

Action Plan and Priorities for Kaufman County SIM Mapping Workshop Debrief

February 24, 2023

Kaufman County Priorities for Change

Following completion of the SIM Mapping exercise, Kaufman County workshop participants defined specific areas of activity that could be mobilized to address the challenges and opportunities identified during group discussions across the SIM. These opportunities were narrowed down to a list “priorities for change.” Once the full list of priorities was established participants were given three votes, with the goal of identifying five priorities for action planning. The top five priorities established through this voting process are highlighted in bold text below.

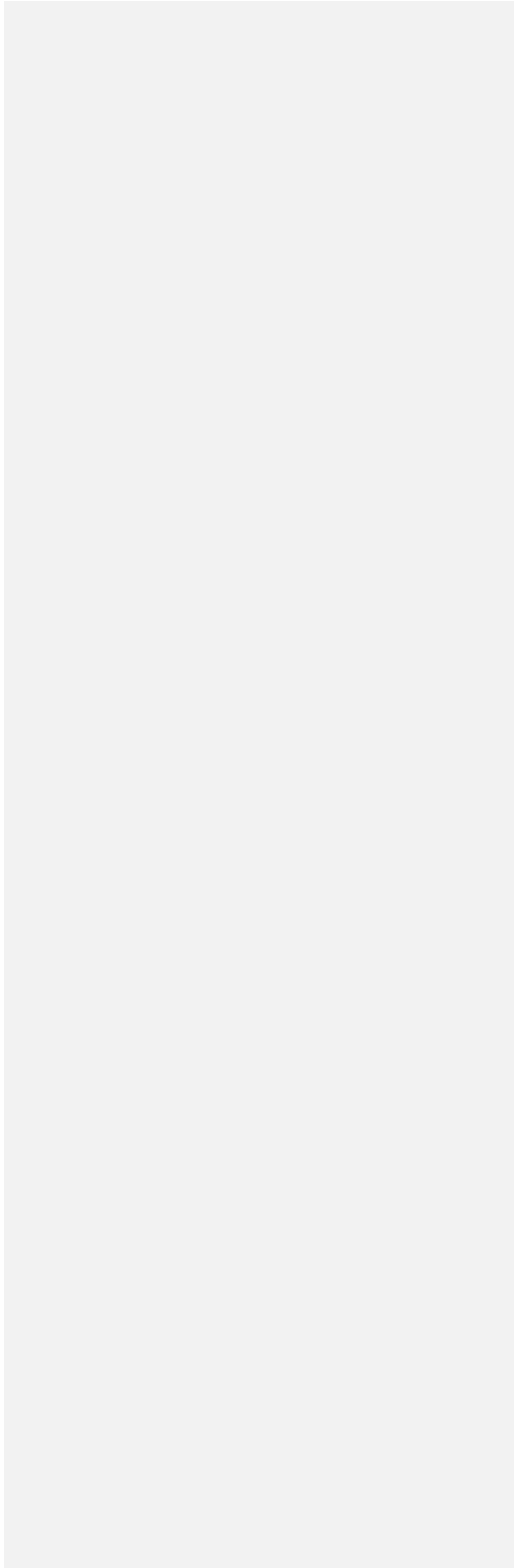
Rank	Priority	Total Votes
1	Develop a county behavioral health leadership team.	19
2	Expand law enforcement pre-arrest diversion options for individuals experiencing a behavioral health crisis.	18
3	Develop a community housing plan.	17
4	Increase awareness, education and training opportunities for community members and behavioral health and justice stakeholders.	16
5	Increase data and information sharing across the SIM.	14
6	Increase outpatient and inpatient treatment options for individuals with behavioral health needs in the community (Counseling, SUD treatment and trauma treatment).	14
7	Increase post release follow up and support services available to individuals reentering the community from jail, the state hospital and inpatient treatment.	12
8	Increase services available to youth at risk of justice involvement in the community.	9

Rank	Priority	Total Votes
9	Develop a community wide workforce growth and sustainability plan.	5

Kaufman County Action Plans

Stakeholders spent the second day of the workshop developing action plans for the top five priorities for change identified through the voting process described above. Below are the drafts of the action plans developed during the Kaufman County workshop. The Kaufman County SIM Mapping Workshop Report will include final versions these plans, as well as additional considerations from HHSC staff on resources and best practices that could help to inform implementation of each action plan.

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Priority Area One: Develop a county behavioral health leadership team.

Objective	Action Steps	Who	When
Re-establish the Kaufman County behavioral health leadership team	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reconvene BHLT planning group to review and discuss next steps for re-establishing the leadership team • Establish BHLT Meeting Logistics: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Meeting Location ○ Meeting Frequency ○ Date and time of meeting • Identify key community stakeholders in Kaufman County to be included in the planning process for the establishment of a BHLT • Convene workgroup to clarify goals of the Kaufman County BHLT. Explore: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Potential roles and responsibilities; ○ Specific gaps needing to be addressed within the community; ○ Data collection priorities; and ○ BHLT participant expectations. 	BHLT priority workgroup	
Define the structure of the new behavioral health leadership team	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identify comparable counties with BHLTs and research the structure of those teams. (i.e. Hunt County BHLT, Abilene’s Behavioral Advisory Team, and Smith County’s BHLT) • Establish Leaders of the BHLT (consider representation across all intercepts) • Identify subcommittee subjects/ areas of focus: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Coordinate with SIM priority team leads ○ Identify community leaders to serve as experts for each subcommittee ○ Consider BHLT goals 	BHLT priority workgroup	
Kick off first leadership team meeting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Invite all key community stakeholders identified <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Secure buy-in and commitment of participation from community leaders • Send invites out <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Invite additional community participants outside of key stakeholders identified • Plan for meeting 	BHLT priority workgroup	By the end of February , 2023

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Identify facilitators ○ Location ○ Meeting agenda ○ Define meeting goals clearly and provide clear topics for discussion 		
Explore information sharing mechanisms for the leadership team to utilize	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Clarify information sharing needs for local stakeholders, for example: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ General information on mental health services; ○ Aggregate data to identify trends in crisis service utilization and encounters with the criminal justice system; ○ Identifiable data to support care coordination for individuals with MI, SUD, and IDD who are at risk or involved with the justice system. • Explore what information sharing agreements might need to be in place between the BHLT, community BH providers and other justice stakeholders: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ E.g., data sharing agreements such as MOUs or ROIs • Identify opportunities for other SIM priority group leaders to present progress and provide updates to BHLT. 	BHLT priority workgroup	
Ongoing data collection and evaluation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review existing data collected by stakeholders across the SIM to identify community needs and gaps in data collection. • Identify what baseline data measures will be collected or monitored by the BHLT. Consider: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The impact measures spreadsheet for collecting data across the SIM to guide baseline data collection ○ Tracking special population's data discussed during the SIM workshop: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Suicide data ▪ Homelessness and housing data ▪ Health outcomes among low income populations 	BHLT priority workgroup	

Team Leads: Reagan Teel(reagan.teel@hhs.texas.gov), Carol Williams (cwilliams@ntbha.org), Pam Corder (pam.corder@kaufmancounty.net), and Lori Carson (Lori.Carson@hhs.Texas.gov)

Workgroup Members: Pam Corder, Kaufman County; Lori Carson, Terrell State Hospital; Amanda Brown, Kaufman County District Attorney's Office; Stephanie Hartline, Lakes Regional Community Center; Nicole Phillips, Peace Officer; Carol Williams, NTBHA; Jennifer Russell, NTBHA; Wendy Dolleman, Specialty Court Clinical Director; Mary Hauger, Terrell Police Department; Melanie Shackelford, Celebrate Forever Families; Niki Killingsworth, Texas Health Resources; Stephanie Reeves, Kaufman ISD; Reagan Teel, Terrell State Hospital

Recommended Resources:

- [Criminal Justice Coordinating Councils \(CJCCs\)](#)
- [The Dallas County BHLT](#)
- [Improving Behavioral Health Care - Smith County Behavioral Health Leadership Team \(smithbhlt.org\)](#)

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Priority Two: Expand law enforcement pre-arrest diversion options for individuals experiencing a behavioral health crisis.

Objective	Action Steps	Who	When
<p>Train Kaufman County dispatchers in responding to behavioral health calls for service</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Establish a mental health script for dispatch and first responders to assess for behavioral health crisis. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ Review 911 dispatch protocols and scripts used by other communities to assess for behavioral health needs. ◦ Streamline coding practices across the county for mental health related calls for service • Consider training options for dispatch staff, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ Mental Health First Aid, ◦ Applied Suicide Intervention Skills Training, ◦ Assess Support Know: Suicide Prevention Training, and ◦ Counseling on Access to Lethal Means. • Coordinate with NTBHA to provide mental health first aid for all county dispatch staff and first responders. 	<p>Chad Anderson, NTBHA Heather, KSO Dispatch</p>	
<p>Identify Opportunities to Increase First Responders Available to Address MH Crisis</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Create a Kaufman County Crisis Intervention Team (CIT) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ Establish a process flow that identifies when CIT officers are dispatched and how officers are notified. ◦ Establish contracts across law enforcement agencies dedicating a certain number of LE to participate in the CIT team ◦ Consider number of officers on the CIT (10-15 officers) ◦ Establish a system that notifies all CIT officers when a MH crisis call is received through 911 dispatch • Explore other opportunities to increase the number of MH trained first responders in Kaufman County: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ Co-responder models ◦ Multi-disciplinary response team models ◦ Embedded clinicians at 911 dispatch 	<p>Heather, KSO Dispatch</p>	

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Law enforcement/ MH provider ride along opportunities • Explore opportunities to expand services offered by the Kaufman BRIDGE. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Establish an after-hours component for the Kaufman BRIDGE <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review 9-1-1 dispatch and crisis call data to determine most needed hours of operation • Identify most necessary after hours service components • Determine staffing and funding needs to support after hours services at the Bridge • Begin planning for the law enforcement drop-off component of the BRIDGE. Consider: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Drop-off eligibility requirements ○ Clinical and medical services to be offered at the BRIDGE to support individuals diverted by law enforcement ○ Hours of operation 		
<p>Establish a County law enforcement mental health meeting/ workgroup</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identify who to invite: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Prioritize maintaining community-wide law enforcement representation ○ Include pre-arrest diversion key stakeholders including: Kaufman County law Enforcement, Kaufman County DA's office, 911 dispatchers, NTBHA staff, Kaufman County hospital staff. • Establish work group priorities. Consider: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Law enforcement and individual safety, data sharing protocols, available trainings, and questions used at dispatch to assess for a behavioral health crisis. • Identify key data collection points. Consider: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ APOWW / white warrant data ○ # MH calls for service ○ Call outcomes ○ Time spent responding to MH calls ○ Responder: Police, EMS or other 	<p>Lt. Tracy West, KSO</p> <p>Pre-arrest diversion workgroup</p>	<p>By March, 2023</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Explore Funding opportunities for pre-arrest diversion programs. Consider: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ Meeting with Kaufman County commissioners ◦ SAMHSA Grants- Law Enforcement and Behavioral Health Partnership for Early Diversion ◦ Bureau of Justice Assistance Grants <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • FY 2023 Justice and Mental Health Collaboration Program • FY 2023 Connect and Protect: Law Enforcement Behavioral Health Response Program 		
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Team Leads: Lt. Tracy West, Kaufman County Sheriffs’ Office, (tracy.west@kaufmanso.com)

Workgroup Members: Jeremy Jones, Crandall Police Department; Muriel Gonzalez, Kaufman County CSCD; Robert Tomas, Association of Persons Affected by Addiction; Cherish Rodden, Kaufman CSCD; Chad Anderson, NTBHA; J Massey, Crandall County Police Department; Lt. Tracey West, Kaufman County Sheriffs’ Office; Judge Mary Bardin, Justice of the Peace Precinct 1; Judge Rhitt Jackson, Kaufman County; Heather Hall, Kaufman County Sheriffs’ Office; Yolanda Murphy, Kaufman County District Attorney’s Office

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Recommended Resources:

- [Roadmap to the Ideal Crisis System](#), National Council for Behavioral Health
- [Harris County Diversion Guide](#), Justice System Partners
- [911 Crisis Call Diversion](#), The Harris Center for Mental Health and IDD
- [Integrating 9-1-1 and Behavioral Health Response](#), Texas Health and Human Services Commission
- [Telehealth for Patrol Implementation Guide](#), University of Houston
- [Promoting Health and Safety Through a Behavioral Health Continuum of Care](#), National Association of Counties

Funding Resources:

- [SAMHSA: Law Enforcement and Behavioral Health Partnerships for Early Diversion](#)
- [BJA: Justice and Mental Health Collaboration Program](#)

Priority Three: Develop a community housing plan.

Objective	Action Steps	Who	When	Commented [D(5): Please confirm who
Identify potential locations for a transitional shelter	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Meet with local housing stakeholders to discuss shelter opportunities. Coordinate with: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ Housing workgroup participants, the Terrell Action Committee, the Kaufman County Housing Authority, The Homeless Coalition, the Veterans Association, faith-based organizations, and Kaufman County Judges • Explore the availability of existing buildings to support transitional housing. Explore the use of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ The City of Kaufman’s Annex Building- meet with city to discuss availability ◦ NTBHA owned buildings ◦ Texas Health Center Buildings 	Housing priority workgroup and identified community housing stakeholders	Within 3 weeks of SIM workshop	Commented [D(6): Housing planning group is this timeline accurate?
Coordinate with community housing providers to assess housing needs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Collect data from community housing providers to identify the barriers to establishing emergency shelter, transitional living and more permanent supportive housing options in Kaufman County. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ Identify partners to collaborate in data collection ◦ Develop a community wide survey ◦ Conduct a housing needs assessment to make a case for expanding housing options. • Send housing workgroup leads to attend Behavioral Health Leadership Team Meeting and facilitate a discussion on community housing priorities <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ Learn from existing housing efforts ◦ Collaboratively assess community needs 	Housing priority workgroup		
Identify funding opportunities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Meet with local housing stakeholders and discuss existing funding opportunities. • Explore grant funding opportunities: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ HUD grant funding opportunities (Emergency Shelter Grants Program- CoC) ◦ State grants 	Housing priority workgroup		

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ SAMHSA and DOJ Grant programs ○ Emergency Solutions Grant Program ○ HHSC's Healthy Community Collaborative <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use data from county-wide needs assessment to support funding applications • Designate a housing stakeholder to apply for identified state and national grant opportunities 		
Increase permanent supportive housing options available in Kaufman County	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Visit communities with a well-established housing continuum. • Create a task force/ association to promote information sharing among housing stakeholders and offer an opportunity to voice community housing needs. • Explore opportunities to increase number of housing vouchers available in Kaufman County • Explore opportunities to incentivize second chance housing: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Examine existing options and identify tenant selection criteria that might limit or exclude those with prior justice involvement ○ Landlord outreach and engagement, consider: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Landlord incentive programs • Landlord risk mitigation funds • Explore specialized veteran's housing options <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Coordinate with the VA ○ Research legality of targeted permanent supportive housing program for veterans 	Housing priority workgroup	<p>Begin by March 1;</p> <p>Ongoing</p>

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Team Lead: Erica Velasquez (Evelasquez@ntbha.org)

Workgroup Members: Erica Velasquez, NTBHA; Lyndy Ashford, NTBHA; Michael Davis, Lakes Regional Community Center; Denis Leonard, Legal Aid of North Texas; Brad Hendricks, Kaufman District Attorney's office; Janet Buchanan, NTBHA; La Zendra Rhodes; Heather Garcia, Terrell Dispatch

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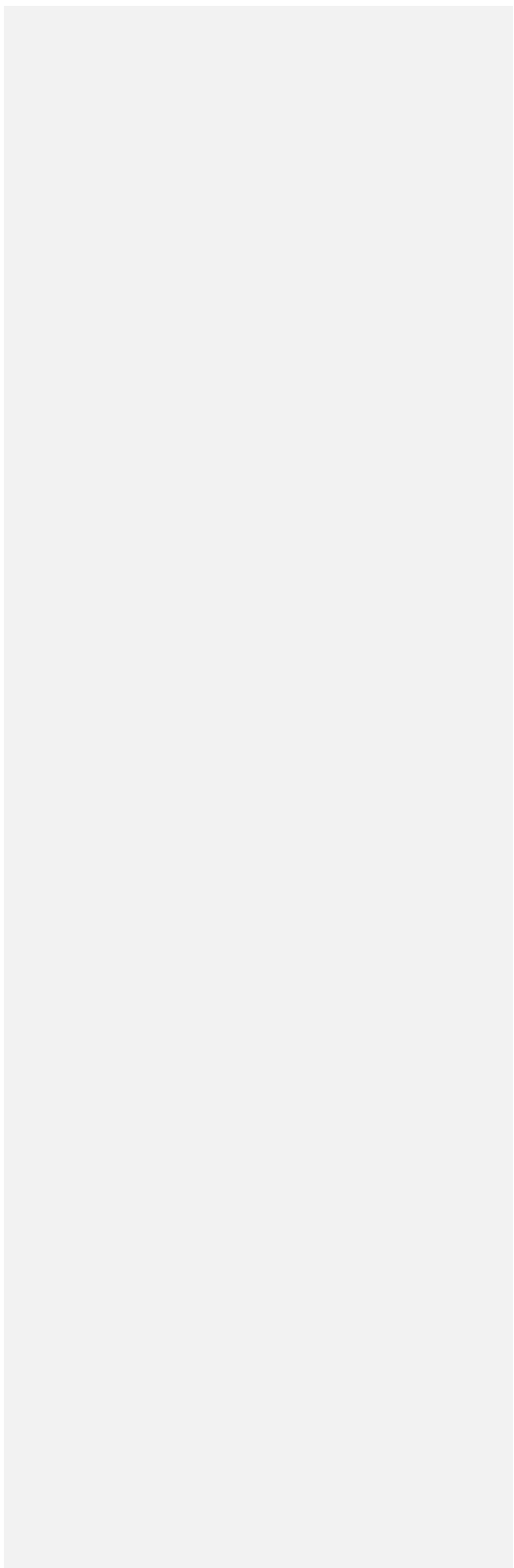
Recommended Resources:

- [Evidence-Based Practices to Establishing Permanent Supportive Housing](#), SAMHSA
- [Expanding Access to and Use of Behavioral Health Services for People Experiencing Homelessness \(samhsa.gov\)](#), SAMHSA
- [HCV Landlord Guidebook: Incentives \(hud.gov\)](#), Housing and Urban Development
- [Built for Zero Initiative](#), Community Solutions
- [The Texas Homeless Data Sharing Network \(THDSN\)](#), The Texas Homeless Network
- [Frequent Users Systems Engagement \(FUSE\)](#), Corporation for Supportive Housing

Funding Resources:

- [Federal Funding Sources for Addressing Homelessness Tool - National League of Cities \(nlc.org\)](#)
- [FY 2023 Second Chance Act Pay for Success Program](#), Bureau of Justice Assistance
- [Grants for the Benefit of Homeless Individuals | SAMHSA](#)

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Priority Four: Increase awareness, education and training opportunities for community members and behavioral health and justice stakeholders.

Objective	Action Steps	Who	When	Commented [D(9): Workgroup, please provide an estimated timeline and identify who is responsible
Build community awareness of existing community education and training needs through data collection	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identify any additional stakeholders to include in the training and education workgroup. • Plan for Taskforce meetings. Identify: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Key participants ○ Location ○ Time and Date ○ Frequency • Establish the awareness, education and training taskforce’s mission vision and goals during first meeting. Consider: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ who is the target audience? ○ how might you reach them? ○ what do you hope to accomplish from community trainings? ○ what are gaps in stakeholder knowledge? • Begin identifying key data points that will inform the community’s training and education needs. 	<p>Susan Huffman; Texas Health Centers</p> <p>Awareness training and education priority workgroup</p>	By February 23, 2023	
Increase community awareness of existing behavioral health resources	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop a community survey to gauge interest and assess training needs across behavioral health and justice stakeholder groups. • Establish an email list with all community partners that work at the intersection of behavioral health and justice <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Take an inventory of existing mental health training resources available in Kaufman County ○ Request baseline data across identified stakeholders to identify gaps in access or referral to resources 	Awareness training and education priority workgroup		

<p>Implement community wide education and outreach</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Utilize survey results to determine areas of highest need for increased training and education • Coordinate with other SIM priority groups to support training development and implementation for identified priority groups. • Identify key community partners who could help host and/or promote trainings, such as schools, faith-based organizations, or major area employers. • Coordinate information and resource sharing across county behavioral health and justice stakeholders: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Identify a centralized database to update local resource information ○ Utilize social media and ad campaigns to share information about available behavioral health resources ○ Develop tailored trainings to target stakeholder groups with identified gaps in knowledge or behavioral health resources • Identify potential facilities where community mental health trainings can be administered. 	<p>Awareness training and education priority workgroup</p>
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Team Lead: June Deibel, Recovery Resource Council
j.deibel@recoverycouncil.org

Workgroup Members: Susan Huffman, Texas Health Center; Desiree Pool, Indigent Health Care; Chris Whalen, Kaufman County CSCD; June Deibel, Recovery Resource Council; Cindy Ledat, Recovery Resource Council; Amy Sanders, NTBHA; Jessica Minor, the Intersection of Research and Practice (IPS) Recovery; Jessica Simmons, IPS Recovery; Judge Bobby Rich, Kaufman County Court

Recommended Resources:

- [Police-Mental Health Collaboration Toolkit](#), the Bureau of Justice Assistance
- [Crisis Intervention Team Training resources](#), National Institute of Corrections
- [Data Collection Across the Sequential Intercept Model \(SIM\): Essential Measures](#), Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration
- [Information Sharing in Criminal Justice-Mental Health Collaborations: Working with HIPAA and Other Privacy Laws](#), Council of State Governments Justice Center

Funding and Technical Assistance Opportunities:

- [National Institute of Corrections Resources](#)- Training and Technical Assistance
- [National Training and Technical Assistance Center](#)-Bureau of Justice Assistance

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