

Annual Report 2012

Multi-faceted strategies for responding to the mentally ill

The seal of the Houston Police Department is a circular emblem. It features a central eagle with spread wings, perched on a shield that contains a five-pointed star. The words "HOUSTON POLICE" are written in a blue arc at the top, and "DEPARTMENT" is written in a blue arc at the bottom. The phrase "ORDER THROUGH LAW" is inscribed in a smaller arc above the eagle, and "JUSTICE WITH MERCY" is inscribed in a smaller arc below the eagle. Two gold stars are positioned on either side of the eagle's head.

planning strategically
acting decisively

MHU
Mental Health Unit

"Success Through Collaboration"



Dr. "Red" Duke



NAMI CIT Officer of the
Quarter Program



CIRT



Learning Site Program



Frees and Simmons Foundations



Chronic Consumer Program



Harris County CIRT Officers



Asian Conference Presentation



HPD/MHMRA Supervision



KPRC's Bill Balleza



CIRT Clinicians



Alzheimer's Training

Jail Diversion Homeless Outreach Alzheimer's Initiative PTSD Training

State/National Model Chronic Consumer Program Crisis Intervention

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Mental Health Unit

Annual Report 2012

Acknowledgements

Cover Design

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Chief's message



Charles A. McClelland, Jr.
Chief of Police

“I am very pleased with the continued growth and development of the Mental Health Unit. The unit’s multi-faceted programs to respond to the mentally ill and homeless continue to evolve to meet the ever-increasing challenges associated with this specialized, unique and demanding area of policing.

The unit’s training programs have received national recognition. Scenario-based training material developed by the unit is being used to train law enforcement personnel across the region and country.

The unit exemplifies the effort and dedication required to be successful and the customer service we must provide to the citizens of our community in order to become the premier law enforcement agency in the nation.”



Executive Assistant Chief's message

“The innovation and success of the programs of the Mental Health Unit exemplify what can be achieved when we reach out to the community to collaboratively identify and address a problem. It is only through this type of collaboration that we can operate optimally as a police department and provide the level of customer service our citizens deserve.”



Timothy N. Oettmeier
Executive Assistant Chief of Police
Support Operations

Manager's message



"We completed our most productive year and are poised for increased productivity in 2013." **Lieutenant Mike Lee**

75%

increase in CCSI caseload

239

agencies requesting PTSD video

\$52,000

donation for new HOT van

Dear Stakeholder,

2012 was a very busy and productive year. The following is a summary of the major accomplishments of the Mental Health Unit.

Expansion of Chronic Consumer Stabilization Initiative (CCSI). During 2012, Houston City Council voted to double the funding of this very successful program, bringing the total number of MHMRA case managers to four. Additionally, the Simmons and Frees Foundations donated funding to provide an additional full-time case manager assistant. CCSI is now able to provide intensive case management from 40 to 70 individuals with severe mental illness who have a history of excessive interactions with Houston police officers.

Training on Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD).

The Mental Health Unit developed a curriculum on PTSD that was provided to all classified personnel on the department. The training focused on personnel in the department with PTSD and other mental illnesses. This was the first time in the department's history the subject of mental illness within the ranks was acknowledged and discussed openly and honestly. It was the first step in breaking the stigma of mental illness within HPD.

An important part of the training was the development of a compelling video featuring Houston officers talking about their PTSD and mental health professionals talking about the illness. The video was provided to 239 requesting agencies: law enforcement, fire,

mental health, colleges/universities, military. Several agencies stated they were going to implement similar programs for their personnel. The Mental Health Unit was selected to present on the program at the International Association of Chiefs of Police Conference.

State Legislation to Address the Confiscation of Firearms from Persons in Mental Health Crises. The Mental Health Unit worked with the department's Legal Division to draft legislation to provide for the confiscation of firearms from persons who have been detained for an emergency mental health evaluation and for the disposition of these confiscated weapons.

Homeless Outreach Team (HOT). The Homeless Outreach Team was assigned to the Mental Health Unit in January 2012. The program has made contact with over 2,500 homeless individuals and has secured housing for over 204.

HOT's goal is to reduce the number of homeless persons living on the streets of Houston while acting as an additional resource for patrol and investigative officers, outside agencies and neighborhoods/businesses dealing with complaints involving homeless issues.

The Frees and Simmons Foundations donated \$52,000 dollars for a handicapped equipped van for the team.

Council of State Governments Learning Site Program. The Mental Health Unit has continued to provide mental health training to law enforcement and mental health personnel across the region and nation through this program. Houston is one of six law enforcement agencies in the nation selected to serve as a learning site for specialized programs for responding to the mentally ill.

"Houston is one of six law enforcement agencies in the nation selected to serve as a learning site for specialized programs for responding to the mentally ill."

City Ordinance to Regulate Boarding Homes. Over a thousand times each year the Houston Police Department responds to calls-for-service at boarding homes housing individuals with mental illness. The vast majority of these facilities are not required to be licensed by the state and therefore are not subject to any type of oversight. Officers routinely report issues of suspected abuse and assaults while neighbors routinely call to report nuisance issues related to these facilities. The MHU has worked closely with mental health advocates, city legal, community members and city council to draft a ordinance to regulate these facilities. The legislation is expected to pass in early 2014.

Legislative Changes to the Texas Mental Health Code. It has been over 30 years since the Texas Mental Health Code has been revised. During these 30 years, law enforcement's role in dealing with persons in serious mental health crises has significantly increased and the current Code does not address this increased involvement of law enforcement. The MHU is

working closely with mental health advocates, other law enforcement agencies and legislators to address much-needed changes to the Code. We hope to make these changes in the 83rd Legislative Session during 2013.

Houston Center for Sobriety. Publicly intoxicated persons make up one-third of all Class C arrests in the Houston Police Department jail facilities. Beginning in early 2013, HPD officers will begin transporting publicly intoxicated individuals to the new Houston Center for Sobriety. The goal is to remove this population from our jails and redirect them to a facility that will address their behavior in a more constructive manner reducing the number of chronic alcoholics revolving through our jails. The MHU has had a leadership role in the development and opening of this center.



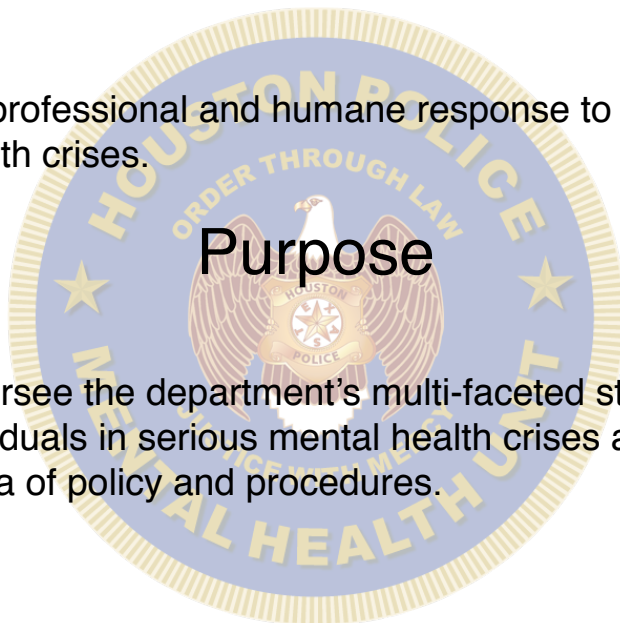
Mental Health Unit

Mission

To provide a more professional and humane response to individuals in serious mental health crises.

Purpose

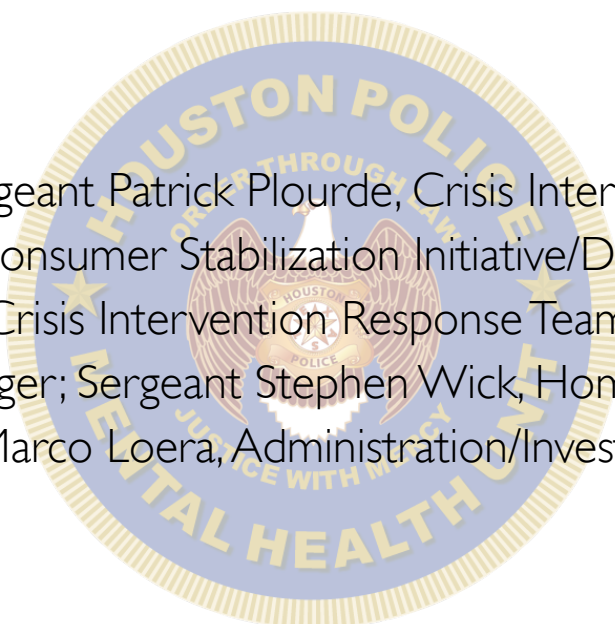
To develop and oversee the department's multi-faceted strategies for responding to individuals in serious mental health crises and to provide guidance in the area of policy and procedures.





Mental Health Unit Management

(left to right) Sergeant Patrick Plourde, Crisis Intervention Response Team/Chronic Consumer Stabilization Initiative/Database; Sergeant Joseph Ramirez, Crisis Intervention Response Team; Lieutenant Mike Lee, Unit Manager; Sergeant Stephen Wick, Homeless Outreach Team; Sergeant Marco Loera, Administration/Investigations/Firearms.



Personnel by Squad



Crisis Intervention Response Team



Administration/Investigations



Homeless Outreach Team



Training

Personnel by Specialized Collaborative Program



Crisis Intervention Response Team



Chronic Consumer Stabilization Initiative



International Association of Chiefs of Police Alzheimer's Training



Council of State Governments Learning Site

Section One
Crisis
Intervention
Training
Program

1

CIT Officer-of-the-Quarter



(left) Senior Officer Mark Stevens, of the Central Patrol Division, was named CIT Officer-of-the-Quarter for the first quarter of 2012. Mark was among the first group of officers trained for the CIT pilot program in 1999. Over the years, Officer Stevens has been one of the program's most active and dedicated CIT officers. He is currently serving as a CIRT officer.

(right) Senior Officer Carl Noon, of the Southwest Patrol Division, was named CIT Officer-of-the-Quarter for the second quarter of 2012. Carl started voluntarily working with Adult Protective Services and the Texas Elder Abuse Mistreatment program on issues regarding the elderly after hearing representatives from these agencies present during a CIT refresher class. Carl has served on committees, helped train staff and has trained area law enforcement officers on elder mistreatment at his own time and expense.



(left) Senior Officer Jaime Giraldo, of the Homeless Outreach Team (HOT), was named CIT Officer-of-the-Quarter for the third quarter of 2012. Officer Giraldo was the first officer selected to work in the department's inaugural homeless outreach program and was largely responsible for the program's success. Before being selected for HOT, Jaime would purchase food and drinks from his personal funds to hand out to the homeless with whom he came into contact. He truly cares about helping people and has a passion for his job.

(right) Sergeant Patrick Plourde, of the Mental Health Unit, was named CIT Officer-of-the-Quarter for the fourth quarter of 2012. Sergeant Plourde was the first sergeant to work in the Mental Health Unit and was instrumental in developing, implementing and making the Crisis Intervention Response Team the success it is today. Sergeant Plourde is also responsible for developing the unit's state-of-the-art database. Sergeant Plourde has been invaluable to the unit and its success.





CIT Officer-of-the-Year

Senior Officer Randy Crowder, of the Northeast Patrol Division, was named Houston Police Department's CIT Officer-of-the-Year during the department's Police Week Awards Ceremony on May 14, 2012.

Officer Crowder has been a CIT officer since 2000 and is one of the program's most committed and productive officers. Over the years, Officer Crowder has handled numerous CIT calls.

One example of Officer Crowder's commitment to the program and his compassion for individuals with mental illness and their families is that of a 15-year-old with schizoaffective disorder. This adolescent frequently goes into rages and has punched holes in the sheetrock of his house and has put his fist through a television set. His mother has had to call the Houston Police Department on several occasions due to her son's rages. Many officers have a difficult time talking the adolescent down. Officer Crowder has an ability to "connect" with the adolescent and is able to verbally de-escalate his anger. It has come to the point where the mother

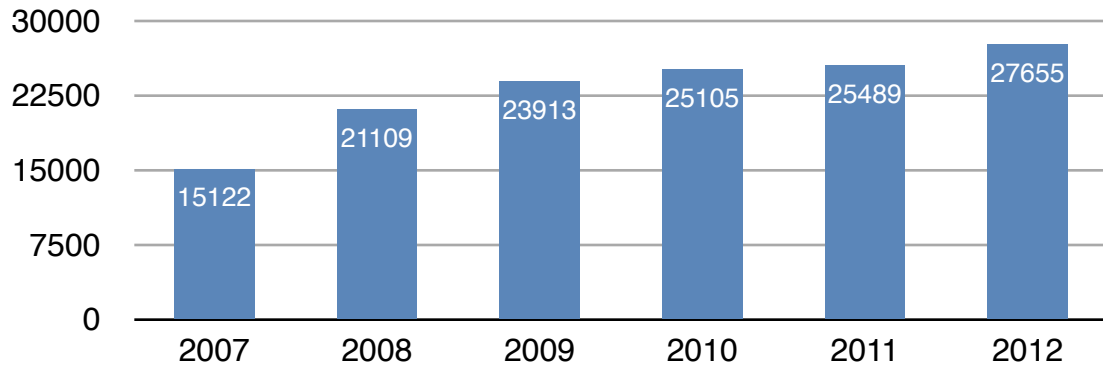
specifically asks for Officer Crowder when she calls for police intervention.

During conversations with the mother, Officer Crowder learned she had never been taught about mental illness and did not understand her son's condition. Officer Crowder introduced her to the National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI), a support, advocacy, and educational organization. The mother attended support groups and educational classes and now understands the devastating illness her son has and the reasons he goes into rages. The mother has gone from knowing nothing about mental illness to teaching for NAMI!

Officer Crowder also learned the counselors in the school the adolescent attends have a difficult time controlling him when he goes into a rage. Officer Crowder met with the counselors and then brought the mother and NAMI into the school to work together to develop strategies to help the counselors verbally de-escalate the adolescent when he goes into crisis. Much of this was done on Officer Crowder's personal time.

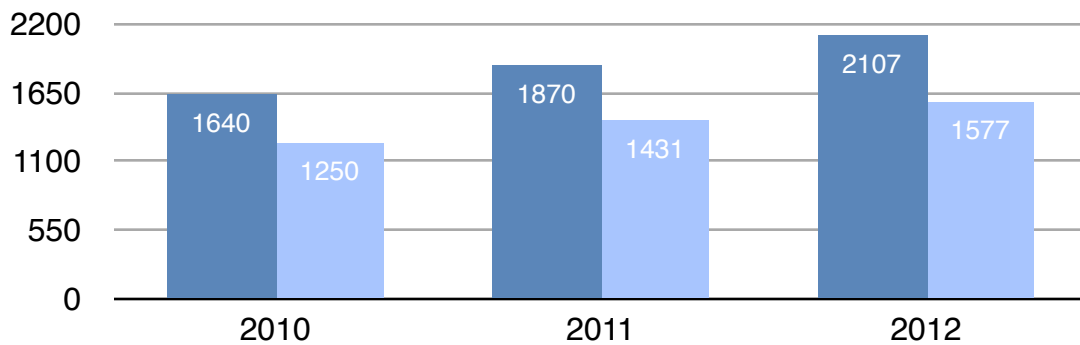
CIT Statistics

CIT Calls-for-Service

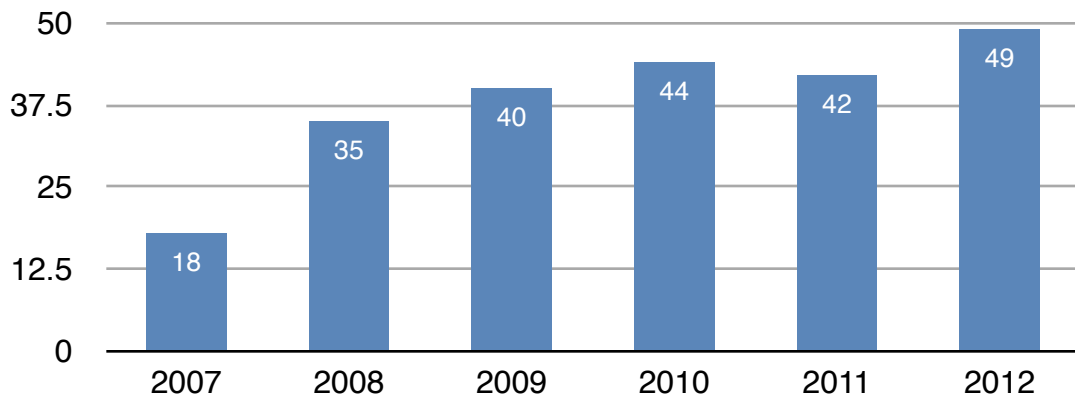


■ Total ■ Uniform Services

Number of CIT Officers



Percentage of CIT Calls With CIT Officer on Scene



Section Two
Crisis
Intervention
Response
Team

2



Officer Roman Conchola Receives Life Saving Award

On July 22, 2012, Officer Roman Conchola, of the Crisis Intervention Response Team, responded to a suicide-in-progress call. Upon arrival, Officer Conchola made contact with the complainant who was drinking beer and had a broken piece of glass in his hand pressed against his throat. Officer Conchola talked with the man keeping his preoccupied with the conversation rather than with the piece of glass in his hand.

Officer Conchola communicated with a second officer on the scene, Israel Hernandez, and decided that if the man put the piece of glass down, even for a second, the officers would deploy a Conducted Energy Device (CED), commonly known as a Taser, in an effort to immobilize the man before he could harm himself.

Officer Conchola continued talking with the man, for approximately 45 minutes, who eventually took the glass away from his throat long enough for Officer Conchola to discharge



Officer Roman Conchola (right) receives the Life Saving Award from Chief Charles A. McClelland, Jr.

his CED. The officers immediately moved in and placed the man in handcuffs to keep him from hurting himself.

Officer Conchola safely transported the man to Ben Taub Hospital for emergency psychiatric evaluation and treatment.



CIRT Unit Commended for Talking Man Out of Committing Suicide

Senior Officer Joe Osborne and his mental health clinician partner Don Wiley were commended for talking a person out of committing suicide. The suicidal person was a male on the ninth-floor roof of the Ben Taub Hospital parking garage, intending to jump off. When Officer Osborne and Clinician Wiley arrived, the male had one leg over the side railing and was screaming in Spanish.

Other police cars were responding to the scene and Officer Osborne advised them to turn their sirens and overhead lights off to reduce stimuli to help de-escalate the scene. Officer Osborne and Clinician Wiley coordinated other officers and Ben Taub personnel from approaching the jumper.

With the help of Houston Police Officer G. M. Lara, who speaks Spanish, Officers Lara and Osborne and Clinician Wiley successfully talked the man out of jumping. He was transported to the NeuroPsychiatric Center for emergency psychiatric evaluation.

Officer Osborne is a 20-year veteran of the Houston Police Department, is a veteran of the United States Air Force, and was named the Houston Police Department's CIT Officer of the Year in 2009. Officer Osborne has received numerous commendations during his career. He was one of the first CIRT officers and has been one of the unit's most productive.

Clinician Don Wiley has 36 years of experience as a mental health professional. He worked in the Texas Department of Criminal Justice (TDCJ) for 30 years as a supervisor. He was in charge of the sex offender program for TDCJ for five years and was in charge of their hospice program for ten years. He also served as a hostage negotiator. He is a Licensed Professional Counselor.



CIRT Clinicians Integral to the Success of the CIRT Program

The CIRT clinicians are an invaluable resource and a primary reason for the success of the CIRT program. The clinicians make CIRT a unique and highly effective program. In addition to their knowledge of mental illness and counseling experience, the clinicians have direct access to consumers in the MHMRA and Harris County Hospital District systems. This information is extremely helpful when responding to consumers in serious crises. The clinicians have information regarding diagnoses, mental health history, medications, hospitalizations, doctors, etc. This information is very beneficial when trying to deescalate the crisis and determine the appropriate course of action.

Houston is fortunate to have these highly educated and experienced mental health

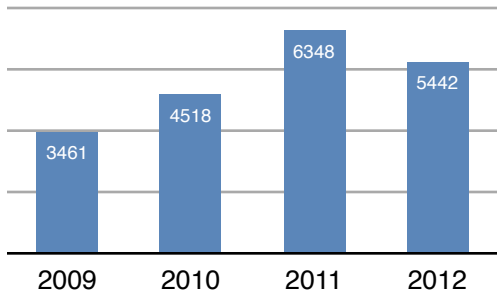
professionals. Each clinician is a masters-level licensed professional counselor with a wealth of experience.

Having a pool of ten clinicians has allowed the program to specialize. The units respond to all CIT calls, but each has a speciality when needed. One clinician/officer unit specializes in children and adolescents, one unit specializes in consumers experiencing psychosis, another unit specializes in consumers who are depressed and suicidal.

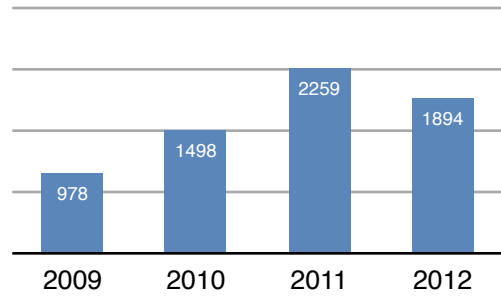
The program is a result of the important collaboration the Houston Police Department has formed with its mental health partners in Houston/Harris County, the foremost being the Mental Health Mental Retardation Authority (MHMRA).

CIRT Statistics

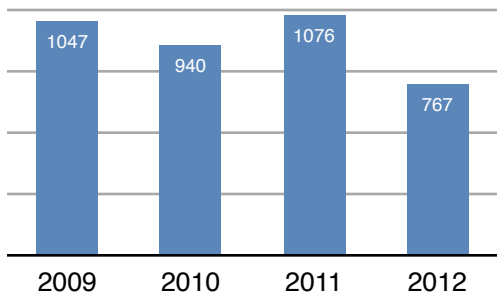
CIRT Calls-for-Service



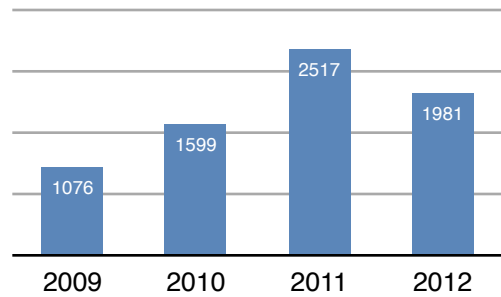
Emergency Detention Orders



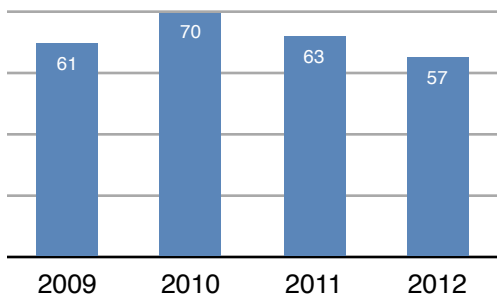
On View Investigations



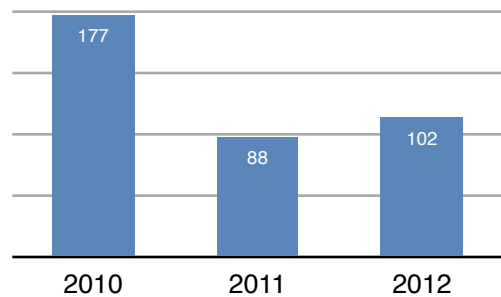
Offense Reports



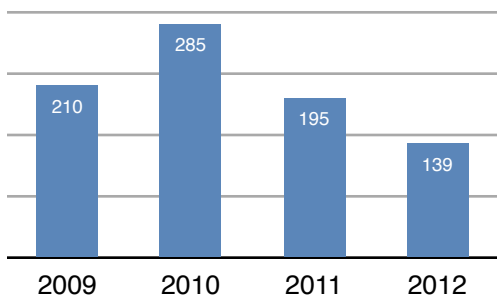
Arrests



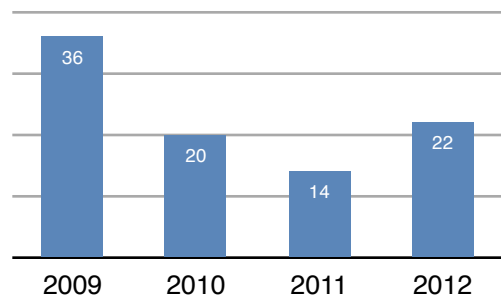
Jail Assessments



Referral Investigations

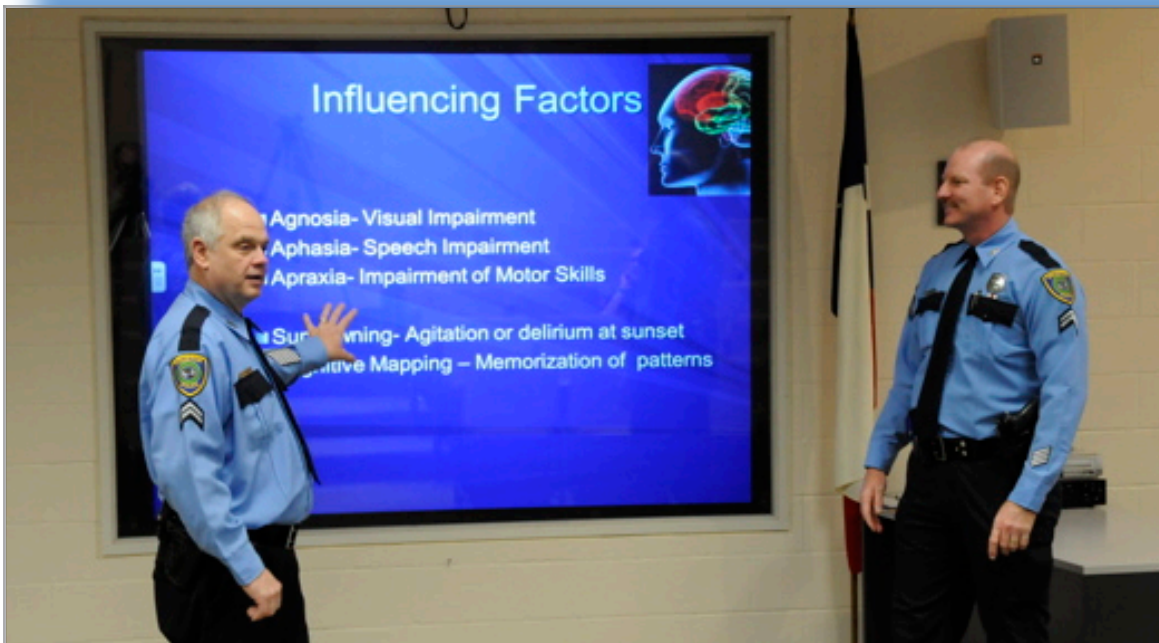


SWAT Scenes



Section Three
IACP
Alzheimer's
Initiative

3



IACP Alzheimer's Initiative

Senior Officer Doug Anders, of the Mental Health Unit, and Senior Officer Darrin Buse, of the Missing Persons Unit, were selected in 2012 to serve as instructors for the International Association of Chiefs of Police (IACP).

The IACP, through a grant from the Bureau of Justice Assistance, selected seven law enforcement personnel from across the nation to provide training on law enforcement response to person's with Alzheimer's disease. The instructors travel across the nation providing the training to law enforcement personnel and mental health professionals. Officers Anders and Buse provided the following training in 2012:

- Presentation at the International CIT Conference in Las Vegas
- Presentation with the Alzheimer's Association at a seminar at the Federal Reserve Building in Houston
- Presentation at the IACP Conference in San Diego
- Presentation at the Denver State CIT Conference
- Presentation at the Texas Police Chiefs Association in Plano, Texas
- Panel discussion in Las Vegas

In addition to the training for the IACP, Officers Anders and Buse have participated in the development of a training video for the IACP and have taught in the department's Advanced CIT class for Houston Police Department CIT officers and are teaching in one of this year's department mandatory classes for all classified personnel.

Section Four
Homeless
Outreach
Team

4



(left to right) Officer Janice Terry, Case Manager Deirdre Charles, Sergeant Stephen Wick, Senior Officer Jaime Giraldo standing in front of their new van that is equipped with a wheelchair lift.

Helping the chronic homeless get off the streets

Patrick

The Homeless Outreach Team continues to help the homeless get off the streets. One recent example is that of Patrick, a chronic alcoholic who lived on the streets of Houston for several years.

Patrick had a stroke last year that resulted in his confinement to a wheelchair. Before that, Patrick was routinely arrested on public intoxication charges. Since his confinement to the wheelchair, Patrick continued to drink but never left his wheelchair, even to relieve himself. His health deteriorated significantly and he was eventually transported to the hospital by the Homeless Outreach Team for gangrene in both feet. An Emergency Detention Order was filed because of his deteriorating health. After narrowly avoiding having both legs amputated, Patrick decided he was ready to change his life. HOT arranged for Patrick to receive care and management through the Salvation Army in Galveston, where Patrick previously lived and worked. Patrick is off the streets, in housing and excited about his new life.



Living in Hermann Park for more than 10 years

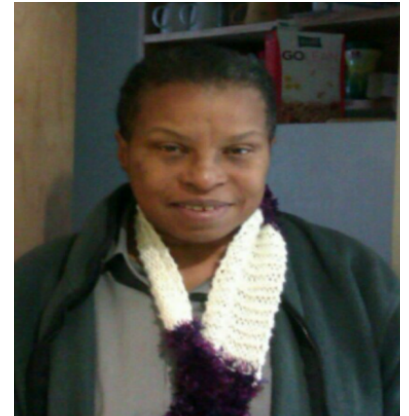
Brenda

The Homeless Outreach Team learned there was an elderly lady who had been living in Hermann Park for more than 10 years. The lady, Brenda, spent her nights on the bench near the Marvin Taylor work out area and her days next to Miller Outdoor Theater.

In early September, the team went to the park before dawn and found Brenda sleeping on her bench. After a brief conversation, it became apparent Brenda had mental health issues.

Over time, the team built a relationship with Brenda and linked her to Healthcare for the Homeless to take care of medical and mental health problems. At one point while living in Hermann Park she was severely beaten and had to be hospitalized.

After helping her with medical treatment, the team guided her through the application process for housing. Brenda is currently living in an apartment and is being provided with mental health case management through her facility. She is thrilled with her apartment and has had a remarkable recovery both physically and mentally. She literally looks like a different person.



Helping an Iraq war veteran get his life back



Bob while living on the streets.

Bob

Bob was a MRI technician, married and had two children. He joined the military and served in Iraq. After coming home from the war, he became a chronic alcoholic and homeless. In a two-month period, Bob was arrested 32 times for public intoxication!

HOT formed a relationship with Bob and offered to help him with his addiction to alcohol and offered to help him get off the streets. For months Bob refused their help. Finally, Bob said he was sick and tired of being sick and tired and accepted the team's offer to help.

The team was able to get Bob into an alcohol detoxification program at the Veterans' Administration Hospital and helped him get a pair of glasses and identification.

Bob completely turned his life around. He has not had a drink for almost a year, has reconciled with his wife and children, has returned to work and has become a runner. He recently completed two half marathons.



Bob after receiving help from HOT and getting off the streets.

Successful Collaboration Helps Homeless Man Get Housing and Employment

Richard

Richard has lived in flop houses, cheap rentals and on the streets in Houston for years. He has worked different types of day jobs. If he earned \$30 in a day, that was considered a good day! He is not a drinker, drug user, criminal or mentally ill. All he wants to do is work, earn his way, and does not accept charity.



Richard living on the streets.

The Homeless Outreach Team helped Richard get identification and into housing in the DeGeorge facility. Unfortunately, after a few months, Richard moved out because he could not pay his \$50 per month rent and would not accept charitable assistance.

Richard attended the unveiling of the new HOT van and met Nancy Frees Fountain who heads a foundation to end homelessness. Ms. Frees went to bat for Richard and contacted Betty Nunally of the Star of Hope. Through a collaboration of the Frees Foundation, Star of Hope, Sobering Center and J&D Janitorial Service, Richard is now the night porter of the Sobering Center, a job he is very good at and extremely excited and proud to

have. He is receiving his first paycheck in 30 years! If Richard is able to hold on to his job for a year, he will be eligible for Social Security retirement.



Richard in housing (left) and at his new job (right).



2012 Statistics

- 1968 the number of consumer contacts
- Provider contacts 747
- 134 the number of calls-for-service
- Number of referrals 978
- 298 transports (non-custody)
- Follow-up investigations 660
- 1094 homeless outreaches
- PATH contacts 632
- 122 people housed

Section Five
Training
Unit

5



(left to right) Officer Rebecca Skillern, MHMRA Director Ann MacLeod, Senior Officer Frank Webb.

Council of State Governments Learning Site Program

Ann MacLeod, LPC-S, NCC, joined the Council of State Governments Learning Site Program training team at the end of 2012. Ann is the Program Director for the master level licensed clinicians of the Crisis Intervention Response Team (CIRT) unit and is employed by the Mental Health Mental Retardation Authority (MHMRA) of Harris County, Texas. Ann holds a master's degree in Clinical Psychology. She is a Licensed Professional Counselor Supervisor in the State of Texas and is certified by the National Board for Certified Counselors.

Together, Officers Brown and Webb and Director Macleod provide Mental Health Peace Officer/CIT training to law enforcement and mental health professionals through the Council of State Governments Learning Site Program.

Houston provided training to 401 law enforcement and mental health personnel in 2012. The 40-hour trainings were held in the following locations:

- McAllen, Texas in April/May
- Cleveland, Texas in August
- Tuscaloosa, Alabama in September
- Goliad, Texas in October

In addition to these trainings, Houston hosted a site visit of representatives from the Milwaukee, Wisconsin Police Department in July.

Learning Site Training/Site Visit



Training in McAllen, TX - April/May



Site visit by the Milwaukee, WI Police Department - July



Training in Tuscaloosa, AL - September



Training in Goliad, TX- October



Training in Cleveland, TX - August

Agencies Trained in 2012

- Ability Alliance of West Alabama
- Alabama Community Mental Health Task Force
- Angleton Police Department
- Archer County Sheriff's Office
- Arlington Police Department
- Baytown Police Department
- Bellaire Police Department
- Brazos County Fire Department
- Brenham Police Department
- Brownsville Police Department
- Carrollton Police Department
- Christus St. John's Hospital
- City of Tuscaloosa
- Cleveland Police Department
- Comal County Sheriff's Office
- Crime Prevention Association of Texas
- Dallas Police Department
- Deer Park Police Department
- Dickinson Police Department
- Duncanville Police Department
- East Texas Police Academy
- Family Services of Greater Houston
- Federal Bureau of Investigation
- Fort Worth Police Department
- Galena Park Police Department
- Goliad County Sheriff's Office
- Grapevine Police Department
- Guadalupe County Sheriff's Office
- Harris County Constable Precinct Six
- Harris County Constable Precinct Seven
- Harris County Sheriff's Office
- Hays County Sheriff's Office
- Hidalgo County Sheriff's Office
- Houston Baptist University Police Dept.
- Houston Fire Marshall
- Houston Public Library
- Huntsville Police Department
- Indian Rivers Mental Health Center
- Lamar University Police Department
- Liberty County Precinct Five Constable
- Liberty County Sheriff's Office
- McAllen Police Department
- Metro Houston Police Department
- Mission of Yahweh
- Missouri City Police Department
- NAMI Alabama
- North Harbor Police Department
- Northport Police Department
- Polk County Sheriff's Office
- Port Lavaca Police Department
- Poteet Police Department
- Rockwall Police Department
- San Jacinto College District
- San Jacinto County Precinct 2 Constable
- San Jacinto County Sheriff's Office
- Seguin Police Department
- St. Catherine's Hospital
- The University of Alabama Police Dept.
- Tuscaloosa County Sheriff's Office
- Tuscaloosa Police Department
- Tuscaloosa Veteran's Administration Medical
- University of Texas at San Antonio P.D.
- Victoria Police Department
- Webster Fire Department

State Impact

COMMITTED TO ... *Maintaining our role as the model department in the state regarding crisis intervention training.*

40-Hour CIT Trainings Through Council of State Governments Learning Site Program



National Impact

COMMITTED TO ... *Maintaining our role as one of the national models in the nation regarding crisis intervention training.*

Training/Educational Material Provided Through Council of State Governments Learning Site Program



Learning Site Activity 2012

Activity	Number
Site Visits	1
Requests for Information (videos, policies, training materials)	226
40-hour Classes	6
Agencies Trained	65
Personnel Trained (non-HPD)	401

Houston Police Department Training Statistics 2012

Classes	# Classes Taught	# Hours Taught	#People Taught
Advanced CIT	29	232	1774
CIT for Jail Personnel	3	24	32
Dispatch Crisis Communications	4	64	66
Excited Delirium Mandatory	21	42	2477
40-Hour Mental Health Officer for Cadets	3	120	217
40-Hour Mental Health Peace Officer for Veteran Officers	3	120	63
TCLEOSE Intermediate	19	152	274
PTSD Mandatory	19	76	2451
Total	101	830	7354



Captain Gregory Fremin



Senior Officer Frank Webb

PTSD Initiative

Captain Gregory Fremin and Senior Police Officer Frank Webb completed providing the mandatory PTSD training to department personnel in August 2012. They also presented on their training initiative at the International Association of Chiefs of Police (IACP) annual conference in San Diego, CA, in September 2012.

The presentation was very well attended with approximately 80 people in attendance. Several came up to them after their presentations talking about the need for the training and congratulating the Houston Police Department for being on the forefront of this issue. Many stated they wanted to implement similar training in their department.

Captain Fremin and Officer Webb taught in the Psychological Block so many of the attendees were department psychologists.

The PTSD video, produced by the Houston Police Department and Houston Television, has been mailed to over 200 agencies across the nation, and has won three awards.

Awards Won by PTSD Video

- Bronze Telly Award - National Recognition as a Documentary Video
- 2nd Place National Association of Telecommunicators Officers and Advisors Award - National Recognition Documentary
- 1st Place Texas Association of Telecommunicators Officers and Advisors - Documentary

Section Six

Chronic
Consumer
Stabilization
Initiative

6



(left to right) Lizeth Hopper, Case Manager; Glenna Garcia, Program Manager for MHMRA, Charles Marshall, Case Manager; Officer Lawrence Pate, Program Manager for Mental Health Unit; Melissa Gonzalez; Shadawn McCants, Case Manager.

Chronic Consumer Stabilization Initiative Doubles Caseload

The Chronic Consumer Stabilization Initiative (CCSI) is the Mental Health Unit's innovative proactive strategy to reduce the number of law enforcement responses to the most chronic mentally ill in the city. In 2012, Houston City Council voted to increase funding for this very successful and progressive program. With the increased funding, the program was able to add two case managers and double its caseload, from 30 clients to 60.

The case managers work closely with the Harris County Guardianship Program, Child Protective Services, Harris County Psychiatric Center and personal care providers to obtain medical treatment, housing, substance abuse counseling, mental health treatment, social

security benefits job training skills, etc., for the client. Ultimately, the client becomes responsible for his/her stabilization.

The program has initiated a Medic Alert Bracelet Program that relays vital information

to first responders about a client's medical or psychiatric history. The program, which is the only program of its type in Texas and one of only two in the nation, the other is the Case

Assessment Management Program (CAMP) in the Los Angeles Police Department Mental Health Unit. Houston's program has won several awards since its implementation in 2009.

The program has reduced the number of police responses to consumers on the caseload by 50 percent.

Highlights of CCSI Program in 2012

- Houston City Council voted to provide funding for two additional case managers
- The Simmons Foundation grant was extended for two years resulting in the hiring of a full-time psychiatric technician
- The program's capacity was increased from 30 to 60 consumers
- The program maintained an average 50% reduction rate in consumer contacts



Officer Pate received the "Innovator of the Year Award" from the African American Police Officers League (AAPOL) for his work on the CCSI Program.

Pictured (left to right) Officer Lawrence Pate; Houston Chief of Police Charles A. McClelland, Jr.; Sergeant Tracey Richardson, Houston Police Department, President of AAPOL.

Section Seven
Firearms
Legislation

7



**Representative Allen
Fletcher
HB 3673**



**Senator Joan Huffman
SB 1189**

Mental Health Unit Facilitates Firearms Legislation

The Mental Health Unit, under the leadership of Lieutenant Mike Lee, has been on the forefront of the issue of individuals with serious mental illness possessing firearms and was the impetus for legislation addressing this issue. Texas Representative Allen Fletcher and Texas Senator Joan Huffman drafted bills in the House and Senate during 2012.

The bills address two issues not addressed in Texas law:

1. The seizing of a firearm in the possession of a person being brought in on an Emergency Detention Order (EDO) by a Texas Peace Officer. To be brought in on an EDO, the officer must believe the person poses a substantial risk of serious harm to self or others.
2. The disposition of the seized firearm.

In 2012, the Houston Police Department seized firearms from 59 such individuals. In 2011, firearms were seized from 90 such individuals.

The problem is that because of HIPAA laws, police departments cannot get information regarding the stability of the individual brought in on the Emergency Detention Order and must return the seized firearm.

The bills, if passed, will incorporate language that specifically authorizes peace officers to hold any firearm found on or about a person who is in a mental health crisis, is determined to be a danger to self or others, and is being detained and transported for an emergency mental health evaluation.

Additionally, law enforcement will have the necessary time to conduct follow-up investigations of the person taken for an emergency evaluation to determine whether the case was dismissed or the person was court ordered into in-patient psychiatric treatment. The bills will require the concerned courts of each county to verify for the investigating law enforcement agency if the person received court ordered in-patient psychiatric treatment, so the agency will know whether or not it is permissible to return the firearm.

Section Eight

Houston
Center
for
Sobriety

8



Mental Health Unit Spearheads HPD's Role in Building Sobering Center

The Houston Police Department played a vital role in the development and building of the city's first-ever Houston Center for Sobriety (aka Sobering Center) in 2012. The Mental Health Unit, under the management of Executive Assistant Chief T. N. Oettmeier and Lieutenant Mike Lee, spearheaded this effort.

The Sobering Center is managed by the Houston Recovery Center LGC. The Sobering Center provides safe short-term treatment and management of persons under the influence of alcohol and drugs. The Center also provides those persons with information on and referrals to community based outpatient services to help them not be caught in the "revolving door" of repeat offenders.

The Center is wholly owned by the City of Houston and closely aligned with the Houston Police Department. The Mental Health Unit's offices and classroom are housed on the second floor.

The Center has physical capacity for 68 men and 16 women. It is scheduled to open in April 2013.



Mental Health Unit Classroom

The Center is an alternative to incarceration for persons who are publicly intoxicated and increases holding capacity in the City Jail for more serious criminals.

The Center is located at 150 N. Chenevert Street, beside the Star of Hope.

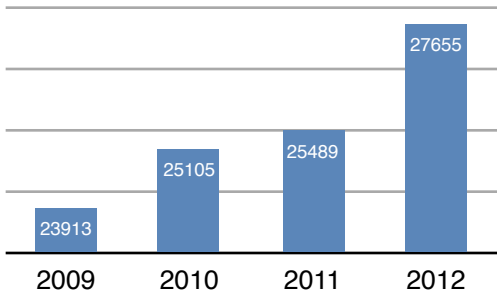
Section Nine

Mental Health Unit Statistics

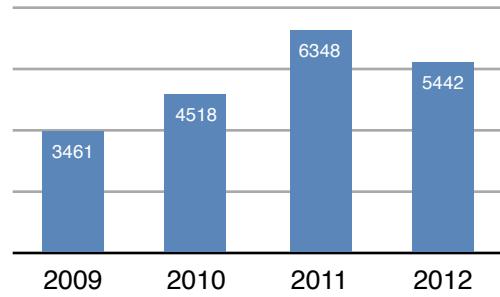
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MHU Statistics

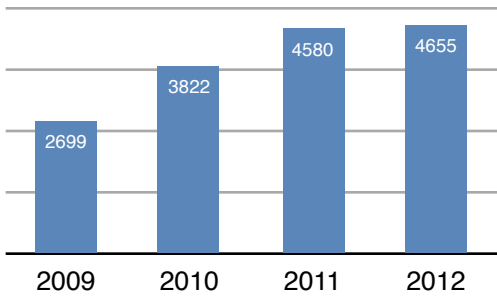
CIT Calls-for-Service



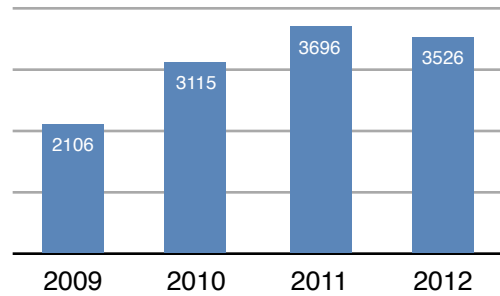
CIRT Calls-for-Service



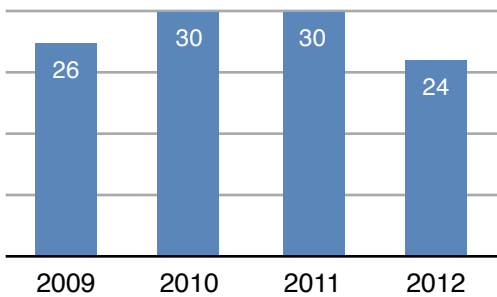
Male Consumers



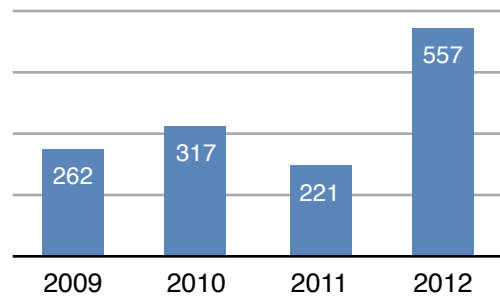
Female Consumers



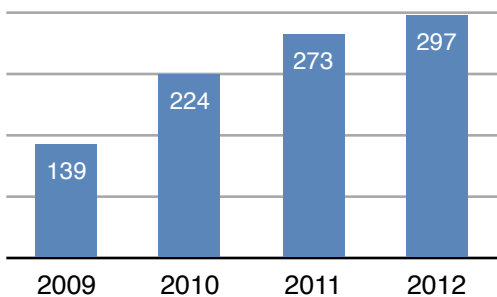
Taser Incidents



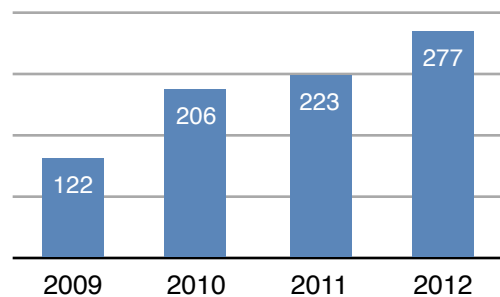
Incidents Involving a Weapon



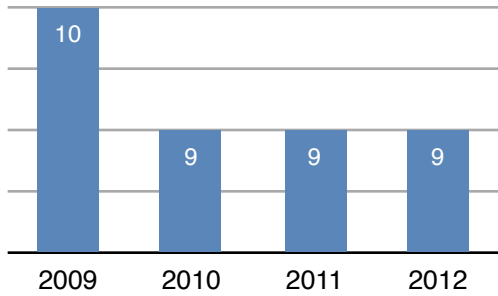
Juvenile Males



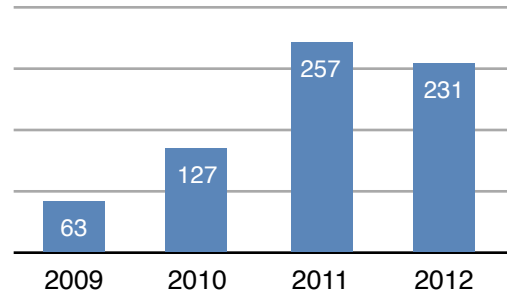
Juvenile Females



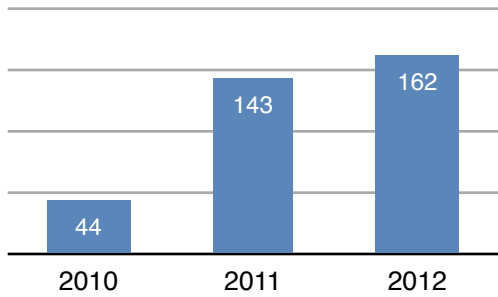
SWAT Call/Person With Mental Illness



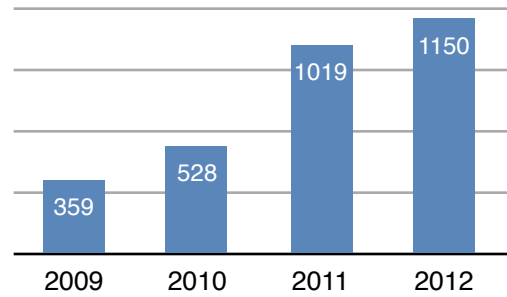
Military Veterans



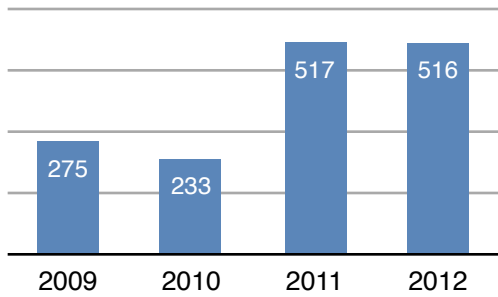
Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder



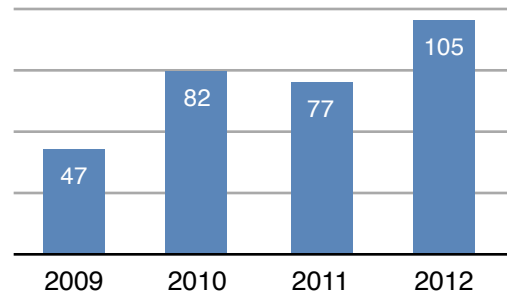
Homeless



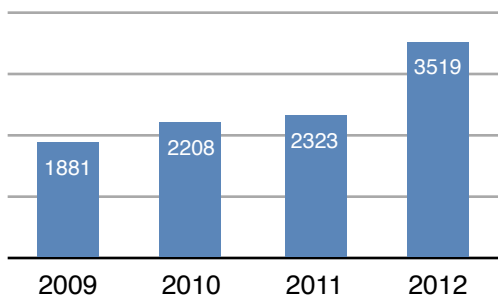
Personal Care Facilities



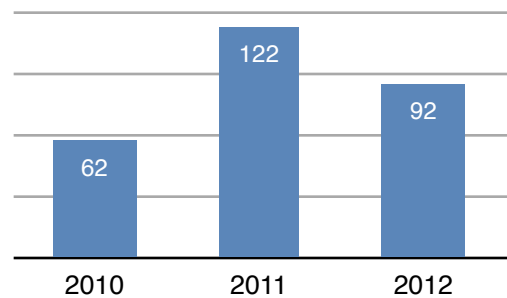
People Requesting Suicide-by-Cop



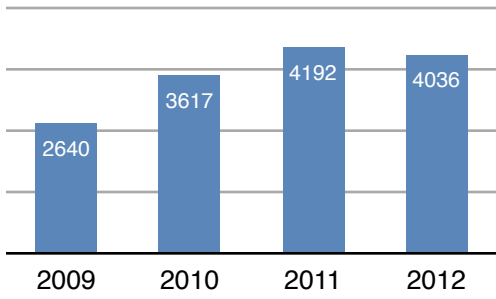
Suicidal



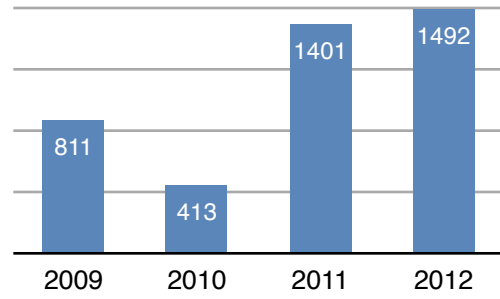
Completed Suicide



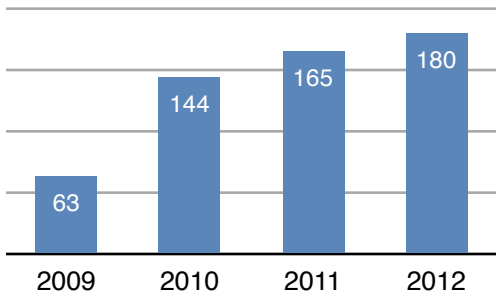
Admitted to NPC



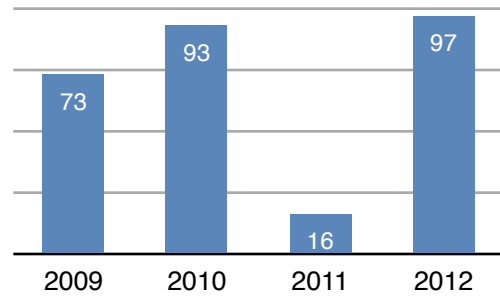
Admitted to Ben Taub Hospital



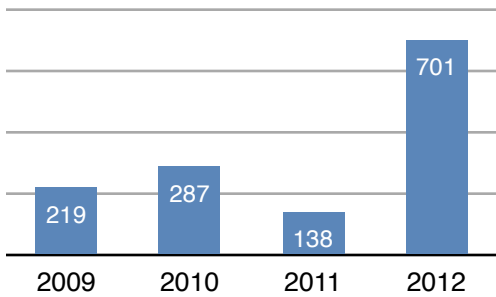
Admitted to VA Hospital



Admitted to St. Joseph's Hospital



Admitted to Other Hospitals/Facilities



Section Ten 10

A Sampling of Presentations

COMMITTED TO ... *Leading the state and the nation in law enforcement programs for responding to individuals in mental health crises.*

Anders, D., and Buse, D. - *Alzheimer's and Missing Persons Training*, International Association of Chiefs of Police Conference, San Diego, CA., International Crisis Intervention Team Conference, Las Vegas, NV.

Brown, R. - *Recognizing the Need for CIT Training for Dispatchers*, International Crisis Intervention Team Conference, Las Vegas, NV. *The Need for CIT Training for Dispatchers*, Texas State Crime Prevention Association, Kerrville, TX.; Mental Health Unit, Citywide PIP Meeting.; *Mental Health Unit*, Presentation to the United Way.; *40-Hour CIT Training*, Tuscaloosa, AL; Cleveland, TX; McAllen, TX; Goliad, TX.; *Houston Police Department Mental Health Unit*, Milwaukee Police Department While Visiting the Houston Police Department.

Giraldo, J. - *Homeless Outreach Team*, St. Joseph Hospital Board; Coalition of the Homeless Montgomery County; Healthcare for the Homeless; Citywide PIP Meeting; Downtown Management District; Milwaukee Police Dept. While Visiting the Houston Police Department; Assistance League National Conference; Univision Interview; Texas Homeless Network Conference.

Lee, Mike. - *Mental Health Unit Annual Report*, MHMRA of Harris County Board of Directors Annual Meeting, MHA of Greater Houston Board of Directors Annual Meeting.; *Houston Center for Sobriety*, Chief of Police Command Staff Presentation, Houston City Council Presentation.; *Homeless Outreach Team Funding Needs*, Simmons Foundation.; *Funding Opportunities for MHU Programs*, MHU Overview, One Voice Conference at United Way of Greater Houston.

MacLeod, A. - *Successful Resource Development via Collaboration*, Texas Council 27th Annual Conference.; *Budget Amendment 13.04*, Houston City Council.; *Innovative Law Enforcement Strategies for Interacting with People that Frequently Require Emergency and Crisis Services*, CIT International Conference, Las Vegas, NV.; *Chronic Consumer Stabilization Initiative: A Multi-Agency Collaboration*, Travis County Public Defender Office.

COMMITTED TO ... *Leading the state and the nation in law enforcement programs for responding to individuals in mental health crises.*

Pate, L. - *Houston's CCSI Program*. Annual Texas Council Conference, The Council of State Governments Justice Center Webinar, International CIT Conference, Travis County Public Defender CLE Seminar, Deblin Health Concepts.

Plourde, P. - *CIT Database Tracking Program*. International Crisis Intervention Team Conference, Las Vegas, NV.

Vaughan, C. - *Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder*. International Crisis Intervention Team Conference, Las Vegas, NV.

Webb, F. - *Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder*. International Crisis Intervention Team Conference, Las Vegas, NV.; International Association of Chiefs of Police, San Diego, CA.; *CIT Media*. International Crisis Intervention Team Conference, Las Vegas, NV.; *Excited Delirium*, Texas State Crime Prevention Association, Kerrville, TX.; *Mental Health Unit*, Citywide PIP Meeting; *40-Hour CIT Training*, Tuscaloosa, AL; Cleveland, TX; McAllen, TX; Goliad, TX.; *Houston Police Department Mental Health Unit*, Milwaukee Police Department While Visiting the Houston Police Department.

Wick, S. - *Homeless Outreach Team*, St. Joseph Hospital Board; Coalition of the Homeless Montgomery County; Healthcare for the Homeless; Citywide PIP Meeting; Downtown Management District; Milwaukee Police Dept. While Visiting the Houston Police Department; Assistance League National Conference; Univision Interview; Texas Homeless Network Conference.

Section Eleven

The Work
Ahead

11

The Work Ahead 2013

- ✓ Passage of Boarding Home Ordinance
- ✓ Expansion of Homeless Outreach Team
- ✓ Develop a MHU Resource Guide for officers
- ✓ Pilot an Advanced CIT Patrol Program
- ✓ Secure funding to pilot a 9-1-1 CIT Call Diversion Program
- ✓ Mental Health Code legislation to address persons in mental crisis who possess a firearm, a standardized Emergency Notification form, and defining the emergency detention criteria of deterioration regarding a person who is “gravely disabled”



Lieutenant Mike Lee

Trends and Consequences of Closing Public Psychiatric Hospitals

- The number of state psychiatric beds decreased by 14% from 2005 to 2010.
- Per capita state psychiatric bed populations by 2010 plunged to 1850 levels.
- Thirteen states closed 25% or more of their total state hospital beds from 2005 to 2010.
- Nationwide, closures reduced the number of beds available in the combined 50 states to 28% of the number considered necessary for minimally adequate inpatient psychiatric services.
- In the absence of needed treatment and care, individuals in acute or chronic disabling crisis increasingly gravitate to hospital emergency departments, jails and prisons.
- The number of persons with mental illness who are homeless increased.
- A statistically significant inverse association emerged between lower state-hospital spending and higher rates of arrest-related deaths.

Source: "No Room at the Inn: Trends and Consequences of Closing Public Psychiatric Hospitals" E. Fuller Torrey, M.D., et al, Treatment Advocacy Center



MHU

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