

In 2004 the Urbana Police Department, in conjunction with several other Champaign County law enforcement agencies and the community, made the commitment to create a safer and more practical response to individuals who suffer from a mental health related issue or are in a mental health crisis.

The group reviewed several programs and chose use the Crisis Intervention Team (CIT) model created by the Memphis, Tennessee Police Department. For more information on that model [click here](#).

Officers assigned to the CIT are required to undergo 40 hours of specialized training that incorporates classroom instruction on recognizing an individual with mental health issues and current best practices for responding. In addition practical exercises are taught. For a more detailed description of the curriculum [click here](#).

Currently, the Urbana Police Department has 22 certified CIT officers.

For additional information on Urbana Police Department [CIT Presentation](#)

If you have questions or would like more information please contact UPD's Crisis Intervention Team Coordinator Lt. Joel R. Sanders at 217.384.2320 or email [sanderjr@urbanaininois.us](mailto:sanderjr@urbanaininois.us).