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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Michigan Crisis Intervention Team (CIT) Conference 2022



(Left to right) Andrea Smith, Eric Doeh, Chief James White, Chief Erick Zinser, Sheriff Ray Washington, Sheriff Michael Bouchard, Dana Lasenby, Trisha Zizumbo.

OAKLAND COUNTY, MI (May 4, 2022) – Oakland Community Health Network (OCHN) and Detroit Wayne Integrated Health Network (DWIHN) hosted the Michigan Crisis Intervention Team (CIT) Conference. On May 2-3, 2022, law enforcement officers from all over Michigan collaborated with mental health professionals to promote a safe response to individuals experiencing a mental health crisis.

This is the third annual conference, first held in 2018 and 2019 before taking a hiatus due to COVID-19 and resuming in 2022. The conference brings together law enforcement, mental health professionals, individuals served, advocates, and partners to learn about best practices for CIT training and program implementation, tips for interacting with individuals experiencing a mental health crisis, and more. Speakers included Ernie Stevens from the HBO Documentary *Ernie & Joe: Crisis Cops*, Chief Jim Blocker from Battle Creek, and 16 other speaker and breakout sessions. More information can be found at www.oaklandchn.org/MICIT2022.

About OCHN

OCHN is contracted by the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services to lead a provider service network that assists approximately 23,000 Oakland County citizens at more than 300 service sites across the county. People who receive public behavioral health services through OCHN's provider network include those who have an intellectual or developmental disability, mental health challenge, or substance use disorder. Most of these individuals have Medicaid insurance coverage.

OCHN's goal is to ensure these individuals are aware of and have access to services and supports that will improve their health and quality of life, as well as ensure their engagement in full community participation. Its mission to "inspire hope, empower people, and strengthen communities" reflects an unyielding belief in a "Valuable System for Valued People." Programs and supports provided by OCHN's service network are available at www.oaklandchn.org.

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