

# BRIAN POTTERS

— BREVARD COUNTY SHERIFF 2024 —

## ***ONE BREVARD INITIATIVE (OBI)*** **CREATION OF A CRISIS RESPONSE UNIT (CRU)**

This notice is to provide the citizens of Brevard County, Florida an opportunity to learn about the creation of a **Crisis Response Unit (CRU)** under my "**One Brevard Initiative**" plan. This plan is designed to bring our municipalities and agencies together in crime prevention and mental health services.

The profession of "Law Enforcement" spends very little of the day enforcing. We must differentiate criminal offenders and violators. With most violations, they can be dealt with like other industries using education, warnings, and preventative programs to limit recidivism. Criminal offenders are totally different.

The "**One Brevard Initiative**" is contingent per the outcome of the August 20, 2024 primary election for Brevard County Sheriff.

### **What is the Crisis Response Unit (CRU)?**

Initially, the CRU would be comprised of Licensed Mental Health Counselors (LMHC) or Licensed Clinical Social Workers (LCSW) who would be partnered with BCSO Deputies that are Crisis Intervention Trained (CIT) assigned to the CRU.

Along with the CRU clinicians riding with Deputies assigned to this unit, there will be a CRU clinician assigned to the BCSO 911 communications center to triage incoming calls for service that may need mental health services.

The CRU teams will spend their shifts monitoring the radio and responding to appropriate calls for service. They can also be summoned to a scene if a responding patrol deputy or partner agency requests them. There will always be a patrol deputy or deputies initially responding to these calls for service to ensure the scene is safe for the CRU teams.

The CRU clinicians will also be assigned to the Brevard County Jail complex to assist staff with inmate mental health services while incarcerated and follow up with the person upon release.

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The CRU will tailor services to clients' specific circumstances and typically include mental health care, advocating for the individual's health and wellness, motivation to increase self-care, and other services that may benefit the overall well-being of the client.

**Our goal is to divert people from the criminal justice system. We must be proactive in creating a balance between providing services and enforcing the law.**

CRU will continually monitor and identify community partners that will increase the opportunity to help those in need.

**The CRU teams will also focus on the following:**

- Community mental health promotion
- Alcohol and drug prevention
- Outreach and engagement for homeless individuals and families
- Parenting and family support services
- Referring counseling services for youth and adults
- Suicide prevention, including survivor support services
- Behavioral health training for community members

CRU members will respond to all calls involving neurodivergent persons, fatal crashes or accidents, or any fire or natural disaster that displaces a citizen from their home.

This is just a first step in creating a Brevard County we can all be proud of. One that helps its friends and neighbors and does what is right for the betterment of the greater good.

I encourage everyone to get involved in 2024 as "We the People" will finally have a voice in how we want to move forward.

[www.PottersForBrevardSheriff.com](http://www.PottersForBrevardSheriff.com) @Potters4Sheriff

"Political advertisement paid for and approved by Brian Potters, Republican for Brevard County Sheriff"

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This is only the beginning for the "*One Brevard Initiative.*"

Our plan will continually be released as we move forward to the August 20, 2024 primary election.

For questions or comments, please reach out to

Brian Potters for Brevard County Sheriff 2024 campaign at

[Potters4Sheriff@gmail.com](mailto:Potters4Sheriff@gmail.com) or 321-258-0996.