



**Ravalli County's Crisis Intervention Team (CIT) Training  
7<sup>th</sup> Annual Basic Academy**

**Date:** May 12-16, 2025

**Time:** 0800-1700 Hours

**Cost:** \$125.00

**Location:** Hamilton Fire Department  
247 Foxfield St.  
Hamilton, MT 59840

**Training Description:** This voluntary, 40-hour Crisis Intervention Team (CIT) Basic Academy, based on best practices from nationwide CIT Programs, educates law enforcement toward becoming certified CIT Officers. Participants receive intensive training related to recognizing mental illness and/or co-occurring substance use disorders and/or a behavioral health crisis. Participants will have opportunities to practice implementing appropriate and safe responses to individuals experiencing behavioral health crises. CIT training is an in-depth, specialized course for law enforcement personnel. This five-day course includes presentations from experienced field officers, behavioral health specialists, and community service providers. Participants will receive training in topics about mental illness including signs and symptoms, co-occurring disorders, child and adolescent behavioral health, developmental disabilities, psychotropic medications, law enforcement response, and legal considerations. Participants will learn and practice advanced communication and de-escalation techniques through realistic scenario role-play activities. Participants will also have the unique opportunity to engage in conversations with individuals currently managing mental illness to better understand their experiences and enhance engagement with a diversity of community members. Certified CIT Officers are members of a multi-agency "CIT Team" within our wider community CIT Program. While the week-long training is primarily designed for sworn law enforcement officers with at least two years of experience preferred, CIT encourages participation from professionals working in behavioral health crisis response. Dispatchers, 911 call takers, detention officers, probation and parole officers, hospital security personnel, mental health professionals, and fire and emergency medical services are also welcome to attend the Academy to continue integrating the CIT model across our community. This training has been approved by POST. In order to certify attendance, participants must be present for all training hours. Upon successful completion, sworn participants will receive a certificate and a CIT Montana uniform pin. CIT Certification is valid for two years and requires 6 continuing education units to maintain certification.

**How to apply:** Please visit: <https://forms.office.com/r/hA3LFt6up5> and complete the Registration Form. The registration form and full payment must be complete and received by April 7, 2025.

**Please make tuition checks payable and mail to:**

Ravalli County Treasurer  
Attn: CIT Program  
205 Bedford, Suite G  
Hamilton, MT 59840

**Class size:** 30 participants with priority for law enforcement officers and deputies.

For assistance with the registration form, cancellations and any further questions, please contact Jaime Biesiot, Behavioral Health Manager, Ravalli County Sheriff's Office at [jbiesiot@rc.mt.gov](mailto:jbiesiot@rc.mt.gov) (406) 550-1636.