

**Department of Legislative Services**  
 Maryland General Assembly  
 2019 Session

**FISCAL AND POLICY NOTE**  
**Third Reader - Revised**

House Bill 1210  
 Judiciary

(Delegate Charkoudian, *et al.*)

Judicial Proceedings

**Public Safety - Crisis Intervention Team Technical Assistance Center**

This bill establishes a Crisis Intervention Team Technical Assistance Center (CITTAC) in the Governor’s Office of Crime Control and Prevention (GOCCP) to (1) provide technical support to local governments, law enforcement, public safety agencies, behavioral health agencies, and crisis service providers and (2) develop and implement a “crisis intervention model program.” As provided in the State budget, GOCCP may hire specified individuals for CITTAC if the office considers it appropriate. The bill also establishes a Collaborative Planning and Implementation Committee (Collaborative Committee) for CITTAC and provides for the membership and duties of the committee. The operation of CITTAC is subject to the limitations of the State budget, and the operation of both CITTAC and the committee must be supported by appropriations provided in the State budget, grants or other assistance from federal, State, or local government and any other money made available to CITTAC from any public or private source.

**Fiscal Summary**

**State Effect:** Assuming full implementation, general fund expenditures increase by \$173,500 in FY 2020, as discussed below. Future years reflect annualization and inflation. Revenues are not directly affected.

(in dollars)	FY 2020	FY 2021	FY 2022	FY 2023	FY 2024
Revenues	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
GF Expenditure	173,500	211,800	218,900	226,400	234,100
Net Effect	(\$173,500)	(\$211,800)	(\$218,900)	(\$226,400)	(\$234,100)

*Note:() = decrease; GF = general funds; FF = federal funds; SF = special funds; - = indeterminate increase; (-) = indeterminate decrease*

**Local Effect:** Local government finances are not materially affected, but local governments may benefit from any technical assistance provided by CITTAC.

**Small Business Effect:** Minimal.

## **Analysis**

**Bill Summary:** CITTAC must be guided by the Collaborative Committee and may:

- on request, assist a law enforcement agency or local government in implementing a crisis intervention model program;
- provide educational resources to law enforcement to promote crisis intervention team programs; and
- monitor statewide progress for implementation of crisis intervention model programs.

The bill establishes provisions governing the membership and terms of the Collaborative Committee. The committee must:

- review services and training provided by CITTAC;
- develop outcome measures for and evaluation of CITTAC;
- develop recommendations for full implementation of the crisis intervention model program at the municipal, county, and State level; and
- provide general oversight of CITTAC.

Members of the committee may not receive compensation but may be reimbursed for expenses under the standard State travel regulations, as provided in the State budget.

“Crisis intervention model program” means a nationally recognized crisis intervention team program developed and published by the University of Memphis in Tennessee or a comparable nationally recognized crisis intervention team program.

### **Current Law/Background:**

#### *Maryland Behavioral Health Crisis Response System*

The Maryland Behavioral Health Crisis Response System (BHCRS) must (1) operate a statewide network utilizing existing resources and coordinating interjurisdictional services to develop efficient and effective crisis response systems to serve all individuals in the State, 24 hours a day and 7 days a week; (2) provide skilled clinical intervention to help prevent suicides, homicides, unnecessary hospitalizations, and arrests or detention, and to reduce dangerous or threatening situations involving individuals in need of behavioral health services; and (3) respond quickly and effectively to community crisis situations.

In each jurisdiction, a crisis communication center provides a single point of entry to the system and coordination with the local core service agency (CSA) or local behavioral

health authority, police, emergency medical service personnel, and behavioral health providers.

Crisis communication centers *may* provide programs that include the following:

- a clinical crisis telephone line for suicide prevention and crisis intervention;
- a hotline for behavioral health information, referral, and assistance;
- clinical crisis walk-in services, including triage for initial assessment, crisis stabilization until additional services are available, linkage to treatment services and family and peer support groups, and linkage to other health and human services programs;
- critical incident stress management teams providing disaster behavioral health services, critical incident stress management, and an on-call system for these services;
- crisis residential beds to serve as an alternative to hospitalization;
- a community crisis bed and hospital bed registry, including a daily tally of empty beds;
- transportation coordination, ensuring transportation of patients to urgent appointments or to emergency psychiatric facilities;
- mobile crisis teams operating 24 hours a day and 7 days a week to (1) provide assessments, crisis intervention, stabilization, follow-up, and referral to urgent care and (2) arrange appointments for individuals to obtain behavioral health services;
- 23-hour holding beds;
- emergency psychiatric services;
- urgent care capacity;
- expanded capacity for assertive community treatment;
- crisis intervention teams with capacity to respond in each jurisdiction 24 hours a day and 7 days a week; and
- individualized family intervention teams.

The Behavioral Health Administration (BHA) within the Maryland Department of Health (MDH) determines the implementation of BHCRS in collaboration with the local CSA or local behavioral health authority serving each jurisdiction. Additionally, BHCRS must conduct an annual survey of consumers and family members who have received services from the system. Annual data collection is also required on the number of behavioral health calls received by police, attempted and completed suicides, unnecessary hospitalizations, hospital diversions, arrests and detentions of individuals with behavioral health diagnoses, and diversion of arrests and detentions of individuals with behavioral health diagnoses.

Chapter 209 of 2018 established a Behavioral Health Crisis Response Grant Program in MDH to provide funds to local jurisdictions to establish and expand community behavioral health crisis response systems. The Governor must include the following appropriations in the State operating budget for the program: (1) \$3.0 million for fiscal 2020; (2) \$4.0 million for fiscal 2021; and (3) \$5.0 million for fiscal 2022.

### *Behavioral Health Units in Baltimore City and Baltimore County*

Chapter 126 of 2015 required the Baltimore City Police Department (BPD) and the Baltimore County Police Department (BCPD) to each establish, to the extent practicable, a behavioral health unit by October 1, 2016. Training was required to be developed in consultation with BHA. The purpose of the units is to respond to emergency calls involving an individual suspected of having a mental health, substance use, or co-occurring mental health and substance use disorder, with the goals of diverting such an individual into treatment instead of the criminal justice system and preventing and reducing unnecessary use of force and loss of life. Each unit must consist of at least six officers who are specially trained (1) to understand the needs of these individuals and (2) in cultural sensitivity and cultural competency. The requirements of Chapter 126 terminate on June 30, 2019.

On October 1, 2018, [BCPD reported](#) that in 2018 (January through August), BCPD's Mobile Crisis Team (MCT) responded to 1,542 emergency calls for service regarding behavioral health related issues with 225 of the calls resulting in the completion of an emergency petition. The remaining 1,317 calls resulted in MCT providing community resource referral or linkage to mental health resources, or both. Ninety-two of the calls for service resulted in diversion from the criminal justice system.

In January 2017, the U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ) reached agreement on a consent decree with Baltimore City and BPD to address systemic issues identified during a DOJ investigation of BPD. Among other issues, the consent decree outlines requirements for BPD to improve its response to, and interaction with, people with behavioral health issues or who are experiencing a behavioral health crisis. In addition to continuing to utilize the Behavioral Emergency Services Team training program (an existing behavioral health training program for BPD officers), BPD also agreed to provide specialized training for certain officers – these officers will be known as Crisis Intervention Team (CIT) officers and will be called upon to respond to behavioral health crisis incidents in addition to their regular patrol duties. The training for CIT officers must be at least 40 hours of in-person training in areas such as field evaluations, suicide intervention, community behavioral health resources, substance use, and crisis de-escalation. Further, all officers (not just CIT officers) must receive at least eight hours of annual in-service training in crisis response.

### *Emergency Evaluations and Involuntary Admissions*

Under the Health-General Article, specified health professionals and other interested parties may petition for an emergency evaluation of an individual, which may result in the involuntary admission of the individual to a mental disorder treatment facility, if the petitioner has reason to believe that the individual (1) has a mental disorder and (2) presents a danger to the life or safety of the individual or of others. Additionally, on receipt of a valid petition for an emergency evaluation, a peace officer must take the individual to the nearest emergency facility. The peace officer may stay for the duration of the evaluation on request of the evaluating physician if the individual exhibits violent behavior. A peace officer may also petition for an emergency evaluation of an individual if the peace officer personally observed the individual or the individual's behavior. A "peace officer" is defined as a sheriff, deputy sheriff, State police officer, county police officer, municipal or other local police officer, or Secret Service agent.

### *The Memphis Crisis Intervention Team*

The Memphis Crisis Intervention Team (MCIT) is an innovative police-based first responder program that has become nationally known as the "Memphis Model" of pre-arrest jail diversion for those in a mental illness crisis. The program provides law enforcement-based crisis intervention training for helping those individuals with mental illness. Involvement in MCIT is voluntary and based in the patrol division of the police department. In addition, MCIT works in partnership with those in mental health care to provide a system of services that is friendly to the individuals with mental illness, family members, and police officers.

**State Expenditures:** Assuming full implementation, general fund expenditures increase by \$173,453 in fiscal 2020, which accounts for the bill's October 1, 2019 effective date. Future year expenditures reflect annualization and ongoing costs. Costs could be less to the extent GOCCP chooses to implement the bill in a less robust manner, as discussed below.

### *Governor's Office of Crime Control and Prevention*

The bill specifies that the purpose of CITTAC is to provide technical support to local governments, law enforcement, public safety agencies, behavioral health agencies, and crisis services providers and to develop and implement a crisis intervention model program. In addition, the bill provides a model of a fully staffed CITTAC to include a crisis intervention law enforcement coordinator, a mental health coordinator, an advocacy coordinator, and additional coordinators necessary as determined by GOCCP. Assuming full implementation, general fund expenditures for GOCCP increase by \$173,453 in fiscal 2020. This estimate reflects the cost of hiring one coordinator, one research analyst, and one administrative assistant to (1) support the work of CITTAC in providing technical

support to local governments, law enforcement, public safety agencies, behavioral health agencies, and crisis service providers and (2) assist with the development and implementation of a crisis intervention model program in Maryland. It includes salaries, fringe benefits, one-time start-up costs, and ongoing operating expenses.

Positions	3
Salaries and Fringe Benefits	\$157,377
Operating Expenses	<u>16,076</u>
<b>Total FY 2020 GOCCP Expenditures</b>	<b>\$173,453</b>

Future year expenditures reflect full salaries with annual increases and employee turnover and ongoing operating expenses.

However, GOCCP's expenditures could be less if GOCCP chooses to implement the bill in a less robust manner. Although the purpose of CITTAC is to provide technical support and to develop and implement a model program, GOCCP has flexibility with respect to how fully it implements the bill because the bill only *authorizes*, and does not *require*, CITTAC to (1) on request, assist a law enforcement agency or local government in implementing a crisis intervention model; (2) provide educational resources to law enforcement to promote crisis intervention team programs; and (3) monitor statewide progress for implementation of crisis intervention team programs. To the extent that GOCCP chooses not to fully implement the intended purpose of CITTAC, the need for general funds decreases. In addition, to the extent that GOCCP is able to secure grants or other assistance from any public or private source, the need for general funds decreases.

#### *Behavioral Health Administration*

BHCRS, within BHA, is currently required to (1) operate a statewide network utilizing existing resources and coordinating interjurisdictional services to develop efficient and effective crisis response systems to serve all individuals in the State, 24 hours a day and 7 days a week; (2) provide skilled clinical intervention to help prevent suicides, homicides, unnecessary hospitalizations, and arrests or detention, and to reduce dangerous or threatening situations involving individuals in need of behavioral health services; and (3) respond quickly and effectively to community crisis situations. In each jurisdiction, a crisis communication center provides a single point of entry to the system and coordination with the local CSA or local behavioral health authority, police, emergency medical service personnel, and behavioral health providers. While BHA can work with CITTAC using existing budgeted resources, any interdepartmental coordination likely has an operational impact on BHA.

## **Additional Information**

**Prior Introductions:** None.

**Cross File:** SB 815 (Senators Smith and Klausmeier) - Judicial Proceedings.

**Information Source(s):** Montgomery, Washington, and Worcester counties; City of Laurel; Maryland Municipal League; Maryland Department of Health; Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services; University of Memphis; Department of Legislative Services

**Fiscal Note History:**      First Reader - March 1, 2019  
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   Revised - Amendment(s) - March 28, 2019  
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