



**Because CIT is developed through community collaborations, it can be accomplished at low cost, through mostly volunteer efforts. In fact, asking partner organizations to commit their resources to CIT creates a sense of ownership over the program, which leads to long term sustainability.**

### Consider the following:

**Coordination and Planning:** Any member of the community partnership – NAMI, the mental health agency, law enforcement, the local college or university, or the local government - may have on their staff a person who can act as coordinator to plan training sessions and coalition meetings.

**Instructors:** Local mental health professionals, educators, consumers and family members are often willing to donate their time as CIT instructors. Contact your local NAMI, your local college or university and your mental health agency.

**Facilities:** Many CIT programs are able to host trainings at the law enforcement training academies or university facilities for little or no cost.

**Materials:** Law enforcement agencies may be willing to donate the cost of pins and brochures. Other printing costs may also be outsourced from within the partnership.

**Salary:** Officers selected for training should be volunteers who are invested in the program, rather than motivated by a pay increase. Some communities, but not all, offer CIT-trained officers a token increase in pay in recognition of their specialized skills. Law enforcement agencies may be to cover any additional staff costs incurred by taking officers off the beat for the training.

**Sustained Funding:** Once your program is established, you may be able to sustain funding for ongoing trainings by opening the classes up to officers from other communities and charging tuition.

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The **Georgia Crisis Intervention Team** conducts the one-week training for 20 officers for a total of \$5000, or **\$250 per officer**. This budget includes a part-time CIT coordinator at NAMI Georgia; funding for research on the outcomes of Georgia CIT; as well as travel and lodging for instructors. (Information courtesy of NAMI Georgia.)

The **Utah Crisis Intervention Team** trains 550 officers across the state of Utah annually with a budget of \$95,000, or approximately **\$175 per officer**. This budget also covers costs for continuing education classes and CIT training for corrections officers. (Information courtesy of Ron Bruno, CIT Utah.)