



Justice Center

THE COUNCIL OF STATE GOVERNMENTS

Creating Buy-In: Best Practices for Collaborating with Referral Sources on Crisis Stabilization Units

May 18, 2021

Presentation Outline

- I. Welcome and Introductions
- II. Panel Discussion
- III. Questions and Answers

Introductions

The Council of State Governments (CSG) Justice Center

- Hadley Fitzgerald, *Senior Policy Analyst, CSG Justice Center*
- Marilyn Leake, *Senior Policy Analyst, CSG Justice Center*

Introductions

National Police Foundation (NPF)

- Dominique Burton, *Project Associate, NPF*
- Rebecca Benson, *Senior Project Associate, NPF*
- Chief (ret.) Frank Straub, PhD, *Director of Mass Violence Response Studies, NPF*

Panelists

- Angela Warren, Paraprofessional Services Coordinator, Advantage Behavioral Health, *FY19 JMHCP grantee Unified Government of Athens-Clarke County, GA*
- John Mehr, Sheriff, Madison County Sheriff's Office, *Madison County, TN LE-MH Learning Site*
- Kim Parker, Director of Crisis Services, Pathways Behavioral Health Services, *Madison County, TN LE-MH Learning Site*
- Shawn Hill, Lieutenant, Santa Barbara Police Department

The Council of State Governments Justice Center

We are a national nonprofit, nonpartisan organization that combines the power of a membership association, representing state officials in all three branches of government, with policy and research expertise to develop strategies that increase public safety and strengthen communities.

How We Work

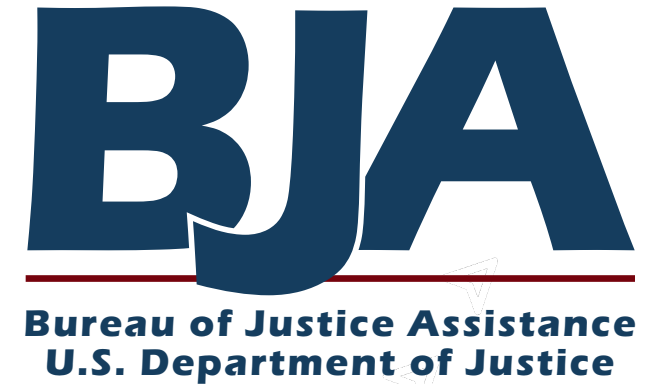
- We bring people together
- We drive the criminal justice field forward with original research
- We build momentum for policy change
- We provide expert assistance

Justice and Mental Health Collaboration Program

The Justice and Mental Health Collaboration Program (JMHCP) promotes innovative cross-system collaboration and provides grants directly to states, local governments, and federally recognized Indian tribes. It is designed to improve responses to people with mental illnesses and substance use disorders who are involved in the criminal justice system.

The U.S. Department of Justice Bureau of Justice Assistance

Mission: BJA provides leadership and assistance to local criminal justice programs that improve and reinforce the nation's criminal justice system. BJA's goals are to reduce and prevent crime, violence, and drug abuse and to improve the way in which the criminal justice system functions. In order to achieve such goals, BJA programs illustrate the coordination and cooperation of local, state, and federal governments. BJA works closely with programs that bolster law enforcement operations, expand drug courts, and provide benefits to safety officers.



Visit the [BJA website](#) to learn more.

National Police Foundation

- The National Police Foundation's mission is to advance policing through *innovation and science*. It is the oldest nationally-known, non-profit, non-partisan, and non-membership-driven organization dedicated to improving America's most noble profession—policing.
- The National Police Foundation has been on the cutting edge of police innovation for 50 years since it was established by the Ford Foundation as a result of the President's Commission on the Challenge of Crime in a Free Society.



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Goals for today

- Foster discussion on how to create buy-in for a crisis stabilization unit (CSU)
- Provide a peer learning opportunity for jurisdictions operating or developing a CSU on collaboration and building partnerships
- Share resources from the field of best practice solutions to further advance current efforts in developing/operating CSUs

Discussion: Themes

- Learning how other jurisdictions implemented a crisis center model to address crisis needs
- Developing and nurturing partnerships
- Sharing data and other information
- Implementing cross system training
- Elevating the importance of peers and those with lived experience in crisis center model
- Understanding and addressing potential challenges in crisis center development
- Optimizing successes in crisis center development

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Questions and Answers

Resources

- [Executive Order Safe Policing for Safe Communities: Addressing Mental Health, Homelessness, and Addiction Report](#)
- [Cops, Clinicians, or Both? Collaborative Approaches to Responding to Behavioral Health Emergencies](#)
- [National Guidelines for Behavioral Health Crisis Care – A Best Practice Toolkit](#)
- [Responding to Persons Experiencing a Mental Health Crisis](#)
- [National Policy Summit: Building Safer Communities: Improving Police Response to Persons with Mental Illness](#)



Click [here](#) to register

Communities across the U.S. are launching new responses to emergency calls. They are redefining who answers calls for service involving mental health or substance use crises, homelessness, “quality-of-life” issues, and other low-level situations. Taking the Call will bring people together from across the U.S. to explore how jurisdictions are serving as laboratories for innovation to ensure that emergency calls receive the appropriate response. The conference will explore the opportunities and challenges of these community responder models and whether or how the approach may improve community health, lessen the burden on law enforcement, and reduce unnecessary justice system contact.

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- John Mehr, *Sheriff, Madison County Sheriff's Office*, jmehr@mcsso-tn.org
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Thank You!

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The presentation was developed by members of The Council of State Governments Justice Center staff. The statements made reflect the views of the authors, and should not be considered the official position of The Council of State Governments Justice Center, the members of The Council of State Governments, or the funding agency supporting the work.

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