

Sparks Police Department

and

Northern Nevada Adult Mental
Health Services

Present

Mobile Outreach & Safety Team
(MOST)

MOST MISSION STATEMENT

To enhance the safety of our community by bringing the opportunity for recovery to those who suffer from mental illness.

Essentially, the point of the Program is to intervene with a mentally ill person sooner so that they do not reach the point where they need psychiatric hospitalization or end up in the legal system. The advantages of early intervention to the individual, law enforcement and taxpayers are self-evident.

WHO STAFFS THE PROGRAM?

- Two staff members (Lisa Leatham and Randee Hill) from Northern Nevada Adult Mental Health Services (NNAMHS). They are Licensed Clinical Social Workers (LCSW).
 - Currently there are six officers, one sergeant and one lieutenant assigned to the program as a collateral duty.
 - NNAMHS personnel will ride with officers to provide outreach and services to members of the community.
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WHO THEY HELP

- MOST is primarily designed to help those with mental illness. Schizophrenia and Bi-Polar Disorder are two of the more common examples.
 - They can also:
 - Initiate legal holds
 - Provide basic referral services
 - Follow-up on clients who need more than one contact
 - Perform outreach to those that are not engaged with mental health services
 - Collect data
 - Educate the community on the benefits of the MOST program
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HOW DO THEY HELP?

- Contact can come from:
 - Contact during patrol time
 - Referrals from other officers
 - Requests from family members
 - Sometimes the Team makes a one-time only contact. Other times they may plan to see the client on a regular schedule to assist them, thus not requiring a higher, more expensive and disruptive level of care.
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HOW DO THEY HELP?

- MOST team members are educated on community resources and where to guide the client for assistance.
 - They know the process for admissions to Dini-Townsend and West Hills Hospitals.
 - They know how to reach case managers and others in the system to facilitate actions that may result in resolving the issue rather than having to initiate a hold.
 - They have access to NNAHMS electronic files.
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MOST PROGRAM

- MOST has been working with the Reno Police Department for more than three years.
 - Data for 2011 shows that they had more than 700 client contacts, with significant spikes in contact occurring in October, November and December.
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WHAT THAT MEANS FOR THE CITY OF SPARKS

- In 2011, Sparks Police went to many calls that dealt with mental issues.
 - 370 calls classified as "mental"
 - 89 attempted suicide calls

This means we would have at least 459 opportunities to have a more positive impact for people in our community.

MOST PROGRAM

- Sparks Police Officers are being scheduled to ride with Reno Police Department Officers so that they can see firsthand how the MOST program works. We are doing this so that our officers will have a working knowledge of the program from the day it is implemented here.
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