

Example: Ramsey County, Minnesota, EBDM Brochure

RAMSEY COUNTY EVIDENCE-BASED DECISION MAKING INITIATIVE

One less crime. One less victim. One less offender. A strategy for safer communities.

ABOUT THE INITIATIVE

Ramsey County is one of only seven seed sites from across the country selected by the National Institute of Corrections (NIC) to participate in the Evidence-Based Decision Making for Local Criminal Justice Systems Initiative (EBDMI).

EBDMI is modeled after the medical profession's "100,000 Lives Campaign," which prevented 122,000 accidental deaths by employing an evidence-based framework to hospital procedures. By applying an evidence-based framework in the Criminal Justice System, the Ramsey County EBDMI ultimately hopes to reduce crime as well as the number of victims and offenders. One of the primary methods for implementing the EBDMI framework includes an examination of the policies, protocols, and strategies currently employed by the state, county, and local agencies responsible for the justice system; identification of areas of dissonance; and implementation of strategies supported by research.

MISSION & GOALS

"To create safer communities, Ramsey County Justice Partners will work collaboratively to employ evidence-based decision making practices across the Criminal Justice System."

The Policy Team's goals include:

1. Create a system map that outlines the county's criminal justice process
2. Encourage and improve collaboration, information sharing, and services among justice system agencies and the community
3. Allow for the wiser use of limited resources
4. Develop a better understanding of our county's criminal justice practices

MISSION & GOALS (CONTINUED)

5. Analyze decision points, policies, and overall processes
6. Identify challenges and barriers to more efficient evidence-based decision making
7. Improve public safety and reduce crime

AGENCIES & TEAM MEMBERS INVOLVED IN THE RAMSEY COUNTY EBDMI – PHASE II

- The Honorable Pamela Alexander, President, Council on Crime and Justice
- Jeri Boisvert, Executive Director, Office of Justice Programs
- Matt Bostrom, Ramsey County Sheriff
- Toni Carter, Ramsey County Commissioner
- John Choi, Ramsey County Attorney
- Chris Crutchfield, Deputy Director, Ramsey County Community Corrections Department
- The Honorable Kathleen Gearin, Chief Judge, Second Judicial District Court
- Sara Grewing, Saint Paul City Attorney
- Mark Haase, Vice President, Council on Crime and Justice
- John Kelly, First Assistant Ramsey County Attorney
- John Kirkwood, Ramsey County Chief Deputy Sheriff
- Patrick Kittridge, Minnesota Second District Chief Public Defender
- Mary Pat Maher, Executive Director, Project Remand
- Ken Reed, Assistant Chief, Saint Paul Police Department
- Carol Roberts, Director, Ramsey County Community Corrections Department
- Therese Skarda, Saint Paul Deputy City Attorney
- Thomas Smith, Chief of Police, Saint Paul Police Department
- Stephanie Zugschwert, J.D., Executive Director, Minnesota Alliance on Crime (Victim Advocate)
- Connie Nowacki, Coordinator, Ramsey County Community Corrections Department

COLLABORATION & SUPPORT

The Ramsey County EBDMI Policy Team has been meeting on a monthly basis since October 2010. The team has been receiving guidance and technical assistance from the Center for Effective Public Policy, who is administering the EBDMI for the NIC, and their partners, the Pretrial Justice Institute, Justice Management Institute, and The Carey Group.

JUST GETTING STARTED

The EBDMI Policy Team is nearing completion of its first goal: the development of a comprehensive flowchart, or map, of the entire Ramsey County Criminal Justice System. The team is in process of further examining each of the decision points in the system to identify the strengths and gaps in current decision making relative to evidence-based practices through an evidence-based practices lens that will provide unique opportunities for improvements across the justice system.

NEXT STEPS

The EBDMI Policy Team believes that a critical self-examination of the Ramsey County criminal justice system is long overdue and will yield unique opportunities for systemic improvements. The team will submit a final plan to NIC for implementing an evidence-based framework in Ramsey County in June of 2011. Only two of the seven seed sites will be selected to receive implementation funding.

MORE INFORMATION

The Ramsey County EBDMI will provide updates as the initiative progresses. Interested parties are invited to attend monthly Policy Team meetings. Please contact Kelli Hall at 651/266-2394 for exact meeting times and locations.