RESULTS FIRST CONNECTICUT THE YEAR IN REVIEW

In this edition, we look back at the year since we started publishing the Results First Connecticut newsletter on Evidence-Based Policymaking and Budgeting.

As those who have been regular readers know by now, this newsletter highlights innovative and practical evidencebased policymaking and budgeting activities occurring both statewide and nationally. The IMRP publishes this newsletter as part of the Results First Initiative in Connecticut – an innovative cost-benefit analysis approach to investing in policies and programs that are proven to work sponsored by the Pew-MacArthur collaboration.



CONNECTICUT ACTIVITY

- IMRP converted from an Excel-based version to the Cloud-based version of the Benefit-Cost Model, bringing greater capability and efficiency to producing the analysis.
- Agencies reported program inventories and the IMRP published the <u>Results First Benefit-</u> <u>Cost Analysis of Adult Criminal and Juvenile Justice Evidence-Based Programs (EBP)</u>
- IMRP testified before the Appropriation Subcommittee on Accountability regarding the general purpose and application of Results First and EBP in Connecticut.
- Pew-MacArthur named <u>Connecticut a leader in the United States</u> in the use of Evidence-Based Policymaking
- <u>Connecticut was highlighted</u> in the Pew-MacArthur Fact Sheet "4 Ways Implementation Support Centers Assist in the delivery of evidence-Based Programs" This report cites the Child Health and Development Institute (CHDI) of Connecticut that "works with Providers to use data to monitor and continuously improve their services. CHDI staff has worked with program developers to train more than 800 clinicians and staff in 35 community mental health centers to deliver Trauma-Focused Cognitive Behavioral Therapy, an evidence-based treatment for child victims of trauma."
- The Department of Children and Families testified before the Appropriations Committee that the use of EBP improved agency program outcomes for children and families. The departments of Corrections, Mental Health and Addiction Services and the Court Support Services Division of the Judicial Branch have also indicated that their Results First work has helped them make incisive decisions regarding the management of budget and policy decisions.
- Budget proposals made for the Biennial 2018-2019 Appropriation by both political parties within the Connecticut General Assembly suggest that the Results First approach be more broadly applied to improve agency practice and save money.
- Assisted with: A study of "Recidivism Among Adjudicated Youth on Parole in Connecticut", the Juvenile Justice Policy Oversight Committee and the Sentencing Commission.
- Published monthly newsletter to keep interested parties current on Evidence-Based Policymaking and Budget.

PEW-MACARTHUR RESULTS FIRST INITIATIVE

- Held an eastern regional conference on Results First in Providence, Rhode Island. States participating were: Connecticut, Rhode Island, Massachusetts, New York, Vermont, and Maryland. It was a tremendous opportunity for cross-collaboration with participating states and Pew-MacArthur staff.
- Updated the "analysis engine" of the model so that the most accurate benefit-cost analyses can be done by the Results First model.
- Updated current program policy area user guides and wrote new guides for new policy areas.
- Continued to provide valuable assistance in support of the Connecticut Results First Initiative.

Thank you for your interest in this work and taking the time to read this issue. We hope to continue to provide fresh updates and insights periodically in the future. Please let us know if this is a valued resource in enhancing your understanding and use of evidence-based policymaking and budgeting practices. Visit our website: <u>www.resultsfirstct.org</u>.

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