

# Community Crisis Assistance Team (CCAT)

## Pilot Program Overview

Interim Chief Wendell Shirley

*Police Department*

Chief Jay Hagen

*Fire Department*

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# Information Only

Staff will share an overview of the Community Crisis Assistance Team (CCAT) Pilot Program.





# Agenda

- Background
- CCAT Pilot Program Development
- Program Overview



# Background

## ❖ Individuals experiencing mental behavioral health crises has risen dramatically

- Between 2015 - 2020, BPD officers have responded to over 6,249 calls related to only suicide and mental emotional calls.
- These calls have sharply increased by 56% since 2016.
- Average time a patrol officer spends on a mental health call is 2 hours.

## ❖ Community Expectations

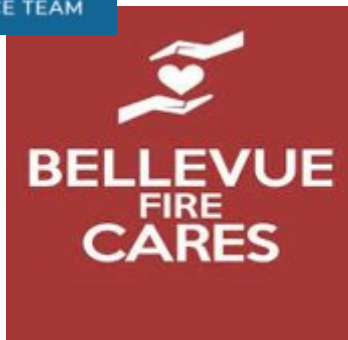
## ❖ Safety Considerations

## ❖ Partnerships





# COMMUNITY CRISIS ASSISTANCE TEAM (CCAT)



CCAT provides a coordinated community response to assist individuals in crisis. CCAT combines law enforcement with local social services/medical organizations and the mental health system to offer individuals a higher level of service.

*\*Make Interactions as Safe as Possible*



# CCAT PILOT OVERVIEW

## CCAT Models Evaluated:

- BPD Officer/CARES MHP
- 2 BPD Officers
- CARES 101

*“When CCAT staff bring a patient in [to the emergency department] they are calmer, less anxious. This allows us to get to work on assessing the patient sooner... CCAT is an important partner. They are out there seeing people in need. So, when patients get out, they [CCAT units] keep up with them... CCAT is filling a gap in the behavioral health system.” Medical Stakeholder*



## Goals

- Improve Community/Police Response to Mental Illness by Diverting Individuals from Criminal Justice System
- Address Underlying Issues to Improve the Quality of Life of Others and Reduce Recidivism

## Desired Outcomes

- Best Serve the Person in Need
- Provide Not Just Immediate Care While the Person is in Crisis but Continuing Resources and Follow Up as Well
- Increase Patrol Time to Focus on Crime
- Reduce Use of Force Incidents, Arrests, and Jail Bookings
- Community Collaboration

# CCAT PILOT RESULTS

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- **Pilot Duration: May 1<sup>st</sup> – August 31, 2021**
- **Academic Program Evaluation – Carol Harper**
- **1,785 Client Contacts**
- **239 Clients Engaged**

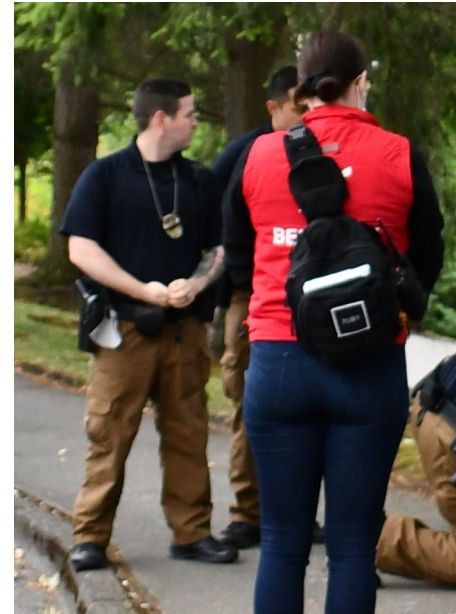




# CCAT Clients

## Client Issues:

- Mental/Behavioral Health (68%)
- Unhoused (44%)
- Substance Use (26%)
- **65% of clients had co-occurring issues**



“Thank you to CCAT and CARES for helping me get sober, I was recently granted access by the court to have visitation with my kids.” – CCAT Client



# Who We Served

- **Hispanic – 3.1%**
- **White – 41.8%**
- **Black – 13.4%**
- **Asian/Pacific Islander – 7.3%**
- **American Indian/Alaska Native – 0.8%**
- **Unknown – 31.4%**
- **Other – 2.3%**
- **Average Age – 42**
- **Male – 54.4%**
- **Female – 40.6%**
- **Not Identified – 3.8%**
- “It’s different when the police stop by once a day, or every couple days, they just say ‘how are you?’ I’m no longer afraid of interactions with the police. I no longer dread ‘em. Now when I see a police officer, I don’t get anxious and antsy.” *An unhoused client*



# CCAT Pilot Results

- **A Majority of Contacts were in Response to 911 Calls**
- **Increased Officer Time Spent on Calls**
- **Increased Diversion Rate from Hospital or Jail**
- **Decreased in Use of Force**



“You helped me calm down a lot and put me in the right headspace to work with you. You were the right person at the right time, and I am grateful. I want to help people like you do. I want to be part of something bigger than myself.” – CCAT Client



# CCAT Outcomes

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- **Community Need**
- **Community Partners**
  - **Congregations for the Homeless, NAMI, Sophia's Way and Overlake Hospital**
- **Citizens/Families Experiencing Behavioral Health Issues**
- **Provided Solutions**
- **One City Approach Fire/Police**
- **Enhanced Quality of Life**





# Next Steps

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- **Final study and analysis report. The report includes:**
  - Interviews with clients, families of clients, community stakeholders, dispatchers, and officers and MHPs that worked on the trial, among others.
  - Data detailing the statistics collected showing the effect that CCAT had on arrests, use of force, and hospitalizations.
  - We will review input provided for integration into future programs.
- **Engaging Bellevue website**
- **Police Advisory Councils**



# Thank You



**The CCAT Officer is my friend, like family. He really cares about us [unhoused persons]. He gives us water, food, and checks on us. I would never think of stealing from businesses here or even throw trash on the ground. Because this is his area. Why would I do that to someone who is like family?”**

**- *An unhoused CCAT client***

