



WEBINAR ANNOUNCEMENT – March 29, 2021 at 11:00 am – noon

**Police and Mental Health Providers' Use of iPads to Help Residents in Crisis:
Expansion of New York's Program**

The Institute for Police, Mental Health & Community Collaboration, in collaboration with the NYS Office of Mental Health, is currently seeking localities interested in being part of a telehealth program to help residents in distress.

With resources provided by the NYS Senate, we previously piloted a mobile telehealth program to support law enforcement's response to residents experiencing emotional crises. The Mobile Access Program (MAP) began in four counties in Western New York in 2019. Select law enforcement officers in four departments were provided with iPads to facilitate teleconferencing between mental health clinicians (who also were provided with iPads) and individuals in crisis. Upon law enforcement request, and agreement by the person in distress, mental health staff conduct a remote 'face-to-face' evaluation to help plan for an appropriate disposition. The main goals of the program are to increase the availability of timely mental health consultations and avoid unnecessary transports of individuals to hospitals.

We will soon be expanding the program to additional sites and are especially interested in rural areas and localities that do not have mobile crisis teams. Law enforcement personnel are encouraged to reach out to your County Mental Health Department to discuss implementing this in your jurisdiction. Likewise, County Directors of Community Services are urged to discuss this with a police/sheriff's department in your region where you think this program might be especially helpful.

The webinar on **March 29th at 11:00 am** will introduce the program and review relevant outcome data. A law enforcement jurisdiction currently participating in the program will share their perspective. In addition, a mental health provider that conducts consultations to three Sheriff's Departments via iPads will be part of our panel. Finally, we will outline the process for applying to be part of the program and answer questions, as time allows.

Registration link: https://ccsi.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_Tfwn0NVORiWt2pqUIJDKMA