

WHAT WORKS IN JUVENILE JUSTICE: AN OVERVIEW



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With support from

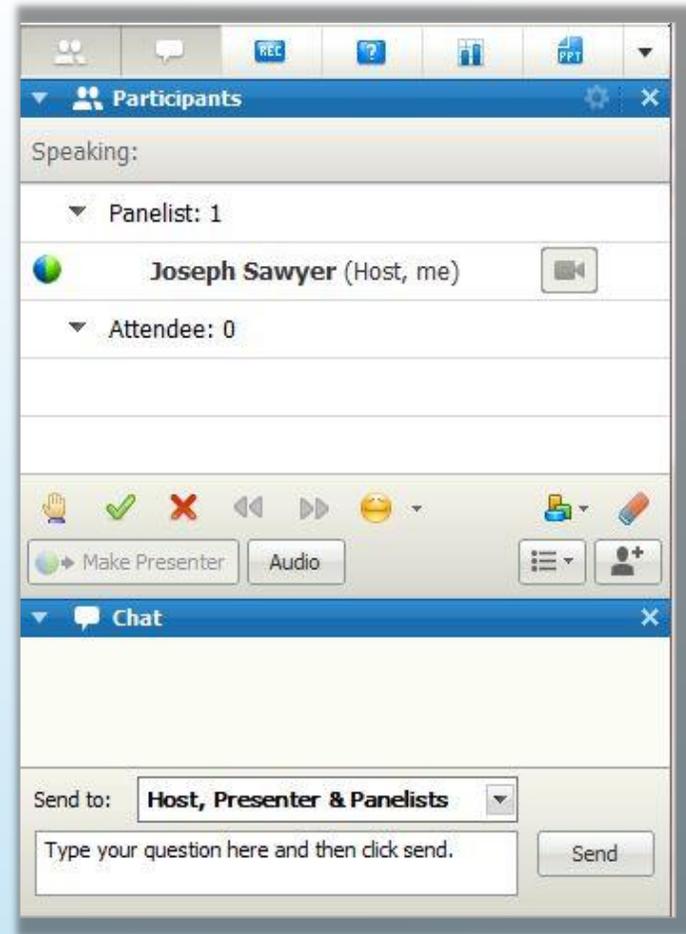
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You can use the chat box to ask a question at any time during the webcast.

WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU





REDUCE – REFORM – REPLACE



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“DJJ is in the midst of a transformation to better align with evidence-based practices and improve outcomes, but we cannot do this alone. Partners are an important part of this effort”.

Andy Block, DJJ Agency Director

VA DJJ SYSTEM TRANSFORMATION

How familiar are you with the concept of evidence-based practices in juvenile justice?



- A. not at all familiar
- B. somewhat familiar
- C. very familiar



POLL QUESTION

The evidence indicates that while treatment is more effective in reducing recidivism than punishment – Not all treatment programs are equally effective



STUDIES ON CORRECTIONAL INTERVENTION:

EDWARD J. LATESSA, PH.D., UCCI, UNIVERSITY OF CINCINNATI

DO NOT WORK:

- “Talking cures”
- Non-directive, client centered
- Target non-crime producing needs
- “Medical Model”

DO WORK:

- Action oriented
- Directive
- Target major risk factors
- Target current risk factors/ focus in the present
- Enhance self-efficacy and responsibility
- Structured curriculum



WHAT THE RESEARCH SAYS WORKS

- Talk Therapy
- Boot Camps
- Scared Straight
- Punishment alone



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PROGRAMS THAT DON'T WORK

- Risk (*Who*)
- Need (*What*)
- Responsivity (*How*)
- Quality Assurance (*How Well*)



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PRINCIPLES OF EFFECTIVE INTERVENTIONS

What do we mean when we talk about “risk”?

- A. risk of committing new crimes
- B. risk as determined by YASI score
- C. risk of not completing treatment
- D. all of the above



POLL QUESTION

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RISK PRINCIPLE

- Assess and identify higher-risk youth
- Target higher-risk youth for more intensive treatment, services, and supervision
- Avoid including lower-risk in higher-end programs; it may increase their risk and failure rates!



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PRINCIPLES OF EFFECTIVE INTERVENTIONS

Which of the following is considered one of the “BIG 4” (most impactful) criminogenic needs?

- A. substance abuse
- B. education / vocation
- C. attitudes, values and beliefs
- D. leisure / recreation



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POLL QUESTION

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NEED PRINCIPLE

Identify and target criminogenic needs:

- ✓ Attitudes, values, beliefs
- ✓ Peer associations
- ✓ Personality / Impulsivity
- ✓ Family
- ✓ Education / Vocation
- ✓ Leisure / Recreation
- ✓ Substance abuse

PRINCIPLES OF EFFECTIVE INTERVENTIONS





➤ *What* people think, not *how*

➤ “It is okay to break the law”



**CRIMINOGENIC NEEDS:
ANTI-SOCIAL ATTITUDES, VALUES &
BELIEFS**

- Peers support criminal behavior
- Little or no contact with pro-social peers
- Peers involved in juvenile justice system
- Lack of skills to develop/maintain relationships with pro-social peers



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CRIMINOGENIC NEEDS: PEER ASSOCIATIONS



- A lack of, or poor:
 - ✓ Problem solving skills
 - ✓ Ability to delay gratification
 - ✓ Emotional modulation
- A taste for risk



**CRIMINOGENIC NEEDS:
IMPULSIVITY / POOR DECISION MAKING**

- Family of origin
- Lack of pro-social family function
- Inadequate support and supervision
- Multi-generational anti-social attitudes, values, and beliefs



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**CRIMINOGENIC NEEDS:
FAMILY DYSFUNCTION**



- Positive / pro-social connection to school and or work



**CRIMINOGENIC NEEDS:
EDUCATION / VOCATION**



- Low levels of involvement in prosocial leisure and recreation activities



**CRIMINOGENIC NEEDS:
LEISURE / RECREATION**



- Use/abuse of substances
- AVB that support substance use/abuse
- Peers that support substance abuse



CRIMINOGENIC NEEDS: SUBSTANCE ABUSE

RESPONSIVITY PRINCIPLE

Specific responsivity:

- Remove barriers to treatment
- Match style and mode of service delivery to key youth characteristics

General responsivity:

- Use cognitive behavioral interventions

PRINCIPLES OF EFFECTIVE INTERVENTIONS



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COGNITIVE BEHAVIORAL MODEL DEFINING THEMES

- ✓ Scientific
- ✓ Active
- ✓ Present-focused
- ✓ Based on theories of learning
- ✓ Individualized
- ✓ Brief
- ✓ Step-wise progression

PRINCIPLES OF EFFECTIVE INTERVENTIONS



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QUALITY ASSURANCE (QA)

- Fidelity to model
- Program evaluation
- Inter-rater reliability

PRINCIPLES OF EFFECTIVE INTERVENTIONS



• Risk

• Need

- * DAI
- * YASI
- * Differential Supervision Levels

- * EPICS
- * YASI-driven Case Plan

- * Lower Recidivism
- * Cmty Impact
- * Behav change & skill acquisition

- * Rapport
- * Culturally Responsive
- * Cog-Behav Interventions
- * Family Partnership

Outcomes

Responsivity



➤ Question and Answer Period

➤ Feedback

➤ Current DJJ Business Opportunities

Service Coordinator RFP

Response Deadline: April 1st - 1:00 p.m. EST

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WRAP UP & NEXT STEPS

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