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For Immediate Release

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Detroit Wayne Integrated Health Network's Crisis Training Program Wins National Accolades

DETROIT, MI-- August 20, 2021 – The State's largest community mental health organization, the Detroit Wayne Integrated Health Network (DWIHN), is being recognized nationally by Crisis Intervention Training (CIT) International as CIT Program of the Year.

"This is a tremendous honor for DWIHN, the people we serve and our region," said DWIHN President & CEO Eric Doeh. "We have an incredible team that works countless hours ensuring law enforcement is given every tool possible to ensure people in crisis or those having mental health challenges are provided with the access and the proper resources to get the help they need."

The Detroit-Wayne CIT Program's launched in September 2019 and its primary purpose is to facilitate understanding, development, and implementation of CIT programs based on the "Memphis Model". The focus is to promote and support collaborative efforts to create and sustain more effective interactions among law enforcement, behavioral health care providers, individuals with mental illness, their families and communities, and to reduce stigma related to mental illness. The Gold Certified program works to accomplish this purpose by:

- Raising public & stakeholder awareness through education and outreach
- Establishing & disseminating recommended standards for developing, implementing & sustaining CIT programs
- Providing assistance to communities interested in developing CIT programs
- Supporting research & evaluation of CIT programs.

"I am honored and humbled that the DWIHN CIT program has been recognized nationally," said Andrea Smith, Director of DWIHN's Workforce Training & Program Development & CIT Director. "Working alongside law enforcement and teaching them how to work with and help people in crisis is truly a rewarding experience. This intensive training will help keep people out of hospitals and jails and connect them to much-needed mental health resources provided by DWIHN."

The Detroit-Wayne CIT program has trained officers from 23 police agencies and has gone from offering 5 trainings to 10 annually. The Detroit-Wayne CIT Program was also recognized with the CIT Best Pin Award which was competing with 20 other programs. For more information about the CIT program, please visit: <https://www.detroitwaynecit.org/>

DWIHN is the largest and most diverse Community Mental Health system in Michigan, serving 75,000 adults with serious mental illness, substance use disorder, intellectual and developmental disabilities and children with serious emotional disturbance. For more information and to take a free mental health assessment, visit, www.dwihn.org

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