

Reimagining Public Safety Collaborative

Tompkins County Mental Health Emergency & Crisis Services

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Reimagining Public Safety Collaboration, Tompkins County & City of Ithaca – Read more [here](#).



Mental Health Department Overview

Public Safety-Related Programs and Services:

- Mental Health Mobile Crisis Team 24/7 coverage
- Emerge (domestic violence treatment) and SOAR (Sexual offender treatment)
- Walk-in crisis counseling stabilization
- Narcan training for clients
- Dual Recovery Coordinator services (community training, support and linkage)
- Assisted Outpatient Treatment (AOT) Coordination
- Ithaca Wellness & Recovery Court

Other Programs and Services:

- Personalized Recovery Oriented Services (PROS)
- Medication Assisted Treatment (MAT)
- Child and adult psychotherapy (individual and groups)
- School based therapy
- Supportive counseling and injectable medications
- Child and adult medication management
- Single Point of Entry/Access services



2021 Recommended Budget, Local Dollars (County):

- \$ 1,414,118
 - 65 Full Time Equivalents



Mobile Crisis Team (MCT) Overview

- MCT is 24/7 emergency service that provides crisis evaluations by phone and in the community.
 - Services are available for people of all ages who are at imminent risk of harming themselves or others due to thoughts of suicide, thoughts of homicide, or severe mental health symptoms.
 - These services also provide ongoing consultation with local law enforcement agencies, assisting them in resolving mental health problems that come to their attention.
- MCT responses are activated by Law Enforcement Personnel and/or local Suicide Prevention Crisis Line, 607-272-1616, 800-273-8255



Mobile Crisis Team (MCT) Services

MCT responds to acute mental health crises and provides timely crisis evaluations.

- Licensed mental health professionals determine whether a response should be made in person or on the telephone.
- In the case that hospitalization is needed and the individual in crisis is unwilling or unable to get to the hospital, the professional will execute a NYS Mental Health Hygiene law 9.45 order and request that law enforcement or emergency services assist with transport.
- If a hospital evaluation is not required, the professional will work on Safety Planning and/or brief solutions-focused interventions to stabilize the client.

The MCT follows up with appropriate aftercare, such as referral to:

- TCMH clinic services, including individual psychotherapy and/or psychiatric services
- The TCMHS Personalized Recovery Oriented Services (PROS), an intensive day treatment program
- Community Outreach Workers
- Emergency Housing Services
- Adult Protective Services
- The Advocacy Center
- Cayuga Addiction Recovery Services or The Alcohol & Drug Council
- The Mental Health Association
- Local support and recovery groups

Any other appropriate community service



Mobile Crisis Team (MCT) Responses

Can MCT respond without law enforcement?

- If the MCT professional determines that the response can be handled **remotely** without need for a 9.45, then yes, this type of response does not require law enforcement presence.
- If the MCT professional determines that a mobile response in the field is required, then MCT will **only** respond with law enforcement present.
- MCT also works with multiple ambulance services when an assisted transport to Cayuga Medical Center is required.



Involvement with Crisis Negotiation Team (CNT)

- CNT has specialized training in dealing with violence and weapons and provides on-call assistance to law enforcement agencies for hostage negotiations, barricaded individuals, and other critical incidents.
- A Mental Health Department Forensic Unit social worker is trained as CNT personnel.
- Independent of SWAT team, with co-response model.
- CNT is activated by Law Enforcement Personnel only.
- CNT is always available: 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.



Departmental Merger: Addressing Social Determinants of Health

- We understand social determinants of health are key factors in the health and safety of our community
- Addressing social determinants and root causes of health disparities are foundational to our approach and core to our Strategic Planning process, currently underway.
- The Tompkins County Legislature authorized the merger of Public Health and Mental Health into one department. (December 2019) A shared leadership model has been in place since 2016.



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Community Partnerships

MH & PH Work as Community Conveners

- Community Services Board:
 - Substance Use
 - Developmental Disabilities
 - Mental Health
- Treatment Community
 - Alcohol & Drug Council
 - Cayuga Addiction Recovery Services
 - REACH Medical
 - Cayuga Health System/Cayuga Medical
 - Southern Tier AIDS Program
- Human Service Agencies:
 - Suicide Prevention & Crisis
 - Human Services Coalition/Health Planning Council
 - Family & Children's Service of Ithaca
 - Mental Health Association



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