

## EBDM Decision Point: Community Behavior Change

### Why this Decision Point is Important:

- Targeting interventions and programming to address an offender's top criminogenic needs offers an opportunity to both maximize resources and improve offender outcomes.

### What Should Happen at this Decision Point:

1. Quality providers deliver evidence-based programming, and programs that are not evidence-based are no longer offered.
2. Adequate treatment resources are available, and recruitment and retention of evidence-based treatment providers is incentivized in all areas of the state.
3. Fidelity to evidence-based principles is ensured in programs and services.
4. Outcome data is available for programs.
5. Equal access to programming is provided.
6. Treatment resources are not dependent upon geographic region.

### Selected Research:

- Treatment programming is most effective when targeted to higher risk offenders and their criminogenic needs, and preferably (though not exclusively) be community-based. *Primary Citation:* McGuire (2002)
- Incorporating elements of trauma-informed care is apt to increase the responsivity of justice-involved individuals to evidence-based cognitive behavioral programming aimed at reducing more proximal criminogenic needs (e.g., antisocial attitudes, substance abuse). *Primary Citation:* Miller & Najavitz (2012)
- Both maintaining a high level of treatment integrity and adhering to a human service treatment philosophy increase program effectiveness. It is recommended that agencies implement periodic assessments such as the CPAI so as to ensure continued program integrity. *Primary Citation:* Lowenkamp, Flores, Holsinger, Makarios, & Latessa (2010)
- Research indicates a relationship between the integrity with which a correctional program is implemented and recidivism outcomes. *Primary Citation:* Lowenkamp & Latessa (2004)
- Consistent with research supporting CBT interventions with offenders, Thinking for a Change participation produced significant reductions in recidivism rates among offenders on probation. *Primary Citation:* Lowenkamp, Hubbard, Makarios, & Latessa (2009)
- Cognitive behavioral programs applied across both institutional and community settings (e.g., Reasoning and Rehabilitation) effectively reduce recidivism rates. *Primary Citation:* Tong & Farrington (2006)
- Anger management is an effective form of intervention for recidivism reduction, producing moderate effect sizes when compared to untreated groups. *Primary Citation:* Del Vecchio & O'Leary (2004)
- While the provision of housing services on its own does not reduce recidivism, housing combined with other services (e.g., employment, substance abuse, etc.) has been shown to reduce recidivism by 12%. *Primary Citation:* Miller & Ngugi (2009)

### Resources:

Further resources on the topic

