

## 9/20/17 Data Driven Justice: Catch-Up Call

### Presenters

- Dr. Natalie Ortiz, Program Manager, Data-Driven Justice, NACo
- Lynn Overmann, Vice President, Data-Driven Justice, Arnold Foundation

### New Resources from NACo

NACo hosted a webinar on September 21<sup>st</sup> from 2:00pm – 3:15pm ET on **Maximizing Impact in Communities through Outcomes-Oriented Contracting**. Outcomes-based contracting strives to effectively deploy resources and provide services to individuals and communities by tying payments to measurable, data-driven performance standards. Learn how Third Sector Capital Partners, Inc., and several counties have made the shift to results-oriented contracting and improved outcomes in areas such as workforce development, child welfare and criminal justice. To watch the recording [click here](#).

NACo recently released county case studies on **Reducing the Number of People with Mental Illnesses and Substance Use Disorders in Jails**. In collaboration with the [Stepping Up initiative](#), the [Data-Driven Justice initiative](#), the [One Mind Campaign](#), and the [Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration](#) (SAMHSA) convened a Best Practices Implementation Academy to Reduce the Number of People with Mental Illnesses and Substance At the Academy, delegations from 23 jurisdictions involved in one or more of the three initiatives met to showcase best practice strategies and advance implementation efforts to address the issue of mental illness and substance use disorders in jails. The case studies are part of a series highlighting the six counties that constituted the “Best Practices” teams representing the Data-Driven Justice initiative and the Stepping Up initiative at the Academy. [Click here](#) to read.

A new report on [County-State Collaboration in Building High-Functioning Pretrial Systems](#) has been released. This report details core elements that lead to success when implementing fairer and more effective pretrial systems. [Click here to read more](#). Additionally, NACo released three case studies on [Pretrial Justice in Practice](#). These case studies highlight the work of Lucas County, Ohio, Mesa County, Colo., and Milwaukee County, Wis.

- **Pretrial Justice in Practice: Lucas County, Ohio:** This case study details how Lucas County has made changes to its pretrial practices to combat jail overcrowding. Learn about Lucas County’s pretrial system, including its use of a validated risk assessment tool, how agencies and systems share data and the implementation of a Population Review Team to identify individuals who may safely be released pretrial. [Click here](#) to read more about the work Lucas County is doing.
- **Pretrial Justice in Practice: Mesa County, Colorado:** This case study details how an examination of Mesa County’s judicial practices ultimately led to changes to the county’s pretrial justice system. Learn about Mesa County’s pretrial system, including its use of a validated risk assessment and how the county collects and tracks data—and how the

county made these changes without any outside funding. [Click here](#) to read the case study.

- **Pretrial Justice in Practice: Milwaukee County, Wisconsin:** This case study outlines how Milwaukee County has moved away from a one-size-fits-all pretrial system to one that offers individualized supervision strategies. Learn how Milwaukee County uses its pretrial risk assessment and praxis to recommend pretrial supervision conditions and how the county has tripled the number of individuals on pretrial supervision. [Click here](#) to read the case study.

Finally, NACo recently released five new issue briefs. These issue briefs address the key areas of local criminal justice systems that affect counties and offer strategies that local leaders can use. Click below to read more:

- [County Roles and Opportunities in Reentry Planning](#)
- [County Roles and Opportunities in Pretrial Justice](#)
- [County Roles and Opportunities in Advancing Safety and Justice Through Collaboration](#)
- [County Roles and Opportunities in Reducing Mental Illness in Jails](#)
- [County Roles and Opportunities in Opioid Treatment for Justice-Involved Individuals](#)

### **Arnold Foundation**

The **Laura and John Arnold Foundation** is requesting proposals for randomized controlled trials that test the effectiveness of interventions for frequent users of criminal justice, health and social service systems. LJAF is particularly interested in proposals that test crisis intervention teams, therapeutic communities, assertive community treatment, critical time interventions, cognitive behavioral therapy, mental health crisis stabilization programs, co-responder programs, or programs that incorporate a Housing First approach. These programs should focus on outcomes like reductions in arrest, recidivism and use of medical services and improvements in health, housing stability and economic well-being. **Letters of Interest are due by October 1st.** [Click here to learn more and view the RFP.](#)

### **Questions and Answers About the RFP**

**Q: For those communities that are not at the randomized controlled trials phase but they are focusing more on data integration and development and especially collaboration and capacity, what's the best way to proceed?**

**A (Lynn):** A couple of things, if you have an intervention that you believe you can demonstrate because there is prior promising evidence that the intervention has had promising impact, I would encourage you to go through the more formal letter of interest route and send that in. We will want to understand the broad range of what people are doing and how they are able to establish whether or not they are achieving the outcomes. If you feel you are not even at that stage of prior promising evidence, but you have deployed in your community an intervention that you believe is having impact and you are able to point to that impact, I would at this stage shoot us a quick email and describe that. We want to know what is out there at the level an RFP can be

conducted because we know that even if we can find even a few interventions that reach that level of rigor we would love to be able to know that and share that with communities, so that as your thinking across how do I deploy my resources and often resource constrained environments. This will not be the only RFP we will release for DDJ, we will take what we learn from this RFP back to the board and think about what is the next round of research we could support.

**Q: How strict is the adherence to a randomized control trial. Is it truly experimental or can it be quasi-experimental?**

**A (Lynn):** If people have that particular question, or they have a question as to what they would like to study I would encourage you to email us. My colleague [Angela](#), who is our research expert, would have a better answer than I would. But even a quick paragraph saying this is what we are thinking and would this fit with what you are looking for would help.