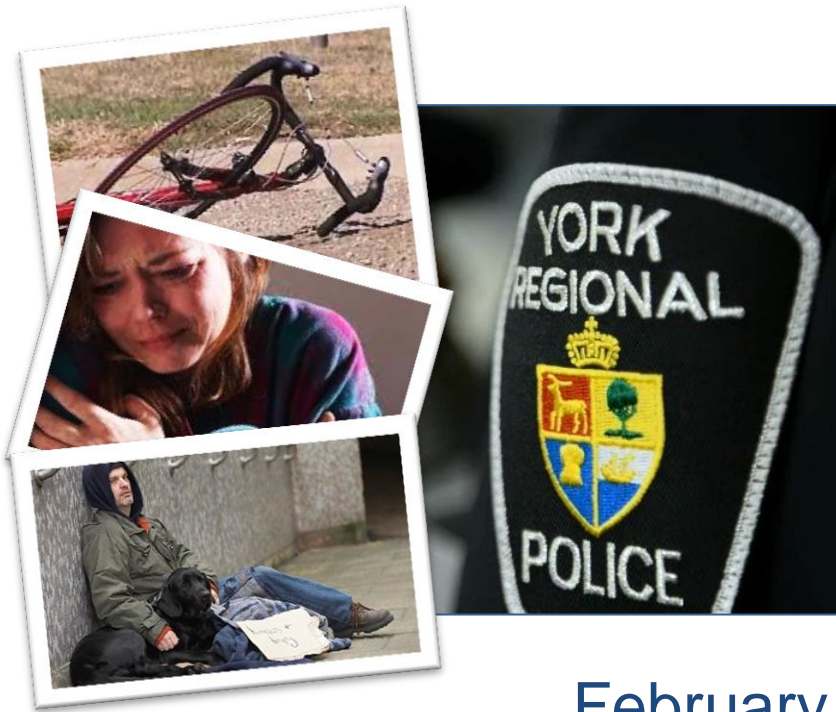




Police Encounters with People in Crisis



Superintendent
Carolyn Bishop
Inspector
Brian Bigras
Sergeant
Chris Palmer

February 18, 2015

Deeds Speak



Presentation Overview

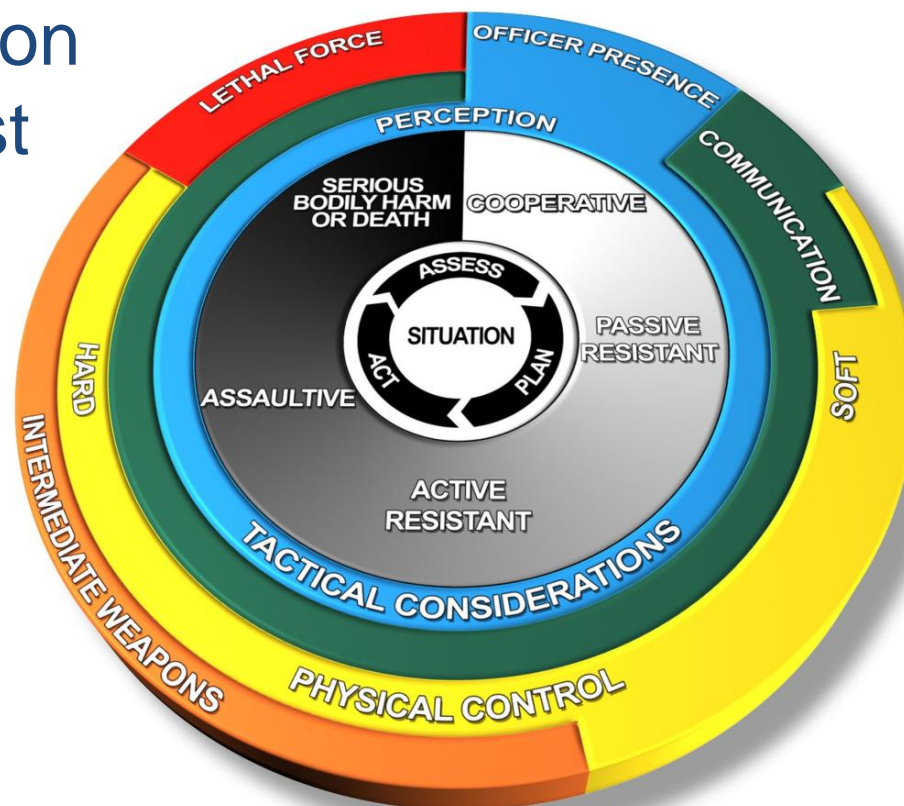
- Ontario Use of Force Model
- Communication
- De-escalation and Crisis Intervention Training
- Calls for Service
- Mental Health Support Team
- Powers of Apprehension
- Successes and Partnerships





Ontario Use of Force Model

The officer continuously assesses the situation and selects the most reasonable option relative to those circumstances as perceived at that point in time.





Defusing Situations with Communication

The three tenets of communication that we train to:

- being professional
- preventing escalation
- de-escalating situations





Training Our Officers

- Annual Requalification
 - Communication
- Crisis Intervention Training Course
 - Empathy and understanding of mental illnesses





Training Next Steps

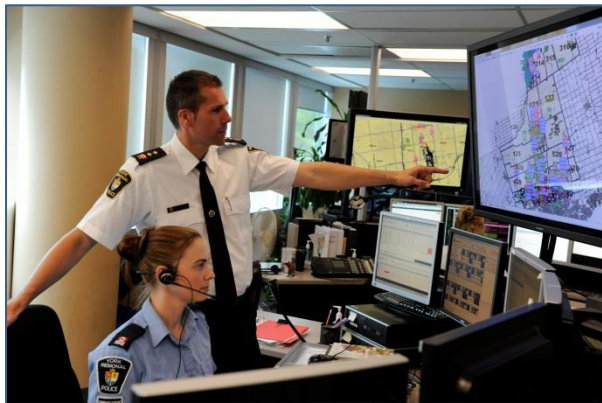
- Ongoing realistic-scenario training
- All frontline officers trained in crisis intervention
- Resiliency training





Summary of Calls

- In 2014, York Regional Police responded to:
- 2,822 calls for emotionally disturbed persons
 - 990 attempt suicide calls
 - Many more calls involve mental health issues





Mental Health Support Team

We are better together

- Partnership between Police and York Support Services Network (YSSN) Crisis Response Program



CBCnews

Mental illness patients strain Canada's police forces

Too many people who live with mental illness are being released from provincial institutions before they're ready, then going on to commit crimes, say Canada's police chiefs.

The candid comments were made Wednesday in Winnipeg, on the final day of the Canadian Association of Chiefs of Police (CACP) annual general meeting.





Mental Health Support Team (MHST)

Providing Support to the Community

- Response to persons experiencing a crisis
- MHST provides:
 - support
 - resource information
 - assessments
 - advocates for subject
 - education





Mental Health Support Team

- Averts crisis escalation and injury
- Links persons with mental illness to community resources
- Justice diversion
- Reduces number of hospital admissions
- Improves officers perception of individuals with mental illness





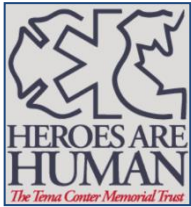
Mental Health Support Team Success

- Team apprehends individuals 45% of the time as compared to 65% for uniform officers
- Hospital wait times are on average, 30 minutes less when team is involved at hospital
- A close relationship with hospitals facilitates a faster assessment of a person in crisis





Partnerships





How Can You Help?

- Educate yourself about mental illness
- Listen and help
- Seek assistance from community service providers
- Contact 1-855-310-COPE (2673)

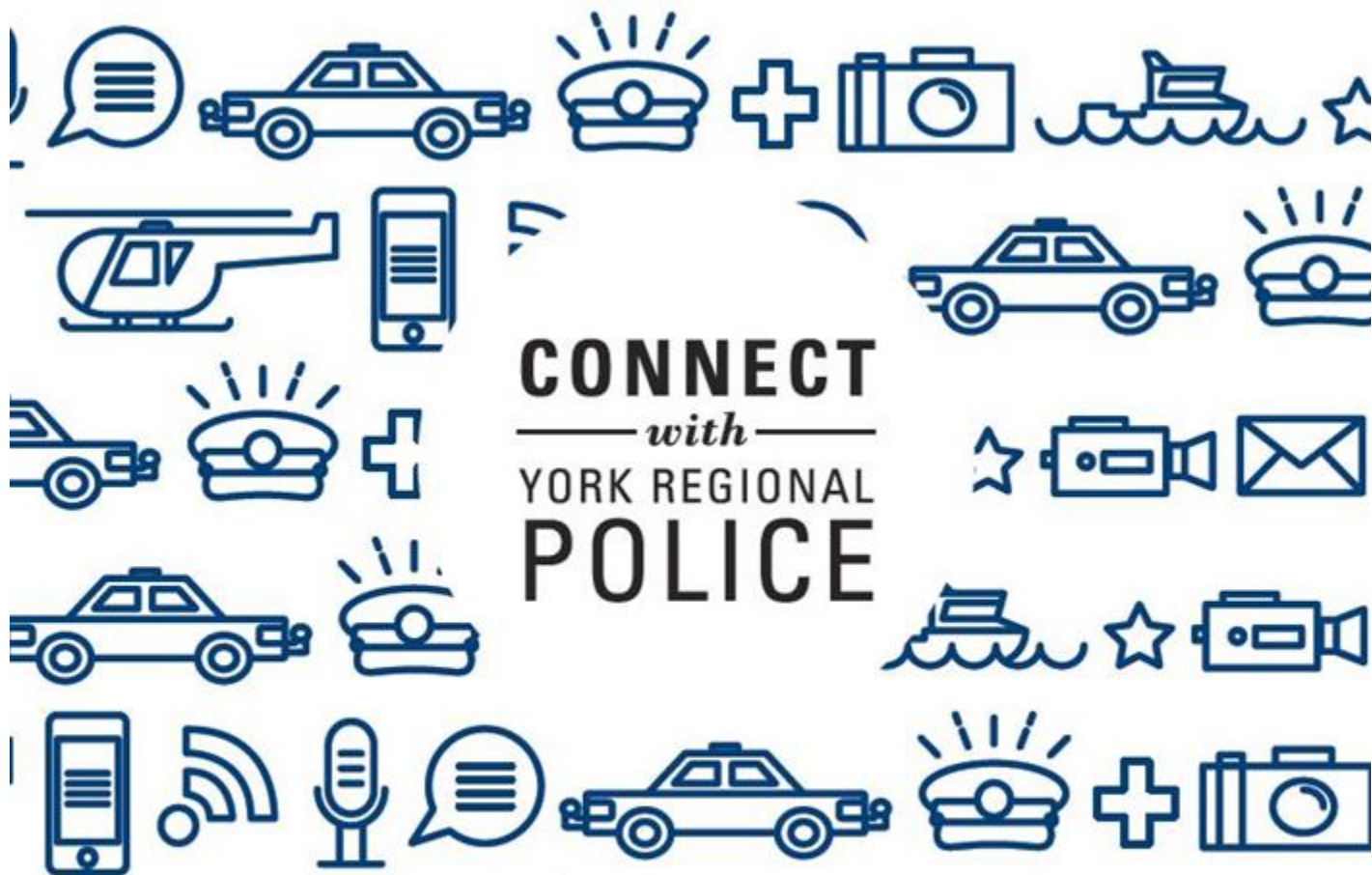


For further information, please see our website
<http://www.yrp.ca/links.aspx>



Thank You Questions?





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