HOUSEKEEPING/ZOOM
SEMINAR INTRODUCTION

What is CSAC and the Support Hub?

What will we cover in this series?

Why is the content we cover in this series important and useful?

How will we structure the seminars versus technical assistance?

What would we ultimately like to accomplish by the end of this series?
STRATEGIC FRAMEWORK FOR DATA-DRIVEN AND EVIDENCE BASED PRACTICE

What is a strategic framework?

• A vision for where you would like to go and a map for how you plan to get there.
• Helps conceptualize the key components we may need to develop and how these components will build on each other over time to achieve that shared goal.
STRATEGIC FRAMEWORK FOR DATA-DRIVEN AND EVIDENCE BASED PRACTICE

Program Inventory & Literature Review
Logic Models & Process Maps
Contracting Practices
Data Strategy & Dashboards
Program Evaluation & Cost Benefit Analysis

Seminar Series 1: Programming
Seminar Series 2: Data Strategy and Evaluation
Data Strategy, Part 1
• Accessing County Data (Nov 2020)

Data Strategy, Part 2
• Accessing State Data (Jan 2021)

Data Strategy, Part 3
• Integrating County and State Data (Mar 2021)

Data Dashboards
• Visualizing Data (May 2021)

Outcomes Evaluation
• Evaluating Program Outcomes (July 2021)
WHAT IS DATA?
WORKING AS AN EVIDENCE-BASED PRACTICE TEAM

Leadership
Making policy and practice decisions

Research
Maintaining, extracting, analyzing & visualizing data

Operations
Managing populations & public safety

Programming
Managing providers & program interventions
PATH TO DATA-DRIVEN POLICY & PRACTICE
We can leverage data and evidence to improve public safety and reduce recidivism
GOALS

1) Improve agency-level policy & practice
2) Improve county-level policy & practice
3) Demonstrate success
STRATEGY

- **Build**: Build agency data infrastructure
- **Link**: Link data within the county and between the county and state
- **Visualize**: Visualize population characteristics, programs & outcomes
- **Analyze**: Analyze the effects of programs on outcomes
- **Use**: Use findings to inform practice & demonstrate success
The remainder of this seminar will focus on how to build county data infrastructure.

We will:

- Walk through agency and county action steps
- Provide supporting materials
- Follow-up to provide technical assistance
1) Identify key questions
2) Identify key data sources
3) Identify key data elements
4) Develop plan for extracting agency data
5) Develop plan for linking agency data
1) IDENTIFY KEY QUESTIONS
POPULATION CHARACTERISTICS

What are the demographic characteristics of our population?

- How are they changing over time?

What are their criminal history characteristics?

- What are their risks and needs?
PROGRAMMATIC INTERVENTIONS

Is population in need connecting with the appropriate programs?
  ➢ Are they completing programs?

Do our available programs align with population risks & needs?
  ➢ Should we change program targeting?
  ➢ Should we add new programs?
## Recidivism Outcomes

What are the recidivism outcomes of our population?
- How do they vary across groups?
- How are they changing over time?

Are our programs reducing recidivism?
- Which programs are most effective?
- Which are cost-effective?
- Should we shift resource allocations?

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2) Identify Key Data Sources
# Key Data Fall into 3 Buckets

## Characteristics
- Demographic characteristics
- Criminal history characteristics
- Risks & needs

## Interventions
- Programs & services
- Correctional sentences & sanctions

## Outcomes
- Returns to custody & revocations
- Rearrests & reconvictions
- Additional reentry outcomes
KEY DATA ARE HELD WITHIN THESE DOMAINS

Individual Identifiers

- CDCR
- Sheriff/Jail
- Program Providers
- DOJ
- Probation
- Court (or DA)
SAMPLE QUESTIONS: IDENTIFY DATA DOMAINS

- What percent of probationers are booked into jail within one year of release?
- What are the most common booking types?
- How much jail space do probationers occupy?

Corresponding Data Domains

- Link data from Jail & Probation
EXAMPLE: MINING TECHNICAL PROBATION VIOLATIONS AND ASSESSING JAIL IMPACT

Terms and Conditions Violated, Percent of Petitions

- Violate No Law: 20%
- Residential Drug Treatment Failure: 20%
- Residence Approved by PO: 30%
- Failure to Report/Warrant: 70%

15% of Jail ADP, and average length of stay of 26 days

Leads to discussion about alternative responses and strategies to increase probation engagement.
Q&A
3) Identify key data elements
DRAWING ON PROBATION & JAIL DATA TO ADDRESS SAMPLE QUESTIONS

Sample Questions
- What percent of probations are booked into jail within one year?
- What are the most common booking types?
- How much jail space do probationers occupy?

Probation Data
- Individuals under supervision
- Supervision population groups
- Supervision start & end dates

Jail Data
- Individuals booked into jail
- Booking date & type
- Release date
## PROBATION DATA CODEBOOK

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<td>Local identifier</td>
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## JAIL DATA CODEBOOK

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4) DEVELOP PLAN FOR EXTRACTING AGENCY DATA
OBSTACLES TO OVERCOME

Extracting data from your system may be challenging at first

- Legacy data systems
- Capacity of staff with knowledge of data systems
- Changes in data availability and quality over time

If your agency experiences these obstacles, they can be overcome with planning and technical assistance
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ACTION STEPS: BUILDING AGENCY-LEVEL DATA INFRASTRUCTURE

These steps provide guidance on the process of building agency level data infrastructure:

1) Form an agency-level data working group
2) Identify key questions you would like to answer for your population
3) Develop a codebook describing the data contained in your system
4) Select and extract key data elements
5) Identify additional data elements you will need from other agencies to address your key questions
5) DEVELOP PLAN FOR LINKING AGENCY DATA
PREPARING DATA FOR LINKING

Cleaning data prior to linking
Aligning identifiers to link data
DECIDING ON A DATA SHARING STRUCTURE

Options:
- One criminal justice agency may take the lead on receiving, cleaning, and linking data.
- Criminal justice agencies may also work with an independent county-level department, such as a CAO’s office.
- Agencies may also choose to work with an outside entity, such as a university.

Once you decide on a structure, you will want to complete data sharing agreements between parties.
ACTION STEPS:
BUILDING COUNTY-LEVEL DATA INFRASTRUCTURE

These steps provide guidance on the process of building county level data infrastructure:

1) Form a cross-agency data working group
2) Identify key questions you would like to answer as a group
3) Determine which data will need to be linked to answer these questions
4) Develop a data-sharing plan and agreements
5) Extract, share, and link data using common identifiers
Q&A
MATERIALS, GUIDES AND TEMPLATES

Materials available:
- Jail Data Codebook
- Probation Data Codebook
- Data Use Agreement Guide & Example

Data & Evaluation Series Info:
https://www.counties.org/framework-seminar-series

Support Hub Website:
https://www.counties.org/csac-support-hub
LOOKING AHEAD
Our next seminar focuses on accessing and integrating data held by CDCR and DOJ. We will provide a model template that identifies key data elements and demonstrates how these additional data can better inform criminal justice practice at the county level. We will describe the process of applying for access to these state data and linking state with county data once it is received.
This seminar provides an overview of findings from the available literature on programmatic interventions for your criminal justice populations, as well as the challenges in matching operational realities to model programs to evidence.
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