



### **Outstanding QRT, Outreach, and Engagement Initiatives: Public Safety-led Team**

#### ***Hamilton County Ohio, QRT***

**Program Timeline:** In 2017, Hamilton County received a \$400,000 CARA grant to launch a county-wide quick response team. With the help of community partners such as Commander Tom Fallon, Dan Meloy, Shana Merrick, Kelly Firesheets, and Nan Franks, the QRT launched part-time. Working two days a week. One day on the east side and one day on the west side of Cincinnati. The team operated as such until September 2021, when the team received a \$1M COSSAP grant to expand its deflection programming to launch a full-time program that included both reactive door knocks and proactive outreach in the community.

This proactive outreach also included the formation of a crucial team – the African American Male Outreach program, which launched due to a devastating and stark increase in the number of overdose and overdose deaths in Black males. Since its launch, the law enforcement led team has received 2,400 inbound referrals, made over 4,700 interactions with the community, and have served over 450+ African American Males. This work would not be possible without the team - two officers – Deputy Randy Bernhardt and Trooper Will Mahone and its navigators – Alyssa Boiman, Sarah Coyne, Meghan Howells, Monique Linnette, and Hannah Brinkmann. The Hamilton County Quick Response Team is under the leadership of Captain Tom Fallon of the Hamilton County Heroin Task Force and Meagan Gosney, Director of Hamilton County’s Office of Addiction Response.”