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CIT in Virginia

History, Status, and Vision

- **“It’s more than just training.”**
- **Two Main Goals:**
 - **1. Improve safety for all involved**
 - **2. Keep those with mental illness related crises out of the criminal justice system**

What is it?

- **40 Community Services Boards**
- **The Localities with active CIT programs are part of a voluntary Coalition**
 - **Essential Elements**
<http://www.dbhds.virginia.gov/library/forensics/of0%20-%20vacitessentialelements.pdf>
- **Funds currently from General State Budget**

Virginia at a Glance

- **Virginia Code §37.2-808**
- “...probable cause to believe that any person (i) has a mental illness and that there exists a substantial likelihood that, as a result of mental illness, the person will, in the near future, (a) cause serious physical **harm to himself or others** as evidenced by recent behavior causing, attempting, or threatening harm and other relevant information, if any, or (b) **suffer serious harm due to his lack of capacity** to protect himself from harm or to provide for his basic human needs, (ii) is in need of hospitalization or treatment, and (iii) is unwilling to volunteer or incapable of volunteering for hospitalization or treatment...”

Virginia Emergency Custody

- **Under Virginia Code:**
 - **CSB Responsibility for Pre-Screen**
- **When there is an issued Emergency Custody Order (ECO), magistrate will designate primary law enforcement agency, or with discretion, an alternative transportation provider**

Virginia Emergency Custody

- **Mental Health Authority**
- **Law Enforcement (Police, Sheriff, Jail Authorities)**
- **Local Advocates (NAMI, Wounded Warrior, etc.)**
- **Peer Organizations**
- **Hospital Staff**
- **Others as determined by locality**

Partnerships

**If there is a
system in place,
then why go
through so much
trouble?**

- **2001-New River Valley, initial visit to Memphis to learn**
- **2004 - Returned to Memphis for Core training**
 - **Implementation in other localities**
- **Returned to Memphis for TTT course**
 - **Training to other growing programs**

In The Beginning...

- **2009**

- **Changes to VA Code to support CIT**

- **§9.1-102, 9.1-187, 188, 189, 190**

- **TTT Funds**

- **Conducted 40 Hour Core across Virginia**
- **Established traveling trainer group**

- **2011**

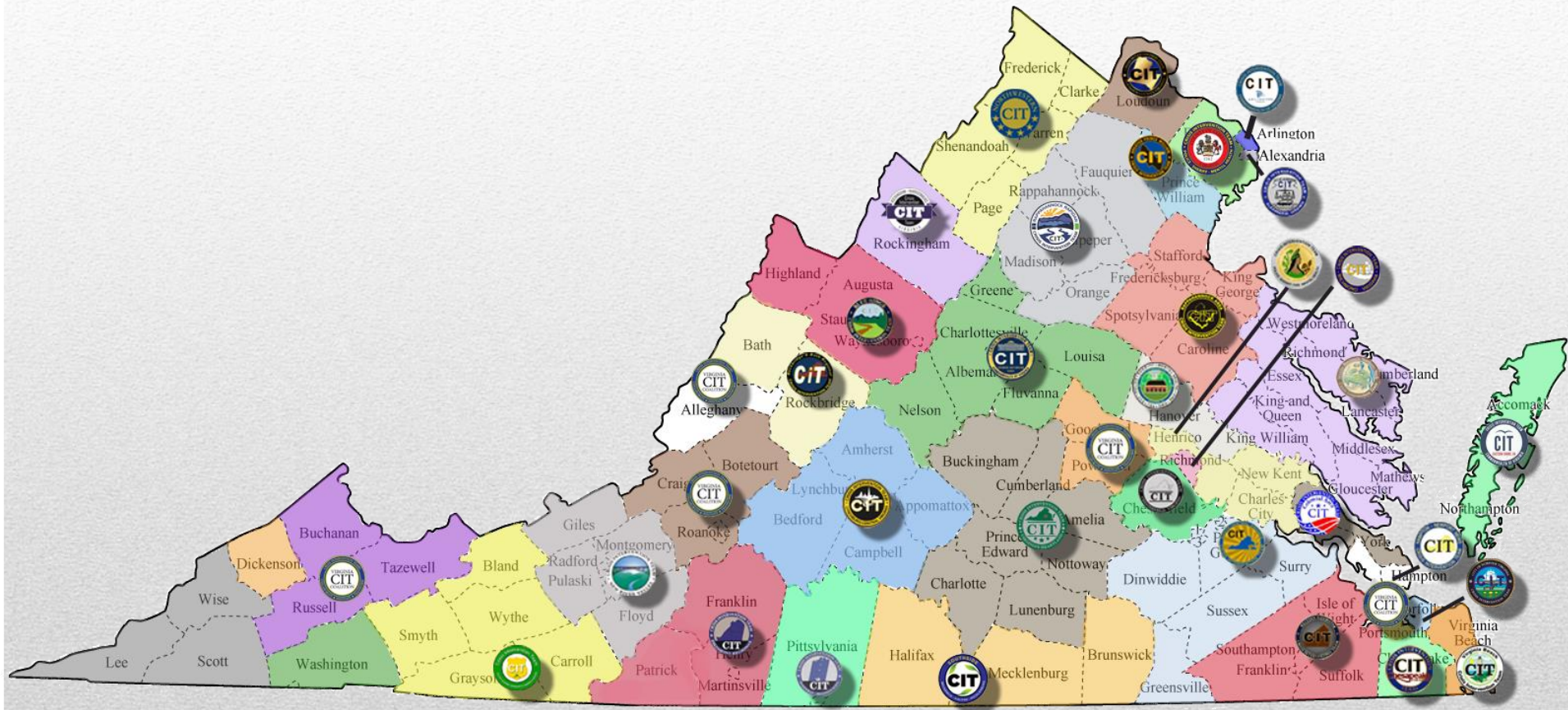
- ***Essential Elements for the Commonwealth of Virginia's CIT Programs***
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- **Virginia Essential Elements**
 - **Strive to maintain core of Memphis Model**
 - **Outlines key features and expectations for a program to succeed including:**
 - **Choice of officers**
 - **When to train officers**
 - **Core elements of training program**
 - **Flexibility to address local needs**

Consistency

- **35 CIT programs**
- **CIT trained first responders in programs that reach about 85% of Virginia's population**
- **Assessment Sites in areas covering about 78% of population.**

Virginia CIT



- **Over 11,000 total trained in CIT in Virginia**
- **There are over 7,700 CIT trained first responders currently working in VA programs**
- **Currently no state funding for CIT programs including costs for training**

Current Statistics

- **VACIT Coalition**
 - **Improved Representation**
 - **Greater Responsibility**
 - **Seeking Funding**

The Future



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