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# INNOVATIVE CRIMINAL JUSTICE STRATEGIES

A monthly newsletter brought to you by the CJCC Strategic Planning Committee

AUGUST 2020

## Behavioral Health

Where: Colorado Springs, Colorado

Program: Additional Treatment Centers

<https://bhgrecovery.com/press-release-bhg-opens-new-facility-in-colorado-springs/>

Behavioral Health Group opened an addiction treatment center in Colorado Springs earlier this year. The facility is BHG's sixth in the state. BHG Colorado Springs Treatment Center will offer medication-assisted treatment, including all medications approved by the FDA for opioid use disorder, outpatient, intensive outpatient, counseling and behavioral health therapy services. With the opening of the Colorado Springs location, BHG now operates 66 facilities in 14 states, with more than 900 staff members serving more than 20,000 patients.

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## Reducing Recidivism

Where: The Council of State Governments' Justice Center; New York, New York

Practice: Three Core Elements of Programs that Reduce Recidivism

[https://csgjusticecenter.org/three-core-elements-of-programs-that-reduce-recidivism-who-what-and-how-well/?mc\\_cid=d35853c2bb&mc\\_eid=3caf625d58](https://csgjusticecenter.org/three-core-elements-of-programs-that-reduce-recidivism-who-what-and-how-well/?mc_cid=d35853c2bb&mc_eid=3caf625d58)

This justice reinvestment article focuses on research on programs and services intended to reduce recidivism and how these programs should operate to maximize effectiveness. Effectiveness is evaluated through focusing on targeting the right people (those most likely to reoffend), using practices rooted in the latest research and evidence, and regular review of program quality and evaluation of how closely the program adheres to its established model. These core elements are important for the efficacy of program investments because it encourages formal evaluation, informs future funding decisions, and helps ensure that policymakers are investing in programs most effective at reducing recidivism.

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## Racial Equity

Where: Franklin County, Ohio

Practice: Weekly discussion address racial equity

<https://www.naco.org/articles/weekly-discussions-address-racial-equity-franklin-county-ohio>

A Franklin County, Ohio Commissioner has regular video conversations via the county's social media platforms, on discussions of race, health, wealth, and the commitment to addressing the causes of poverty and the racial wage gap. Calling racism a public health crisis, Commissioner Boyce's weekly discussions often feature guests, including academics, community leaders, and fellow elected officials. With 4,000-5,000 viewers each week, Boyce hopes people are finding value in the conferences, that the conversations continue and spur self-reflection, and that his service in the County is "moving the needle on the quality of life for people". Addressing systemic issues such as poverty is paramount in addressing the disproportionate representation of minorities in the criminal justice system.

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