



Risk Reduction Strategies

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Agenda

- **Establishing a vision for a continuum of services (Goal #2)**
 - Brief refresher of the principles of evidence based practices for improving public safety
 - Evidence and examples from Other States
- **Recommendations for Consideration**

Why use EBP practices and policies?

- To **reduce new crime & new victims** in our communities
- To know if what we are doing works - relying on facts
 - ❑ *Better **return on investment** of limited resources*
- To be held accountable for public safety outcomes
 - ❑ *Ethical **commitment** to do public good and not do harm*

What are the 8 Principles?

1. Assess Actuarial Risk/Needs
 - ❑ Risk and Need Principles
2. Enhance Intrinsic Motivation
3. Target Interventions
4. Skill Train with Directed Practice
5. Increase Positive Reinforcement
6. Engage Ongoing Support in Natural Communities
7. Measure Relevant Processes/Practices
8. Provide Measurement Feedback

Important Idea for Today:

By using assessment as the foundation community corrections can conserve resources and appropriately address offender risks and needs.

3: Target Interventions

- True or False – If you have high cholesterol you go to the dermatologist
- Match the assessed risk and needs to what we do with offenders
 - How** we supervise and punish
 - Which** services/programs
 - Focus on **1-2 at a time**
- Not all treatment is created equally

4: Skill Train with Directed Practice

- Its easy to go back to old ways, its hard to learn new skills (takes time and practice)
- Cognitive Behavioral Treatment Methods
 - Think, act and respond differently
- These methods can be applied in all areas
 - Supervision, treatment and services

Continuum Importance

Most researchers concur:

- \$1 in Treatment Saves \$2-\$7 in CJ Costs
- You have to provide an intervention to reduce recidivism
- Use behaviorally based interventions
 - Focus on current factors that influence criminal behavior/lifestyle
 - Action oriented
 - Appropriately reinforce offender behaviors

Cognitive Behavioral Treatment

- Reviews of CBT show that it reduces recidivism by 10-35%
 - Lipsey, Landenberger, & Chapman, 2001; Landenberger & Lipsey, 2005; and Wilson, Bouffard, and MacKenzie, 2005
- Better when implemented in probation & parole compared to prison setting
- Better when administered to **higher-risk** offenders (e.g., twice per week for 16 weeks)



Evidence and Examples

From Theory to Practice

Proactive Community Supervision (PCS) In Maryland

- Three goals of PCS:
 - ❑ Protect public safety
 - ❑ Hold offenders accountable to victims and the community
 - ❑ Help offenders become responsible and productive
- Agents role is broadened
 - ❑ from surveillance of the offender to engaging the offender in the change process and
 - ❑ facilitating the offender's involvement in treatment programs and pro-social activities that focus on building skills to be productive in society
- Required organizational development, resource alignment and community partnerships

Proactive Community Supervision In Maryland

- Use of **LSI-R** and other objective information to assess offenders
- Development of **case plan/behavioral contract** around criminogenic factors
- Referral to **appropriate array of programs** (e.g., treatment, educational, vocational) to assist the offender in developing new skills to be a productive citizen
- Supervision to assist offender in **learning triggers** (e.g., people, places, situations) that affect criminal behavior
- Use of **incentives and sanctions** to shape behavior
- Timely communication with offender to **review progress**
- Emphasis on desistence from criminal lifestyle and conduct

Proactive Community Supervision (PCS) In Maryland

- Participation in PCS resulted in statistically significant findings. The difference between participants and a comparison group demonstrated:
 - **38% reduction** in the probability of a warrant being filed for **technical violations**
 - **38.3% less** chance of being arrested for **new criminal behavior**

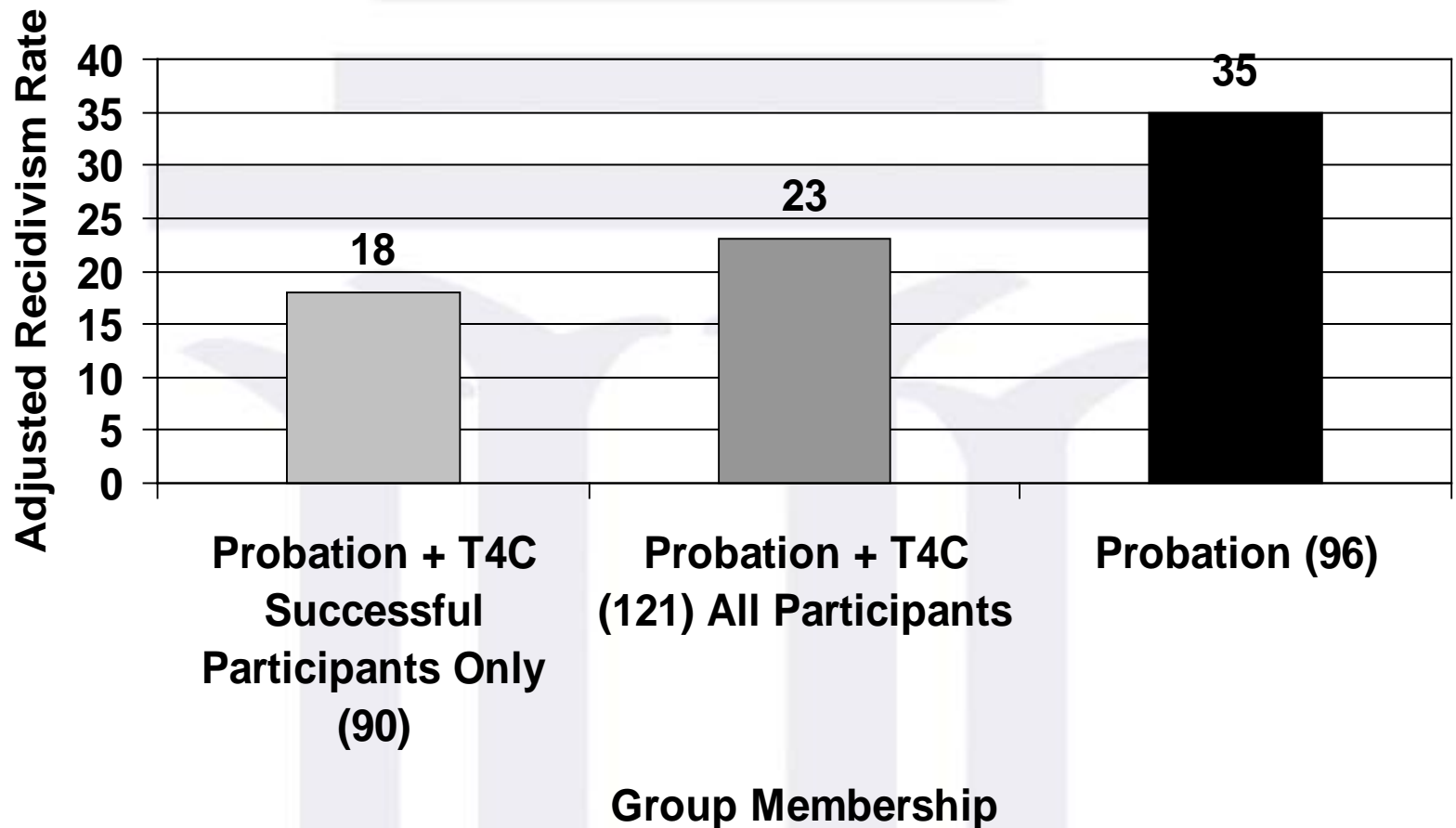
Taxman, F., Yancey, C. and Bilanin, J. (2006) Proactive Community Supervision in Maryland: Changing Offender Outcomes

Important Idea for Today:

**BOLSTERING COMMUNITY
CORRECTIONS IS A FISCALLY
RESPONSIBLE WAY TO IMPROVE
PUBLIC SAFETY.**

Evaluation of Thinking for a Change (TFC)

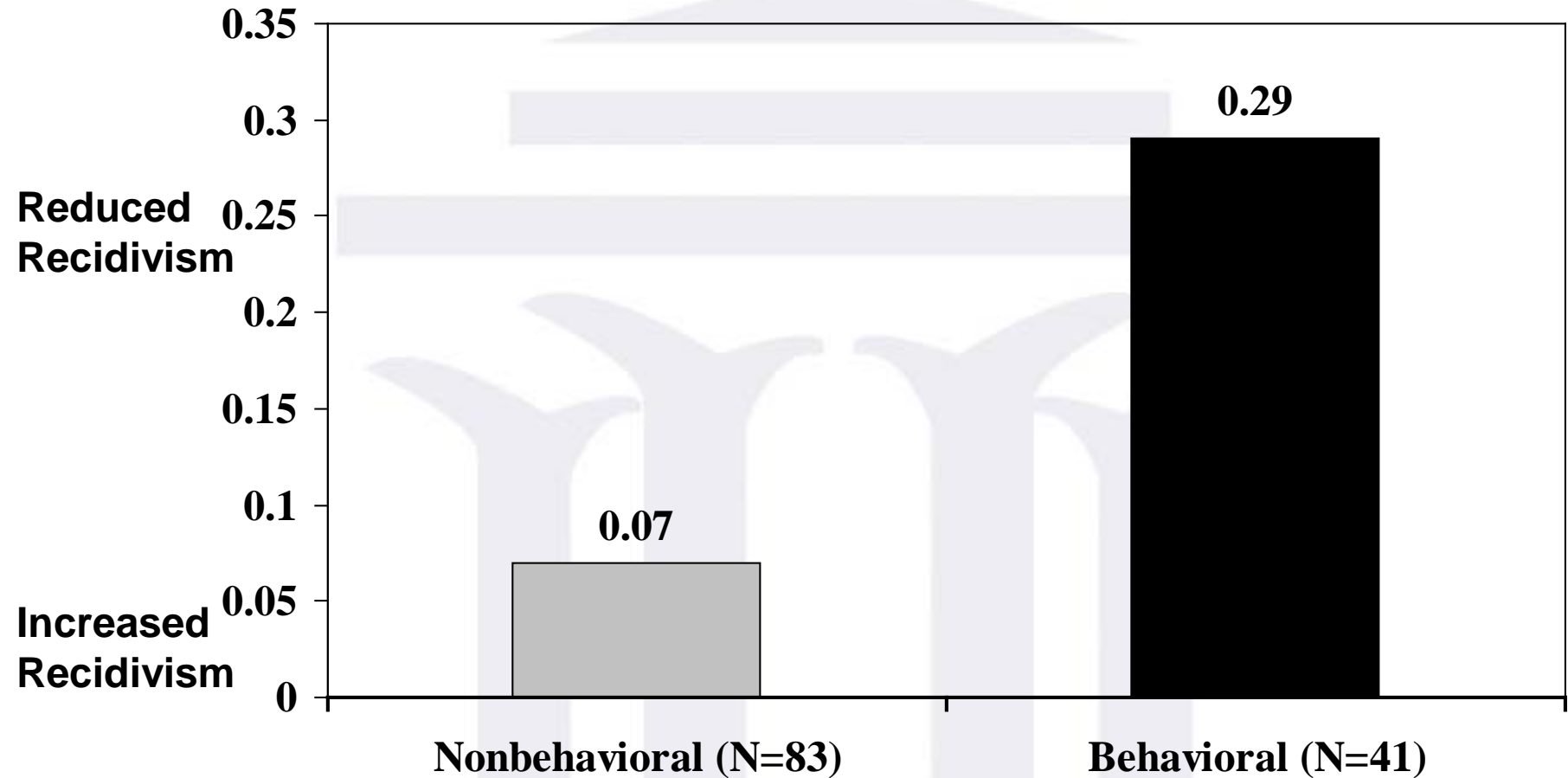
Lowenkamp and Latessa (2006)



Adjusted Recidivism Rates (arrest for new criminal behavior) Comparing T4C Participants to Comparison Group

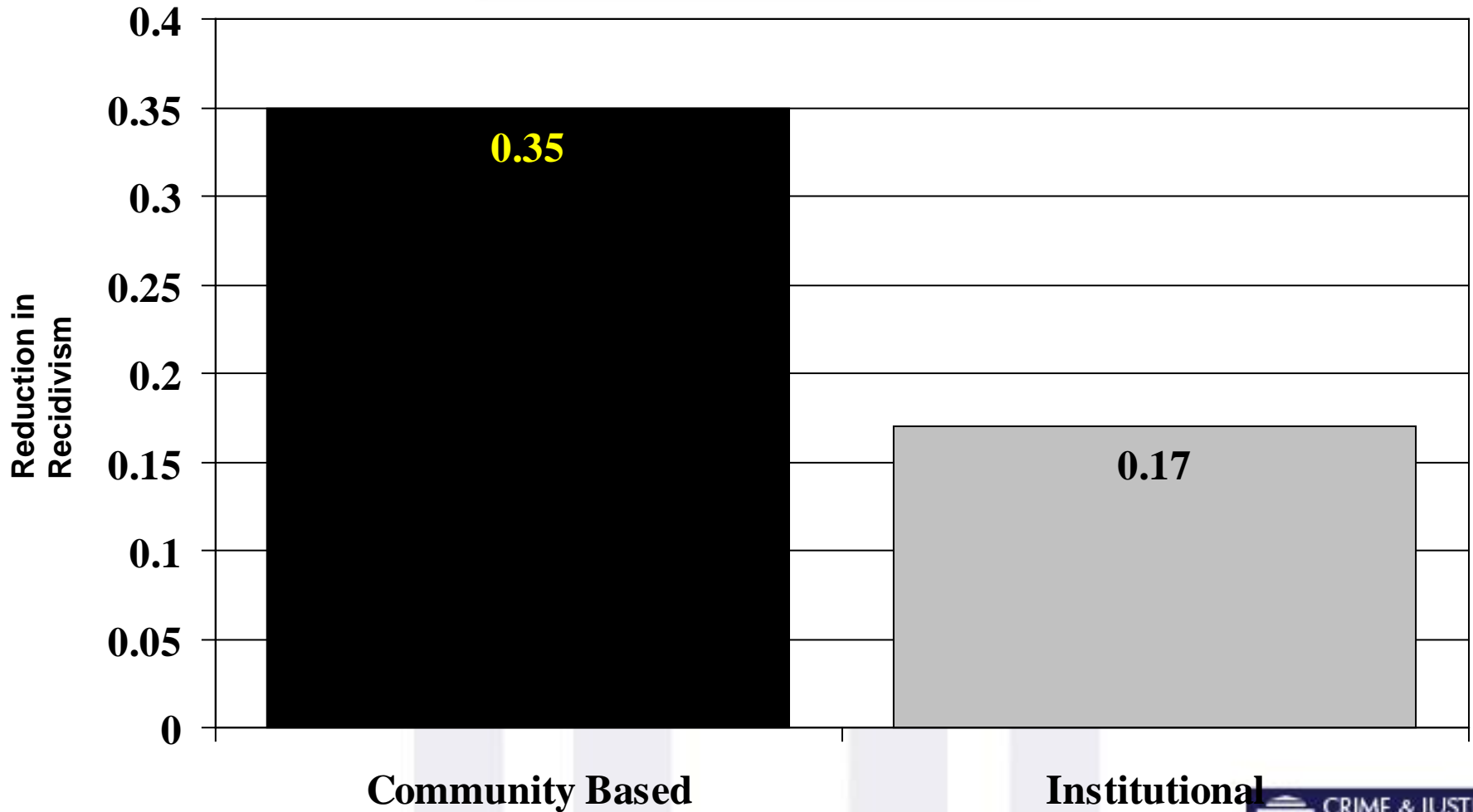
Adapted from Lowenkamp (2009)

Behavioral vs. NonBehavioral



Andrews, D.A. 1994. An Overview of Treatment Effectiveness. Research and Clinical Principles, Department of Psychology, Carleton University as cited by Latessa. The N refers to the number of studies.

Community Based versus Institutional Programs: Results from Meta-Analyses of Programs Based on Principles of Effective Treatment



Important Idea for Today:


**Supervision, treatment and programs
that address offender risk and needs
are needed in order to change offender
behavior and improve public safety.**



Important Idea for Today:

Caution – Just because a program exists does not mean that it works

UC Halfway House/CBCF Study in Ohio: A Look at Program Fidelity Statewide

- Average Treatment Effect was 4% reduction in recidivism
 - Lowest was a **41% Increase** in recidivism
 - Highest was a 43% reduction in recidivism
- 
- Programs that had acceptable termination rates, had been in operation for 3 years or more, had a cognitive behavioral program, targeted criminogenic needs, used role playing in almost every session, and varied treatment and length of supervision by risk had a **39% reduction in recidivism**

Adapted from Sperber, K. (2007) citing a study by Latessa (2006).

7: Measure Relevant Processes/Practices

8: Provide Measurement Feedback

- True or False – It's a good idea keep track of your investments
- Show me the data!!!
- Agencies practicing EBP are not really doing it unless they continually evaluate performance and adjust accordingly through a feedback and accountability process



Bottom Line:

These principles (risk, need, treatment and fidelity) should operate within supervision and the continuum of services.

What Not To Do?

- Supervision without intervention for moderate and high risk offenders
- Interventions aimed at low-risk offenders, (instead find ways to divert them).
- Good interventions that are implemented poorly or poorly maintained
- Interventions that are poorly defined, lack specificity, non-directive
- Interventions that fail to target the known predictors of criminal behavior

Benefits of EBP

- Lets us know if our offenders, agencies, programs and system are working
- Reduces bias about what works and what doesn't work
- Helps better utilize resources and guide decision making
- Improves public safety while reducing recidivism and victimization

Costs and Benefits of Community Based Interventions

| Program Examples | Effect on Crime | Total Benefit Minus Costs* |
|---|-----------------|----------------------------|
| Treatment oriented intensive supervision | -16.7% | \$11,563 |
| Drug Treatment in the Community | -9.3% | \$10,054 |
| Adult Drug Courts | -8% | \$4,767 |
| Cognitive Behavioral Treatment in prison or community | -6.3% | \$10,299 |
| Employment and on-the-job Training in the Community | -4.3% | \$4,359 |
| Electronic Monitoring to Offset Jail Time | 0% | \$870 |
| Surveillance Oriented Programs | 0% | -\$3,747 |

***Per Participant**

Washington State Institute for Public Policy. Evidence Based Public Policy Options to Reduce Future Prison Construction, Criminal Justice Costs and Crime Rates (2006). Available online at www.wa.gov/wsipp.





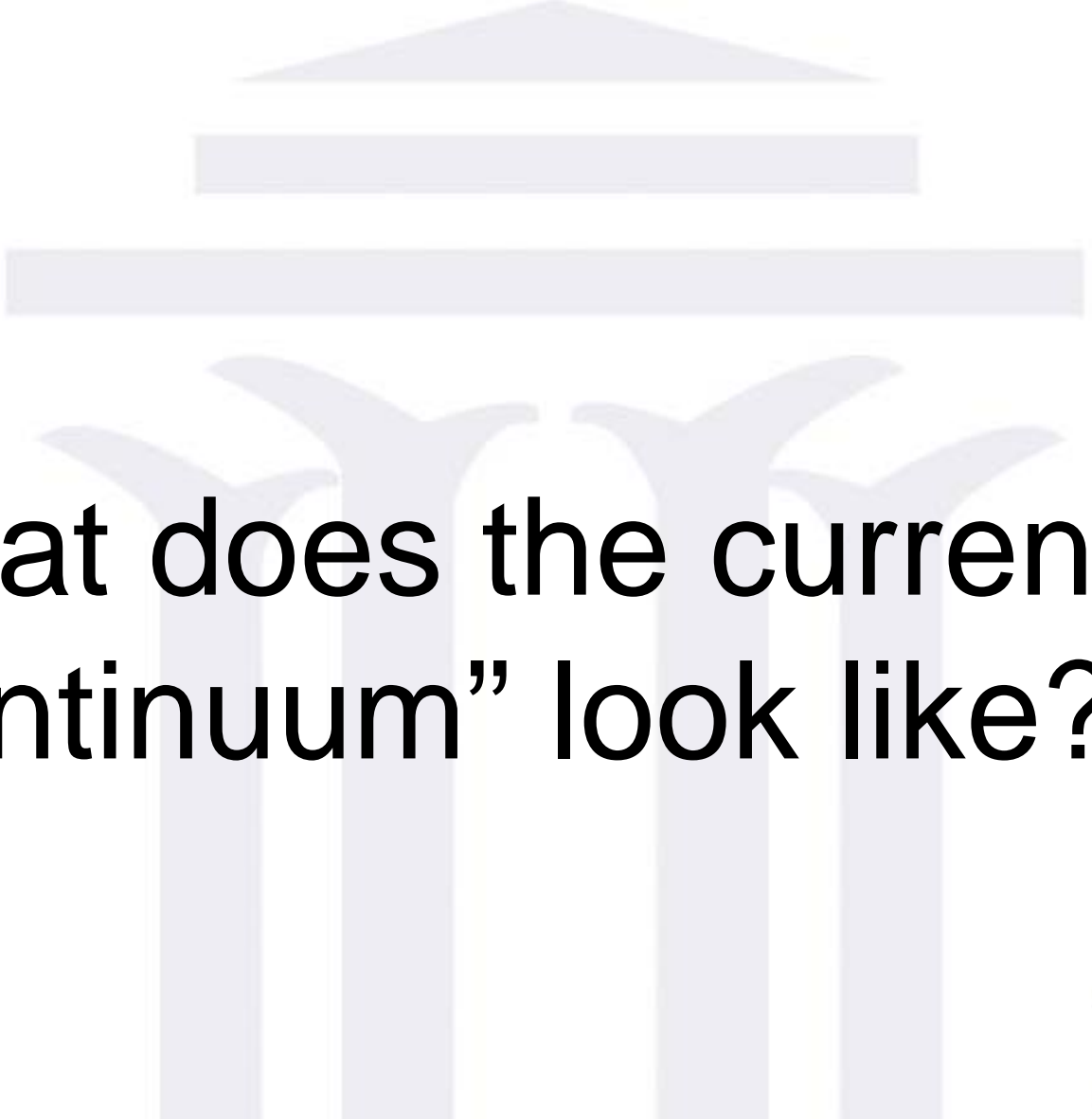
Establishing a Continuum in South Carolina

Ideas for Consideration

- Identify population needs, or at the very least look to the research
 - Interventions should meet the needs of the system and the offenders
- Consider the best ways to
 - Be fiscally responsible
 - Divert low risk and focus limited resources on moderate and high risk
 - Improve public safety, reduce recidivism and ensure victim restoration

Turning the Valves

- Look at the big picture
 - ❑ Keep in mind the need to turn front and back end valves to control cost and improve public safety
 - Note earlier recommendations and other workgroups
- Front End: Diversion/Pretrial options
 - ❑ Divert low risk, avoid net widening and do not unnecessarily increase risk
- Back End: Post adjudicatory options
 - ❑ Implement programs to change criminal behavior
- Determine if any existing options work well, need enhancement and/or if additional services are needed



What does the current
“continuum” look like?

Front End Diversions

46 Counties and 16 Circuits*

- Alcohol Education: Program in all circuits
- Drug Court:
 - Adult Only: 3rd, 4th, 7th, 8th, 11th, 14th, 15th
 - Juvenile Only: 1st, 2nd, 6th, 12th
 - Both: 5th, 9th, 10th, 13th, 16th
- Expungements: Program in all circuits
- Juvenile Arbitration: Program in all circuits
 - 12th also has a Juvenile PTI and Early Crime Prevention Program
- Pre-Trial Intervention: Program in all circuits
- Traffic Education: Circuits 1, 2, 5, 7, 8, 9, 10, 12, 14, 15, 16
- Worthless Check Units: Circuits 1, 2, 4, 5, 7, 8, 11, 12, 14, 15, 16

*While a program exists in a circuit it does not mean each individual county also has the program.

**Adapted from the SC Prosecution Coordination Commission

PPP access to Community Based Programs and Services

Community Resources in 46 Counties

- PPP has a resource directory of “preferred service providers”
 - Includes various local providers who offer services in each county, a description of their services and what they charge
 - Example services include education, substance abuse, mental health, employment, intellectual impairment, sex offender services, anger management, etc.

*Adapted from the SC Probation, Parole and Pardon Services Resource Directory

Continuum Examples

- EBP in supervision practices
 - Assessment
 - Case Planning
 - Cognitive Behavioral Methods (in-house CBT)
 - Appropriate Use of Sanctions and Rewards
 - Data and Feedback
- An array of interventions that are evidence-based and other necessary services
 - Cognitive Behavioral, Substance Abuse, Anger Management and Mental Health Treatments
 - Employment, Educational, Vocational Services
 - Residential Services
 - Data and Feedback

Sample

Continuum

Incarceration – SCDC Custody

Incarceration – Local Detention Centers

Secure Facilities (these can be utilized as an alternative to incarceration or a step down between prison and the community)

Residential Facilities (treatment, halfway houses, transitional programs, etc.)

Community Based Services (Provided by PPP and/or Private Provider Treatment and Services)

Community Options (fines, restitution, community service)

Pre-adjudication Diversions (existing options, mediation or others)

Recommendation #1

Conserve resources to be **reinvested/reallocated** in community corrections supervision, treatment and programs

Increase the use of front end diversions

- Enhance current capacity and institute other options (e.g., adult mediation/arbitration and pretrial release supervision)
- Include penalty adjustments for minor offenses (workgroup 1)

Implement earned compliance credits

- Reduce time on active supervision by X days for each month of full compliance with conditions, including payment of restitution to crime victims.

Implement alternative sanction practices (as previously discussed)

Recommendation #2

Use reinvestment/realignment of resources to gradually invest in the building the capacity of community corrections to implement evidence based practices (EBP)

- Require the use of a validated risk and need assessment tool to assign supervision and develop individual case plans within Y years
- Require the provision of employee training and development on EBP within Y years
- Require a portion of research on effectiveness
- Require X% of offenders to be supervised in accordance with EBP within Y years
- Require X% of state funds be spent on interventions that are evidence-based within Y years

Requires

A clear statement of recidivism reduction as a public safety goal.

Clarification of role of supervising authorities and community programs in the continuum

An array of community based options for treatment and services

Evaluation systems to determine consistency, quality and impact

Use of a validated assessment tool which includes dynamic and static risk and need factors

Organizational development, prioritization of resources allocations on moderate and high risk offenders, and training

Funding/Reinvestment for all the above

Benefits

Benefits

Increased opportunities for collaboration among law enforcement and provider agencies

Increased professionalism among correctional personnel (DOC and PPP)

Builds a continuous continuum focused on improving public safety

Conserves and reinvests resources for a greater impact on public safety (diverts low risk, treats moderate and high risk, provides more bed space for those that need intensive services and/or incarceration)

Institutes strategies that will positively impact public safety in a fiscally responsible way



Thank you!