THE STEPPING UP INITIATIVE

Decreasing Justice Involvement for People with Behavioral Health Needs: Achieving Results through Stepping Up

Gretchen Frank, Kati Habert | April 13, 2022

Today's Agenda

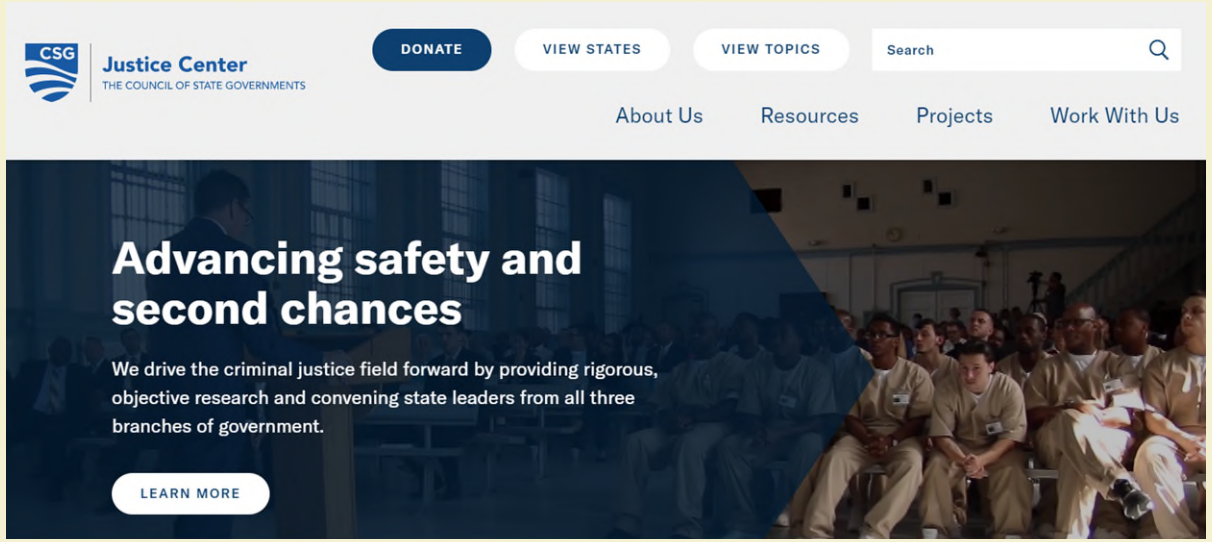
- Welcome and Introductions
- Stepping Up Overview
- PA Stepping Up TA Center
- Co-responder Panel
  - Bucks County
  - Franklin County
- Questions and Answers

Speakers

- Gretchen Frank, *Senior Policy Analyst, Behavioral Health Division, CSG Justice Center*
- Kati Habert*, Program Director, Behavioral Health Division, CSG Justice Center*

The Council of State Governments Justice Center

- Stepping Up partner along with the National Association of Counties (NACo) and the American Psychiatric Association Foundation (APAF)
- Justice Reinvestment
- Justice and Mental Health Collaboration Program



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Stepping Up is a national initiative to reduce the number of people with mental illnesses in jails.

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION of COUNTIES NACo

CSG Justice Center
THE COUNCIL OF STATE GOVERNMENTS

AMERICAN PSYCHIATRIC ASSOCIATION FOUNDATION

#StepUp4MentalHealth

www.StepUpTogether.org

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Six Years AND COUNTING

More than **540** counties across **45** states have joined Stepping Up to reduce the prevalence of mental illness in jails.

48%
of Americans live in a Stepping Up county.

Approximately **2 million** times each year, people who have serious mental illnesses are booked in jails.

30+ Innovator Counties are blazing the trail in data collection.

5 states have launched statewide Stepping Up initiatives.

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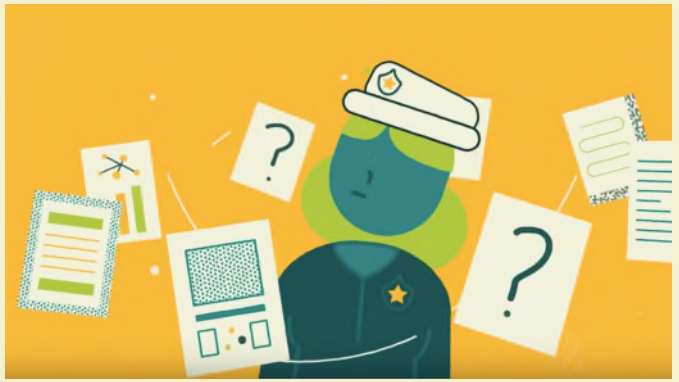
- Calls for a paradigm shift:
  - Move beyond programs and pilots to scaled impact and measurable reductions in the prevalence of mental illness

- No-nonsense, data-driven public management:
  - Systematic identification of mental illness in jails
  - Quantification of the problem
  - Scaled implementation of strategies shown to produce results
  - Tracking progress and adjusting efforts based on a core set of outcomes



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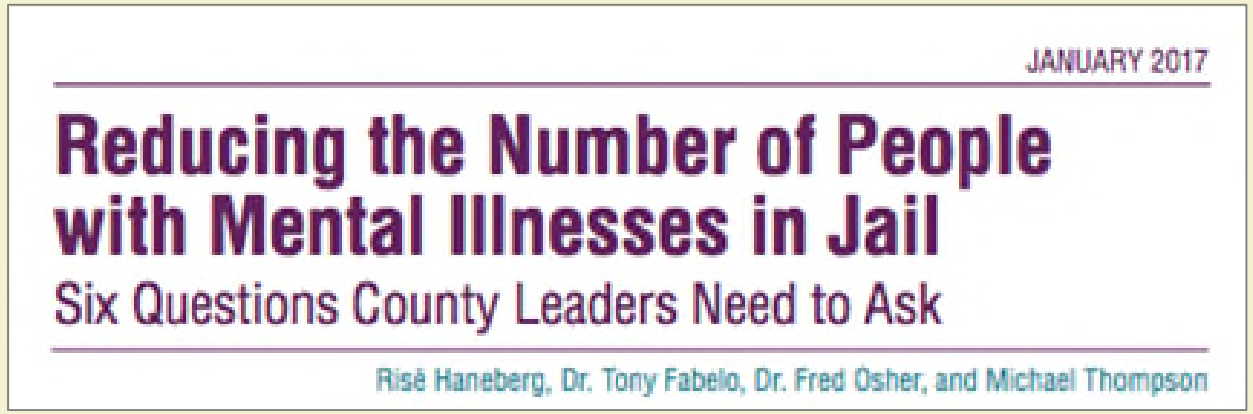
JANUARY 2017

Reducing the Number of People with Mental Illnesses in Jail

Six Questions County Leaders Need to Ask

Risë Haneberg, Dr. Tony Fabelo, Dr. Fred Osher, and Michael Thompson

1. Is our leadership committed?
2. Do we conduct timely screening and assessments?
3. Do we have baseline data?
4. Have we conducted a comprehensive process analysis and inventory of services?
5. Have we prioritized policy, practice, and funding improvements?
6. Do we track progress?

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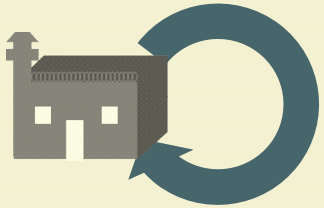
1. Reduce the number of people with mental illnesses booked into jails

2. Shorten the length of stay in jails for people who have mental illnesses

3. Increase connection to treatment for people who have mental illnesses



4. Reduce recidivism rates for people who have mental illnesses

Prioritizing System Improvements

1. Jail Bookings

- Police-Mental Health Collaboration programs
- CIT training
- Co-responder model
- Crisis diversion centers
- Policing of quality-of-life offenses

2. Jail Length of Stay

- Routine screening and assessment for mental health and SUDs in jail
- Pretrial mental health diversion
- Pretrial risk screening, release, and supervision
- Bail policy reform

3. Connection to Treatment

- Expand community-based treatment and housing options
- Streamline access to services
- Leverage Medicaid and other federal, state, and local resources

4. Recidivism

- Apply Risk-Need-Responsivity principle
- Use evidence-based practices
- Apply the Behavioral Health Framework
- Specialized probation
- Ongoing program evaluation

Getting (Re)started with Stepping Up

- Has our county passed a Stepping Up resolution?
- Is there a representative planning team that is focused on criminal justice and behavioral health? Is there already a criminal justice coordinating committee (CJCC) or other body that can advance this work?
- Is there a local champion for work that addresses behavioral health in the justice system?
- Have we connected the dots between multiple initiatives in the county that address behavioral health in the justice system?
- Is there a standard definition of serious mental illness (SMI) shared among criminal justice and behavioral health agencies?
- Do we have baseline data on SMI prevalence in the jail? Do we have data from law enforcement on mental health encounters?
- Is there a lead state agency that supports county initiatives to address SMI?

PA Technical Assistance Center

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PA Stepping Up TA Center

- The TA Center is funded by the Pennsylvania Commission on Crime and Delinquency, administered by the CSG Justice Center.
- There are 35 counties that have passed resolutions in support of Stepping Up in PA.
- 22 counties are currently participating in the TA Center.

Counties Currently Participating in the TA Center: 22

- Allegheny County
- Armstrong County
- Berks County*
- Blair County
- Bucks County
- Chester County*
- Centre County
- Cumberland County*
- Dauphin County*
- Franklin County
- Indiana County
- Lancaster County
- Lehigh County
- Montgomery County*
- Northampton County
- Northumberland County
- Philadelphia County*
- Potter County
- Tioga County
- Washington County
- Wayne County
- York County

* Indicates PA Stepping Up Innovator counties

PA Stepping Up TA Center Offerings

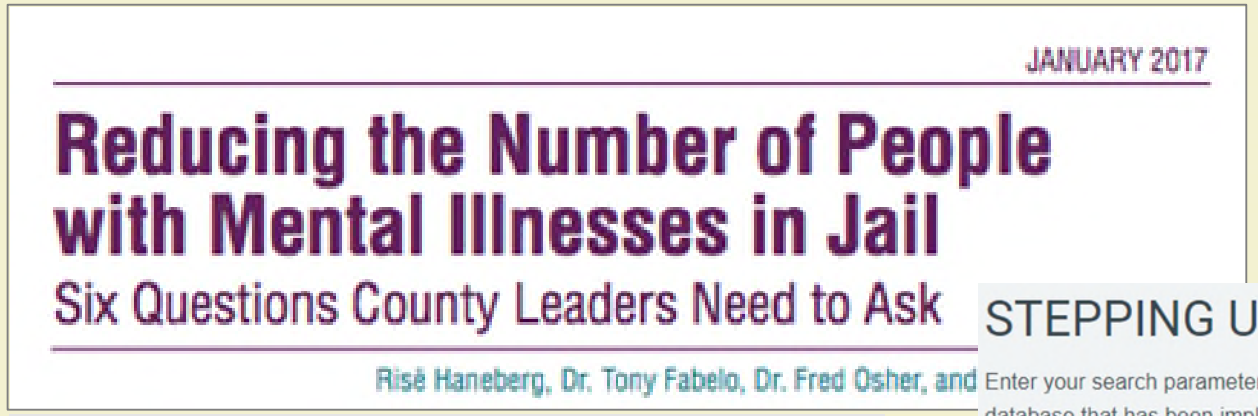
- Assistance and guidance on data-driven action planning

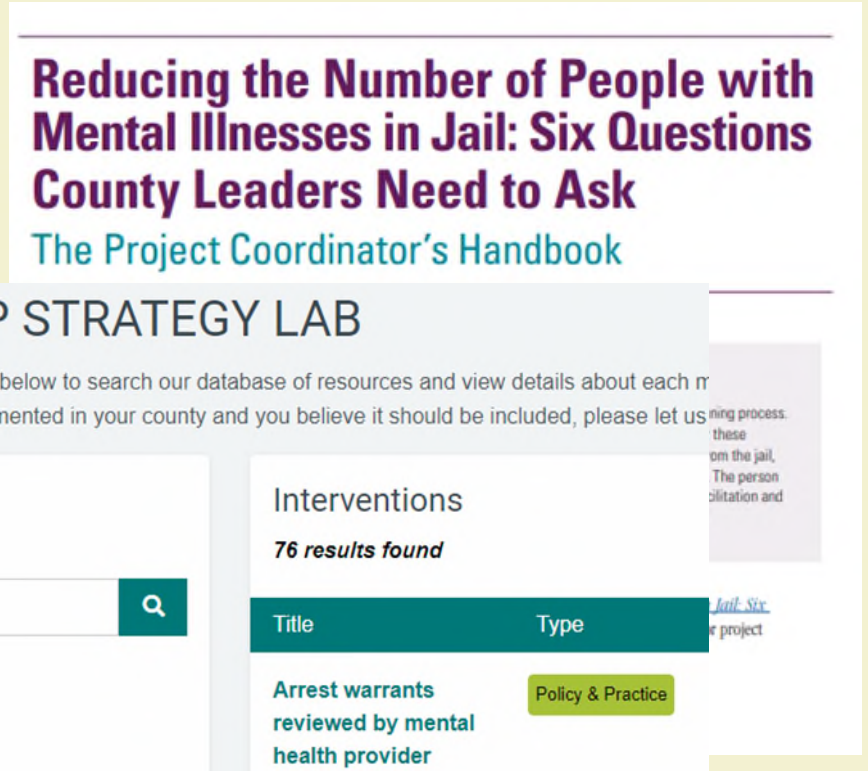
- Fostering peer-to-peer learning among similarly situated counties

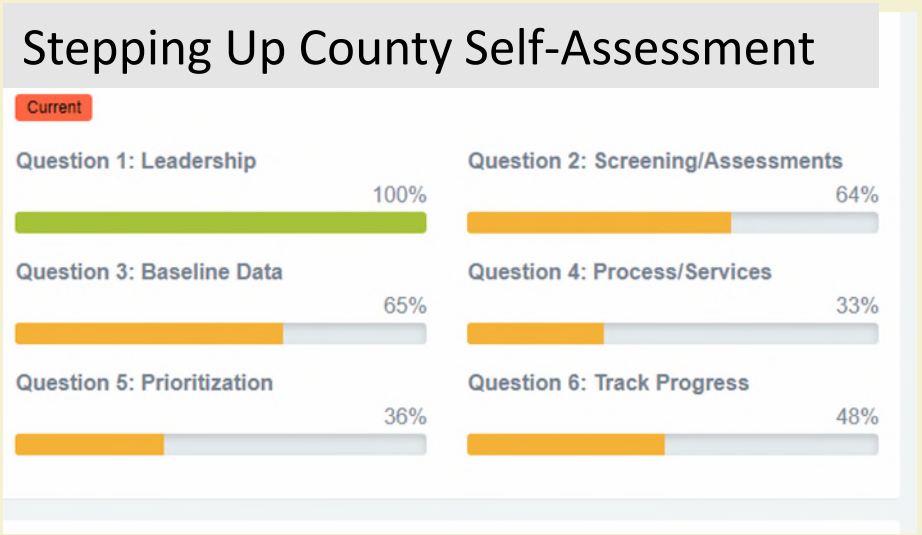
- Targeted trainings to assist in implementing Stepping Up goals

- Access to resources and experts in the field

Key Resources to Get Counties Started







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Questions and Answers

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Thank you!

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

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Reducing Justice Involvement for People with Behavioral Health Needs Through Co-responder Programs

Walter Bynum, Lt. Jon Greenawalt, Kay Martin, Raymond McManamon, Rachael Neff, Cori Seilhamer | April 13, 2022

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Speakers

- Walter Bynum, *Co-Responder, Bensalem Police Department*
- Lieutenant Jon Greenawalt, *Chambersburg Police Department*
- Kay Martin, *Community Liaison, Keystone Behavioral Health*
- Raymond McManamon, *Forensic Services/Emergency Services and Court Coordinator, Stepping Up Coordinator, Bucks County Behavioral Health/Developmental Programs*
- Rachael Neff, *Human Services Director, Bucks County*
- Cori Seilhamer, *Mental Health Program Specialist/Certified CIT Coordinator, Franklin/Fulton County MH/IDD/EI*