Policy Trends and Sustainability

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Trends that Motivate

- Budget cuts
- Transparency and accountability
- Cost efficiencies
- Reduced reliance on confinement
- DMC
EBP Policy Pioneers

• Washington State WSSPI
  – Initially required cost-benefit analysis by WSSPI
  – Followed by legislation requiring EBP

• North Carolina
  – Established JCPC in Code
  – Required Evaluation linked to funding
  – Implementing objective measures across all programs
Codification of EBP

• Federal Home Visiting Program
  – Defined criteria for levels of evidence
  – 1 year planning/coordination grants prior to implementation of requirements
  – 12 program models recognized nationwide

• Tennessee
  – Codification of levels of evidence for juvenile justice programs
  – In early stages of implementation of SPEP
Considerations

- Address programs proven to increase recidivism
- Support quality improvement
- Strengthen continuum of services
- Risk / Needs Assessments

- “Home grown programs”
- Engage providers of service
- Address overuse of confinement for low risk offenders
- Address culture and context
Sustainability

- Address from the beginning
- Make a communications plan
- Expect resistance and engage skeptics
- Build champions and public advocates
- Finance sustainability
- Make training of trainers and succession planning a priority
What SAGs Can Do

• Process toward EBP within the CS context
• Plan to engage localities; partners; and community based service providers. (conference, study groups, summits)
• Fund training which incorporates service providers
• Focus on program improvement targets
• NY State RFP for evaluation
State Planning Agencies

• Assure that data and assessment systems are ready
• Address evaluation capacity
• Work toward common definitions of
  – Recidivism
  – Categories of service
  – Units of service
Policy Makers

• The extend to which repeated recidivism stem from poor treatment has broad policy implications on waiver, confinement policy etc.
• “To continue to place our kids into programs that we know don’t work is unethical.”
• Hold juvenile corrections and community programs accountable for program improvements and improved performance
• Give time and incentives for improvement