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Second Community Response Team Hits Abilene Streets

ABILENE, TX – The Abilene Police and Fire Departments along with the Betty Hardwick Center announce the deployment of Abilene’s second Community Response Team. CRT2 began operations on the streets of Abilene on December 28, 2020. The initial work done by the first CRT has been hugely beneficial necessitating the need for a second team. This team will supplement CRT1 and will patrol Abilene Monday through Friday from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. CRT2 members are Officer Jake Allred, Abilene Fire Department Paramedic Joannah Hargrove, and Mental Health Professional Mariana Guevara.

The success of this program began early in 2018 when the need for an alternative response to mental health issues of our citizens became a growing concern. The organizations, teamed up in only the second such program in the State and third in the nation. Statistics show that since the deployment of the CRT1, service for MHID patients have substantially increased and MHID calls for service have decreased for patrol and fire, allowing officers to focus on other calls for service.

The second team is being fully funded by a federal grant secured by the Betty Hardwick Center through the Bureau of Justice Assistance.



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Chief of Police | 4565 South First | Abilene, TX | 79605

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