Crisis Connection Center

Lack of capacity for community mental health services results in individuals in mental health crisis ending up in jail or the emergency room. Providing services through jails and the emergency room is costly and ineffective in the long term.

- 9,500 (4.1%) residents have a serious mental illness.
- 30,000 (10%) police calls with a mental health component annually.
- 3,000 people with mentally illness people are jailed annually.
- 400+ people were transported to the ER by law enforcement.

- $7 million to incarcerate individuals with mental illness.
- $2 million to incarcerate top 1% of re-offenders.
- $1+ million in ER visits at one hospital.

A comprehensive continuum of care for mental health services and supports within the community is the solution. This is a multi-faceted, long-term approach with multiple partners and collaborators.

Mental Health Criminal Justice Collaborative Initiative

- Crisis Intervention Training
- Crisis Counseling and Case Management
- Crisis Stabilization Unit
- Mobile Crisis Team
Crisis Connection Center

Crisis Intervention Training will begin in March 2017 through Lafayette Parish Sheriff’s Office training division. Open to all local law enforcement. The goal of the training is de-escalation and defusion of crisis situations and referral to community supports and services. Training costs are being absorbed by each officer's department.

Crisis Connections Process is being piloted through a collaborative partnership with 232-HELP, Our Lady of Lourdes, Acadiana Cares, and CJCC agencies. Received a $237,000 grant for pilot. Key aspect is in training clinicians for licensure and certification. Ready for expansion with Crisis Stabilization Unit.

The Crisis Stabilization Unit expands on pilot program to provide additional crisis counseling and case management. It is a 23 hour clinic for mental health assessment and stabilization. Current needs are for a building, operations expenses, and personnel. Developing a partnership with Lafayette General Health.

This will be the next step in developing a continuum of services for community mental health. A mobile crisis unit consists of an officer, nurse and counselor who are dispatched to law enforcement involved crisis situation. Logistics and funding have yet to be developed.

CCC Advisory Council's Requested Role

- Actively serve as a representative on the Crisis Connections Center Advisory Council.
- Publicly support the Collaborative's efforts to establish a continuum of care including Crisis Connections Center.
- Assist in obtaining funding or in-kind contributions for operations and personnel.

Mental Health Criminal Justice Collaborative Initiative