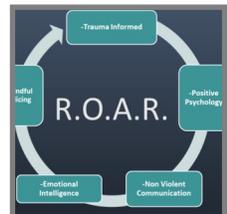
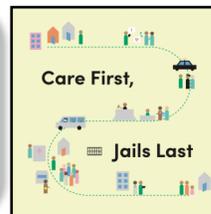


Summary of 2020 Mental Health Classes for 1st Responders

			
<p>519 personnel attended the FOCIS, Veterans, PTSD, Dispatch and Mental Health Update Classes</p>	<p>New ROAR Training Module for 2021 <i>"Contemporary training addressing the <u>entire</u> de-escalation <u>process</u>."</i></p>	<p>527 personnel attended the new Cognitive Impairment Practical Application Training</p>	<p>ATI Recommendation #43 <i>"Train 911 operators and dispatch..."</i></p>

Field Operations Crisis Intervention Skills (FOCIS) Training

The Mental Evaluation Team (MET) provides this 32-hour course with emphasis on enrolling all patrol deputies new to patrol stations within their first year of assignment. FOCIS training is considered the flagship course offered by the MET.

Through attrition and with crucial financial support from the Office of Diversion & ReEntry, supplemented by the 42-contract cities served by the LASD, every patrol deputy entering patrol will eventually have this minimum baseline of mental health training to help prepare them for engagements with mentally ill persons in crises.

NAMI trainers with lived experience provide impactful insights to help deputies better understand what its like to live with a mental illness. This course also includes an exceptional presentation by the Homeless Outreach Services Team (HOST).

By the end of 2020, over 1,800 patrol personnel had been trained in the 32-hr FOCIS curriculum. Feedback from participants in the courses indicated this was one of the best experiences for "in-service" training for many of the attendees. It was consistently reported as one of the most meaningful training courses to help address some of today's highest policing concerns.

Veterans Cultural Awareness and PTSD Training

MET partnered with [Secure Measures LLC](#) to develop and present a basic and intermediate level training course to help acquaint deputies with military culture, post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD) and traumatic brain injuries (TBI). Veterans in crises present unique challenges to law enforcement and clinicians daily. These classes offers very practical ways to help gain rapport with veterans more quickly, showing gratitude for their service, and to help connect them with specialized treatment programs at the VA medical centers.

These 1-day (8-hour) courses were first offered during 2020, with high praise and feedback from 207 law enforcement participants. We frequently received comments that affirms the vital need for this course, which was a significant gap in California law enforcement training until MET developed these POST-certified courses in late 2019.

The "Advanced" level course is under development and should be state certified, then offered to first responders during the second half of 2021.

Patrol School

LASD MET provides 2-hour training sessions at every "Patrol School" class for custody deputies transferring to patrol assignments. This training starts the patrol deputies off with the right mindset for handling crises in their new assignments. Hands-on teaching methods and first-person demonstrations were well-received by students in these classes.

with patients in crises who present in the field with developmental disabilities. Children and adults with autism interacted with 141 deputies and officers during this class to enhance their understanding about Autism and the broad range of the Autism spectrum

Cognitive Impairment Practical Application Training (CIPAT)

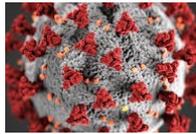
As part of the [LA Found](#) initiative led by the Fourth District, in partnership with the Department of Workforce Development, Aging, and Community Services, the LASD MET training unit developed a mobile simulator training trailer that was taken “on the road” during 2020 to benefit multiple police agencies and sheriff’s deputies on patrol.



In 2020, a **total of 527 first responders** practiced de-escalation techniques and improved their awareness to better assist people with developmental disabilities. Participants were given an overview of the LA Found program including familiarity with at-risk persons who may wander while wearing a “[Project Lifesaver](#)” wristband.

Feedback from first responders was overwhelmingly positive. It is our hope to expand this program and add a second training trailer with simulator in FY21-22 to double the opportunities for first responders to experience this vitally important “in-service” training.

The Impact of COVID-19



The COVID-19 pandemic did negatively impact the planned mental health classes schedule during 2020. Classes from March through June were suspended. Instructors have since implemented new COVID-19 safety protocols and MET resumed offering classes in fall 2020.

During the downtime period, the instructors took advantage of the time to develop new vocational education classes for first responders to enhance public safety.

New Mental Health Awareness Courses Developed in 2020

Last year, the FOCIS training group develop the intermediate level class for “Veterans with PTSD” as well as developing the new (POST-certified) mental health training class for 911 dispatchers and desk personnel. The class for dispatchers was a recommendation from the Alternatives to Incarcerations (ATI) Workgroup in their [2020 report](#) to the Board of Supervisors —recommendation #43. This is considered to be one of the (26) foundational recommendations in the report, which indicates the high level of importance and great need for this type of training in the County of Los Angeles. During early trial classes, 71 dispatchers and desk personnel for 911 calls attended the classes and learned about protocols for screening and diverting calls to DMH call center when a police response is not needed.

In addition, the training cadre worked on a new training course addressing the de-escalation *process* (not just techniques) entitled ROAR: *Respond, Observe, Assess, React*. The ROAR de-escalation training is an exciting new addition to the MET catalog of mental health classes offered to all patrol deputies, clinicians, and other agency police officers. As of January 2021, the curriculum and lesson plan was fully developed and the FOCIS Training Team was working with Peace Officers Standards & Training (POST) to obtain the necessary state certification.

It is our intention to combine the ROAR curriculum with new experiential lessons and presentations involving NAMI-trained instructors who can share lived experiences with the officers and deputies attending this course. As