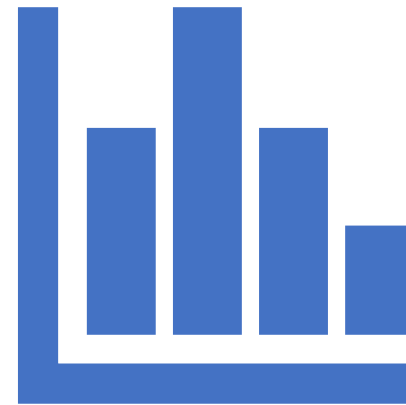


Reentry Services & Evidence-Based Programming

Office of Reentry & Justice
Contra Costa Probation Department
October 19, 2021



POLL TIME!



Today's Agenda

Introduction and basics of evidence-based programs (EBPs)

EBPs and data-driven decision making – Why does this matter?

Research vs. innovation – Do EBPs limit emerging practices and innovation?

Looking ahead – What to expect in upcoming training series

Esa Ehmen-Krause,
Chief Probation Officer

Contra Costa County
Probation Department



Introduction

Vision:

- Leverage data and evidence to improve public safety, reduce recidivism, and tell the story of impact

Goals:

- Improve programmatic practices
- Demonstrate programmatic success

Aligns with ORJ & County Strategic Plans



Address
criminogenic needs



Expand critical
services



Increase public
safety



Reduce recidivism

Pathway to Success

- Our strategic and deliberate practice of applying research evidence and data to understand and make informed decisions surrounding programs and practices that seek to improve public safety outcomes and support successful reintegration.



- Funder/Grantor and Service Provider to be data driven in approach, assessing quality of services, monitoring progress toward long-term goals and outcomes.

A Data Driven Approach to Decision-Making



Level the playing field for community providers



Enhance our ability both as funders and service providers to tell the story of progress from implementation to result



Keep us on track to our “north star”

Reducing Recidivism

Successful Reintegration

Improve Public Safety

CAVEAT: Identifying markers that *lead to* and demonstrate *promising progress* toward our goals

A Data Driven Approach to Decision-Making

1

Are we doing work that's supported by evidence?

- Results First Clearinghouse (reentry services)
- Blueprints Programs (juvenile)
- SAMHSA (mental health)

2

How well are our programs and services delivered?

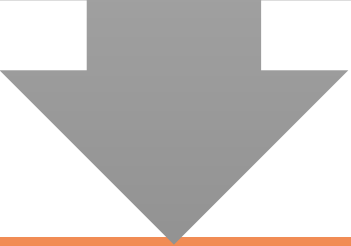
Is our work leading to our desired outcomes?

- Data collection to establish baseline information
- Measure progress and continuous improvement

What Are Evidence-Based Programs?

What are Evidence- Based Programs?

Programs whose level of *effectiveness* has been determined by *rigorous* evaluation



This same definition applies when we are considering evidence-based:

Practices

Principles

Policies,
etc.

What Do We Mean by Effectiveness?

Effectiveness means the degree to which the program (or practice, principle, policy) is successful in producing a desired result

- Ex. Reduction in recidivism rates; Increase in GED/H.S. diploma attainment

How is effectiveness assessed?

- Researchers and evaluators typically study effectiveness through *rigorous evaluation*
- Compare outcomes among one group who participated in the program and another group that did not

Rigorous Evaluation: How Researchers Determine Effectiveness

Randomized control trials

- Often considered the gold standard of evaluation research
- Rarely used in criminal justice because of the ethical and research design challenges

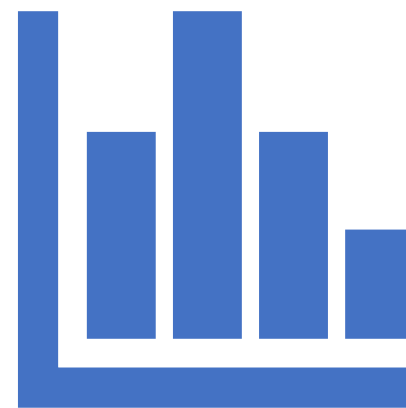
Quasi-experimental studies

- Attempt to establish a cause-and-effect relationship without random assignment
- Draws on specialized methods to account for differences between two groups

Standards of Evidence Effect

<u>Overall Effect</u>	<u>Requirements</u>	<u>Terminology</u>
No Effect	Little or no evidence exists through the use of reliable, rigorous, replicable, and generalizable research indicating the programs achieve what they are intended to achieve.	Not Evidence-Informed or Evidence-Based
Promising	Some evidence exists through the use of reliable, rigorous, replicable, and generalizable research indicating the programs achieve what they are set out to achieve.	Evidence-Informed
Effective	Strong evidence exists through use of reliable, rigorous, replicable, and generalizable research indicating programs achieve what they are set out to achieve.	Evidence-Based

POLL TIME!



Where Do We Find this Evidence?

Criminal Justice Research Literature

1. Specific Evaluations
2. Systematic Reviews
3. Meta-Analyses

Research Clearinghouses

- Online resources that pull together the research information on the effectiveness of programs, practices, and policies into a single database:
 - Results First Clearinghouse

Benefits of data in decision making



Continuous improvements in practices and programs



Measure program impact & tell the story



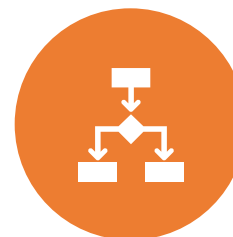
Identification of new challenges and needs & determining where inequities exist



Planning



Reduce Costs



Collaborative Decision-making

Pause for Q & A's

Using Data to Measure Performance

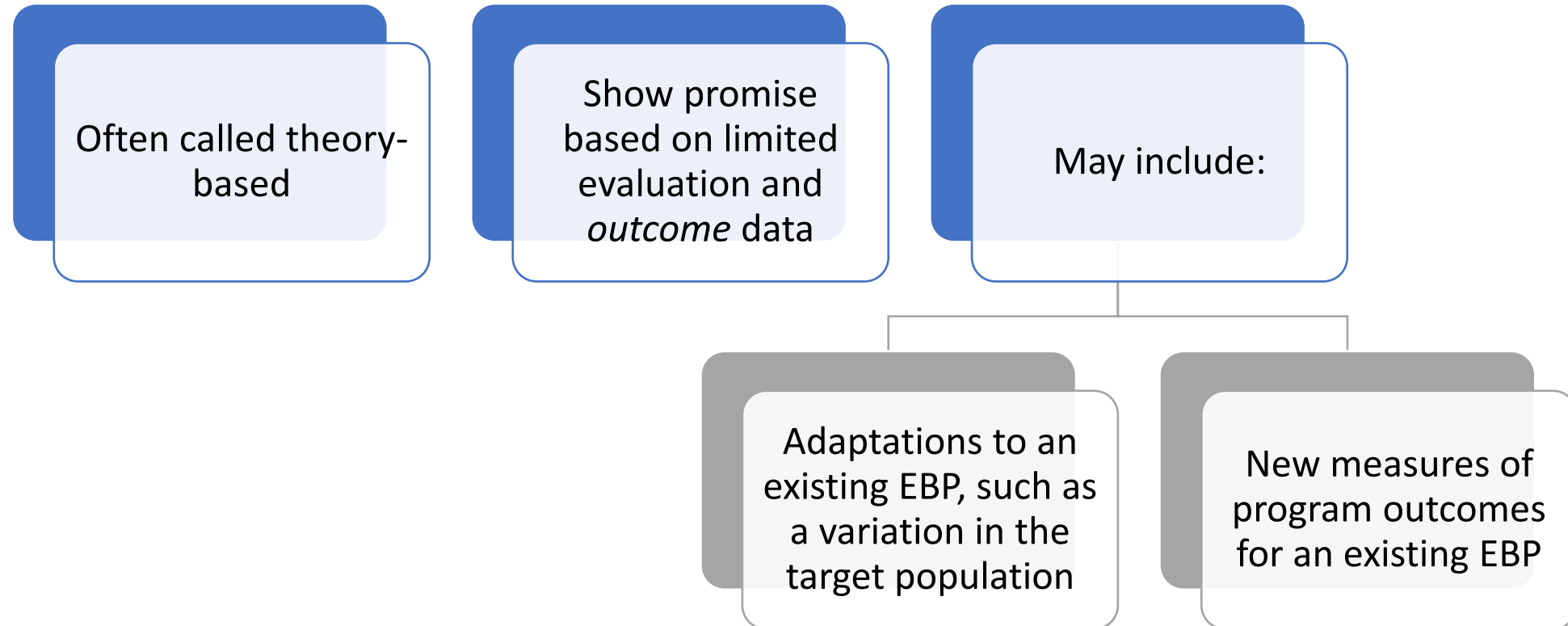
Outputs vs. Outcomes

- Program outputs are used to measure progress toward programmatic activities.
 - Speaks to what is occurring in the program
 - Often program outputs are direct, immediate results of an activity
 - Ex: % of participants completed training series
- Program outcomes, or effects, speak to what results from the program activities.
 - Include measurable short-term and intermediate benefits
 - Long-term benefits are often called impact; may not be measurable
 - *EBPs will have established outcomes*

Where Does Innovation Fit In?



Innovative Programs





Valuing Different Ways of Knowing

- Individual experiences
- Nuances of current programs
- A data-driven approach provides an opportunity to create/develop evidence on these different ways of knowing
- Spirit of partnership and shared goals within the context of this new paradigm
 - Working together to build an evidence base drawn from individuals in our own community
 - Community partnership building

What is the Evidence on Your Program?

HOMEWORK!



Results First Clearinghouse Database:

<https://www.pewtrusts.org/en/research-and-analysis/data-visualizations/2015/results-first-clearinghouse-database>



Is your program considered effective or promising?



How does your program align with the research evidence as it relates to:

Target population
Setting
Programmatic outcomes

Looking Ahead

Training 2

Implementing EBPs & New RFP procurement for Housing and Employment services

- Tuesday, Nov. 9th, 10AM-12PM

Training 3

Strategies for successful procurement response

- Tuesday, Nov. 30th , 10AM-12PM

Pause for Q & A's

THANK YOU!!

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