

The Criminal Justice-Mental Health Learning Sites Program is open to support communities nationwide.

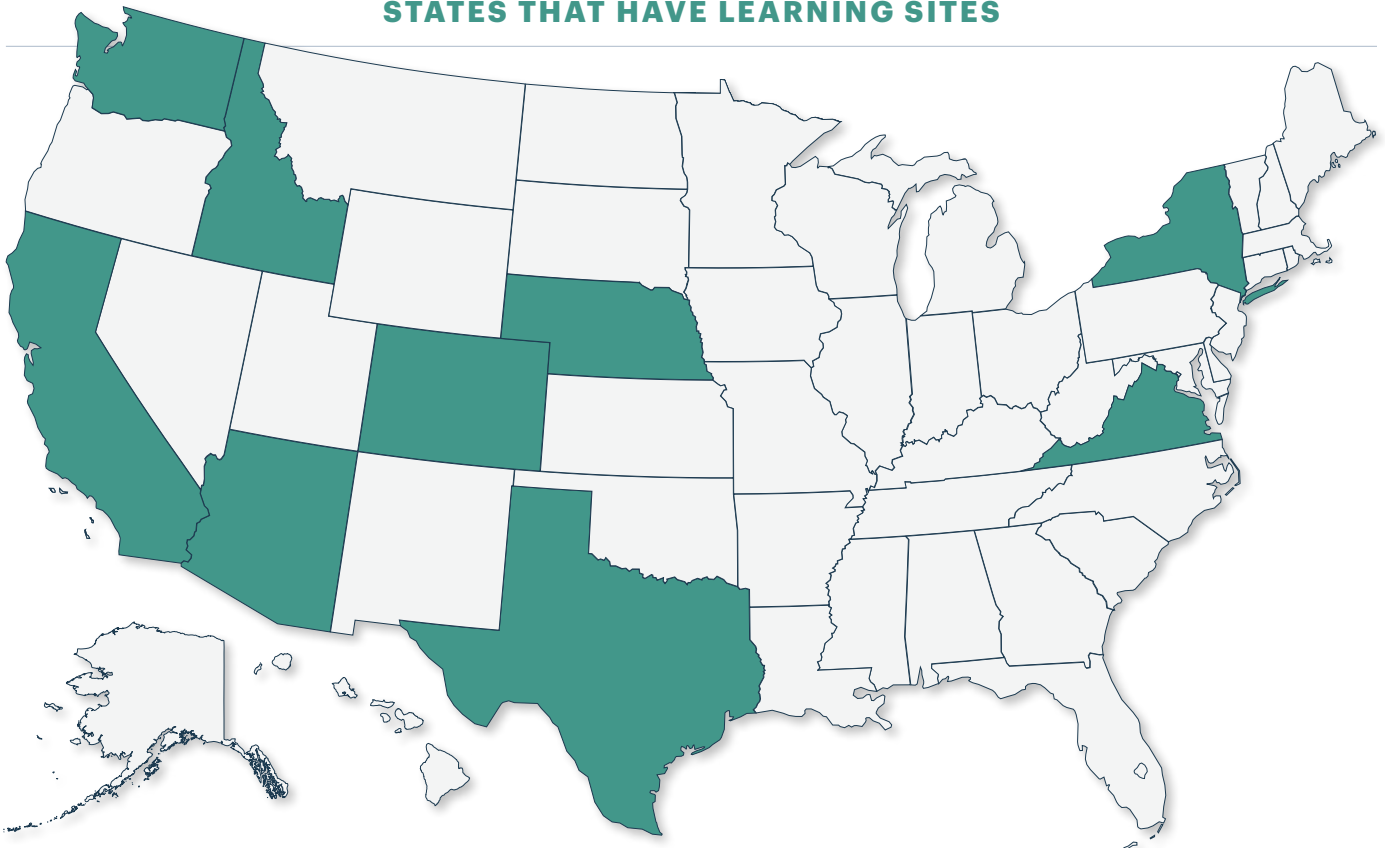
Through this peer-to-peer assistance program, 10 criminal justice agencies and programs from across the country are available to help other communities looking to improve or implement better responses to people with behavioral health needs. These agencies represent a diverse cross-section of culturally responsive perspectives and programs and offer a broad range of expertise and learning opportunities.

Launched in 2023 by The Council of State Governments Justice Center, with support from the Bureau of Justice Assistance—a component of the Department of Justice’s Office of Justice Programs—the Criminal Justice-Mental Health Learning Sites Program is designed to connect criminal justice agencies with jurisdictions that have successfully planned and implemented response models for the behavioral health population.

Some examples of support include:

- ✔ Leading discussion on strategic planning, best practices, and lessons learned from their own program implementation
- ✔ Facilitating mental health-related trainings and presentations
- ✔ Sharing policy documents, procedure manuals, memoranda of understanding, standard operating procedures, and training curricula
- ✔ Hosting site visits from agencies to observe program operations firsthand (visits can be conducted in person or virtually)
- ✔ Helping agencies navigate the process of sharing protected health information with criminal justice or behavioral health partners

STATES THAT HAVE LEARNING SITES



Program Types: Court programs • Behavioral health providers • Departments of Corrections • Probation and parole offices

To learn more about the Criminal Justice-Mental Health Learning Sites or to request assistance, visit <https://csgjusticecenter.org/projects/criminal-justice-mental-health-learning-sites/>.

The Criminal Justice-Mental Health Learning Sites

Court-Based Diversion (Lancaster County, NE)

The Lancaster County Department of Community Corrections offers five court-based diversion programs: treatment diversion, intensive supervision diversion, mental health diversion, veterans' diversion, and general diversion programming.

Court-Based, Prosecutor-Led Diversion (Pinal County, AZ)

The Pinal County Attorney's Office Adult Diversion Program identifies eligible diversion participants through a comprehensive interview and assessment process and connects them with services and treatment based on their individualized needs.

Jail-Based Diversion (Waco, TX)

As the local mental health authority for the Heart of Texas region, the Heart of Texas Behavioral Health Network (HOTBHN) provides community mental health services to the local population, including for Medicaid recipients, people who are insured, uninsured, and those who are unable to pay for services. HOTBHN also created the Behavioral Health Justice Center, a dedicated division that administers behavioral health programming within the correctional facilities in their jurisdiction.

Jail-Based Treatment (San Bernadino, CA)

The Family Attachment Intervention Through Healing Solutions (FAITHS) Throughcare Program is a rehabilitative program for families and loved ones navigating through San Bernardino County's jail system. It uses mental health professionals and officers from the sheriff's Community Service and Reentry Division to provide multi-dimensional services to people in custody at the Glen Helen Rehabilitation Center, High Desert Detention Center, and West Valley Detention Center.

Jail Reentry Program (Boulder County, CO)

Boulder County's Community Services Department's Behavioral Health Assistance Program is a jail reentry program that provides intensive, long-term support to people in the justice system who have serious mental illness, substance use disorders, or co-occurring disorders.

Prison Mental Health Program (Gig Harbor, WA)

The Washington Corrections Center for Women Mental Health Program helps women recover from trauma, mental illness, and substance use disorders, so they can leave prison and positively reengage in the community as neighbors and family members. This is done through a multifaceted approach that prioritizes evidence-based trauma therapy and treatment outcomes.

Specialty Court (Austin, TX)

The Downtown Austin Community Court, a restorative justice and problem-solving court, has been operational for 23 years. Its services focus on alternative resolutions, using case management and intensive wraparound services to help defendants with misdemeanors (and others in the community) experiencing homelessness.

Specialty Court (Bonneville County, ID)

The Bonneville County Mental Health Court engages people with serious mental illness who have been charged with felony and/or misdemeanor offenses. The mental health court tailors treatment plans for participants based on their individual needs and goals, helping them to develop the skills they will use to succeed after completing the program.

Specialty Court (Bronx, NY)

The Bronx's Empower Assist Care NYC Mental Health Diversion Program is a coordinated, citywide program that provides alternative-to-incarceration court monitoring services for defendants with serious mental health needs involved in the criminal justice system who may or may not also have a co-occurring substance use disorder.

Specialty Probation (Richmond, VA)

The Virginia Department of Corrections Community Mental Health Program embeds agency mental health staff into probation and parole district offices to facilitate continuity of care and increase the likelihood of successful reentry for people on supervision with mental health needs.



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