

Committee: Joint

Committee Review: At a future date

Staff: Christine Wellons, Senior Legislative Attorney **Purpose:** To receive testimony – no vote expected

AGENDA ITEM#7 January 16, 2024 **Public Hearing**

SUBJECT

Bill 43-23, Crisis Intervention Team - Established

Lead Sponsor: Councilmember Luedtke

EXPECTED ATTENDEES

Members of the public.

COUNCIL DECISION POINTS & COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

• N/A; to receive testimony.

DESCRIPTION/ISSUE

Bill 43-23 would:

- (1) establish a crisis intervention team as a joint program of the Montgomery County Police Department and the County Department of Health and Human Services;
- (2) prescribe the responsibilities and duties of the crisis intervention team;
- (3) permit the participation of other law enforcement entities in the crisis intervention team;
- (4) require the development of a sequential intercept model for individuals in the County experiencing crises related to mental health, behavioral health, or substance use disorder;
- (5) establish an advisory committee to support the crisis intervention team;
- (6) specify the membership, responsibilities, and staffing of the advisory committee;
- (7) require annual reporting and program evaluation; and
- (8) generally amend the laws regarding policing, law enforcement, services for mental and behavioral health needs, and services for individuals with substance use disorders.

SUMMARY OF KEY DISCUSSION POINTS

The bill will be considered by the Public Safety and Health and Human Services Committees.

This report contains:

Staff Report	Pages 1-2
Bill 43-23	© 1
Economic Impact Statement	© 9
Climate Assessment	© 12

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MEMORANDUM

January 11, 2024

TO: County Council

FROM: Christine Wellons, Senior Legislative Attorney

SUBJECT: Bill 43-23, Crisis Intervention Team - Established

PURPOSE: Public hearing – to receive testimony

Council Bill 43-23, Crisis Intervention Team - Established, sponsored by Lead Sponsor Councilmember Luedtke, was introduced on December 5, 2023. A public hearing is scheduled for January 16, 2024, and a joint Public Safety (PS) & Health and Human Services (HHS) Committee worksession is scheduled for February 5, 2024.

Bill 43-23 would:

- (1) establish a crisis intervention team as a joint program of the Montgomery County Police Department and the County Department of Health and Human Services;
- (2) prescribe the responsibilities and duties of the crisis intervention team;
- (3) permit the participation of other law enforcement entities in the crisis intervention team:
- (4) require the development of a sequential intercept model for individuals in the County experiencing crises related to mental health, behavioral health, or substance use disorder;
- (5) establish an advisory committee to support the crisis intervention team;
- (6) specify the membership, responsibilities, and staffing of the advisory committee;
- (7) require annual reporting and program evaluation; and
- (8) generally amend the laws regarding policing, law enforcement, services for mental and behavioral health needs, and services for individuals with substance use disorders.

BACKGROUND/PURPOSE

Bill 43-23 would establish a Crisis Intervention Team (CIT) within the County government, for the purpose of more effectively responding to residents' crises involving mental health, behavioral health, or substance use disorder.

BILL SPECIFICS

The CIT would be jointly staffed and run by the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) and the Montgomery County Police Department (MCPD). Participation of other law enforcement entities would be permitted subject to written agreements with the County.

The CIT would have several primary duties, including:

- establishing and enhancing a sequential intercept model for diverting individuals experiencing a mental or behavioral health crisis or substance use disorder crisis from the criminal justice system and into treatment; and
- responding to acute incidents in the County where there is a significant risk of harm to the individual in crisis or to someone else, and there is reason to believe that the individual has an underlying mental or behavioral health condition or coexisting substance use disorder.

The bill would require the co-location of CIT members from DHHS and MCPD in disparate geographic areas throughout the County. The CIT would be required to focus upon mental or behavioral health responses; the bill would provide: "Unless there is a significant risk of harm to the individual in crisis or to someone else, the primary response for an individual experiencing a mental or behavioral health crisis or health crisis related to substance use disorder should be with mobile crisis or emergency medical services clinicians."

To advise the CIT and to prepare an annual report, the bill would create a 15-member Advisory Committee on Crisis Intervention. The annual report would include detailed information, disaggregated when possible by race, ethnicity, gender, gender identity, and age, regarding: public safety service calls related to mental health, behavioral health, or substance abuse disorders; petitions for emergency evaluations; individuals diverted from emergency rooms to other supports; individuals served by the County's 24-hour Crisis Center; service calls involving dangerous weapons; and service calls and incidents involving co-occurring criminal activity and charges.

This packet contains:	<u>Circle #</u>
Bill 43-23	© 1
Economic Impact Statement	© 9
Climate Assessment	© 12

Bill No			43	<u>3-23</u>	
Concerning: C	Crisis	Interver	ition	Tea	m -
<u>Establishe</u>	d				
Revised: 11/	21/23	[Draft	No.	8
Introduced:	Dece	ember 5,	202	3	
Expires:	Dece	ember 7,	202	6	
Enacted:					
Executive:					
Effective:					
Sunset Date:	Non	е			
Ch La	ws of	Mont Co	· _		

COUNTY COUNCIL FOR MONTGOMERY COUNTY, MARYLAND

Lead Sponsor: Councilmember Luedtke

AN ACT to:

- (1) establish a crisis intervention team as a joint program of the Montgomery County Police Department and the County Department of Health and Human Services;
- (2) prescribe the responsibilities and duties of the crisis intervention team;
- (3) permit the participation of other law enforcement entities in the crisis intervention team;
- (4) require the development of a sequential intercept model for individuals in the County experiencing crises related to mental health, behavioral health, or substance use disorder;
- (5) establish an advisory committee to support the crisis intervention team;
- (6) specify the membership, responsibilities, and staffing of the advisory committee;
- (7) require annual reporting and program evaluation; and
- (8) generally amend the laws regarding policing, law enforcement, services for mental and behavioral health needs, and services for individuals with substance use disorders.

By adding

Montgomery County Code Chapter 24, Health and Sanitation Article XI, Crisis Intervention Teams Sections 24-77, 24-78, 24-79, 24-80, 24-81, 24-82, 24-83, and 24-84

The County Council for Montgomery County, Maryland approves the following Act:

Boldface	Heading or defined term.
<u>Underlining</u>	Added to existing law by original bill.
[Single boldface brackets]	Deleted from existing law by original bill.
Double underlining	Added by amendment.
[[Double boldface brackets]]	Deleted from existing law or the bill by amendment.
* * *	Existing law unaffected by bill.

1	Sec. 1. Article XI, Sections 24-77, 24-78 24-79, 24-80, 24-81, 24-82, 24-83, and 24-
2	84 are added as follows:
3	ARTICLE XI. CRISIS INTERVENTION TEAM
4	24-77. Definitions.
5	In this Article, the following terms have the meanings indicated.
6	Advisory committee or committee means the Advisory Committee on Crisis
7	Intervention established under Section 24-82.
8	Crisis intervention model program has the meaning set forth at Section 3-522
9	of the Public Safety Article of the Maryland Code, as amended.
10	Crisis intervention team, CIT, or team means a group of individuals designated
11	under Sections 24-78 and 24-79 to perform the duties specified under Sections
12	24-80 and 24-81, where law enforcement officers and clinicians are co-located
13	and deployed in an integrated fashion.
14	Health department means the Montgomery County Department of Health and
15	Human Services.
16	Law enforcement entity means a public law enforcement agency, other than the
17	Montgomery County Police Department.
18	Police department means the Montgomery County Police Department.
19	Sequential intercept model means a plan, specific to the County, that details
20	how individuals with mental, behavioral, and substance use disorders:
21	(1) come into contact with and move through the criminal justice
22	system; and
23	(2) <u>obtain referrals to other wraparound services.</u>
24	<u>24-78. Crisis intervention team – established.</u>
25	(a) There is a crisis intervention team within the County government
26	consisting of:
27	(1) <u>designees of the health department;</u>

28		(2) <u>designees of the police department; and</u>
29		(3) participants of other law enforcement entities under Section 24-
30		<u>79.</u>
31	<u>(b)</u>	Each member of the team must meet minimum qualifications
32		established by their home agency to be assigned to the team in addition
33		to all other licensing, credentialling and continuing education
34		requirements imposed by State or federal law applicable to the
35		respective disciplines.
36	<u>(c)</u>	A member of the team designated by the Chief of the police department,
37		and a member of the team designated by the Director of the health
38		department, jointly must direct the operations of the team.
39	<u>(d)</u>	The health department and police department, which will have equal
40		responsibility in overseeing the crisis intervention team, must establish a
41		Memorandum of Understanding to carry out the work of the team,
42		<u>further</u> <u>delineate</u> <u>roles</u> <u>and</u> <u>responsibilities</u> , <u>and</u> <u>address</u> <u>other</u>
43		administrative issues.
44	<u>(e)</u>	The team will follow guidance provided by the Crisis Intervention
45		Team Center of Excellence at the State level in implementing,
46		delivering, and enhancing crisis intervention services in the county.
47	24-79. Parti	icipation of other law enforcement entities.
48	<u>Subje</u>	ect to a written agreement with the County, and approval of the police
49	depar	tment and health department, a law enforcement entity may designate
50	<u>indivi</u>	duals to participate in the crisis intervention team.
51	<u>24-80.</u> <u>Crisi</u>	s <u>intervention team – duties.</u>
52	The c	risis intervention team must:
53	<u>(a)</u>	in consultation with the advisory committee, establish and enhance the
54		sequential intercept model for diverting individuals experiencing a

55		mental or behavioral health crisis or substance use disorder crisis from
56		the criminal justice system and into treatment;
57	<u>(b)</u>	adhere to the principals of the crisis intervention model program;
58	<u>(c)</u>	respond to acute incidents in the County where there is a significant risk
59		of harm to the individual in crisis or to someone else, and there is reason
60		to believe that the individual has an underlying mental or behavioral
61		health condition or co-existing substance use disorder;
62	<u>(d)</u>	co-locate members of the team in disparate geographic areas of the
63		County;
64	<u>(e)</u>	interact directly with emergency dispatchers regarding individuals
65		experiencing mental health, behavioral health, or substance abuse
66		incidents; and
67	<u>(f)</u>	provide to each individual or family served by the team information
68		regarding how to prepare an advance directive for psychiatric care.
69	24-81. Scop	<u>e of team activities.</u>
70	<u>(a)</u>	Limited scope of team response. The priority response for the crisis
71		intervention team is for incidents involving acute mental health,
72		behavioral health, or substance abuse crisis events where there is a
73		significant risk of danger for the individual in crisis or others as a result
74		of the crisis.
75	<u>(b)</u>	Primacy of health response. Unless there is a significant risk of harm to
76		the individual in crisis or to someone else, the primary response for an
77		individual experiencing a mental or behavioral health crisis or health
78		crisis related to substance use disorder should be with mobile crisis or
79		emergency medical services clinicians.
80	<u>(c)</u>	Effects on law enforcement activities and collective bargaining.
81		Nothing in this Article may be construed to limit or supersede:

81

82		<u>(1)</u>	<u>law</u> <u>enforcement activities of the police department or other law</u>
83			enforcement entities;
84		<u>(2)</u>	the effectuation of a petition for emergency evaluation by a law
85			enforcement officer;
86		<u>(3)</u>	<u>assistance</u> <u>of law enforcement requested by emergency</u>
87			dispatchers, residents, or others;
88		<u>(4)</u>	police department or law enforcement entity orders; or
89		<u>(5)</u>	collective bargaining under Chapter 33.
90	24-82. Adv	<u>isory</u> <u>c</u>	ommittee – established.
91	<u>(a)</u>	There	e is an Advisory Committee on Crisis Intervention.
92	<u>(b)</u>	The c	committee consists of:
93		<u>(1)</u>	a designee of the Mental Health Association of Maryland;
94		<u>(2)</u>	a designee of the county's 9-8-8 call center;
95		<u>(3)</u>	a designee of the Interagency Commission on Homelessness;
96		<u>(4)</u>	a designee of the District Administrative Judge for the District
97			Court of Maryland, Montgomery County;
98		<u>(5)</u>	a designee of the Administrative Judge for the Circuit Court for
99			Montgomery County;
100		<u>(6)</u>	a designee of the Montgomery County State's Attorney;
101		<u>(7)</u>	a designee of the Montgomery County Council;
102		<u>(8)</u>	<u>a</u> <u>designee</u> <u>of the Intellectual</u> <u>and Developmental Disabilities</u>
103			Commission;
104		<u>(9)</u>	a representative of a county chamber of commerce, appointed by
105			the County Executive and confirmed by the Council;
106		<u>(10)</u>	a designee of the Montgomery County Fire Chief;
107		<u>(11)</u>	a designee of the Emergency Communications Center;
108		<u>(12)</u>	a designee of the County Sheriff;

109		<u>(13)</u>	<u>a</u> des	ignee of the Director of the Department of Correction and
110			Reha	bilitation; and
111		<u>(14)</u>	<u>2</u> <u>res</u>	idents, appointed by the Executive and confirmed by the
112			Coun	<u>cil, who:</u>
113			<u>(A)</u>	have lived experience regarding mental health, behavioral
114				health, or substance use disorders;
115			<u>(B)</u>	represent different geographical regions of the County; and
116			<u>(C)</u>	will be offered the opportunity to participate in the police
117				department's "Citizens Academy," as well as attend any
118				CIT training or other in-service training offered relevant to
119				the work of the Advisory Committee.
120	24-83. Adv	<u>isory c</u>	<u>ommi</u>	ttee <u> </u>
121	The a	advisor	y comi	mittee must:
122	<u>(a)</u>	provi	de adv	ice to, and collaborate with, the crisis intervention team, the
123		Execu	<u>utive,</u>	and the Council regarding best practices for crisis
124		interv	ention	in the County related to mental health, behavioral health, or
125		substa	ance us	se disorders;
126	<u>(b)</u>	consu	ılt with	n the crisis intervention team regarding the development of
127		the m	odels 1	under Section 24-80;
128	<u>(c)</u>	prepa	re the	annual report required under Section 24-84;
129	<u>(d)</u>	follov	v the v	work and recommendations of the Crisis Intervention Team
130		<u>and</u>	Maryl	and Behavioral Health and Public Safety Centers of
131		<u>Excel</u>	lence	in the Governor's Office of Crime Prevention, Youth, and
132		<u>Victi</u>	m Serv	rices; and
133	<u>(e)</u>	be sta	iffed b	y a designee of the County Executive.
134	24-84 Ann	ual eva	aluatio	n and renorting

135	The a	<u>advisor</u>	y comm	nittee must submit, no later than January 31 each year, an	
136	annu	al repo	<u>rt to the</u>	Executive and Council that includes:	
137	<u>(a)</u>	nume	numerical data, disaggregated when possible by race, ethnicity, gender,		
138		gende	gender identity, and age, regarding:		
139		<u>(1)</u>	public	safety service calls involving individuals experiencing a	
140			crisis	related to mental health, behavioral health, or substance	
141			<u>abuse</u>	disorders;	
142		<u>(2)</u>	petitio	ons for emergency evaluation:	
143			<u>(A)</u>	issued; and	
144			<u>(B)</u>	served;	
145		<u>(3)</u>	individ	duals diverted by the crisis intervention team from the	
146			emerg	ency room to other supports;	
147		<u>(4)</u>	individ	duals, served in-person or by phone, by the County's 24-	
148			hour C	Crisis Center;	
149		<u>(5)</u>	service	e calls under paragraph (1) involving an actual or	
150			threate	ened deadly or dangerous weapon, as defined under	
151			Sectio	ns 4-101 or 4-102 of the Criminal Law Article of the	
152			Maryl	and Code, as amended;	
153		<u>(6)</u>	service	e calls under paragraph (1) involving co-occurring criminal	
154			condu	ct, including the numbers of associated:	
155			<u>(A)</u>	misdemeanor charges;	
156			<u>(B)</u>	felony charges;	
157			<u>(C)</u>	individuals offered a diversion to treatment; and	
158			<u>(D)</u>	individuals who were not charged due to diversion to	
159				treatment; and	
160		<u>(7)</u>	service	e calls under paragraph (1) involving an individual where	
161			pendir	ng criminal charges were at issue;	

162	<u>(b)</u>	achievements and challenges of the crisis intervention team during the
163		prior year; and
164	<u>(c)</u>	recommendations to improve crisis intervention in the County, in
165		coordination with local, state, and federal partners.
166	Sec. 2	2. Transition. The first report required under Section 24-84, added under
167	Section 1 of	Tthis Act, is due by January 31, 2025.

Economic Impact Statement

Montgomery County, Maryland

Bill 43-23 Crisis Intervention Team – Established

SUMMARY

The Office of Legislative Oversight (OLO) anticipates that enacting Bill 43-23 would have an insignificant impact on economic conditions in the County in terms of the Council's priority indicators.

BACKGROUND AND PURPOSE OF BILL 43-23

Mental Health America lists lack of alternatives to law enforcement among several widespread problems in mental health and substance use crisis response. They note that shortcomings in crisis response could have serious consequences for someone experiencing a behavioral health crisis, including:¹

- ending up in confrontations with law enforcement personnel which have tragic outcomes;
- being transported to emergency rooms and being admitted or committed to inpatient psychiatric facilities when these outcomes are unnecessary and may be harmful to the person; and
- being transported to a jail and subjected to ongoing involvement in the criminal justice system when these outcomes are unnecessary, are harmful to the person and do not lead to increased public safety.

Recognizing the limitations of law enforcement, local jurisdictions throughout the country have considered alternative models for mental health crisis response. ² These include models that do and do not involve police. As described by the Congressional Research Service, the co-responder team model in particular "pair[s] law enforcement officers with trained clinicians who together respond to emergency calls involving individuals experiencing a mental health crisis."³

The purpose of Bill 43-23 is to establish a Crisis Intervention Team (CIT) that would implement the co-responder team model for mental health crisis response in the County. The CIT would be jointly staffed and operated by the Montgomery County Police Department (MCPD) and the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS).

If enacted, Bill 43-23 would require CIT members from MCPD and DHHS to be co-located throughout the County. Other law enforcement agencies could also participate in the CIT subject to written agreements with the County. The CIT would be required to:⁴

• develop a plan for the County to divert individuals experiencing a mental or behavioral health crisis or substance use disorder crisis from the criminal justice system and into treatment; and

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¹ Mental Health America, "Position Statement 59."

² Congressional Research Service, "Issues in Law Enforcement Reform."

³ Ibid

⁴ Introduction Staff Report on Bill 43-23.

• respond to "acute mental health, behavioral health, or substance abuse crisis" incidents "where there is a significant risk of danger for the individual in crisis or others as a result of the crisis." Otherwise, the Bill prescribes the primary response for someone experiencing a crisis should be mobile crisis or emergency medical services clinicians.

Bill 43-23 would also create a 15-member advisory committee on Crisis Intervention that would advise the CIT and County officials on best practices for crisis intervention in the County. The committee would also prepare an annual report on the CIT by January 31 of each year.

Bill 43-23, Crisis Intervention Team – Established, was introduced by the County Council on December 5, 2023.

INFORMATION SOURCES, METHODOLOGIES, AND ASSUMPTIONS

Per Section 2-81B of the Montgomery County Code, the purpose of this Economic Impact Statement is to assess the impacts of Bill 43-23 on County-based private organizations and residents in terms of the Council's priority economic indicators and whether the Bill would likely result in a net positive or negative impact on overall economic conditions in the County. There is a lack of high-equality evidence on the economic impacts of pre-arrest diversion programs specifically and mental health interventions in the criminal justice system more generally. For this reason, OLO anticipates that the Bill would have an insignificant impact on private organizations, residents, and overall economic conditions in the County in terms of the indicators prioritized by the Council.

VARIABLES

Not applicable

IMPACTS

WORKFORCE = TAXATION POLICY = PROPERTY VALUES = INCOMES = OPERATING COSTS = PRIVATE SECTOR CAPITAL INVESTMENT = ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT = COMPETITIVENESS

Not applicable

DISCUSSION ITEMS

Not applicable

⁵ Ibid.

⁶ Montgomery County Code, Sec. 2-81B, Economic Impact Statements.

⁷ Bird and Shemilt, "The Crime, Mental Health, and Economic Impacts of Prearrest Diversion of People with Mental Health Problems"; Knapp and Wong, "Economic Evaluations of Mental Health Interventions in Criminal Justice."

WORKS CITED

Bird, Karen, and Ian Shemilt. "The Crime, Mental Health, and Economic Impacts of Prearrest Diversion of People with Mental Health Problems: A Systematic Review." Criminal Behaviour & Mental Health 29, no. 3 (June 1, 2019): 142–56.

Congressional Research Service. "Issues in Law Enforcement Reform: Responding to Mental Health Crises." October 17, 2022.

"Introduction Staff Report on Bill 43-23, Crisis Intervention Team – Established." Montgomery County Council, December 5, 2023

Knapp, Martin, and Gloria Wong. "<u>Economic Evaluations of Mental Health Interventions in Criminal Justice</u>." *Criminal Behaviour and Mental Health* 33, no. 2 (2023): 139–48.

Mental Health America. "Position Statement 59: Responding to Behavioral Health Crises." 2017.

Montgomery County Code. Sec. 2-81B, Economic Impact Statements.

CAVEATS

Two caveats to the economic analysis performed here should be noted. First, predicting the economic impacts of legislation is a challenging analytical endeavor due to data limitations, the multitude of causes of economic outcomes, economic shocks, uncertainty, and other factors. Second, the analysis performed here is intended to *inform* the legislative process, not determine whether the Council should enact legislation. Thus, any conclusion made in this statement does not represent OLO's endorsement of, or objection to, the Bill under consideration.

CONTRIBUTIONS

Stephen Roblin (OLO) prepared this report.

Climate Assessment

Office of Legislative Oversight

Bill 43-23: Crisis Intervention Team - Established

SUMMARY

The Office of Legislative Oversight (OLO) anticipates Bill 43-23 will have no impact on the County's contribution to addressing climate change as the proposed crisis intervention team is unlikely to have a measurable impact on the County's overall community climate resilience.

BACKGROUND AND PURPOSE OF BILL 43-23

Mental Health America lists lack of alternatives to law enforcement among several widespread problems in mental health and substance use crisis response. They note that shortcomings in crisis response could have serious consequences for someone experiencing a behavioral health crisis, including:¹

- ending up in confrontations with law enforcement personnel which have tragic outcomes;
- being transported to emergency rooms and being admitted or committed to inpatient psychiatric facilities when these outcomes are unnecessary and may be harmful to the person; and
- being transported to a jail and subjected to ongoing involvement in the criminal justice system when these outcomes are unnecessary, are harmful to the person and do not lead to increased public safety.

Recognizing the limitations of law enforcement, local jurisdictions throughout the country have considered alternative models for mental health crisis response. ² These include models that do and do not involve police. As described by the Congressional Research Service, the co-responder team model in particular "pair[s] law enforcement officers with trained clinicians who together respond to emergency calls involving individuals experiencing a mental health crisis."³

The purpose of Bill 43-23 is to establish a Crisis Intervention Team (CIT) that would implement the coresponder team model for mental health crisis response in the County. The CIT would be jointly staffed and operated by the Montgomery County Police Department (MCPD) and the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS).

If enacted, Bill 43-23 would require CIT members from DHHS and MCPD to be co-located throughout the County. Other law enforcement agencies could also participate in the CIT subject to written agreements with the County. The CIT would be required to: ⁴

- develop a plan for the County to divert individuals experiencing a mental or behavioral health crisis or substance use disorder crisis from the criminal justice system and into treatment; and
- respond to "acute mental health, behavioral health, or substance abuse crisis" incidents "where there is a significant risk of danger for the individual in crisis or others as a result of the crisis." Otherwise, the Bill prescribes the primary response for someone experiencing a crisis should be mobile crisis or emergency medical services clinicians.

Bill 43-23 would also create a 15-member Advisory Committee on crisis intervention that would advise the CIT and County officials on best practices for crisis intervention in the County. The committee would also prepare an annual report on the CIT by January 31 of each year.

Bill 43-23, Crisis Intervention Team – Established, was introduced by the County Council on December 5, 2023.

ANTICIPATED IMPACTS

As defined by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services' National Health Security Strategy, "resilient communities are composed of healthy individuals, families, and communities with access to health care and the knowledge and resources to know what to do and care for others in both routine and emergency situations." Mental health and mental health supports, like crisis intervention teams (CITs), are one component of community resilience. While evidence suggests CITs can strengthen emergency services for individuals experiencing a mental health crisis, research of CITs do not explicitly mention how it can improve overall emergency responses during large-scale, disasters, such as a natural disaster. Instead, research shows CITs primarily focus on improvements of interactions between individuals experiencing a mental health crisis and how they interact with the police and the criminal justice system.

OLO anticipates Bill 43-23 will have no impact on the County's contribution to addressing climate change, including the reduction and/or sequestration of greenhouse gas emissions, community resilience, and adaptative capacity.

RECOMMENDED AMENDMENTS

The Climate Assessment Act requires OLO to offer recommendations, such as amendments or other measures to mitigate any anticipated negative climate impacts. OLO does not offer recommendations or amendments as Bill 43-23 is likely to have no impact on the County's contribution to addressing climate change, including the reduction and/or sequestration of greenhouse gas emissions, community resilience, and adaptative capacity.

CAVEATS

OLO notes two caveats to this climate assessment. First, predicting the impacts of legislation upon climate change is a challenging analytical endeavor due to data limitations, uncertainty, and the broad, global nature of climate change. Second, the analysis performed here is intended to inform the legislative process, not determine whether the Council should enact legislation. Thus, any conclusion made in this statement does not represent OLO's endorsement of, or objection to, the bill under consideration.

PURPOSE OF CLIMATE ASSESSMENTS

The purpose of the Climate Assessments is to evaluate the anticipated impact of legislation on the County's contribution to addressing climate change. These climate assessments will provide the Council with a more thorough understanding of the potential climate impacts and implications of proposed legislation, at the County level. The scope of the Climate Assessments is limited to the County's contribution to addressing climate change, specifically upon the County's contribution to greenhouse gas emissions and how actions suggested by legislation could help improve the County's adaptative capacity to climate change, and therefore, increase community resilience.

While co-benefits such as health and cost savings may be discussed, the focus is on how proposed County bills may impact GHG emissions and community resilience.

CONTRIBUTIONS

OLO staffer Kaitlyn Simmons drafted this assessment.

¹ Position Statement 59: Responding to Behavioral Health Crises, Mental Health America, 2017.

² <u>Issues in Law Enforcement Reform: Responding to Mental Health Crises</u>, Congressional Research Service, October 17, 2022.

³ Ibid.

⁴ Introduction Staff Report for Bill 43-23, Montgomery County Council, Introduced December 5, 2023.

⁵ Bill 43-23, Introduction Staff Report for Bill 43-23.

⁶ Community Resilience and Public Health Practice, Morton, M. J. and Lurie, N., American Journal of Public Health, July 2013

⁷ <u>Building Community Resilience – Prevention and Recovery Services Working Together,</u> Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration, November 9, 2021; <u>Community Resilience: Toward an Integrated Approach,</u> Berkes, F. and Ross, H., Society and Natural Resources, 26:1, November 30, 2012

⁸ <u>Crisis Intervention Team Program: A Best Practice Guide for Transforming Community Responses to Mental Health Crises, CIT International, August 2019; What Is Community Resilience?</u>, Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration, April 21, 2022.

⁹ Effectiveness of Police Crisis Intervention Training Programs, Rogers, M. S., McNiel, D. E., and Binder, R. L., Journal of the American Academy of Psychiatry and the Law, September 2019.; Crisis Intervention Team (CIT): Methods for Using Data to Inform Practice: A Step-by-Step Guide, Substance Abuse and Health Services Administration, 2018.

¹⁰ Bill 3-22, Legislative Branch – Climate Assessments – Required, Montgomery County Council, Effective date October 24, 2022