Improving Domestic Violence Outcomes in Vermont: A Systems-Based Approach

JUNE 15, 2021, PRESENTATION TO JUSTICE REINVESTMENT II WORKING GROUP

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Improving Domestic Violence Outcomes in Vermont: A Systems Based Approach

- Purpose and Project Partners

- Connection to Justice Reinvestment I and II in Vermont

- Project phases and projected outcomes
Project Purpose

- Using a **Justice Reinvestment approach**, leaders in Vermont will pair with The Council of State Governments Justice Center to engage stakeholders, analyze data, and provide research-based recommendations for systemic reform while centering the safety of domestic violence survivors and addressing the needs of those who cause harm.
Project Partners and Key Staff

**Department of Public Safety**
Captain Lance Burnham, Emergency Communications Commander
Bonnie MacBrien, Financial Administrator II
Melissa Austin, Financial Manager

**Vermont Network**
Lisa Ryan, Director of Domestic Violence Response
Karen Tronsgard-Scott, Executive Director
Sarah Robinson, Deputy Director

**Council of State Governments Justice Center**
David D’Amora, Senior Policy Advisor
Carly Murray, Senior Policy Analyst
Grace Call, Deputy Division Director
Sarah Bastomski, Research Manager
Connection to Justice Reinvestment I and II

- Continued prevalence of domestic violence in Vermont, including over half of the homicides in Vermont being domestic-violence related.

- Increase in felony convictions for felony domestic violence crimes between 2015-2019.

- Recommendation of Justice Reinvestment I Working Group that state examine domestic violence and innovate policies and practices related to domestic violence from event to reentry.

- Recommendation from Justice Reinvestment I working Group that Vermont invest in infrastructure of community-based treatment and support for people who use violence in their relationships.
Sequential Intercept Mapping can help us understand how individuals in Vermont impacted by domestic violence interact with the criminal justice system. Not all pathways are linear, nor will every individual interact with every intercept. Individuals may interact with various intercepts.
Project Design: Phase 1

- Development of Executive Working Group and Sequential Intercept Groups

- Analyzing Qualitative and Quantitative Data regarding domestic violence in Vermont

- Begin considering innovative and targeted options and approaches
Project Design: Phase 2

- Implementing innovative approaches
- Adopting needed policy changes to address domestic violence
- Determining metrics for evaluation
Project Design: Phase 3

- Measure program improvements
- Communicate obstacles and opportunities for implementation
- Share results through a final report
Questions?