



CITY OF EASTHAMPTON • MASSACHUSETTS
OFFICE OF THE MAYOR
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EASTHAMPTON POLICE DEPARTMENT TO LAUNCH PROGRAM PARTNERING WITH CLINICAL & SUPPORT OPTIONS (CSO)

EASTHAMPTON, MA – The Easthampton and Hadley Police Departments are in the beginning stages of launching a program to send a trained mental health clinician to respond to select 911 calls. Staff from CSO will be available to respond to calls related to substance use and mental health crises.

Police Chief Robert Alberti told the Daily Hampshire Gazette, “This will be an opportunity for, instead of police responding and waiting for CSO, CSO will be with us, so they’ll be able to start triaging and start to help right away.” The full Gazette article can be read online at [Easthampton, Hadley will send clinicians on some police calls \(gazettenet.com\)](http://www.gazettenet.com).

As the article mentions, in March 2021, the Mayor’s Pledge Work Group submitted its final report which outlined several recommendations to re-envision policing in Easthampton. The full report is available for review on the city website. One recommendation of the group focused on non-police responses to health and safety concerns. This program would allow a trained mental health clinician to help de-escalate a situation and offer alternative support for residents.

More information on what services CSO provides can be found at <https://www.csoinc.org/>.