




HAMILTON POLICE SERVICE

INFORMATION REPORT

TO:	Chair and Members Hamilton Police Services Board
BOARD MEETING DATE:	May 25, 2023
SUBJECT:	2022 Year End Report – Crisis Response Branch
REPORT NUMBER:	23-044
SUBMITTED BY:	Frank Bergen, Chief of Police
SIGNATURE:	

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This report is submitted to the Police Services Board each year to report on the Crisis Response Branch and Hamilton Police Service's response to persons with a mental illness, in crisis, and serving other high needs, marginalized and vulnerable individuals.

INFORMATION

The Hamilton Police Service (HPS) Crisis Response Branch (CRB) in partnership with a number of community agencies, developed multiple responses to support vulnerable and marginalized individuals and those experiencing mental health issues.

In April 2015, Hamilton Police created the Crisis Response Branch (CRB) by combining the following three programs:

- Crisis Outreach and Support Team (COAST). Police officers in plain clothes and St Joseph's Hospital mental health workers.
- Mobile Crisis Rapid Response Team (MCRRT). Police officers in uniform and St. Joseph's Hospital mental health workers.
- Social Navigator Program (SNP). Police officers in uniform and Emergency Medical Services (EMS) paramedics.

In 2022, the CRB expanded to include:

- Rapid Intervention Support Team (RIST). Police officers in uniform and eight members from seven different community outreach organizations.

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Mission: To serve and protect in partnership with our communities.

Our Values: Compassionate, Dedicated, Inclusive, Integrity, Innovative, Professional, Teamwork

- Encampment Engagement Team (EET). This pilot program provides support for Municipal Law Enforcement Officers (MLEO) with dedicated police officers.

These programs have decreased the number of persons being brought to hospital emergency departments and increased the number of individuals being connected with social service agencies. The initiatives have reduced apprehension rates, improved care for clients, and lessened the impact on the judicial and health care system.

The CRB reports to the Superintendent of the Community Safety Division.

APPENDICES AND SCHEDULES ATTACHED

Appendix A – 2022 Crisis Response Branch Annual Report

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c: Paul Hamilton, Deputy Chief – Support
Shawn Blaj, Superintendent – Community Safety Division
Frank Miscione, Inspector – Community Mobilization

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