

PARTNERING WITH POLICE: JUNE 30, 2020

Dr. Nicholas Goeders, Executive Director

Mental Health and Crisis Intervention Team Training for Law Enforcement

The LARC supports our Police force. Recent events demand change in police response and community unity to collectively reduce tragedy and improve outcomes in people with mental illness. Thus, LARC aims to aid in police department mental health training by assisting with **Crisis Intervention Team Training (CIT)** programs. This effort hopes to reduce tragedy in this vulnerable population and build dialogue and opportunity for police departments to take direct action against mental illness and the disease of drug addiction increasingly prevalent in their communities.



People with Mental Illness and the Law

Approximately 1,000 people in the United States were fatally shot by police officers during 2018, and people with mental illness were involved in approximately 25 percent of those fatalities.¹

Police are often the first responders to PMI in acute distress; and, sometimes they are the only responders.²

- **4% of the general population lives with a severe mental illness³**

- **23% of jail inmates have psychotic symptoms⁴**
- **More than 14% of men in jail have a severe mental illness⁵**

Despite limited data, best estimates show that 3%–10% of all police calls involve people living with mental illness.⁶

Percentage of Officer Shootings That Involve People Living With Mental Illness⁷:

- 58% in San Francisco
- 54% in Albuquerque
- 46% in Portland

Law Enforcement and LARC Partnership

The need for collaboration between Psychiatry and Law Enforcement is stronger than ever. Partnerships between law enforcement and psychiatry can augment the efforts of psychologists and other clinicians who are more prevalent within law enforcement.

- One in five American adults, and one in five children ages 13 to 18, has (or will have) a mental illness.⁸
- **People with untreated mental illness are sixteen times more likely to be killed by law enforcement.⁹**

Crisis Intervention Team Training (CIT)

- CIT in an effort to decriminalize people with mental illness.
- Partnership between Law Enforcement and LARC resulting in fewer incidences of tragedy.

NEEDED NOW

- Continued discussion
- Increase collaboration between LARC, psychiatrists and law enforcement
- Develop and implement CIT training
- Increase availability of mental health resources

Direct all questions, comments and other response to Dr. Nicholas Goeders, Head of Pharmacology, Toxicology & Neuroscience (LSU Health Shreveport) and Executive Director Louisiana Addiction Research Center: NGoede@lsuhsc.edu or 318-675-7850

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