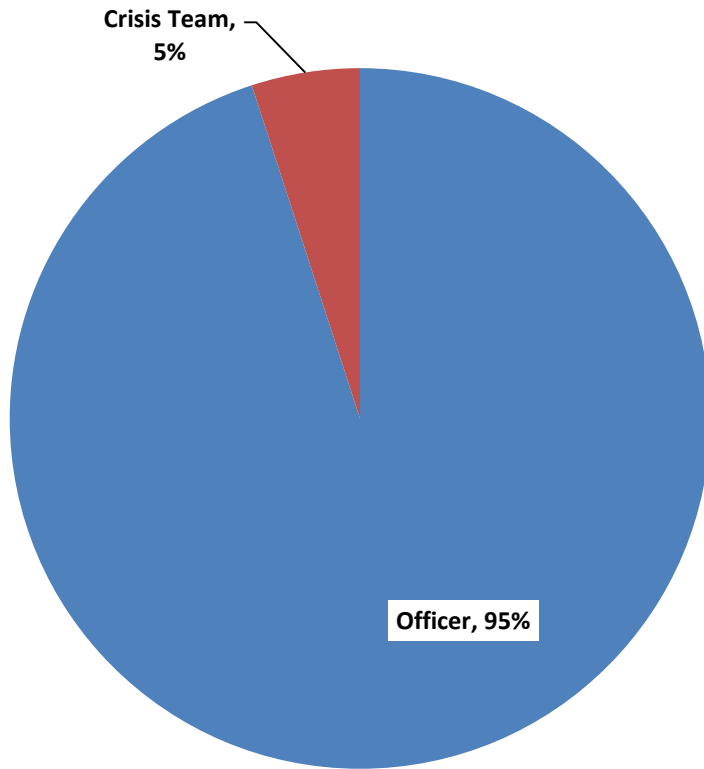


Statistics

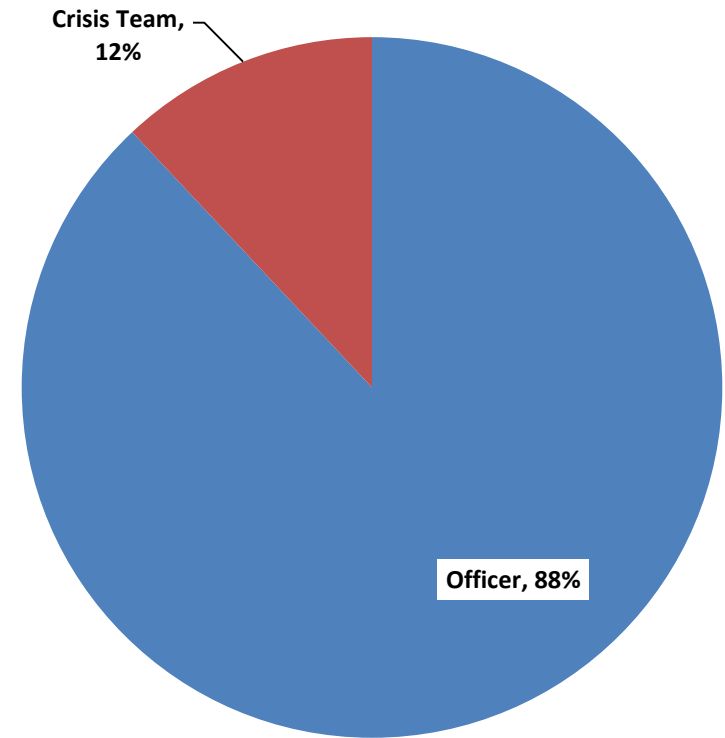


Mental Health Crisis 911 Calls

YEAR ONE



YEAR TWO

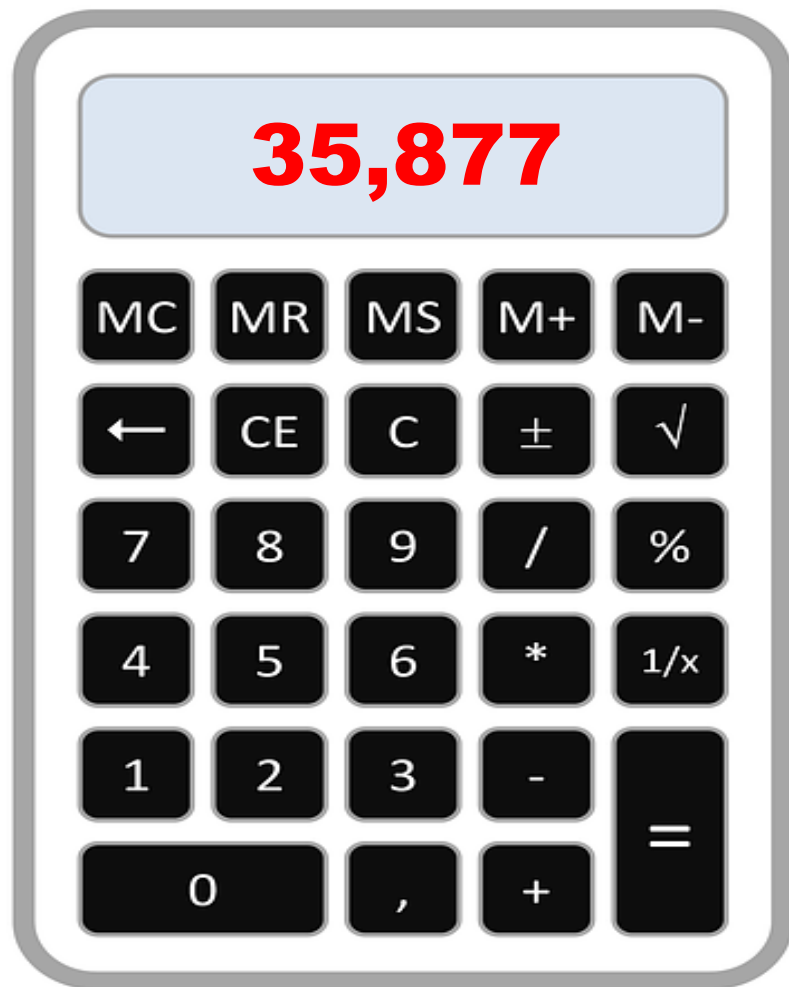


How prevalent is mental illness in our county?

NIMH estimates that **4.2%** of the American population has a **serious** mental illness.

Approx. **854,223** residents in 2017

NIMH estimates that nearly **1 in 5** Americans will suffer from some form of mental illness in their lifetime. = **170,845**



PRISONS AND JAILS



1 IN 5 PEOPLE HELD IN AMERICA'S PRISONS AND JAILS HAS A RECENT HISTORY OF MENTAL ILLNESS

7 IN 10 YOUTH IN THE JUVENILE JUSTICE SYSTEMS HAVE AT LEAST ONE MENTAL HEALTH DISORDER



Officer Involved Shootings

- “People with **untreated** mental illnesses are **16x** more likely to be killed during a police encounter.”
 - *Treatment Advocacy Center, Dec. 2015*
- More than **half** of the OIS fatalities occurred in agencies that didn't provide officers de-escalation training.
 - *Washington Post, Dec. 2015*

**Officers contact approximately
1500 Adults with mental health
issues in a year...**



and 350 Children

Every 24 hours in
Ventura County,
Law Enforcement
will...

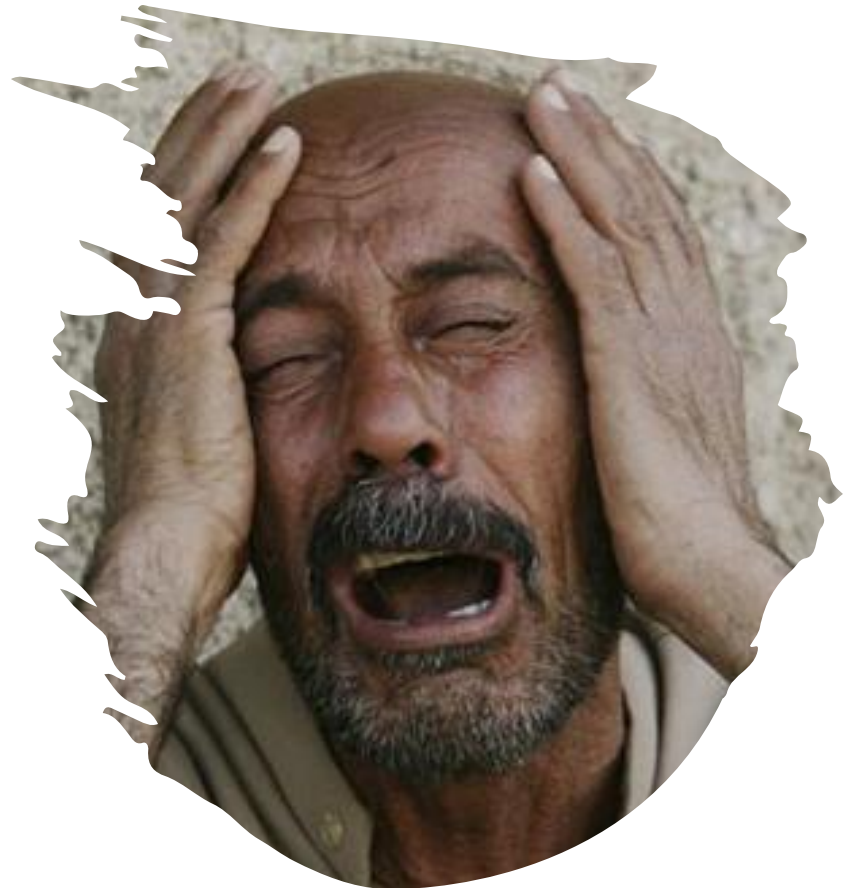
- Contact 4 Adults in a Mental Health Crisis
- Contact 1 Child in a Mental Health Crisis
- Take 3 of the above to a Hospital for psychiatric needs

A large, stylized clock face graphic is positioned on the right side of the page. The clock face is a thick black arc with a small black square at the top and bottom center, representing the 12 and 6 o'clock positions. In the center of the clock face, the number '24' is written in a very large, bold, black sans-serif font. The number '24' is the central focus of the graphic, indicating 24-hour service.

24

What are the most common crisis related behaviors?

- **Suicidal Talk (41%)**
- Severe, Depressed Mood, Crying
- Anxiety
- Bizarre Behavior
- Agitation & Pacing
- Absurd & Illogical Thinking/Speech

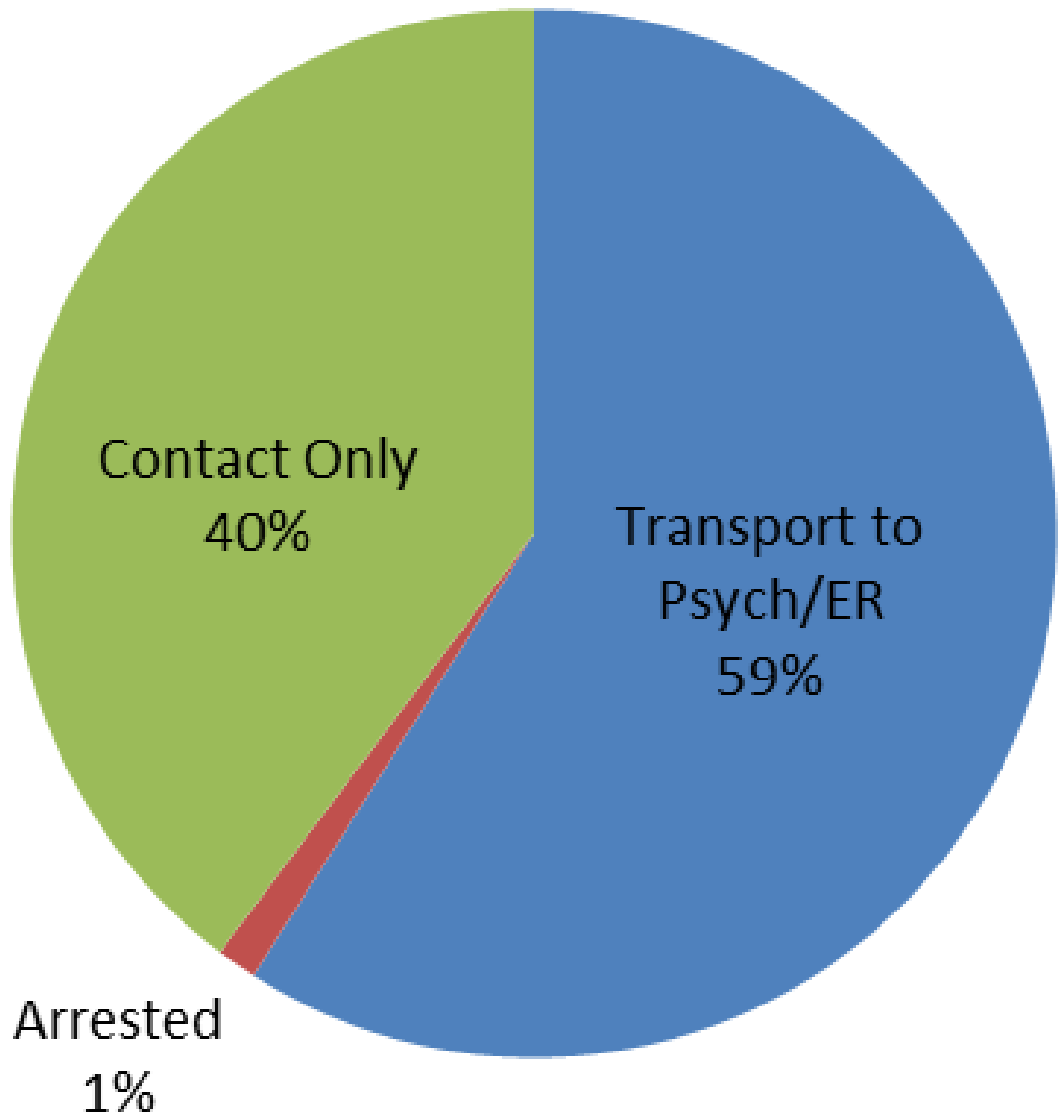


Tell us more about the person in crisis

- 15% are Homeless
- 10% of people in crisis have a weapon
 - Majority are Sharp/Edged Weapons
 - (knife, razor, scissors)



What
happens after
an officer
contacts
someone with
mental
illness?



What Qualifies for a 5150 / 5585 ?

- Danger to Self
- Danger to Others
- Gravely Disabled
 - Food, Shelter, Clothing due to a mental illness
- Is it really 72 hours?
 - Application
 - Re-evaluation by MH professional
 - Voluntary conversion
- Transportation to ER***





When does an officer consider making an arrest of someone that has mental illness?

- Does the officer know the mental health history?
- Infraction, Misdemeanor, Felony
- Serious crimes (e.g. assault) that result in injuries
- Victim's desire for prosecution
- Use of a weapon
- Likelihood that behavior will repeat in the immediate future if released
- Availability of mental health services

Officers' Actions

- **88%** of the contacts result in verbalization only versus use-of-force
 - CIT Officers are less likely to use force, and...
 - **Approx. 3x more likely** to have “contact only”
 - **Approx. 2x less likely** to use jail





CIT Academy Stats

- CIT Academies are 40-hour classes
- Held 2-3 times a year
- 50 students maximum per class
- 54 CIT Academies since 2001
- 1900+ trained since 2001
- >90% of Patrol Officers
- 50% of Custody Personnel
- 76% of ALL Officers
- 67% of Dispatchers
- Class 55 May 24th-29th 2021 (17 from Custody Facilities)

Up to 75 Instructors/Volunteers Needed Per Class

Crisis Intervention Team (CIT) Academy #55: May 24th-28th, 2021

(Schedule as of 5/18/2021)

Location: Sheriff Training Center (106 Durley Ave., Camarillo 93010) - Classroom #2

	MONDAY 5/24	TUESDAY 5/25	WEDNESDAY 5/26	THURSDAY 5/27	FRIDAY 5/28
LE O/D	VCSO Sgt. Daniel Gonzales	Cmdr. Varner / NBVC Sgt. Garcia	VCSO Sgt. Pat Ruby	<i>vacant</i>	
MH O/D	Rebecca Carpenter	Rebecca Carpenter	Rebecca Carpenter	Rebecca Carpenter	
8 : 0 0	8:00 - 8:30 Introduction VCSO Sheriff Bill Ayub	8:00 - 9:00 Military & Veterans Chrystal Crawford 146th Airlift Wing	8:00 - 10:00 Psychosis, Mood, and Personality Disorders CIT Prog. Asst. Scott Walker	8:00 - 8:15 Prior Day Debrief	8:00 - 12:00 Scenario Testing
9 : 0 0	8:30 - 9:15 Course Overview CIT Prog. Admin. Mark Stadler CIT Prog. Asst. Scott Walker	9:00 - 10:00 Officer Involved Incident SPPD Cmdr. Scott Varner	or De-Escalation #3 FOS Scenarios/Group Work BRING BELTS	8:15 - 8:45 Group Projects Student Presentations	
	9:15-9:45 Bias & Discrimination Regan Mew			8:45 - 9:45 Suicide Intervention Rebecca Carpenter Kaj Swanson	
10 : 0 0	9:45 - 11:15 NAMI / Consumer National Alliance on Mental Illness In Our Own Voice (IOOV) Cultural Component Kimberly Quinn-Colvin @ 9:45 Patricia "Patti" Pape @ 10:45	10:00 - 10:45 Officer Wellness Shane Norwood	10:00 - 12:00 Psychosis, Mood, and Personality Disorders CIT Prog. Asst. Scott Walker	10:00 - 10:30 Group Activity 5150 Tabletop Scenarios / Videos	
11 : 0 0	11:15 - 11:45 Group Activity	10:45 - 11:45 Post Traumatic Stress Ret. OPD Sgt. Jeff McGreevy	or De-Escalation #3 FOS Scenarios/Group Work BRING BELTS	10:30 - 11:30 De-Escalation #4 VPD Det. Alyse Quiroz VPD Det. Stephanie Avila	
	11:45 - 12:00 Morning Debrief	11:45 - 12:00 Morning Debrief		11:30-11:45 Vista Del Mar Hosp.	11:45 - 12:00 Morning Debrief
LE O/D	12 - 1 LUNCH on your own	12 - 1 LUNCH on your own	12 - 1 LUNCH on your own	12 - 1 LUNCH on your own	12 - 1 LUNCH on your own
MH O/D	<i>vacant</i>	OPD Ofc. David Castillo	VCSO Sgt. Greg Cadman	SVPD Sgt. Frank Panza	VCSO Sgt. Pat Ruby
1 : 0 0	Rebecca Carpenter	Rebecca Carpenter	Rebecca Carpenter	Rebecca Carpenter	Rebecca Carpenter
2 : 0 0	1:00 - 1:45 VCBH Services STAR & Crisis Team: Dr. Boscarelli RISE & Assist: Felicia Skaggs	1:00 - 1:15 Group Activity	1:00 - 1:15 Scenario Debrief	1:00 - 2:00 Officer Panel VCSO Sgt. Jason Cantrall VCSO Sr. Dep. Virginia Tinoco	1:00 - 1:15 Scenario Debrief
	1:45 - 3:15 Traumatic Brain Injuries (TBI) Mike and Bill Yarnall, and VCSO Dep. Nick Gildroy, and Lisa Morris observing	1:15 - 2:15 Neurocognitive Disorders Dementia, Alzheimers, etc. Dr. Erik Lande	1:15 - 3:00 Developmental Disabilities Tri-Counties Regional Ctr. overview Dr. Steven Graff Guest Speakers @ 2:30 Bill & Lee Burke, and Carly Fulgham	2:00 - 2:30 LE & Homelessness VCSO Dep. Josh Richter	1:15 - 2:15 Weapon Prohibition Emily Gardner, County Counsel and VCSO Sgt. Chris Zapata
3 : 0 0	3:15 - 3:30 BI Center (Chrissy)	2:15 - 2:45 Adult Protective Svcs APS Worker Joanne Giacopuzzi	3:00 - 5:00 5150 W&I Basics Tina Coates	2:30 - 3:30 Psych Meds and Substance Abuse Dr. Joseph Vlaskovits	2:15-2:30 Firearm Tidbits (Walker)
4 : 0 0	3:30 - 4:45 De-Escalation #1 CIT Prog. Admin. Mark Stadler	2:45 - 3:45 Youth Mental Health Dr. Kathleen Van Antwerp and Senta Green VCBH Y&F observing		3:30 - 4:30 Suicide-By-Cop CIT Prog. Admin. Mark Stadler	2:30 - 2:45 Children's CSU 2:45 - 3:00 TAY Tunnel (Anthony) 3:00 - 3:15 LGBTQ+ (Michelle) 3:15 - 3:30 CONREP (Walker)
	4:45 - 5:00 Afternoon Debrief	3:45 - 4:45 De-Escalation #2 OPD Sr. Ofc. Mike Wood		4:30 - 4:45 Scenario Prep	3:30 - 3:45 Afternoon Debrief
		4:45 - 5:00 Afternoon Debrief		4:45 - 5:00 Afternoon Debrief	3:45 - 5:00 Conclusion Written Test Evaluations Graduation

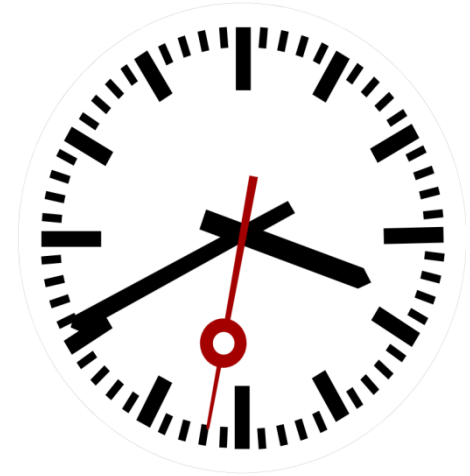
De-escalation Defined

(CA-POST 2019)

De-escalation is the process of using strategies and techniques intended to decrease the intensity of a situation.

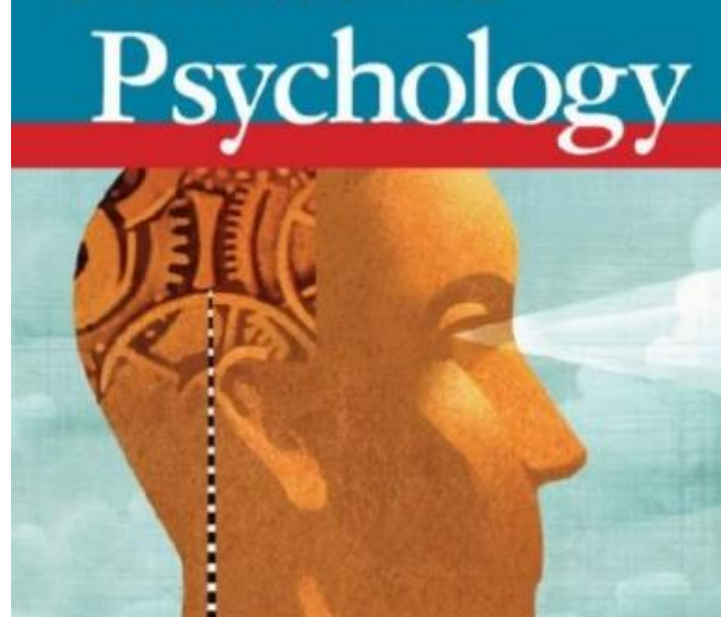
Crisis Intervention Techniques

- Time and Space
- Human Behavior
 - Maslow's Theory
 - Fight, Flight, Freeze or Appease
- Active listening techniques
- Reduce excessive stimuli
- Reach for small concrete goals
 - Use win-win strategies



Other Training

- Basic Academy Training
 - MIDD
 - Use of Force/De-escalation
 - OIS
- 8-hour CIT Update/Refresher
- 4-hour Autism Training
- Briefing training



What is Tactical Disengagement?

Disengagement is the tactical decision to;

- Leave
- Delay Contact
- Delay Custody
- Plan for Re-engagement at a Future Time

This tactic should be considered when an officer reasonably believes continued contact may result in an unreasonable risk to the person in crisis, the public and/or members of this agency.

“So if I know someone is experiencing a mental health crisis...what should I do?”

Looking for help:

211 and 1-866-998-2243

- Suicidal thoughts BUT no suicidal plan:

1-877-727-4747 or 1-800-273-8255 (best for Vets)

•Suicidal thoughts & plan, BUT not imminent:

1-866-998-2243

•Imminent plans to hurt themselves:

911, ask for a CIT Trained Officer

Ventura County CIT Program

For general questions
about the program call:

(805) 383-4806

VenturaCo.CIT@ventura.org

