

Demetrius Thomas

00:00:41hello, it is now 1pm Eastern standard time you have joined the using data and prosecute prosecutor lead, we have you have diversions webinar to allow for additional sign these past the hour, we will start the webinar in a few minutes.

- 00:02:49Good afternoon, I am demetrius Thomas deputy program director at the Council of State governments justice Center.
- 00:02:55Thank you for joining today's using data and prosecutor lead behavioral health diversion webinar today's webinar is funded by the US Department of Justice bureau of justice assistance.
- 00:03:07commonly referred to as bj and then, in collaboration with association of prosecuting attorneys commonly referred to as a PA.
- 00:03:16To give you an overview of today's webinar First, I will introduce the speaker, then there will be a brief overview on the Bureau of Justice Assistance bj.
- 00:03:25And the Council of State governments and CSP justice Center after that there will be a brief overview of API you will then go into our presentation.
- 00:03:35which will include introductions and information from the program's highlight staff on their prosecutorial engagement work.
- 00:03:42followed by a speaker and panelists Q amp a and then, finally, there will be a larger discussion portion where you can discuss prompting questions about prosecutorial engagement, followed by a quick close out.
- 00:03:56anytime during the webinar you can ask a question I took you on the Q amp a button at the bottom of the screen answering your question.
- 00:04:04This includes both technical and content related questions, we will try to reply to technical questions in the chat as we go.
- 00:04:12For the content related questions, we will keep a running list and address them at the end of the webinar we will do our best to get to as many questions as possible.
- 00:04:21If you encounter technical Audio problems during this webinar please click on the links drop into the chat box, please understand that there are some technical questions that we may not be able to answer we are recording the webinar and we'll post it on our website as soon as possible.

- 00:04:40 Today we are joined by speaker Rebecca novel she is the state attorney and member of the general counsel team at APA.
- 00:04:47 Prior to joining APA Rebecca work and family law and served as assistant state's attorney and Prince george's county Maryland.
- 00:04:55 She prosecuted general misdemeanor crime and specialized in domestic of family violence cases involving spouse spouses families and intimate partners.
- 00:05:04 Rebecca obtained her jd and masters in social work from the Catholic University of America and worked in the social service field prior to its meaning law school.
- 00:05:15 i'm demetrius Thomas deputy program director in the behavioral behavioral health division at the Council of State governments justice Center.
- 00:05:23 I am I overseen the justice and mental health collaboration program technical training and assistance for mcs prior to joining the justice Center I worked.
- 00:05:33 For the New York City Department of Health and mental hygiene, where I oversaw.
- 00:05:39 The programs initiatives at the intersection of criminal justice and let's have this one behavioral health, including establishing New York city's first ever diversion centers and co response and mobile crisis teams.
- 00:05:54 Next i'll provide overviews on the mission of the Bureau of Justice Assistance BA BA BA CSU justice Center and the justice and mental health collaboration program which is commonly referred to as jam [http](http://).
- 00:06:09 The Council state governments just.
- 00:06:12 i'm sorry the US Department of bureau of justice assistance.
- 00:06:17 mission is to make Community safer by strengthening the nation's the nation's criminal justice system.
- 00:06:23 It grants training and technical assistance and political and policy development services provide state local and indigenous nations, but the cutting edge foods and best practices, they need to reduce violence and drug related crimes support law enforcement and to combat that.
- 00:06:42 combat victimization.
- 00:06:45 The Council of State governments justice Center does your sister is a national nonprofit nonpartisan organization.
- 00:06:52 that combines the power of a membership association representing state officials and all three branches of government.

- 00:06:58 With the expertise of a policy and research team focused on assisting others to attain measurable results our staff develop research driven strategies to increase public safety and strengthen communities.
- 00:07:12 This slide here describes a bit more about our work style and how we should reflect justice Center core values which includes a commitment to.
- 00:07:20 being independent and nonpartisan and every aspect of our work, providing vigorous trusted high quality analysis.
- 00:07:28 Developing practical innovation innovative solutions informed by data and research, promoting collaboration and building consensus and being inclusive and respectful of diverse views and expectation.
- 00:07:42 The goal of the jam stp grant program is to develop collaborative collaboration across the criminal justice and behavioral health systems from law enforcement pre trial court gels and Community supervision.
- 00:07:56 to learn how to have successful partnerships that increase efficiencies and improve public safety and outcomes for people with mental and behavioral health conditions and co occurring substance use disorder involved in the criminal legal system.
- 00:08:10 And now we'll kick it over to Rebecca will give a brief overview on the association of prosecuting attorneys Rebecca.



Rebecca Neville (APA)

00:08:21 Thank you so much demetrius and thank you to our wonderful attendees for joining us today as when I give a special thank you to.

- 00:08:28 bj as well, and our presenters who are here today Redondo beach city attorney Michael Web.
- 00:08:33 SR deputy city prosecutor joy have a Queen and King county senior deputy prosecuting attorney Leandro craft for joining us and we'll be formally introduced later in this program to highlight their work in this space.
- 00:08:45 The association of prosecuting attorneys is a national nonprofit whose mission is to support enhance the effectiveness of prosecutors in their efforts to create safer communities.
- 00:08:55 Through a more justin equitable legal system APA is a leader in the field of nationwide training and technical assistance.

- 00:09:01 Our membership includes prosecutors offices elected or appointed in line prosecutors justice system professionals and Community partners.
- 00:09:10 Our staff and experienced attorneys is led by elect practicing elected and appointed prosecutors and through numerous projects advisory boards and collaborative efforts bpa helps jurisdiction implement innovative ineffective prosecutorial practices.
- 00:09:25 And I believe i'll turn it back to you two meters for our presentation on data and and working with data collection.



Demetrius Thomas

00:09:33 Wonderful Thank you Rebecca thanks for joining us, as you can see from this side, the importance of data collection data can be used to gain support allies and champions in the work that you do.

- 00:09:46 You can also use data to report on outcome measures that tells the story of why your program is working, and this can be used to obtain funding.
- 00:09:54 and also to support sustainability of your program having data that supports the success of your program is critical and sustainable sustainability efforts.
- 00:10:04 That it can also be used as an opportunity to identify and correct gaps in the program specifically equity gaps involving those most impacted by the systems, including race, gender and those who lead housing and etc.
- 00:10:21 There are three types of data that can be connected through research and program evaluation, the first is qualitative quantitative addresses the how and why a programmatic data.
- 00:10:31 data is not qualitative data is not generalized across the population, the other type is quantitative it addresses the what and how.
- 00:10:41 And how many a programmatic data this data can be generalized across the population and the third mixed.
- 00:10:50 Mixed methods is just that it is a research, study design to be interpreted using both quantitative and qualitative methodologies.
- 00:11:00 Though this is typically the hardest methodology they use it is often the most best and tells a more complete story using the data collected.

- 00:11:09 program staff should determine the best research design, based on what story you wish to convey to your audience in the purpose of the story, you wish to tell.
- 00:11:21 This law highlights some important data collection considerations which includes one to Ghana consideration and buy in.
- 00:11:29 And value added on to tell this story Do I need you should be thinking Do I need to collect data, what type of data Do I need to collect.
- 00:11:38 on how do I analyze and do I need to collect and analyze for multiple agencies, if you determine that you do, you should be thinking about what do I need to accomplish to meet these goals.
- 00:11:50 In addition to considering the focus of the story, you want to tell your audience and what the story is about, you will need to consider some practical things such as.
- 00:12:00 Is there a standard definitions for all of the program outcome measures that you are using throughout your program and is it widely understood by the audience that you are looking to attract.
- 00:12:11 You should also think about certain special circumstances that can impact your data your data collection and your data analysis, such as covert 19.
- 00:12:22 I will now turn it over to to Rebecca who will speak specifically about how you can incorporate some of these ideas into specifically working with prosecutors and understanding, their role in diversion programs Rebecca.



Rebecca Neville (APA)

00:12:36 Thank you so much demetrius yes i'm going to briefly touch on the prosecutors role and working with prosecutors and some strategies to engage with prosecutors and diversion around data so.

- 00:12:47 I.
- 00:12:47 want to start off with this is actually going to be different in every jurisdiction.
- 00:12:51 Of prosecutors rolling diversion and that's for a number of reasons, a the specific office or Community priorities the communities have different needs and.
- 00:13:00 who may be the best messenger for that for that diversion program may be different.

- 00:13:05 There are statutory structures that may allow or disallow certain involvement from the prosecutor in terms of how a diversion program is established.
- 00:13:14 And, as well as available resources available resources, a common concern for many, many entities and many stakeholders when.
- 00:13:22 organizing a diversion program as all of you know very well, and so, how a prosecutor engages and the prosecutors role is going to be shaped by many of those competing factors.
- 00:13:33 So when you are going to start out engaging prosecutor and in creating or revising a diversion program you're going to want to do your research first understanding the community's priorities.
- 00:13:44 The priorities of the office many offices have campaign websites for elected prosecutors are web pages that just list out their priorities and their policies surrounding what they're doing.
- 00:13:55 Again prosecutors are people who are really very dedicated to the the communities that they're serving.
- 00:14:02 And they have a strong desire to do what's best they've really taken this role and to serve their community wants to collaborate to find ways to best.
- 00:14:12 approach, public safety and justice and so they're really understanding what their priorities are and how they can overlap with what program you're suggesting or proposing or planning.
- 00:14:23 Or are currently running is always very helpful and many offices, looking at current programs and office partners many offices already have active diversion programs for certain crimes certain ways to deflect.
- 00:14:38 Certain charges and so maybe there are certain and current programs that you are able to find and fit into in that regard.
- 00:14:48 And you should also insert research and individual if you're going to speak with someone in the office understanding that person's educational and biographical information can help create a connection their lifelong Community resident.
- 00:14:59 or they've just moved to the area and transition from another office and looking to do something, innovative and different.
- 00:15:05 Understanding where someone comes from is is very helpful when you're beginning any collaboration, regardless of role or or prosecutor prosecutorial experience.
- 00:15:15 And then engaging collaborative partners and efforts reaching out to other treatment providers in your area or anyone who's worked with the prosecutor's office in the past again if there's.

- 00:15:24 offices that are having active diversion programs and have treatment partners, they already engaged with can you connect to them and see how and who might be the best person who is already doing this work within the office.
- 00:15:36 And can possibly meet with you, while chatting with the prosecutor, you can go to the next slide.
- 00:16:00 So i'm sorry go back one for me thanks so working with prosecutors to create a data strategy when you're going to do any diversion program or you're going to create any sort of program that.
- 00:16:12 will need to be informed by creating a framework for data governance where's the state of going to be housed who what is going to be important to measure who's responsible for collecting this data and and how.
- 00:16:24 A first step may be in will be defining the mission of the program and how success can be measured, what will success look like for this diversion program that's a crucial first step and will inform the rest of the work that you do around creating a framework for data governance.
- 00:16:41 Having some possible answers to these questions will be very helpful when you're meeting with the prosecutor's office in regard to to a program that you're running or or hope to run.
- 00:16:51 But definitely being open to modification and existing systems that may be helpful in this space and addressing any concerns about information sharing with each other and other entities.
- 00:17:02 Treatment providers prosecutor offices other criminal justice stakeholders who will be involved have different obligations and different roles regarding how they're able to share information and what information they can share.
- 00:17:14 Understanding those roles and those obligations very early in this engagement process will be extremely helpful for working out any challenges and streamlining communication down the road and.
- 00:17:24 Sharing that data that needs to be shared and working around ways that you can't share data what it is, you can do so that you have a working relationship and understanding.
- 00:17:34 and work with prosecutors to map out a flexible database structure that considers implementation measures.
- 00:17:40 there's course, no one size fits all in diversion so looking at the feasibility of the collection of data.
- 00:17:45 Is there adaptability to everyday use as you're considering what to measure and making sure that you have a section for for really if you

can't measure something can you make note of what it is and why there's an outlier in that case.

- 00:17:59 consider other research and program evaluation touch points that may be able to benefit from this data.
- 00:18:04 Are you are there, learning opportunities and other programs, who are already operating that are measuring what you wish to measure.
- 00:18:11 Are you able to connect with them, are you able to able to overlap systems, and can you identify any other challenges to data collection, analysis and how you might overcome them.
- 00:18:21 walking through how the data will work, the possibility of a pilot program to discern what new challenges will arise as your program begins and becomes operational can be very helpful in working through these challenges next slide.
- 00:18:36 Thank you, and so the crux of successful diversion and data strategy when creating this framework for data governance is regular communication and collaboration.
- 00:18:47 formulating a working group with key Members from all stakeholders is critically important to continuing to streamline communication having regular communication and understanding.
- 00:18:57 Each person's role in this program and in this collaboration so create periods for reporting periods for data collection sharing analysis and evaluation used to be daily.
- 00:19:09 Quarterly annually i'm sure all of you are creating data in some way or reviewing and interpreting data in some way already, and so, how will your program fit into what's already existing what's already being collected and how will you share it.
- 00:19:24 Adjusting these early of setting them early and then being able to adjust them, based on what data comes in, or what data, you are able to.
- 00:19:31 Challenges arise will be will be very important, again, this is a flexible process when when engaging with prosecutors and diversion programs as well.
- 00:19:40 And so scheduling regular and frequent meetings with working groups with your working group to discuss data collection in the policy implications, maybe that first round of data, you use to inform your Program.
- 00:19:52 policies and practices and what you can do to make it stronger before you share it externally, how can you use that data collection, how can you interpret that data.

- 00:20:02 To to really inform what your what your program is doing, how its defining success and remembering to the mission at hand, and the mission and the success of your Program.
- 00:20:14 And so, determine how the data will be used to inform that Program.
- 00:20:18 It can help you make policy shifts you can learn where there's communication or treatment gaps, is there a treatment gap that you've been seeing in the in the participants of this program it can help with things like staff workload are there shifts in staff workload that can help.
- 00:20:37 Help the feasibility of this program and determining success.
- 00:20:42 Go to the next slide.
- 00:20:46 So the data is collected let's say you've now created your working group found a great research partner let's say from a local college to help you interpret the data, you have and you've got six months of data.
- 00:20:57 This is certainly I want to to frame this as an overgeneralization i'm sure, as you all are aware, this process can take up to a year or more, but once you have the data and you're ready to share it or you're ready to review it.
- 00:21:10 What should you be considering first, you should be considering who's your audience, are you providing this information to the Community to let them know what your program is doing.
- 00:21:19 Are you sharing this information with the media to let them know what your program is doing, are you sharing this with your.
- 00:21:25 Other treatment partners or funders How is this, how is this information, going to be received by your audience.
- 00:21:32 And remembering the goal of your information sharing and that goes right alongside the audience how, what is the goal, and what is the purpose of your sharing this information.
- 00:21:42 For example, we have 111 office, I know of shares data just to show the amount of the caseload that the prosecutors in their office are handling.
- 00:21:51 For that diversion program because it's very large it's such a great volume and they want to show how many people are really.
- 00:21:58 Using the services using this treatment program and be able to show how many prosecutors are dedicated to this work, so it has a number of goals.
- 00:22:06 But understanding what the goals are is going to be really informative in terms of the complexity, how it comes across and what.

- 00:22:14medium you use to share that data and that goes to the complexity of data when you're sharing it which medium, are you using are you putting it into a report, or are you going to share it on a dashboard online on a website.
- 00:22:28And, have you emphasized any trends or patterns trends or patterns are very great ways to start recognizing gaps in the program gaps in the treatment gaps in even in the collaboration, there should there be another partner at the table to help assist in this program success.
- 00:22:48And how will you be able to visualize your data again that goes with the trends and patterns, how you can make them general and how can you make your data searchable.
- 00:22:58Depending on the audience and where it is where it is being housed and can you provide in your visualization can you provide general definitions, I think demetrius talked about this that sometimes definitions.
- 00:23:09can be different across disciplines and, of course, that is certainly the case in criminal justice and behavioral health so when you're visualizing your data are you providing ways for people to be able to interpret it your audience to interpret that data.
- 00:23:22Using the definitions that you're providing.
- 00:23:26We can go to the next slide Thank you so much so, keeping all of those points in mind when you're engaging with prosecutors when you're working on a diversion program we're not going to hear from some wonderful site presenters and presentations.
- 00:23:41From prosecutors who have used data in some way in their diversion programs.
- 00:23:46And so we could do a small introduction Thank you so much, and we have with us a very special guest who's actually not listed here, and it is Redondo beach city attorney Michael Web.
- 00:23:57We also have with us Redondo beach senior deputy city prosecutor joy Abacha board and King county senior web prosecuting attorney Leon for craft, by way of brief introduction.
- 00:24:09Mike Michael web is the city attorney for the city of Redondo beach he's one of 11 elected city attorney's in California and he is currently serving his fifth term.
- 00:24:18A city attorney having been first elected in 2005 and then re elected in 2009 2013 2017 and 2021 most recently.
- 00:24:29hard to being elected city attorney Mike served for 18 years the city prosecutor deputy city prosecutor and deputy district attorney.
- 00:24:36Microsoft has be a friend in political science and economics from the University of California Santa Barbara in 1984 and he received his jd

from the University of California Hastings college of law in 1987 welcome district attorney Webb.

- 00:24:51 We also have with us joy advocate board, who is the Redondo beach quality of life prosecutor, she has been with the city of Redondo beach since 2015.
- 00:24:59 She prosecutes misdemeanor offenses involving illegal cannabis dispensaries massage parlors short term Rentals and code enforcement violations.
- 00:25:08 And in addition she conducts administrative hearings and nuisance abatement, on behalf of the city she also oversees the city's response to homelessness program, which includes the housing initiative court.
- 00:25:20 She received her jd from the University of California Davis and a double bachelor's degree from the University of California Berkeley in rhetoric and philosophy.
- 00:25:28 Welcome joy Thank you so much for being here and Leon starcraft is the vice chair for the general crimes unit and King county prosecuting attorney's office in King county Washington.
- 00:25:37 She supervises the collaborative justice team which houses lead the law enforcement assisted assisted diversion.
- 00:25:45 King county drug diversion Court and the vital program through familiar faces leandra has worked in felony trials hate crimes drug court regional mental health court regional veterans Court and the involuntary treatment act for.
- 00:25:59 I want to thank you all for being here today, sharing your time and your expertise and your experiences with our audience.
- 00:26:07 I know that the information that you will share is going to be incredibly useful to to the work that the attendees are doing and we're just very grateful for you.
- 00:26:16 Being able to participate with us, I believe city attorney web, you are going to start us off with a brief overview, so if we could go to the next slide I believe Thank you so much.



Michael Webb

00:26:28 Well, thank you it's a pleasure to be here, we can go to the next slide.

- 00:26:34 We had.

- 00:26:36 As many areas throughout California had a crisis in number of unhealthy individuals and in late spring of 2019 it reached a pitch where.
- 00:26:50 The residents were complaining that virtually every city council meeting, and so the mayor and the majority of the Council separately came to us and asked us.
- 00:26:58 To put together some sort of creative program to address this, and they did so effective July 1 and we recommended an enhanced response to homelessness and that.
- 00:27:12 involves many aspects it started with meeting individually joy became and one of our other prosecutors Matt and I met with all residents who had complained.
- 00:27:23 About homelessness to find out what their concerns were what why they thought.
- 00:27:28 The response of the city had been inadequate, it also allowed us to have interaction, to explain to them recent court rulings for Martin versus Boise and why.
- 00:27:39 The police activities were limited in some circumstances throughout the night circuit, we met with the police department to find their perspective and their frustration with having to respond to many calls.
- 00:27:52 That were really people going through untreated mental crises and the lack of mental health resources and one of the.
- 00:28:02 Concerns was that they're active actions, even if they took enforced mid actions they were an effective, because people wouldn't show up to court and because of bail and overcrowding in La county and many of them were committing quality of life crimes trespass drunk.
- 00:28:24 drunk and public intoxicated in public they'd have to pick up so many of those to be held and there wouldn't be treating that there wouldn't be effective response to.
- 00:28:35 enable people to overcome what's holding them back from becoming house from having their.
- 00:28:42 Many chronic mental illnesses in many cases, drug addiction, many cases or combination be treated, we met with housing navigators to find out why the people they were working with the obstacles towards becoming.
- 00:28:59 towards becoming permanently housed and we came up with a process program that involves the first transitional housing units, we had pallet shelters tiny homes.

- 00:29:10 That would allow people were on the streets, the ability to become stabilized we have permanent housing, where we partner with the county and receive state grants to turn.
- 00:29:22 hotels into permanent supportive housing, but a central part of all of this was trying to get people in to court, so we could bring the services to them.
- 00:29:37 Housing navigators talked about the obstacles they'd have to meet such as you know, it can be very challenging for someone with chronic mental illness, no transportation, to be able to navigate the dmv system to get a ID to be able to get qualified for the benefits so.
- 00:29:56 central part of this is our housing initiative or homeless Cork and then eventually involved bring the Court.
- 00:30:05 To the Community outdoors the first one in La county where the individuals already were and bringing all the resources they needed to overcome those obstacles.
- 00:30:15 And the person that so effectively runs that program joy advocate i'm going to turn over to her so she can go through the details of our housing joy.



Joy Abaquin

00:30:27 Thank you next slide please.

- 00:30:30 Our.
- 00:30:31 We originally started calling it homeless or it is change to be housing initiative port was started in July 2019 as a pilot Program.
- 00:30:41 And we were trying to focus on criminal defendants who had chronic mental illness substance use disorders.
- 00:30:50 People who commit habitual offenses I would note that you can see in this photo which was taken in June 2020 That was our first graduate so it took almost a year for him to start the process and four and then become permanently house next slide please.
- 00:31:11 And our program is a diversion program, meaning that when I defend it comes to court and follows certain orders of the judge if they complete all those orders of bail laws.
- 00:31:24 and become permanently house, we will dismiss their criminal cases and got photos photo shows our outdoor sport, it has since grown too many other partners and programs, I will mention leader.

- 00:31:41 But basically, this is a collaborative work it's not i'm not fighting with a public defenders we're all working together with the judge, with the housing navigators to get a person stabilized and permanently house next slide please.
- 00:32:01 So, as I mentioned our ultimate goal is stabilization and permanent housing on the way there.
- 00:32:07 When a person first comes to court, the first order is normally to have them connect with a housing navigator and to get their ID that'll be the first order of the judge.
- 00:32:18 they'll come back next month, and then they might have lost their ID so the next order but okay go back to the Department of.
- 00:32:28 Get two copies of your ID once you give to your House navigator and wants to keep for yourself, as Mr lab mentioned that Doc being document ready is an essential part of becoming permanently house next slide please.
- 00:32:47 So our partners, since we have moved outdoors and I would mention that moved outdoors initially because of coppa the courts shut down we weren't hearing our cases our.
- 00:33:00 Dependence experiencing homelessness weren't able to meet with their housing navigator important so when we moved outdoors a lot of agencies started asking us if they can be a part of our program and now we have set up booths around the Court room.
- 00:33:17 For the Department of mental health, we have the public defender's expansion team to expunge their criminal records, so that is, it is easier for them to achieve permanent housing.
- 00:33:29 We have eight private partner that provides substance abuse and mental health counseling we have.
- 00:33:36 substance abuse and detox program referrals as well as a full service partnership for mental health and, as I mentioned, we have our housing navigators we contract with three different service providers as and recently we hired our own city employee housing navigator next slide please.
- 00:33:59 So, because we just started this in 2019 we are still in the process of what Rebecca was describing earlier and gathering all our data, but to give you some.
- 00:34:11 frame of reference, we are a city of a population of more than 67,000 people are 2020 homeless point in time, count was 176.
- 00:34:23 There was no Los Angeles county point in time, count in 2021 to two cove it so we contracted with a service provider that conducted a census breast so it.

- 00:34:34 For 2021 it was 92 people experiencing homelessness now it's not a fair comparison, because the point in time, count does one my, and this is a formula, whereas the service provider we contracted with counted.
- 00:34:51 Persons that they spoke to over two days, and some people like double counted, but it does give us some idea of the progress we made and.
- 00:35:03 In addition, I just completed our quarterly.
- 00:35:08 Report our grants yesterday, so I think these numbers are from the last quarter and Just to give you a more updated.
- 00:35:16 report we have from January 58 unduplicated clients come through our homeless support we've had 29 cases dismissed currently we have 10 people in interim housing and we have had five graduations meaning five people who have been permanently house January and.
- 00:35:42 We also look at the attendance, because in my 12 years of being a prosecutor, I have never seen a court calendar, where every person has attended court.
- 00:35:54 And this is a population known not to attend for because because of their mental health illnesses or substance abuse addiction, or because it's just not a priority for them.
- 00:36:05 There are a lot of failure to peers, a lot of benchmarks, but you can see we've had months, where everyone comes to court we've had a high success of attendance.
- 00:36:17 And it really has to do with the partnership with their homeless navigator the homeless navigators bring them to court and.
- 00:36:27 reminds them to come to court, but it also has to do with the Community that they fostered there they want to come to court, they.
- 00:36:35 When they get there, and the judge calls their case and they come up and the judge asked them how many days sober today miss Scott and shields out 600 days your honor everyone is applauding myself.
- 00:36:50 The audience, the other defendants, the sheriff's our police department, the public defenders.
- 00:36:57 Everyone is encouraging each other when they come back to them see their high five each other, so they want to come to court.
- 00:37:04 And being a prosecutor in this program i'm very involved in their path to becoming stabilize overcoming their sobriety and being permitted House so it's a great program prior to covet the police were.
- 00:37:25 was missing a lot of good anecdotal evidence that showed.
- 00:37:30 You know the crime data arrest Tina calls for service customer satisfaction levels Community concerns and public perception by utilizing

some of the advanced technologies that recover raw public sentiment data and after looking at a variety of data.

- 00:37:48it's very apparent that early on, into the pilot project our actions have decreased our transit related calls for service.
- 00:37:58Increased our customer satisfaction level increase public perception of safety decreased our Community concern for homelessness and decrease our property crimes and overall decrease our part one friends levels and the city.
- 00:38:16And with that i'll turn it over to Rebecca let's introduce our next speaker.



Rebecca Neville (APA)

00:38:23Thank you, both so much, and that is an incredibly innovative program and in a time when people are really struggling with with.

- 00:38:34You know fatigue and caseload backlogs what an inspiring and just motivating way to address so many problems that people are dealing with and effectively, so thank you so much, both of you for the work that you do and for being here with us today, sharing that that data and that Program.



Michael Webb

00:38:57So when I see questions in the chat when do you want us to respond to those.



Rebecca Neville (APA)

00:39:03I am if it's okay with you do turn you read we're going to hold our questions until the Andre has.

- 00:39:09done her say presentation and then please everyone that's a great point Thank you so much for reminding me everyone keep those questions coming in, because we will address them in our Q amp a session, right after the entres presentation.

- 00:39:21 Thank you so much.



Leandra Craft

00:39:24 Thank you Rebecca and.

- 00:39:25 Thank you, Joe and Michael was wonderful to hear about.
- 00:39:28 The programs going on in California so like Rebecca mentioned my name is leandra craft, I am a senior deputy prosecutor with King county and I just want to start off by saying that.
- 00:39:40 When we're taking a look at this next program the vital team through the familiar faces initiative.
- 00:39:45 Seattle and King county largely we're taking a look at our homelessness crisis as well, along with the behavioral health issues and the drug addiction problem that our county was seeing so in the early 20 I mean in 2010.
- 00:40:03 Our office, the King county prosecutor's office started implementing a program that had to do with different partnerships between law enforcement, the prosecutor's office.
- 00:40:13 The aclu and tried to figure out with those systems connecting could people actually do better, and because of those results from that program that started in 2010.
- 00:40:25 The county King county executives office decided to say.
- 00:40:29 Well we've seen some positive results from connecting systems, including prosecutors and law enforcement for the folks that we see who are utilizing the criminal justice system.
- 00:40:41 What if we give high utilizes more resources and and don't involve law enforcement would that make a dent at all in the houses crisis in King county so that's sort of where the familiar faces initiative was born in 2015 and you can go to the next slide please.
- 00:41:02 So the more resources that the King county executives office was really thinking about was let's include.
- 00:41:08 The Seattle city attorney's office let's fund a prosecutor to take a look at those high level utilizes as well as the King county prosecutor's office let's get intensive case managers, which it sounds similar to the housing navigators that we've heard about in Redondo.
- 00:41:25 And so we also included an advanced registered nurse practitioner housing set aside housing for folks who are high utilizes and.

- 00:41:35As well as partnerships with other local hospitals, so we see you dad medicine that in the harbor view medical Center Those are the two largest hospitals in the Seattle in King county area.
- 00:41:47And if we add pure support, how would this impact the high utilizes in the King county jails, you can go to the next slide.
- 00:41:58And so, in 2014 when the King county executives office was deciding to start this initiative, the initiative thought to itself okay.
- 00:42:10Well, we are going to give these resources for these high utilizes, we know that the high utilizes of the jail likely have many low level, and maybe some more concerning.
- 00:42:24cases that are open currently with the King county prosecutor's office and the Seattle city attorney's office So how are we going to use the data to figure out which folks we're going to target.
- 00:42:35And so familiar faces the clients of this program and I just want to bring it back to people can be part of this program whether or not they are court involved.
- 00:42:45But because of the criteria to become a client of this program there is a high likelihood that these folks are ready court involved.
- 00:42:54So who can be defined as a familiar face the person that one has to have been booked for or more times within the King county jail.
- 00:43:03There are two King county there are two jails that are counted in this booking.
- 00:43:09And that has had to happen within the past year and in the past three years, there had to have been two years where the person was booked for more times.
- 00:43:20And I know that sounds a little bit confusing, but essentially the person has to be booked in over more times in the past three years, so consistently utilizing the jail.
- 00:43:30And then the third criteria is the person had a behavioral health disorder and for us, that means that the person has a mental health issue or chemical dependency issues such as substance abuse next slide please.
- 00:43:46And so, when they were taking a look at what the initial numbers would be if we launched a program specifically to help the high utilizes with their legal involvement and their impact on the Community.
- 00:43:59The first set was a little over 1000 and 2014 was a little over 1000 as well, so 94% of those individuals had a behavioral health indicator when they were booked into the jail.
- 00:44:14Because in our jail systems and i'm sure that many of you all have seen this as well there's initial assessment when they come in, they may

be segregated if the behavioral health issues are extremely difficult to manage.

- 00:44:30 So one of the main drivers and the ways that the county executives office was to advocate for funding for this program was to explain that.
- 00:44:40 For these high utilizes these familiar faces who are constantly coming into contact with the jail, it was over.
- 00:44:49 \$35 million that we're spending on these folks to jail them and oftentimes because they were coming in due to crimes of poverty or crimes, a low level crimes.
- 00:45:01 Our courts we're not holding them for a very long sometimes charges weren't even being filed, but the cost that was associated to these high utilizes was increasingly apparent for the county.
- 00:45:18 Next slide.
- 00:45:20 And so, this.
- 00:45:23 Systems organization drawing graph is basically what the thought process was when they were creating the entire initiative as a whole.
- 00:45:33 If you can see, on the left hand side, we see the familiar face so those identified as high utilize those of the King county jail with behavioral health concerns.
- 00:45:42 And then the vital program is right below to the right of the familiar face, which is their care management team, the care management team are their.
- 00:45:51 Housing navigator their intensive case manager it's people like me and other prosecutors who are taking a look at their legal involvement.
- 00:46:00 it's their pure manager it's their advanced registered nurse practitioner all of that.
- 00:46:07 is to help those familiar faces clients get access to the outer ring, which is the physical behavioral health employment benefits Community family education legal you see spirituality.
- 00:46:20 The team, the vital team is supposed to help that client get access to all of those systems around them, which will reduce what we see on the right hand side, which is.
- 00:46:32 Calling our first responders being involved in courts having to use the drop in centers and no consistency with actually their care.
- 00:46:45 That was really the initial thought process of starting this program and starting a team that was intensively taking a look at these high utilizes next slide.

- 00:46:59 And so, this is really a definition of the vital team as a comprehensive and integrated services to adults who are experiencing the.
- 00:47:08 behavioral health challenges, and they need intensive level of Community based support and may be experiencing homelessness.
- 00:47:15 And so what I want to say now is that we do also have a therapeutic courts in King county we have our mental health court, we have our regional veterans court, we have adult drug diversion courts.
- 00:47:29 And we have a Community court, these are the folks that even going through those therapeutic court systems are not decreasing their usage of the jails or their contacts with the criminal justice system.
- 00:47:45 It is a harm reduction based program and it is housing the housing first approach, and when I say it is housing first so that we're all on the same page these folks once they become.
- 00:47:58 A vital client through the familiar faces initiative they're identified as a familiar face, they can be offered whether or not they want to enter in the Program.
- 00:48:08 If they do choose to enter in the program they have to sign a release of information between those health care providers and the prosecutor's offices that are involved.
- 00:48:18 And they get the benefit of us taking a look at their cases if they're actually actively.
- 00:48:24 involved in their case management and reducing their harm, but there are no strings attached to having them be House so they can become a.
- 00:48:34 familiar faces client through the vital team and the next day be house, regardless of if they have open cases regardless if they are still using they can still be housed next time.
- 00:48:52 And so, this is a picture graph of the vital team itself, so we saw a larger overview of the familiar faces initiative.
- 00:49:01 Early on, through the executive office, but this is the vital teams actually working with the familiar face so like I mentioned, there is a care manager, which is.
- 00:49:13 Their intensive case manager, there are occupational therapists there are nurses there's peer support there are prosecutors that are part of this team, and there are psychiatric medical providers as well.
- 00:49:27 Next slide.
- 00:49:30 So people often ask me what do prosecutors actually do wire prosecutor is involved in a program that is not tied to a case, but instead is tied to an individual.

- 00:49:43 So there's actually a lot that the prosecutor has to do when I say that it's a harm reduction case, if someone who is part of the vital Program.
- 00:49:52 Is not reducing their harm, even with all of those resources.
- 00:49:57 Because there's a release of information we're getting that information from the case manager and then I myself can say or other prosecutors can say that that individual's case is going to be.
- 00:50:08 Proceeding through the mainstream the criminal justice system as any other similar situated defend it, so that means that.
- 00:50:18 That person will still get the benefit of providing medication to Defense Defense can talk about that the assigned prosecutor.
- 00:50:26 The the fact that that person is a familiar face will not have any impact if they are not actually reducing their harm.
- 00:50:34 In being involved in the program, however, since we have that release of information.
- 00:50:39 If we see, and when we communicate between systems with the care providers with our House in case manager with medical staff that the person actually is being consistent of.
- 00:50:52 You know, going into their check ins if they're being consistent with talking to their case manager setting appointments maybe they're on medicated assisted treatment now.
- 00:51:03 And we can confirm that they're not picking up any new criminal charges that is information that we use for those individuals to say you know, maybe this case can be negotiated.
- 00:51:16 A little bit more creatively, maybe this person, maybe these cases that we have that are referrals that there are no injured parties.
- 00:51:26 Maybe the referrals can be declined, and so that is the large bandwidth of why we have one assigned prosecutor to the familiar faces program because, if a person is actually reducing their harm and we're getting that information independently.
- 00:51:42 Not from just their Defense counsel, who of course will advocate for them, but independently from their case manager, we can really do a wide range of things from.
- 00:51:52 declining to file a case from negotiating down a case from just missing a case, even when all of those things in between has happened for.
- 00:52:02 Our one of our for at least a few of our familiar faces clients and the reason that it is important to have a prosecutor involved is because everyone's plan as a familiar faces client is individualized so we're taking a look at.

- 00:52:22 All cases that they have open within the county we're taking a look at them holistically and not like.
- 00:52:31 What we're actually seeing just for one particular charge and prior to working in these programs as a prosecutor, I was mostly concerned with the cases that I was working on and maybe the defendant if I can.
- 00:52:45 wrap up certain charges, but in this program in particular we're trying to take a look at what can we do to reduce the barriers for this person, so they no longer have to utilize the county emergency programs the jail, etc.
- 00:53:04 Next slide please.
- 00:53:07 So there have been two evaluations done since this program first started this really launched in 2016 so there was evaluation between July 2016 and.
- 00:53:19 2017 and then there was another evaluation between 2017 and 2018 we're currently going through an evaluation from.
- 00:53:29 Through 2022 I think that everyone can understand that, due to the pandemic, there has been a lot of delays and we are expecting different results.
- 00:53:41 Based on services being closed during the pandemic and the lack of congregate settings, as you all may know kongregate settings are often where.
- 00:53:54 People, for example, will go to sober support meetings or people will meet with their case managers, or have supportive.
- 00:54:03 programmatic based meetings, those were completely shut down, starting in March 2020 in the King county area, so we are expecting different results, but for the preliminary evaluations, we can see that.
- 00:54:18 The vital program the familiar faces clients were actually able to utilize the additional resources that.
- 00:54:28 They were provided when they were part of the program so we see just numbers, such as a little under 600 consultations with the medical professionals around to over 200 consultations with an occupational therapist, which is also something as a prosecutor for myself, I never really.
- 00:54:46 thought was significant to have someone be an occupational therapist for folks.
- 00:54:52 who are experiencing house listeners and then for the first time, or being homes, they throw a lot of folks who don't even know how to maintain their space.

- 00:55:02 or getting from point A to be using what we have for public transportation is our Oracle card people didn't know that.
- 00:55:12 They have to go load their card, you know, at a certain station and that's Those are all of the little things that an occupational therapist helps them with, and then you can also see about 100 phone consultations with nursing staff and 100 contacts with peer support next slide.
- 00:55:30 So the case managers for our vital participants are their number one resource, because their case managers are what connects the familiar faces client to everything else, so we can just see numbers between two.
- 00:55:46 Is that there was a little less than 3000 hours of case management with vital clients, I want to bring this back to the beginning of.
- 00:55:56 The introductions to the presentations today Rebecca was saying that we need to make sure that.
- 00:56:03 programs like this that are based on data need to constantly have check ins.
- 00:56:08 and talk about how the data is being collected for the vital team we actually have monthly check ins, with all of the service providers, including the case managers, so we can see what are our definitions moving forward, of how we are going to be.
- 00:56:25 Collecting data and is this still working and.
- 00:56:30 With the evaluation that will be coming up this summer we're hoping to see if we can increase the amount of familiar faces clients that we have, but in general case managers average about.
- 00:56:44 Two and a half hours every month for every client.
- 00:56:48 which then does help those clients reduce their utilization of emergency rooms 911 calls or Community check ins for our law enforcement officers.
- 00:57:03 Next slide please.
- 00:57:05 And so, these are the pro preliminary evaluations and I will say again, since the evaluation, these are based on 2016 to 2018.
- 00:57:16 So I want to put that caveat in there, but more than 78% of the vital clients through the through familiar faces were booked in jail less often was they were enrolled in the program for at least six months.
- 00:57:29 And that is the definition of the enrollment for at least six months was chosen, because the vital case managers identified that folks.
- 00:57:40 In the first three months need to build rapport with their case managers, they need to feel comfortable that this program.

- 00:57:49 is going to work for them, or is not going to leave them and we had heard from a lot of clients, specifically that they had been a part of different core processes they've been a part of different i'll reach teams, but are often.
- 00:58:10 I don't want to say failed out of those programs, but maybe they didn't graduate so they no longer were accessing those services, so there was a lot of.
- 00:58:18 Trust and rapport that had to be built, the first three months of case management, but we we see now that the vast majority of vital clients have fewer bookings per year after their enrollment and I think.
- 00:58:32 anecdotally I will say that it probably has a lot to do with the fact that it is a housing first base model because a lot of the vital clients were being contacted on the street.
- 00:58:48 And the last point, I would have to stay here is that.
- 00:58:51 A typical vital client had at least two fewer bookings into a king county jail compared to the three years before entering the Program.
- 00:58:59 And i'm bringing it back to that because, when we take a look at the data a criteria of someone being a familiar faces a vital client they had to have been booked.
- 00:59:10 At least over eight times in the past three years, so the fact that every year they're reducing their jail bookings.
- 00:59:18 Is is a positive and i'm not sure if every county or every jurisdiction has been dealing with this, since the pandemic, but I anticipate these results to be a little bit varied.
- 00:59:33 Taking into account 2022 2022 because all of our all of the jails and King county has had different criteria in booking, especially during the pandemic to reduce obviously the kongregate settings.
- 00:59:50 And so what do we know from this actual data, we know that the vital clients are not utilizing the services that the emergency services that they would.
- 01:00:03 Prior to being a vital client and why is the prosecutor still important for programs like this it's really.
- 01:00:13 One of the main things is the prosecutors end up being the meeting point from any of these different silos so we see people coming in contact with the criminal justice system.
- 01:00:26 Because of poverty because of lack of housing, because of behavioral health substance use issues and we are the ones that actually can say okay well this person.
- 01:00:36 Already has xyz going on with them for these particular cases they are currently being overseen by our department of corrections.

- 01:00:46 How can, how can the case management team actually help this individual so that they don't have to use these emergency services.
- 01:00:55 But I do think that seeing the preliminary results and going through this second or I guess third round of evaluations now.
- 01:01:05 The county has seen benefit in these programs it doesn't work for everyone, but.
- 01:01:11 It is for a continuity of care for these individuals, knowing that their case managers and their resources, regardless of them entering into the criminal justice system has provided consistency and a reduction of utilization of the emergency services, since this program has been around.
- 01:01:33 And i'm open for questions.



Rebecca Neville (APA)

01:01:38 Thank you so much, the hundred That is incredible information I I just think about all the work that went into deciding how many.

- 01:01:48 How what a familiar face would be defined as.
- 01:01:51 that's such an innovative way to to really start addressing and I love countering it or comparing it with.
- 01:01:58 With joy's program as well, and it makes program because it really addresses to the things that people have struggled with as fit as people not being able to appear for their cases and then people continuing to get.
- 01:02:11 To can't repeat cases and not really addressing the root causes of why they're coming into the system and at different points in that system.
- 01:02:20 If you want me to I know.



Leandra Craft

01:02:21 Questions, though.



Rebecca Neville (APA)

01:02:22 So I was gonna say we're just about to turn to our Q amp a session I know we had some prepared questions, but I really want to make sure that we're answering the audience's questions, so I will go back and we've completed all of your questions, so please continue to send them in.

- 01:02:38 I believe, if we can we'll start and we'll send the first question over to.
- 01:02:46 Well, I guess, whoever wants to to answer from from from your jurisdiction of Redondo Redondo beach, you mentioned that there was an informal diapers and agreement and does this informal nature of the agreement impact its efficacy, have you seen it impact the efficacy of the of the agreement.



Joy Abaquin

01:03:09 So we call it in formal versus informal were in our programs formal diversion requires a plea not guilty no contest and then sentencing.

- 01:03:24 Over it can be put over six months a year or two an update informal does not require that plea, and that actually helps the person in that if a please enter, even though it's not a full conviction on your record without the sentencing, it might affect their housing.
- 01:03:45 Finding apartments or permanent housing and I think it's it encourages people to accept the service doesn't be part of the program and they don't have to enter that we don't add something like.



Michael Webb

01:03:58 I would say only that there are multiple diversion programs in California courts, and there are frankly easier way to get these quality of life charges dismissed or.

- 01:04:13 Get the punishment over with they think what attracts the public defenders to support the program is there's no easier way.
- 01:04:23 To make services so readily available and set the individuals up for success and I think that's why we have.

- 01:04:33so tight attendance and such high participation program because they're coming to a very non threatening way, which is near where we pick the site of parking lot that's.
- 01:04:43Right across the street from a church that provides lunch service to the homeless, so many of them were going to be there anyways and by bringing all those services they're willing to do the work in order to get permanently house.



Rebecca Neville (APA)

01:05:03that's incredible and I think that speaks to just the buy in from all of your partners.

- 01:05:07and your work, but it's setting up this program to really get that buy in from each stakeholder to be present to have their booth to to really work with these individuals and that's so important.
- 01:05:19And I think it's something that you've both you really all touched on in your program so I can certainly appreciate those points, which brings me to kind of the next question that came in is housing.
- 01:05:28You know, housing is an important part of this program and housing is important part of both programs really so is housing a benefit of the Court graduation, or is it a requirement.



Joy Abaquin

01:05:40In order to graduate from the program you do need to be permanently house, but during the program you're not required to be House you don't have to be an interim housing to be a part of the program that's the goal and.

- 01:05:54So the steps getting that they may find interim housing on the way there, but you don't necessarily need to be house.



Michael Webb

01:06:02 And, and you know, many people have multiple cases come to it and so joy will sequentially segmented we dismiss those cases, if somebody is really showing.

- 01:06:16 active participation in overcoming the obstacles that remove them from becoming permanently house and so it's an incentive and a final reward but it's a huge benefit to them.



Rebecca Neville (APA)

01:06:33 Absolutely, and I think I think it's such a credit to both of your programs that they started really pretty closely to to the onset of the pandemic which i'm sure created some.

- 01:06:42 unforeseen barriers, I think i've heard the term unprecedented times more times than I can count, so I am certain that it and it's such a credit to both of the programs that they were able to really tangent and just make those corrections.
- 01:06:57 either.



Michael Webb

01:06:59 I will say it's a bit of good fortune as well, because I don't think i'm creative enough to come up with the idea of going to an outdoor court more persuasive enough to get into la county do the do the first one in our parking lot but because of coated in it's a wizard asked risk population.

- 01:07:20 that's why we wanted to keep the success going the tenants going and it had a whole other benefit and so now, there are two other outdoor courts in pelican.



Rebecca Neville (APA)

01:07:33 wow that is.

- 01:07:36The most silver linings i've i've heard yet to the pandemic, but if you can find a way to make that.
- 01:07:42That barriers such a positive i'm that's incredible um were there any other barriers, and this, you know to to you leandra as well, were there any other barriers to your programs that you identified and were able to to work around.



Leandra Craft

01:07:59You know, some barriers to the program sort of vary.

- 01:08:03By year, but I would say that.
- 01:08:06What we're up against right now is the lack of mental health resources, especially for those who are acutely mentally ill, but don't meet the criteria to be in voluntarily committed, so there are folks who.
- 01:08:21may be.
- 01:08:25cognizant cognizant at times to sign a release of information, but then, when we continue to start working with them, we realize they need a much higher level of care that the team cannot provide.
- 01:08:38And right now we're seeing a large lack of mental health resources because someone has to be very mentally ill, to be committed in a hospital.
- 01:08:52or they're they're not right and so it's finding that in between, and I think that that is a really large barrier for at least the systems in general in Washington state right now, because.
- 01:09:05That high level of care, unless you are in in Christ is not necessarily available.



Joy Abaquin

01:09:17I would agree that.

- 01:09:18The lack of resources is a huge barrier getting permanent housing right now is difficult for a lot of the participants, particularly those who don't have a.
- 01:09:31A credit history, a lot of landlords don't want to accept emergency housing vouchers, so it does prolong the process and.

- 01:09:42 getting them the treatment that they need for mental health and substance abuse that sometimes there's a waiting list, but it is the resources available, that is a very good.



Michael Webb

01:09:56 would say they're just obstacles that we have to evolve to overcome, and so, for example, some people don't have the birth certificate didn't know how to get them and joy did a lot of research and the other our other prosecutor.

- 01:10:12 Eventually, was able to convince us judge to sign a court order and this person has identified this individual for the last 20 years and D and he had to take it so she could finally get her.
- 01:10:28 ids so she could get her benefits.
- 01:10:32 tsa to help.
- 01:10:34 reunite a schizo frantic person who did who had just left his family in Texas, and had been on the streets in southern California for a while we were long story, but we're able to prevail upon tsa that.
- 01:10:53 booking photo could be a second form of ID for travel and so he was able to fly and join in so we're looking at what can we do to help people improve their credit, because that is is an obstacle, so there are barriers, but the whole idea behind these programs as they evolve.
- 01:11:15 To meet those obstacles.



Rebecca Neville (APA)

01:11:21 I think that again speaks to just the ability of your offices to continue to collaborate, because those are not things you certainly don't learn that in law school.

- 01:11:28 They don't they don't teach you that there, so it is incredible that you know, and I this PC your ability to collaborate with these partners and really think of these creative things.
- 01:11:40 That you can do to really address the needs of the people that are that are on your on your desk as as a paper file to begin with, really, so I want to i'm.

- 01:11:51 Looking at the looking at the questions that are coming in, how many clients.
- 01:11:57 And I think this question is intended for for.
- 01:12:01 You, the entre first yeah um.
- 01:12:04 How many clients per case manager, do you have.



Leandra Craft

01:12:06 So it's 15 clients per one case manager so in at least in Washington state that's a low caseload for.

- 01:12:15 A social worker and that's why we're saying that they're intensive case managers because.
- 01:12:20 With only 15 clients per case manager they able to walk that person to court they're able to go to the Department of licensing with them they're able to go, make sure they could go pick up their birth certificate and things like that.



Rebecca Neville (APA)

01:12:38 that's great and then, and then I know that I think demetrius is going to join us in just a moment with a follow up question but.

- 01:12:44 What were the data points are the key data points that started and that led to starting familiar faces and I know this, so our attendees are aware, we can send them the link to the website that I believe has all of those.
- 01:12:55 Initial data reports that really led into the familiar faces initiative, but if you could give a brief overview of what the key data points where that led to to this initiative.



Leandra Craft

01:13:05 Definitely, so we even though there are.

- 01:13:10 therapy therapeutic alternative courts.
- 01:13:12 In our.

- 01:13:13jurisdiction, we still saw that there were a number of high utilizes so people who are involved in the emergency systems were concerned with.
- 01:13:23The same folks coming in, over and over again in the jail so jail utilization was one of the number one priorities, because, like I said during the presentation.
- 01:13:35Our courts weren't holding folks very long anyway, for these really low level offenses so it was just a revolving door of people coming in, so jail utilization was one really big concern and the use of 9911 calls for very.
- 01:13:52For calls that were not necessarily appropriate for 911 and the walk ins to the hospitals, again, those are folks that.
- 01:14:01need help primary care and should not be using the emergency room right so Those were some of the main priorities that came out of the county to create the initiative as a whole, along with the houses population because we've seen it steadily increase.



Rebecca Neville (APA)

01:14:22Absolutely and i'm going to turn it over to demetrius because I know he had a follow up question based on.

- 01:14:27Your answer so far.



Demetrius Thomas

01:14:30Thanks thanks for back I just had to follow.

- 01:14:31To follow up questions, the first that i'm.
- 01:14:33Both to both presenters you talk about access to services and the issues will access to services, I was wondering if there was some benefit of being involved in your program where.
- 01:14:46The the barrier to access or on getting certain services is cut in half, because you all have that buy in from the different social services.
- 01:14:56Specifically housing right, because we know that there's a lot of red tape when it comes to housing, so is their opportunity some of that red tape is bypass, given the collaboration in just the prosecutor being involved in those cases i'll i'll kick it over to the Andrew.



Leandra Craft

01:15:14 So yes, there is a benefit once a person is a vital client like.

- 01:15:19 I was saying Plymouth housing group is one of the partners and so they're actually set aside housing units for vital clients and so, if someone becomes a vital client and they want to be house.
- 01:15:32 Because there's always a caveat that not everyone wants to be house, but if they want to be house, they can have.
- 01:15:38 A house available or a space available, which is really not like the regular King county.
- 01:15:45 Housing programs usually there is a assessment that's done and you're ranked and then based on your need that's how they get house, but as soon as you're part of this program if you want to be house, you can be house.
- 01:15:56 The other thing is because the prosecutors are involved we're able to get a lot of additional data that social service providers are not so when it comes to getting someone their license their birth certificate.
- 01:16:09 or helping them get employment, because we have those records that I feel like is a benefit that those resources those barriers for those resources are cut in half, because you have someone directly working in the system that can provide you copies of that information.



Demetrius Thomas

01:16:29 Anything same question joy and Mike if you hate anything that.



Joy Abaquin

01:16:35 yeah so we in Redondo beach have.

- 01:16:38 The so I mentioned the tiny homes, the palette shelter and people who go through our housing initiative program do you have priority for that that is interim housing, we are currently working on a more permanent housing project.

- 01:16:55 And when that gets set up, I imagine that the same kind of priority would be available to them, and as Leandra mentioned, you know when I'm trying to order a birth certificate.
- 01:17:05 checking that government agency really expedites the process as opposed to when the housing navigators or outreach workers are trying to obtain it for their clients, so there are those benefits to you know, cutting the red tape and trying to expedite certain things.



Michael Webb

01:17:24 And I think that.

- 01:17:26 Having all the services.
- 01:17:28 together in one spot helps a lot, a lot of people were not getting house, because as John mentioned.
- 01:17:34 They didn't get their past convictions expunged from the record, even though they were legally entitled to they just couldn't go through the process, so the.
- 01:17:45 public defender sends a special mobile expansion team to homeless court once every month to for everyone to be able to access and you don't have to be a defendant to access any of the services joy passes out flyers to all the provider of meals.
- 01:18:08 A week before the event and people do walk in and avail themselves of the services, plus the non-threatening nature makes people that department mental health finds their youth activity much higher.
- 01:18:25 in delivering their services at homeless court, then they do.
- 01:18:34 Even than merely going to the homeless didn't cabinet or some other approach are waiting for someone to come to them, and so, even the service providers, find it.
- 01:18:45 beneficial to be in that group setting, which is has become very encouraging they're they're encouraging each other through the process which was.
- 01:18:56 surprising, but very gratifying.



Demetrius Thomas

01:19:02 Thanks Michael I had one follow up question, but I do want to be.

- 01:19:05 Aware of time and realizing.
- 01:19:06 That we we only have about 10 minutes 12 minutes or so left, so I do want to move on to our the the Roundtable discussion piece.
- 01:19:19 Because this is really where we'd like to have the opportunity for participants to think through and learn from each other and those who are on the pole.
- 01:19:28 About what's going on with their program so that there's some thought, partnership and Exchange on your next slide please on Andrea um.
- 01:19:37 you'll see that there's a series of questions we have for questions it's not likely to in this slide so on the next time it's not likely that we're going to get.
- 01:19:48 Through these questions, given the time that we have left, but I will encourage participants, maybe get the slide to actually look through some of these questions that we're asking you, so you can begin to think about.
- 01:20:01 Some ways to impact your program if it's, in fact, a program where you're looking to work with prosecutors in a diversion Program.
- 01:20:09 But at this point what we want to do is X you on each question um if you have a response, or a thought on the question respective question that we want i'm going to ask that you raise your hand in the chat once you raise your hand, we will take you.
- 01:20:28 off mute and allow you the actual question and your actual question.
- 01:20:34 But you back on mute and then we'll take a series of questions and or responses to other other folks responses to the question.
- 01:20:42 And then move on to the next question and do the same thing and turn for each question oh if time permits.
- 01:20:50 So the first question that we wanted to kick it out to participants who have been thinking about this, but then having issues or just thinking about ways to think through is.
- 01:20:58 Are there any particular considerations that impact your ability to effectively partner with prosecutors and diversion programs.
- 01:21:08 And now that you have prosecutors on the line, definitely take advantage of asking them how you could address some of these impediments that you may be having so.

- 01:21:20 This is the first question, opening up support participants if you've had any considerations have any issues love to hear your thoughts on this question.
- 01:21:44 Any any takers before we possibly move to the second question.
- 01:21:51 We can always come back with questions come up.



Leandra Craft

01:21:54 I can make a comment on this one.



Demetrius Thomas

01:21:56 Perfect manager I love it thank.



Leandra Craft

01:21:58 First of all, I would say that.

- 01:22:02 Our office has taken approach.
- 01:22:03 And I strongly believe that the criminal justice system has been rooted in racism, and so there are a lot of Community members that don't trust prosecutors.
- 01:22:12 Prior to going to law school and becoming a prosecutor, I didn't trust prosecutors, so there is a lot of rapport building that has to be done with collaborative programs like this.
- 01:22:22 For folks who are even buying into the program to trust that we're not going to use the additional information to harm those individuals.
- 01:22:34 So I mean social workers that I work with didn't even trust to talk to me for at least the first three months that I was involved in the Program.



Unknown Speaker

01:22:43And I.



Demetrius Thomas

01:22:45Absolutely.



Rebecca Neville (APA)

01:22:47I think that is such a great point leandra and having worked in social work and then on the legal side there's such a difference, but I think also one of the barriers is the difference in language that we use.

- 01:22:59The definitions and the words and how we communicate is so different in the behavioral health space and in the criminal justice space.
- 01:23:07That when you find that person that you're able to communicate with and we're starting to engage really laying out the definitions and what you mean by what you say, which I appreciate it, you know throughout your presentation, you were like what I mean by this is.
- 01:23:20I think is so crucial to to starting that collaboration starting that program and an effective partnership.



Demetrius Thomas

01:23:30Absolutely building trust.

- 01:23:32Is such is especially important in these type of programs, especially with people who feel the system and it's, in fact, the system has passed on to racism and as well as.
- 01:23:43i'm not uplifting systems not uplifting those may have specific disabilities, whether it's mental behavioral health that miss trust is huge, and so our coming out with it's extremely important.
- 01:23:56and any other thoughts on the first question before we jump to the second.



Joy Abaquin

01:24:02 All the.

- 01:24:04 trend with criminal courts is going towards restorative justice, at least in California so.
- 01:24:12 I, I would just throw out emails to every prosecutor, you can get contact info to you and I think someone will respond and.
- 01:24:21 be open to starting a program and even if it's the head prosecutor district attorney or a deputy that will refer you to someone higher up and wants to start that program I think now is a good time to do that.



Demetrius Thomas

01:24:40 Wonderful thanks so much joy, the next question.

- 01:24:43 And this question can really can be for anyone but it's really formed in the way that folks who are working and programs whether their programs.
- 01:24:52 diversion programs whether they're diversion programs directly working with the prosecutor, but just questions in terms of.
- 01:24:59 Your data collection and how you're collecting data in Israel, you are using that data in an effective way, particularly, are you using that data to tell your story.
- 01:25:10 of how you're impacting and improving the lives of your participants, so any challenges coming up or thoughts suggestions to participants for this question.
- 01:25:41 Alright, we can move to the to the the third question on the next slide Thank you Andrea.
- 01:25:47 All right, another question to consider whether he or in the group is once you have your data and your data is collected.
- 01:25:54 What you want to think about ways that you can be conceptualized your partnerships were prosecuted right, and so is there, something that.
- 01:26:03 is being identify that in terms of a gap in the program that you all, can have a workaround and we discuss again.
- 01:26:12 As the panelists were saying it's very important to have regular and frequent meetings amongst your partner, so that you are evaluating

the data in real time so that you're working to identify those gaps and ways to improve the Program.

- 01:26:27 So just wanted to open the opportunity to think about is there ways i'm in your diversion programs whether was prosecuted or not, where you can conceptualize the word, given the information and data that you're gaining always that you have done that that you thought were beneficial.
- 01:27:10 Alright, so the final question is.
- 01:27:14 The route that you should consider is what offices in or near your jurisdiction and I really enjoyed was speaking on this.
- 01:27:21 Our anger jurisdiction operating prosecutor layer diversion programs that you can learn from or could be champions, for your programs, I think you should definitely think about that and thinking about ways to connect with them.
- 01:27:35 And if you can't connect with them or there's some challenges, think about why or why not you couldn't connect with them and for the, why not think about expanding your collaboration thinking about your data being able to present it in a way that can open up some of that discussion.
- 01:27:54 so that you could possibly begin to open those lines of communications and build those collaboration to champion your programs the alright so we'll move on the next is.
- 01:28:07 We have a list of resources here.
- 01:28:10 That we want to offer you in case you want to dig a bit deeper in your program and some things to consider as we discussed during.
- 01:28:21 During the webinar i'm going to drop those into the chat box, so that you can have those handy now have that handy now so again, these are the list of the resources.
- 01:28:32 Next slide please and you'll see that the presenters have been are already so gracious to provide their contact information in the chat box.
- 01:28:44 I want to thank them for doing that and I also want to encourage you all to take advantage on if you're interested in.
- 01:28:51 and seeing their thoughts and in their experiences and, as you think about developing your own partnership with prosecute prosecutorial lead programs.
- 01:29:02 I also want to offer both Rebecca and my contact information, just in case you have follow up for us and or would like for us to facilitate.
- 01:29:13 Some discourse between you and any of the presenters and then, finally, if you haven't already I want to really encourage you off the next time, please enjoy.

- 01:29:25 Thank you, if you haven't already I really want to encourage you to join the CSU justice Center newsletter this serve not only is it a great way.
- 01:29:34 to learn about funding opportunities such as justin did justice and the to help collaboration, training and technical assistance grant.
- 01:29:42 But you will also receive information on upcoming trainings and webinars such as this, as well as other resources from our agency and how partners.
- 01:29:52 I also like to remind everyone that this webinar has been recorded and it will be posted along with the recording and the slide deck on the CSU justice sinners event website event page.
- 01:30:05 And then, finally, I want to thank you all for joining this webinar and I especially want to thank our presenters were.
- 01:30:11 speaker Rebecca and APA also want to thank our panelists Michael and joy, as well as the andhra are ready and I just saw Michael drop his.
- 01:30:21 Contact information and in the chat so I already will encourage jaw to speak to them, and I just want to thank you all for taking the time to speak with us about your wonderful programs that all the great work that you're doing a jurisdiction.
- 01:30:35 All right, I will leave I think I think that's it we'll leave it there, everyone have a great day.