



2026 CIT International Conference Conference Schedule at a Glance

August 9 - August 12

**Schedule Subject to Change*



Time	Title	Location	Primary Presenter
SUNDAY AUGUST 9			
	BONUS SUNDAY	Location	Primary Presenter
8:00 am - 5:00 pm	CIT Certified Coordinator's Course* <i>1 Hour Lunch Break and two 15 minute breaks (am and pm)</i>	Gatlin A-4	Marianne Halbert
9:00 am - 12 noon	Wanna be a Millionaire? Tools and Tips for Developing Sustainable Funding Streams	Gatlin A-1	Chan Noether
9:00 am - 11:00 am	Pathway to Financial Wellness	Gatlin A-2	Travis George
1:00 pm - 3:00 pm	Caring for the Vulnerable After Tragedy: Managing the Aftermath of the Covenant School Shooting	Gatlin A-1	Anthony Brooks
12 noon - 6:00 pm	Registration Opens	Foyer	
MONDAY AUGUST 10			
6:30 am - 8:00 am	Registration Opens		
9:30 am - 4:30 pm		Foyer	
6:30 am - 8:00 am	Continental Breakfast: Networking	Foyer	
GENERAL SESSION			
8:00 am - 9:30 am	Conference Opening; Welcome and Award Presentations	Ballroom C/D	
9:30 am - 10:00 am	Break: Visit our Sponsors and Exhibitors	Ballroom B	
WORKSHOP			
		Location	Primary Presenter
10:00 am - 11:00 am	CIT Connects - Finding your way through CIT and CITICON26	Gatlin A-1	Yolanda Cruz
	From Crisis to Connection: Integrating Social Work into Law Enforcement Responses	Gatlin A-2	Angela Kenbok
	Results of a Federally Funded, Multi-Site Randomized, Controlled Trial of Crisis Intervention Team (CIT) Training for Law Enforcement Officers	Gatlin A-3	Michael Compton
	Self-Regulate to De-Escalate: The Neurobiology of Officer Wellness and Crisis Response	Gatlin A-4	Jazmin Porter
	Bridging the Gap in Rural Crisis Response - From Challenges to Collaboration	Gatlin E-1	Kelly Miller
	When Youth Crisis Signals Exploitation: Suicide Risk and CIT Response	Gatlin E-2	Terri Markham
	Veteran Response Teams in Pennsylvania	Gatlin E-3	Erin O'Donnell

	The Power of the Peer: Advancing CIT Through Diversion, Collaboration, and Compassionate Systems Change	Gatlin E-4	Daniel Roman
	Beyond the PowerPoints	St. John's 28/29	Kailee Evans
	The Integration of Harm Reduction Strategies can Help Improve Crisis Response	St. John's 30/31	Jennifer Fukuda
	Beyond the Transfer: Measuring Success and Impact in 911-to-Crisis Call Diversion	Conway	Cassie Villegas
	Expanding Our Understanding of De-escalation: An Examination of Emerging Scientific Theory and Case Studies	Sandlake	Collin Murray
11:00 am - 12: 30 pm	LUNCH: On Your Own		
GENERAL SESSION: KEYNOTE			
12:30 pm - 1:30 pm	A Life Redirected: A Journey from Homelessness to Service and Leadership	Ballroom C/D	Chief Will Akin
1:30 pm - 2:00 pm	Break: Visit our Sponsors and Exhibitors	Ballroom B	
WORKSHOPS		Location	Primary Presenter
2:00 pm - 3:00 pm	Managing the Crisis Scene : Strengthening your CIT impact	Gatlin A-1	Kevin Miller
	From 988 to Jail: Integrating Forensic Peer Support Across the Crisis Continuum	Gatlin A-2	Ashley Lunt
	Harnessing Behavioral Function: Leveraging ABA to Strengthen Crisis Response and Frequent Service User Management	Gatlin A-3	Benni Zaiser
	From Vision to Implementation: Building a Statewide CIT Technical Assistance Center	Gatlin A-4	Rachel Lee
	Multi-Disciplinary Co-Response Case Study	Gatlin E-1	Jacob King
	Project TRACE: Connecting with rural agencies to aid in Veteran crisis response	Gatlin E-2	Katelyn Goodall
	Deflection as a Frontline Strategy to Support Drug-Endangered Children	Gatlin E-3	Hope Fiori
	Managing the Cycle of Escalation with Compassion and Care	Gatlin E-4	Stephanie Keating
	WHEN LIFE GOES: Postvention Response Support	St. John's 28/29	Michelle Toman
	From Soldier to Civilian: The High-Risk Journey from Military to Civilian Life	St. John's 30/31	Michael Pracht
	Collaborative Power: How to Build, Sustain, Expand, and Fund a Countywide CIT Program	Conway	Mark Stadler
	Lean On Me	Sandlake	Mark DiBona
3:00 pm - 4:00 pm	Break: Visit our Sponsors and Exhibitors	Ballroom B	
WORKSHOPS		Location	Primary Presenter
3:30 pm - 4:30 pm	Balancing Barriers and Breakthroughs: Innovating Rural Crisis Response	Gatlin A-1	Tina-Marie Brown
	Intercept Zero Rocks! Safe Integration of Crisis Mobile Teams into your CIT Programs	Gatlin A-2	Amanda Stamps
	Confessions of a Crisis Data Nerd: From Data to Deliverables to Driving Change	Gatlin A-3	Elizabeth Jones
	Development and Implementation of Georgia's CIT Program	Gatlin A-4	Dawn Peel
	Hashtag BuddyCheck	Gatlin E-1	Stephen Powers

	Family Collaboration in CIT	Gatlin E-2	Lea Nagy
	From Policy to Police to Prison to Practicality	Gatlin E-3	Kasey Parker
	Beyond the Crisis: Peer-led pathways to long-term recovery and community reintegration	Gatlin E-4	Joel Conger
	When Traditional 911 Isn't Enough: Building a Modern Crisis Response Model	St. John's 28/29	Ofer Lichtman
	Hoarding - How it Affects the Family and Community	St. John's 30/31	Maria Spetalnik
	Let's Get Real About Co-Response: Lessons Learned and Real Talk about Well-Intended Mistakes	Conway	Susie Kroll
	Strengthening Law Enforcement De-escalation and Crisis Response through the Law Enforcement De-escalation Training Act	Sandlake	Gabrielle Isaza
5:30 pm - 9:00 pm	NETWORKING EVENT: THE POINTE ORLANDO		
TUESDAY AUGUST 11			
7:00 am - 8:00 am	Registration Opens	Foyer	
9:00 am - 12:00 pm			
6:30 am - 8:00 am	Continental Breakfast and Networking	Ballroom D	
GENERAL SESSION: KEYNOTE			
8:00 am - 9:00 am	More than a Side Effect: The Tardive Dyskenesia Conversation	Ballroom C/D	Dr. Teri Peck
9:00 am - 9:20 am	Break: Visit our Sponsors and Exhibitors	Ballroom B	
WORKSHOPS		Location	Primary Presenter
9:20 am - 10:20 am	Bridging the Gap of Homelessness with a Co-Response Unit	Gatlin A-1	Arthur Plunkett
	It's Delicate: The Necessary but Nuanced Work of Supporting the Supporters	Gatlin A-2	Sabrina Taylor
	CIT Statewide Coordination: Now and the Future	Gatlin A-3	Emily Ribnik
	Adapting Co-Response to Your Community: Lessons from Colorado, Kansas, and Texas	Gatlin A-4	Robert McKeirnan
	Veterans in Crisis: Understanding, De-Escalating, and Connecting Those Who Served	Gatlin E-1	George Kimball
	Why you still matter: Sustainable service in a culture that cares	Gatlin E-2	Wayne Handley
	HEART on the Line: How Durham Rewired 911, Law Enforcement, and Crisis Care	Gatlin E-3	Jessica Laube
	Victim to Survivor to Peer: How the story of a peer changed the trajectory of an investigation and prosecution	Gatlin E-4	Ellen Wheeler
	Beyond the Crisis: A Multi-Tiered Hospital and CIT Law Enforcement Partnership Advancing Community Mental Health	St. John's 28/29	Mary Jaramillo Mangia
	When Worlds Don't Align: Strengthening Coordination Between Peer Crisis Teams and CIT Officers	St. John's 30/31	Jessica Krause
	Sensory Implications in Crisis Intervention: Understanding Dysregulation in Individuals with Developmental Disabilities	Conway	Yolanda Cruz
	From Silver to Platinum: How CIT Programming Influences a Successful Crisis Continuum	Sandlake	Johanna Covault

10:20 am - 10:50 am	BREAK: Visit our Sponsors and Exhibitors	Ballroom B	
WORKSHOPS			
10:50 am - 11:50 am	911 Crisis Call Diversion: Models, Liability, and Integration with the CIT Framework	Gatlin A-1	Matthew Moody
	You Again! A Collaborative Co-Response Approach to Ending the Cycle with a High Frequency Misdemeanant Population	Gatlin A-2	Christina Zidow
	From the Street to Stability: Real-World Juvenile Crisis Diversion That Works	Gatlin A-3	Jessie Drew
	Pawsitive Impact: Incorporating Therapy Canines into Crisis Response and Peer Support	Gatlin A-4	John Keigher
	Understanding COMPACT: How to increase collaboration in responding to Veterans in crisis	Gatlin E-1	Megan Wade
	Reframing Domestic Violence: Moving Beyond the Mental Illness Narrative	Gatlin E-2	Dottie Davis
	KEEP THEM SAFE: Safety Planning and Access to Lethal Means Conversations	Gatlin E-3	Barri Faucet
	Strengthening Community Impact Through Partnership: NAMI & CIT—A Collaborative Model for Sustainable Change	Gatlin E-4	Katherine Gruver
	Sustainability Through Succession Planning: Strengthening Your CIT Program	St. John's 28/29	Emilie Smiley
	...Ready for it? The clinician you need right here, right now	St. John's 30/31	Sarah Blanka
	Broken People, Stronger Responses: Wellness in Crisis Intervention	Conway	Joseph Reid
	So, You Want to Teach Law Enforcement ... Excelling as a Civilian Instructor	Sandlake	Habsi Kaba
11:50 am - 1:20 pm	Lunch: Buffet Lunch Provided	Ballroom C/D	
12:30 pm - 1:00 pm	Pin, Coin and Patch Swap - Exhibit Hall	Ballroom B	
12:30 pm - 1:20 pm	Visit our Sponsors and Exhibitors	Ballroom B	
WORKSHOPS		Location	Primary Presenter
1:20 pm - 2:20 pm	Disrupting the Pathway to Violence: Integrating Co-Response and Behavioral Threat Management	Gatlin A-1	Marissa Gore
	Filling the Gap: Crisis Care on the Move with Mobile Response & Stabilization Services (MRSS)	Gatlin A-2	Jessica Michael
	So Someone Calls 988: What Professionals Should Know About the Caller Experience	Gatlin A-3	Nick Christian
	ACTIONS SPEAK LOUDER THAN WORDS....and Power-Points!	Gatlin A-4	Thomas von Hemert
	Beyond Backup: Co-Response as a Rural CIT Best Practice	Gatlin E-1	Veronica Torres
	Police Interactions with Autistic Persons	Gatlin E-2	Kenneth Murray
	QPR (Question, Persuade, Refer) Suicide Prevention	Gatlin E-3	Carl Metzger
	From Inside to Reentry: How NAMI Programs Support Mental Health in Correctional Settings	Gatlin E-4	Mallory Kloucek
	Embracing Resilience: Building Emotional Intelligence in First Responders	St. John's 28/29	Patrick Rasmussen
	From the Battlefield to the Homefront Beat: Integrating Compassionate, Trauma-Informed Crisis Response with the Military-Connected Community	St. John's 30/31	Tenika Wilson
	"You Good?" Two words that saved my life!	Conway	Pete Wiesner
	CRISIS: Crisis Responder Intervention Skills and Instructional Standards	Sandlake	Kristin Sauerbier
2:20 pm - 2:40 pm	BREAK: Visit our Sponsors and Exhibitors		

WORKSHOPS		Location	Primary Presenter
2:40 pm - 3:40 pm	An Innovative Approach to Crisis Intervention Team Programs: Co-Response, Threat Management, and Technology-Driven Tools	Gatlin A-1	Heather Winter
	Starting the Conversation: Connecting Veterans, PTSD, and Your Officers on a Path of Wellness	Gatlin A-2	Nicholas Greco
	Advanced CIT: Embedding Mindfulness for Resilient Crisis Response	Gatlin A-3	Whitney Lanier
	From Charges to Care: How Shelby County is Reengineering Mental Health Response Through Courts and CIT	Gatlin A-4	Zach Andrew
	Autism Spectrum Disorder and Crisis Response for Law Enforcement	Gatlin E-1	Cory Sutton
	When the Complaint Processes for Law Enforcement and the Department of Health Collide on a Crisis Negotiation Call	Gatlin E-2	Susie Kroll
	Recognizing the Need for Change: Rebuilding Through Growth and Accountability	Gatlin E-3	Devon Chianos
	The 3 C's: Co response Compassion and Collaboration in Co Responses' Interventions to deter suicide by cop.	Gatlin E-4	Seth Blaine
	Behind the Walls - CIT's Role in Corrections and Officer Wellness	St. John's 30/31	Amanda Rourke
	Supercharging CIT Training with Body-Worn Camera Footage	Conway	Nicole Wolfe
	Professionalizing CIT: The Past, Present, & Future of Creating a Fully Funded State-wide CIT Organization	Sandlake	Meghan Mohon
3:40 pm - 4:00 pm	BREAK: Visit our Sponsors and Exhibitors	Ballroom B	
WORKSHOPS		Location	Primary Presenter
4:00 pm - 5:00 pm	Closing the Revolving Door: Peers & Post-Crisis Responses	Gatlin A-1	Nick Margiotta
	Mental Health Court: Diverting Crisis from Incarceration	Gatlin A-2	Joseph Blanchette
	Interrupting the Crisis Cycle: Replacing a Single-Event Response with Post-Crisis Care Coordination	Gatlin A-3	Luciana Beltran
	From Response to Relationship: Building Co-Response Partnerships That Strengthen Community Trust	Gatlin A-4	Andrea Smith
	The Mental Health of the Helper: Preventing Suicide in First Responders Before Crisis	Gatlin E-1	Joe Smarro
	The Forgotten Resource: Engaging Families During Law Enforcement Crisis Response	Gatlin E-2	Dawn Handley
	From Living A Life Hopelessness & Homelessness, To Living A Life Of Transformation,, Recovery & Purpose.	Gatlin E-3	Borinquen "Bo" Hall
	Building the Path to Partnership: Transforming I/DD Crisis Response Through Community Dialogue	Gatlin E-4	Yolanda Cruz
	Crisis Response Behind the Redwood Curtain	St. John's 28/29	Leonard La France
	The 72-Hour Window: Managing Grief-Driven Crisis in Corrections	St. John's 30/31	Rolando Nooks
	Training the Best: Making the Most Out of Every Role Play Exercise	Conway	Larry Friedland
	What people in crisis actually want—And how to train for it	Sandlake	Amy Watson
WEDNESDAY AUG. 12			
7:00 AM	Registration	Foyer	
6:30 am - 8:00 am	Breakfast of Hope: Buffet Breakfast Provided	Ballroom C/D	

GENERAL SESSION: BREAKFAST OF HOPE KEYNOTE			
8:00 am - 9:00 am	From Surviving to Serving: A Journey of Pain, Purpose and Impact	Ballroom C/D	
9:00 am - 9:30 am	Break: Visit our Sponsors and Exhibitors	Ballroom B	
WORKSHOPS		Location	Primary Presenter
9:30 am - 10:30 am	When Systems Say “I Do”: The Marriage of Behavioral Health and Law Enforcement in Modern Crisis Response	Gatlin A-1	Trisha Zizumbo
	From CIT to Mobile Crisis Outreach: A Natural Progression	Gatlin A-2	Doug Smith
	Colleges in Crisis: Building Compassionate Mobile Response Teams in Higher Education	Gatlin A-3	Drea Letamendi
	From Escalation to Regulation: Practical Bottom-Up Strategies for Supporting People with Intellectual & Developmental Disabilities	Gatlin A-4	Anne La Force
	Working Together: Key Components to Co-response and Law Enforcement Collaboration	Gatlin E-1	John Keigher
	Warrior to Guardian: Understanding and Supporting Military Veterans in Law Enforcement	Gatlin E-2	Michael Pracht
	Peer Power: Integrating Raw Lived Experience to Enhance CIT Training	Gatlin E-3	Michael Vasconez
	Because A Ride Can Change Everything	Gatlin E-4	David Roberts
	From Planning to Practice: Using Psychiatric Advance Directives to Transform Behavioral Health Crisis	St. John's 28/29	Kirin Sahota
	Beyond "Just De-Escalate": Insights from Body Worn Camera Analysis of Mental Health Crisis Calls	Conway	Sharon Doncourt
	Empathy at the Edge: Preventing Overreach in Crisis Intervention Professionals’ Roles	Sandlake	Julie Collinson
10:30 am - 11:00 am	Break		
GENERAL SESSION			
11:00 am - 11:45 am	Conference Closing; Meet New Orleans for the 2027 Conference	Ballroom C/D	
12:00 noon	CONFERENCE CLOSES - SAFE TRAVELS HOME		
EXHIBIT AREA HOURS OF OPERATIONS			
Sunday, August 9th	12:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m. (Set-Up)	Ballroom B	
Monday, August 10th	7:00 a.m. - 9:00 a.m. (Set-Up)	Ballroom B	
	9:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.	Ballroom B	
Tuesday, August 11th	7:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.	Ballroom B	

Wednesday, August 12th	7:00 a.m. - 10:00 a.m.	Ballroom B	
CIT STORE HOURS OF OPERATION			
Sunday, August 9th	12:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.	Foyer	
Monday, August 10th	6:30 a.m. - 8:00 a.m.	Foyer	
	9:30 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.	Foyer	
Tuesday, August 11th	7:00 a.m. - 8:00 a.m.	Foyer	
	9:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.	Foyer	
Wednesday, August 12th	7:00 a.m. - 8:00 a.m.	Foyer	
	9:30 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.	Foyer	
CONFERENCE REGISTRATION AND CHECK IN HOURS OF OPERATION			
Sunday, August 9th	12:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.	Foyer	
Monday, August 10th	6:30 a.m. - 8:00 a.m.	Foyer	
	9:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.	Foyer	
Tuesday, August 11th	7:00 a.m. - 8:00 a.m.	Foyer	
	9:30 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.	Foyer	
CONFERENCE HELP DESK HOURS OF OPERATON			
Sunday, August 9th	12:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.	Foyer	
Monday, August 10th	6:30 a.m. - 8:00 a.m.	Foyer	
	9:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.	Foyer	
Tuesday, August 11th	7:00 a.m. - 8:00 a.m.	Foyer	
	9:30 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.	Foyer	
Wednesday, August 12th	7:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.	Foyer	