



Legislative Fiscal Bureau

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TO: Members
Joint Committee on Finance

FROM: Bob Lang, Director

SUBJECT: Assembly Bill 450: Grants for Crisis Intervention Team Training

Assembly Bill 450 was introduced on October 18, 2013, and referred to the Assembly Committee on Health. On November 6, the Assembly Committee on Health recommended passage of the bill by a vote of 9 to 0. On November 12, the Assembly recommended the bill for passage by a vote of 94 to 0. The bill was messaged to the Senate and, on November 14, referred to the Joint Committee on Finance.

Assembly Bill 450 would provide \$125,000 GPR annually, beginning in 2013-14, to the Department of Health Services (DHS) to award grants for mental health crisis intervention team (CIT) training for law enforcement agencies and correctional officers.

BACKGROUND

CIT is a program that trains police officers to effectively respond to citizens experiencing a behavioral crisis. The training is 40 hours long and consists of lectures on mental health-related topics, available community-based services, interactive de-escalation skills training, and on-site visits. Participating law enforcement officers are usually patrol officers that volunteer for the training. The National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI) Fox Valley started the first CIT program in Wisconsin with the Appleton Police Department in 2004. Since then, NAMI Fox Valley has completed 12 training sessions in Appleton, completed two advanced CIT classes, and certified more than 450 officers. Additional trainings began with police departments in Milwaukee County and the City of La Crosse in 2006, Racine County in 2009, and Kenosha County in 2010. The Milwaukee County Sheriff's Department also started CIT training in 2006, but moved the trainings to Waukesha County in conjunction with the Waukesha County Sheriff's Department in 2011.

In addition to the standard CIT training, the Appleton, Racine, Kenosha, and Waukesha sites also provide crisis intervention partner (CIP) training. CIP training is two days long and is targeted to peripheral personnel that assist police officers as first responders, such as corrections officers,

dispatchers, clergy, nurses and emergency room staff, transit and library staff, and social workers. The training consists of an introduction to mental illness, a review of the family and consumer perspective, de-escalation techniques, suicide assessment, and problem solving techniques. NAMI and the Department of Corrections have worked to bring the CIP training to 400 correctional officers.

The objectives of the CIT training include: (1) reduced injuries among the public, mental health consumers, and officers; (2) a reduction in repeat contacts with mental health consumers; (3) reduced criminalization of mental health consumers that interact with the criminal justice system; (4) better working relationships between law enforcement and mental health providers; (5) increased involvement of friends and family of mental health consumers; (6) fewer civil commitments; and (7) lower costs through better use of services.

In calendar year 2013, the former Office of Justice Assistance (OJA) provided \$424,899 FED through nine grants for CIT and CIP training. The grants are currently administered by the Department of Justice (DOJ). Table 1 shows the list of grantees and the amount of the award they received.

TABLE 1

Federal CIT Grants Administered by DOJ (formerly OJA) in Calendar Year 2013

<u>Agency</u>	<u>Purpose</u>	<u>Award</u>
Kenosha County	Behavioral Health Treatment Court	\$60,583
Appleton, City of	Crisis Intervention Training	2,439
Bayfield County	Crisis Intervention Team and Partners Training	73,052
Green Lake County	Crisis Intervention Training	48,173
Kenosha County	Crisis Intervention Team Training	37,509
La Crosse, City of	Advanced CIT Training	35,608
Racine County	Crisis Intervention Team and Partnership Training	49,035
Rock County	Crisis Intervention Team Training	50,000
Waukesha County	Crisis Intervention Team and Partner Training	<u>68,500</u>
Total		\$424,899

Since May, 2011, OJA has provided 21 grants for a total of \$1,236,588 FED with an average grant amount of \$58,885. Federal funding for the grants came from the Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant.

DHS provided a five-year grant to five county consortia to meet medical assistance (MA) certification standards for crisis stabilization and CIT training. The grants are eligible to have 50% of the costs funded with federal matching funds as MA administrative costs. DHS uses GPR from the hospital diversion program to fund the state share of the grants. Table 2 shows the grantees and the amount of the grant they received, by funding source.

TABLE 2

Five-Year Regional Planning and Training Grants Administered by DHS

<u>Agency</u>	<u>FED</u>	<u>GPR</u>	<u>All Funds</u>
Bayfield County	\$8,800	\$8,800	\$17,600
Milwaukee County	68,500	68,500	137,000
Sauk County	33,773	33,773	67,546
University of Wisconsin - Green Bay	110,000	110,000	220,000
Washburn County	<u>10,000</u>	<u>10,000</u>	<u>20,000</u>
Total	\$231,073	\$231,073	\$462,146

SUMMARY OF BILL

The bill would provide \$125,000 GPR annually, beginning in 2013-14 in a new biennial appropriation, for DHS to award as grants for mental health CIT training for law enforcement agencies and correctional officers.

"Law enforcement agencies" are defined to include, by cross-reference, a governmental unit of one or more persons employed full time by the state or political subdivision of the state for the purpose of preventing and detecting crime and enforcing state laws or local ordinances, employees of which unit are authorized to make arrests for crimes while acting within the scope of their authority. "Correctional officers" are defined to include, by cross-reference, any person employed by the state or any political subdivision as a guard or officer whose principal duties are supervision and discipline of inmates at a penal institution, prison, jail, house of correction, or other place of penal detention.

FISCAL EFFECT

The bill would increase funding available for CIT grants by \$125,000 GPR annually, beginning in 2013-14.

In its fiscal note to the bill, DHS identified the need for 0.6 contract specialist position to review grant applications, award grants, issue contracts, distribute grant funding and monitor contracts, with an estimated annual cost of approximately \$35,100. However, as the bill would not provide additional resources for DHS to conduct these activities, DHS would be required to administer the program with current authorized staff.

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