

OHIO CRISIS INTERVENTION TEAM (CIT) CONFERENCE



KEYNOTE: COMMUNITY COLLABORATION, A BEST PRACTICE APPROACH TO CRISIS RESPONSE

Ernest (Ernie) Stevens, CSG Justice Center, The Council of State
Governments



AFTERNOON PLENARY: Mom, Me, and CIT: A Mother and Son's Lived Experience with Mental Illness and Law Enforcement

Evan Curtin and Peg Stephens

BREAKOUT SESSIONS

- CIT in jails and prisons
- PST self-care
- De-escalation for public safety telecommunicators and law enforcement
- Collaboration between law enforcement and mental health agencies
- Panel Discussion: law enforcement agency/jurisdiction collaboration
- And more...

**WEDNESDAY, APRIL 10, 2024
9:00AM-4:00PM**

QUEST CONFERENCE CENTER IN COLUMBUS

We are excited to announce this year's Ohio CIT Conference at The Quest Conference Center in Columbus! In addition to the Ohio CIT Awards ceremony, the agenda features two keynote speakers and a range of breakout sessions tailored for CIT coordinators, law enforcement, corrections, and public safety telecommunicators.

Join us for the full-day conference at just \$35!

Click [HERE](#) to register today.

Lunch will be provided.

REGISTRATION CLOSING ON MARCH 27, 2024

OHIO CRISIS INTERVENTION TEAM (CIT) CONFERENCE FEATURED CONFERENCE SPEAKERS



KEYNOTE: COMMUNITY COLLABORATION, A BEST PRACTICE APPROACH TO CRISIS RESPONSE

Ernest (Ernie) Stevens, CSG Justice Center, The Council of State Governments

Ernest (Ernie) Stevens is a published author with a #1 best selling book on Amazon titled: Mental Health and De-escalation: A Guide for Law Enforcement Professionals. Ernie was also a contributing author for, Police Mental Health Barricade. Ernie was a police officer for 28 years, serving 26 of those years with the San Antonio Police Department where he was a founding member of the Mental Health Unit. Ernie has been featured on the Emmy Award Winning HBO Documentary, Ernie and Joe: Crisis Cops. He has also been featured in NBC's documentary, A Different Kind of Force. Ernie was interviewed by ABC's Nightline's Byron Pitts, and featured on officers trained to respond to mental illness calls. Ernie has been featured in over 40 publications and deemed an expert in Crisis Intervention Training. Ernie is a graduate of Wayland Baptist University and holds a B.S. degree in Criminal Justice. Ernie was one of the founding members of the San Antonio Police Department's Mental Health Unit. Ernie continues to assist law enforcement agencies around the nation by providing technical assistance and best practice approaches to mental health crisis calls. Ernie currently serves as the deputy director of law enforcement for the Council of State Governments Justice Center where he works closely with the Dept of Justice to assist agencies across the nation develop and strengthen their crisis response models.

AFTERNOON PLENARY: Mom, Me, and CIT: A Mother and Son's Lived Experience with Mental Illness and Law Enforcement

Evan Curtin and Peg Stephens



In 2015, Evan Curtin and his mother, Peg Stephens, began sharing their lived experience with mental illness with the cadets at the Clark State Police Academy in Springfield, OH. Since then, they have continued speaking to Law Enforcement and MH workers as part of CIT Training. They are affiliated with NAMI Clark, Greene, and Madison Counties. Peg is a retired teacher. In 1968, she began her career in education on the island of Okinawa. In 1978, she started working at the Clark County, OH Juvenile Center in the Treatment Program as a Counselor, then teacher. She taught Learning Disabilities and SBH students there, and later at 2 middle schools. She retired from Springfield City Schools after teaching 5th grade for 16 years. Peg raised 3 sons, Steve, Brandon, and Evan and has 4 grandchildren. Evan was a student at The Ohio State University when he began to feel mentally and physically drained. Following an extreme suicide attempt on Christmas Day 1997, Evan was diagnosed with Bipolar 1 Disorder. After taking a break from college, he returned to school at Wright State University in Dayton, OH. In 2001, he graduated with a BA in Psychology. Even though he earned a college degree, it was 15 years before he accepted his mental health diagnosis. Those years of denial were filled with hospitalizations, incarcerations, homelessness and near-death experiences. For the past 8 years, Evan has maintained good mental health with medication and support. He volunteers with NAMI, is on the NAMI CGM Board of Directors, is a member of The CIT Steering Committee for MHRB CGM and is licensed as a Certified Peer Recovery Supporter. He now lives in Springfield, Ohio with his mother and, along with sharing his story, and volunteering, he writes, plays and records music.

REGISTRATION IS \$35 AND CLOSING ON MARCH 27, 2024

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