

Implementing Forensic Peer Services into Reentry Programming

Second Chance Month Fieldwide Webinar

The Council of State Governments Justice Center

April 4, 2023

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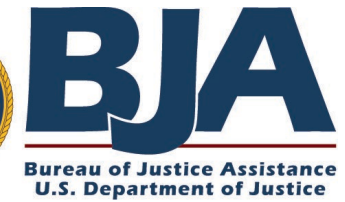
Justice Center
THE COUNCIL OF STATE GOVERNMENTS



Virtual Meeting/ Conference Recording Notice

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What is the Office of Justice Programs?



- The Office of Justice Programs (OJP) provides grant funding, training, research, and statistics to the criminal justice community.
- OJP is one of three grant-making components of the Department of Justice along with the Office on Violence Against Women (OVW) and the Office of Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS).

Office of Justice Programs

BJA - Bureau of Justice Assistance

BJS - Bureau of Justice Statistics

NIJ - National Institute of Justice

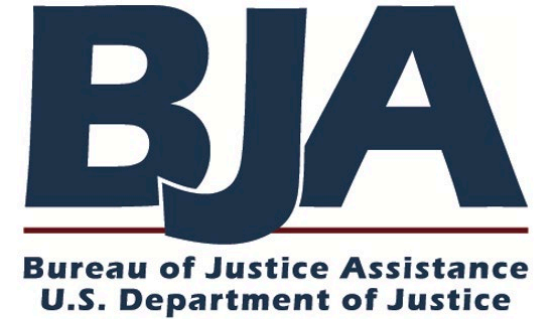
OVC - Office for Victims of Crime

OJJDP - Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention

SMART - Office of Sex Offender Sentencing, Monitoring, Apprehending, Registering, and Tracking

U.S. Department of Justice Bureau of Justice Assistance

Mission: BJA's mission is to provide leadership and services in grant administration and criminal justice policy development to support state, local, and Tribal justice strategies to achieve safer communities. BJA works with communities, governments, and nonprofit organizations to reduce crime, recidivism, and unnecessary confinement, and promote a safe and fair criminal justice system.

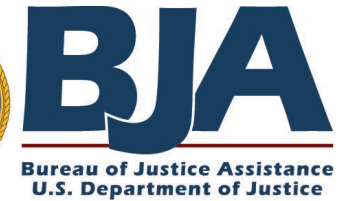


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**BJA Director
Karhlton F. Moore**



Appointed by President Biden in February 2022, Director Moore leads BJA's programmatic and policy efforts on providing a wide range of resources, including training and technical assistance, to law enforcement, courts, corrections, treatment, reentry, justice information sharing, and community-based partners to address chronic and emerging criminal justice challenges nationwide.

Policy Office

Provides national leadership to criminal justice organizations that partner with BJA to identify effective program models for replication and infuse data-driven, evidence-based strategies into operational models, practices, and programs.

Programs Office

Administers state, local, Tribal, and territorial grant programs. It acts as BJA's direct line of communication to states, local jurisdictions, territories, and Tribal governments by providing customer-focused grants management support and careful stewardship over federal funds.

Operations Office

Coordinates all communication, formulates and executes the budget, manages contracts, measures grantees' performance, and provides administrative support to BJA.

Public Safety Officer Benefits Office

Provides death and education benefits to survivors of fallen law enforcement officers, firefighters, and other public safety officers, and disability benefits to officers catastrophically injured in the line of duty.



**Five
Major
Strategic
Focus
Areas**

Improving public safety through measures that build trust with the community and ensure an effective criminal justice system

Reduction in recidivism and prevention of unnecessary confinement and interactions with the criminal justice system

Integration of evidence-based, research-driven strategies into the day-to-day operations of BJA and the programs BJA administers and supports

Increasing program effectiveness with a renewed emphasis on data analysis, information sharing, and performance management

Ensuring organizational excellence through outstanding administration and oversight of all of BJA's strategic investments



Fund – Invest diverse funding streams to accomplish goals.

Educate – Research, develop, and deliver what works.

Equip – Create tools and products to build capacity and improve outcomes.

Partner – Consult, connect, and convene.

Track News and Updates on Social Media

#ReentryMatters

#SecondChanceMonth

#SecondChanceMonth23



The Council of State Governments Justice Center

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



Presentation Outline

- Welcome, Introductions, and Organization Overview
- Building Forensic Peer Services in Reentry
- Hawaii Department of Health Presentation
- Questions and Answers

Presenters

- Tiffany McKnight, Policy Analyst, Behavioral Health, CSG Justice Center
- Amy Naylor, Services Coordinator, Adult Mental Health, Hawaii Department of Health
- Jacob R. McPherson, Consumer Affairs Chief, Adult Mental Health, Hawaii Department of Health
- Derwin Teranishi, Forensic Peer Specialist, Adult Mental Health, Hawaii Department of Health

Peer Services

- Peer services involve people who have been successful in the recovery process helping others experiencing similar situations through shared understanding, respect, and mutual empowerment.
- Peer support services can effectively extend the reach of treatment beyond the clinical setting into the everyday environment of people seeking a successful, sustained recovery process.

Peer Programming

Peer support is a touchstone for people in recovery, where programming is created by and for people with lived experience.

The key components in programming for peer supports are:

- Peer certifications/training
- Stakeholder partnerships/program staffing
- Program services
- Viability

Forensic Peer Support Services

- Services delivered exclusive to individuals involved in the criminal justice system
- Support adherence with criminal justice diversion conditions
- Model ways to advance recovery
- Train professional staff on engaging individuals who are impacted by the system
- Forensic peer specialists have lived experience of behavioral health conditions and the justice system.
 - ❑ Additional credentialing/endorsements requirements
 - ❑ Specialized forensic training/curriculum requirements

Forensic Peer Interventions

Forensic peers can be utilized throughout the entire continuum of the criminal justice system, and the services are based on where they are placed in the continuum.

- Arrest
- Detention
Arrest
- Court
- Jails
- Prison
- Community
Supervision
 - Probation
 - Parole

Building Forensic Peer Programming

Here are four primary components of a plan that would assist in building an effective forensic peer services program:

- Strategy
- Implementation
- Evaluation
- Sustainability



Strategy

- Determine the need for the program and research services in the community.
- Define your purpose and identify needs.
- Create clear and concise action-oriented goals.
- Research peer certification requirements for your state.
- Identify additional relationships with stakeholders in the community.
- Gain buy-in from criminal justice partners.
 - ❑ Inquire beforehand what processes are required to gain access inside these facilities.



Implementation

- Implement services that will be provided by the program and define roles and responsibilities.
- Implement policies and procedures that designate scope, limits, and boundaries.
- Program leaders must determine which policies and procedures work best for the program and what, if any, adjustments need to be made.

Evaluation

There are multiple ways to evaluate a program to show whether services are beneficial to the population that is being served.

Quality Measures

- Short surveys
- Listening sessions
- Participant feedback forms

Criminal Justice Measures

- Recidivism rates
- Rearrest rates
- Revocation rates

Sustainability

- Financial stability can be secured by attracting funding organizations, applying for grants, and/or charging for services. Organization capacity entails having enough people to run the program.
- Having program champions can be very helpful in expanding capacity to sustain a program. To ensure the program has the capacity to successfully serve participants, it is very important to have a reliable team that is invested in the mission and vision of the program.

Conclusion

The role of a forensic peer specialist is distinctive and unlike any other position. Peers are not therapists or case managers; the boundaries they set, approaches they adopt, and relationships they develop are grounded in shared life experiences. One of the trials of many organizations that hire a peer workforce is honoring the noticeably different perspective from which peers work. The goal of developing a peer services program is to establish wellness, hope, and empowerment with the individuals who are served.

Hawaii Department of Health

FY19 Second Chance Act Grantee: Improving Reentry for Adults with Co-occurring Substance Abuse and Mental Illness

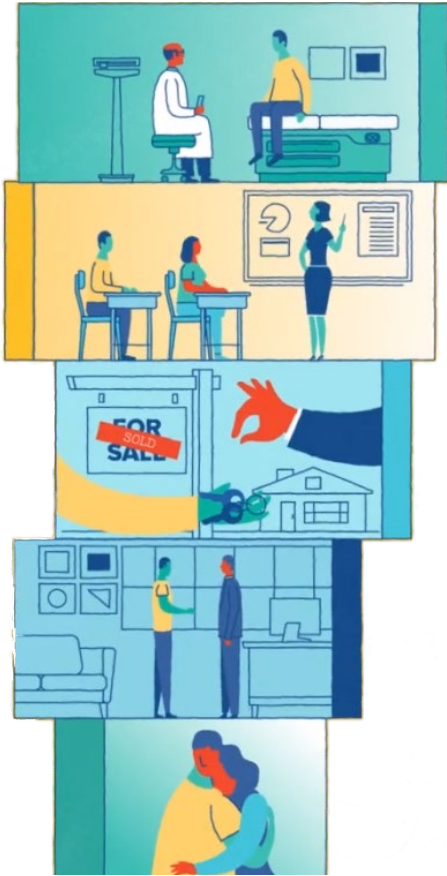
FY19 SCA CSAMI Hawaii Department of Health Program Overview

- FY19 SCA co-occurring substance abuse and mental illness (CSAMI) Hawaii Reentry Initiative
- The Hawaii State Department of Health (HiDOH) is partnering with the Adult Mental Health Division (AMHD), The Honolulu Police Department, The Department of Corrections, The Hawaii State Hospital, and the AMHD-supported crisis stabilization programs.

FY19 SCA CSAMI Hawaii Department of Health Program Overview

- Program serves 410 people with co-occurring substance use and mental disorders on pretrial for petty nonviolent misdemeanors and/or court-ordered to Hawaii State Hospital for behavioral health stabilization.
- Forensic peer specialists currently engage with people who are court ordered to Hawaii State Hospital for behavioral health stabilization at AMHD-supported community crisis stabilization programs.

New Directions Jail Diversion Program



- A forensic peer specialist (FPS) provides support to participants with psychiatric or co-occurring disorders who are involved in the criminal justice system.
- Most people FPS engage with typically refuse to engage in services—specifically, individuals who experience chronic homelessness and frequent police encounters/arrest.
- 93 percent of participants decide to meet with FPS, and of these encounters 27 percent choose to engage in services.

What Worked



- The planning and implementation of the stabilization program
- Developing and implementing additional support for the forensic peer specialists
- Shifting our model to stabilization units in response to the court closures due to COVID-19

Questions and Answers

Resources

- [Advancing the Work of Peer Support Specialists in Behavioral Health-Criminal Justice Programming](#)
- [Peer Support Roles in Criminal Justice Settings](#)
- [Substance Use Disorder Forensic Peer Best Practices Curriculum](#)

Thank you!

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