



Justice Center

THE COUNCIL OF STATE GOVERNMENTS

Cross-System Partner Engagement and Outreach to Address Community Needs

July 27 | IIR

Presentation Outline

- I. Welcome and Introductions
- II. Overview of The Council of State Governments Justice Center, JMHCP, and Bureau of Justice Assistance
- III. Overview of Institute for Intergovernmental Research
- IV. Today's Presentation

Speakers

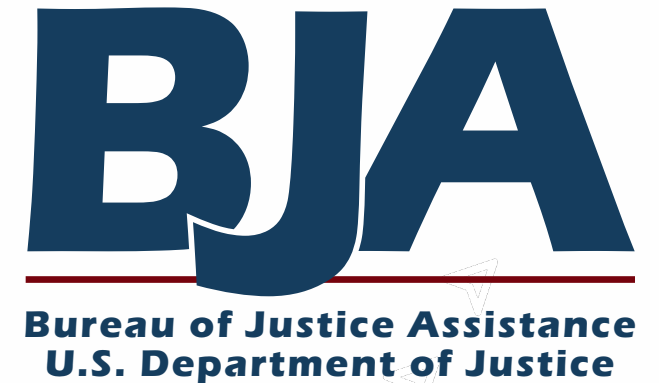
- Joe McHale, *Senior Manager, Institute for Intergovernmental Research*
- Demetrius Thomas, *Deputy Program Director, Behavioral Health, Council of State Governments, Justice Center*

Presentation Outline

- I. Welcome and Introductions
- II. Overview of The Council of State Governments Justice Center, JMHCP, and Bureau of Justice Assistance
- III. Overview of Institute for Intergovernmental Research
- IV. Today's Presentation

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.

The Council of State Governments Justice Center

We are a national nonprofit, nonpartisan organization that combines the power of a membership association, serving 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

Our Goals

Break the cycle of incarceration

We assist those working inside and outside of government to reduce both crime and incarceration among youth and adults in contact with the justice system.

Improve health, opportunity, and equity

We work across systems to develop collaborative approaches to improve behavioral health, expand economic mobility, and advance racial equity for people and communities affected by the justice system.

Expand what works to improve safety

We help leaders understand what works to improve public safety and assist them to develop strategies, adopt new approaches and align resources accordingly.

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.

Presentation Outline

- I. Welcome and Introductions
- II. Overview of The Council of State Governments Justice Center, JMHCP, and Bureau of Justice Assistance
- III. Overview of Institute for Intergovernmental Research
- IV. Today's Presentation

The Institute for Intergovernmental Research (IIR)

We are a private nonprofit corporation specializing in criminal justice (law enforcement focus) and homeland security issues. We provide expertise in program development and implementation, management and operations, data collection and analysis, training and technical assistance, and technology, multimedia, and E-Learning. Some of the programs we support on behalf of DOJ include the Comprehensive Opioid, Stimulants, and Substance Abuse Program (COSSAP), the VALOR Program, and the National Public Safety Partnership.

Presentation Outline

- I. Welcome and Introductions
- II. Overview of The Council of State Governments Justice Center, JMHCP, and Bureau of Justice Assistance
- III. Overview of Institute for Intergovernmental Research
- IV. Today's Presentation

Presenters

- Diane Ragans, *Senior Research Associate, Institute for Intergovernmental Research*
- Chief Chris Skinner, *Chief of Police, Eugene, Oregon, Police Department*
- Caroline Huffaker, *Victim Services & Chaplains Director, Chattanooga, Tennessee, Police Department*
- Dr. Ken Novak, *Professor, Criminal Justice and Criminology, University of Missouri-Kansas City*

Today's Presentation

- How to Develop and Foster Partnerships and Collaboration Opportunities
- Examples of Successful Partnerships and How They Were Built

The Importance of Partner Outreach and Collaboration

- Builds community trust
- Creates positive relationships
- Improves information sharing
- Enhances justice legitimacy
- Leads to successful responses
- Improved community engagement

“Effective partnerships between law enforcement and community stakeholders are essential to public safety, and it is important that government agencies, community groups, nonprofits, businesses, and private citizens all embrace public safety as a shared responsibility.”

Community Partnerships
COPS Office

Key Aspects to Successful Partnerships

- Finding partners that reflect the community served
 - Multicultural
 - Multi-ethnic
- Demonstrating to the community that partnerships are the key to a safe and healthy community
- Being proactive and constant in engagement and outreach

Examples of Partnerships

- Citizen advisory boards
- Co-responder teams
- Domestic violence response teams

“Collaboration is more than people from different organizations sitting at the same table. Collaboration happens when those people come together towards a common goal. There are many communities where the leaders of organizations attend coalition meetings.”

—How to Build Effective Community Partnerships to Prevent Teen Substance Abuse

The Why and Sustainability

- MOUs
- What is the added value of partnering
- Mission, vision, goals, and tasks
- Implementing is hard; sustaining is tougher

How to Build and Maintain Partnerships

Assess community-based needs that will be positively impacted from partnerships

- Identify community needs and concerns
- Utilize town hall meetings, listening sessions, surveys, call-in lines
- Educate the community on the priorities and focus of your agency
- Does the community need a response to behavioral health needs? Substance use disorders? Domestic violence? Gang-based violence?

How to Build and Maintain Partnerships

Based on community needs and priorities, identify the types of partnership-based opportunities

- Co-responder model
- Domestic violence team
- Youth-based community team

How to Build and Maintain Partnerships

Assess the types of partners that should be included in partnership opportunities

- Multi-discipline
- Multicultural
- Multi-racial

How to Build and Maintain Partnerships

- Initiate a dialog with the agencies and organizations
 - Ensure a high-ranking member of your team is assigned responsibility and actively engaged
 - Do your homework—sensitivity to diversity and culture norms
- Develop a strategic framework
- Define roles of partners and formalize
 - For multidisciplinary partners, identify the roles and responsibilities for each
 - Formalize partnerships

How to Build and Maintain Partnerships

- Establish accountability measures
- Identify opportunities to “operationalize” the partnership and support relationships
 - Create programs
 - Conduct joint activities

How to Build and Maintain Partnerships

- Develop a coordinated communication strategy
 - Transparent and accessible
 - Websites, speaking engagements, newsletters, press and social media
 - Report and celebrate successes
- Engage with a college or university to assist in collecting metrics and evaluating program goals

How to Build and Maintain Partnerships

- Establish feedback mechanisms for partnership and programs
 - Supports continuous assessment, learning, and improvement
- Routine engagement with community
 - Shows commitment to needs
- Regularly assess the make-up of partnership(s) to ensure appropriate community representation
- Prioritize the partnership!

Today's Presentation

- How to Develop and Foster Partnerships and Collaboration Opportunities
- Examples of Successful Partnerships and How They Were Built

Example of Success: Eugene, Oregon

- Chief Chris Skinner
- Multidisciplinary Partnership: CAHOOTS
 - Crisis Assistance Helping Out On The Streets
 - Established in 1989
 - A mobile crisis intervention program staffed by local clinic personnel
 - Provides support for EPD personnel by taking on many of the social service type calls including crisis counseling
 - CAHOOTS personnel often provide initial contact and transport for people who are intoxicated, mentally ill, or disoriented, as well as transport for necessary non-emergency medical care

Example of Success: Chattanooga, Tennessee

Internal Partnerships

- Co-located unit within the CPD
- Strategically place Victim Support Unit (VSU) services within policy, training curriculums, and operational planning
- Challenges
 - Buy-in: too much? Not enough?
 - Organizational and cultural shift
 - Change is the only constant

External Partnerships

- Movement beyond our traditional partnerships
- VSU as the tie-in or soft connection to the larger CJ system
- Challenges
 - History
 - Current climate
 - Time demands and capacity issues

Example of Success: Research Partnerships

Action researchers help with:

1. Problem identification (using local data to understand the conditions)
2. Help develop the intervention (part of strategic problem-solving, translating evidence-based practices, and often has a peer network for TTA)
3. Help implement strategies (though this is primarily the responsibility of the golfer/police)
4. Monitor feedback (is the strategy being implemented according to plan? With fidelity? Think Kennedy/FD)
5. Assess (impact evaluation—which can come in handy when trying to demonstrate value, accountability, transparency)

Example of Success: Kansas, City, Missouri

Partnering in a Community Violence Intervention Strategy

- Kansas City No Violence Alliance
 - Kansas City Mothers in Charge
 - Community Partners (Clergy, Moral Voices of Experience)
 - Health Care Foundation of Kansas City
 - Arts Tech
 - Probation Parole
 - Dept. Of Corrections



MIC KC (2015, February, 4). *Mothers in Charge* [Video]. YouTube.
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TDta6xhtkOM&t=2s>

Questions?

Thank You!

Join our distribution list to receive updates and announcements:

<https://csgjusticecenter.org/resources/newsletters/>

For more information, please contact Demetrius Thomas at
dthomas@csg.org

This project was supported by Grant No. 2020-MO-BX-K001 awarded by the Bureau of Justice Assistance. The Bureau of Justice Assistance is a component of the Office of Justice Programs, which also includes the Bureau of Justice Statistics, the National Institute of Justice, the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention, the Office for Victims of Crime, and the SMART Office. Points of view or opinions in this document are those of the author and do not necessarily represent the official position or policies of the U.S. Department of Justice. To learn more about the Bureau of Justice Assistance, please visit [bj.gov](http://bja.gov).

© 2021 The Council of State Governments Justice Center