

CIT Graduates at SCDC Now Number 100

The South Carolina Department of Corrections held a fourth class in Crisis Intervention at the Training Academy in Columbia during the week of May 18, 2015. Twenty-six personnel were trained during the week bringing the total number of Crisis Intervention Team graduates at SCDC institutions up to 100.

This class was significant in that it was the first trained by Department of Corrections' personnel, solely. Staff from the Division of Behavioral, Mental Health and Substance Abuse and the Division of Training and Staff Development were the instructors of the SCDC developed curriculum. The latest class was also unique in that two health services employees, the first non-uniformed staff to be CIT trained at SCDC, joined their fellow correctional officers in graduating.

Mr. Lefford Fate, Deputy Director for Health Services for the Department of Corrections, served as the special guest speaker at the graduation ceremonies.

The South Carolina Department of Corrections partnered with the National Institute of Corrections (NIC) to serve as a pilot program and training site for Crisis Intervention Team training beginning in late June of 2014. The initial class had 25 graduates. The next two CIT classes were trained by individuals from the National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI) adding another 49 correctional officers to the list of graduates.

With the latest class, SCDC now has CIT trained correctional officers and non-uniformed staff at 12 of its 24 institutions across the state. The agency's current goal is to have 25% of its uniformed staff certified within five years of its implementation of the CIT training. The next Crisis Intervention Team training session is scheduled for the week of August 17-21, 2015 at the Training Academy in Columbia.





The South Carolina Department of Corrections' CIT Class #004