



Mental Health Unit Overview

Chief William McManus

Public Safety Committee – January 21, 2020



Recognition

In 2008, the SAPD created the Mental Health Unit which has become an internationally-recognized program



Advancing 21st Century Policing Initiative



Purpose

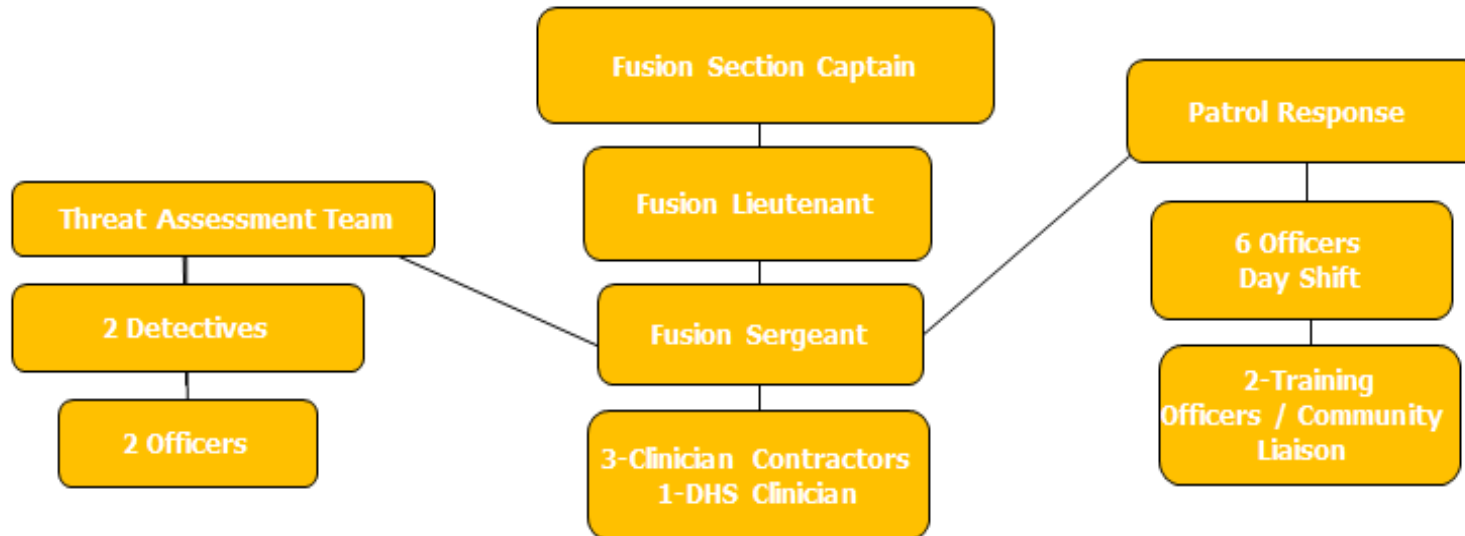
- **Enhance public safety and response to chronically homeless, mentally ill and chemically dependent**
 - Foster trust among the mentally ill and homeless
 - Forge partnerships with advocacy agencies
 - Identify and support high utilizers and those that pose potential public safety risk
 - Enhance officer/community response through crisis intervention training





Organization

In 2018, the MHU became part of the Fusion Center to promote coordination and information sharing on individuals in crisis and potential public safety issues





IMPACT Team

Comprised of members of the SAPD Mental Health Unit and SAFD EMS Mobile Integrated Healthcare Team with the following objectives:

- Improve public safety and quality of life
- Accurately identify immediate medical need(s)
- Create streamlined treatment process
- Introduce case management to achieve long-term success



HOPE Team

Created in 2016, the HOPE Team is comprised of two officers that outreach to the homeless community to provide information on available resources and services

- 4,088 contacts
- 4,863 referrals
- 1,175 Texas ID Recoveries
- 400 birth certificates





Chronic Crisis Stabilization Initiative

Purpose

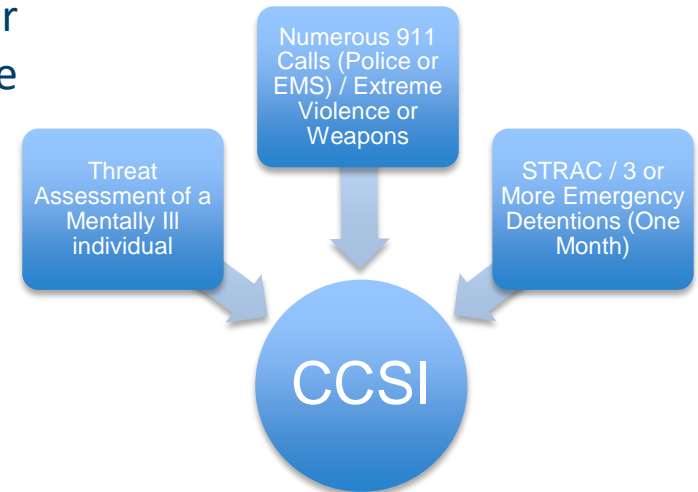
Identify individuals with a serious mental illness that have a high number of 911 calls for service or violence/threat of violence at the time of police encounter

Goal

Address mental health issues of individuals and reduce the frequency of contact with law enforcement

2018 Results

43 individuals placed in the program and, after case management, calls to police in the last quarter reduced by approximately 68%





Program for Intensive Care Coordination

Collaboration between SAPD, SAFD, Center for Health Care Services (CHCS) and the Southwest Texas Regional Advisory Council (STRAC)

- Funding from the South Texas Crisis Collaborative (STCC) to reduce the number of high volume emergency detentions to local hospitals
- Officers assist with early intervention through assessments, navigation to the appropriate facility, and assist in monitoring patient's treatment plan and conduct follow up visits.



THE CENTER
FOR HEALTH CARE SERVICES
Mental Health & Substance Abuse Solutions





Threat Assessments



Mental Health Threat Assessment Team

- Mental Health Unit
- Fusion Center
- San Antonio Fire Department
- Bexar County Sheriff Office

Assess and manage public safety threats by individuals diagnosed with possible mental illness.



Crisis Intervention Training

- **Cadets**
 - 40 hours – Crisis Intervention Training
 - Exceeds 16 hour State Requirement
- **Officers**
 - 8 Hours – In Service CIT Training





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