

STEPPING UP: COMMUNICATIONS STRATEGIES ON COUNTY EFFORTS TO REDUCE THE NUMBER OF PEOPLE WITH MENTAL ILLNESSES IN JAILS

#StepUp4MentalHealth





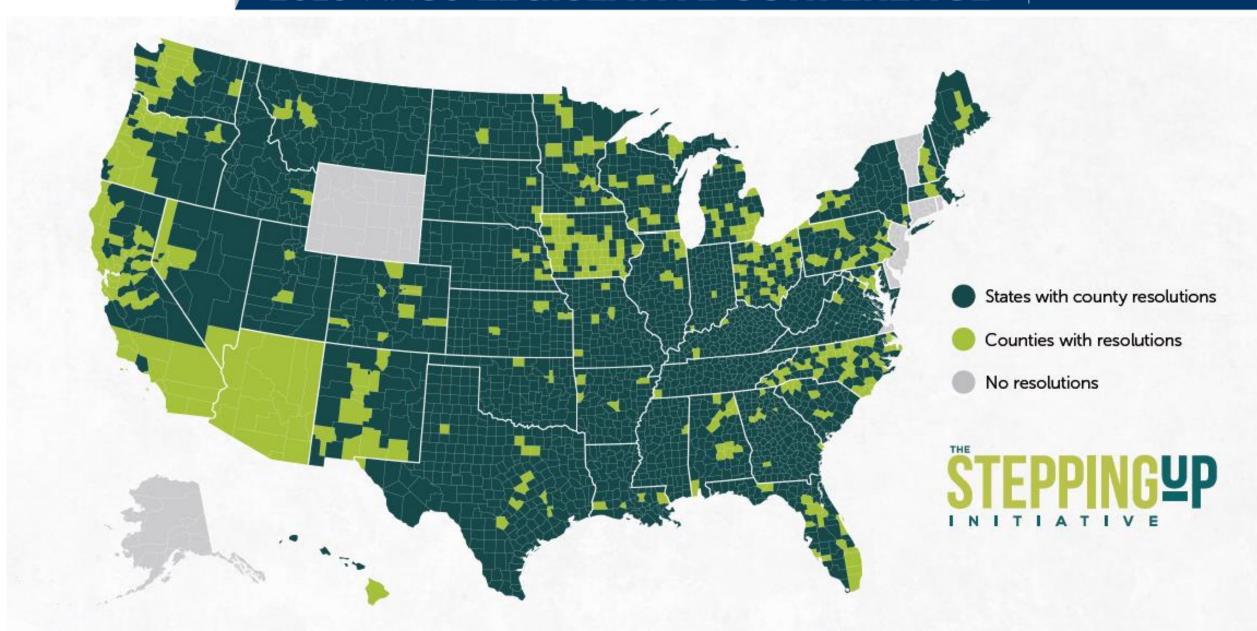






#StepUp4MentalHealth









Monthly webinars and networking calls



A project coordinator handbook



Educational workshops at NACo and partner conferences



Guidance on measuring the number of people with mental illnesses in jail



Quarterly calls of smaller networking groups of rural, mid-size and large/urban counties that have passed Stepping Up resolutions



Written and online tools that are companions to the Six Questions report that present the latest research and case studies for county officials

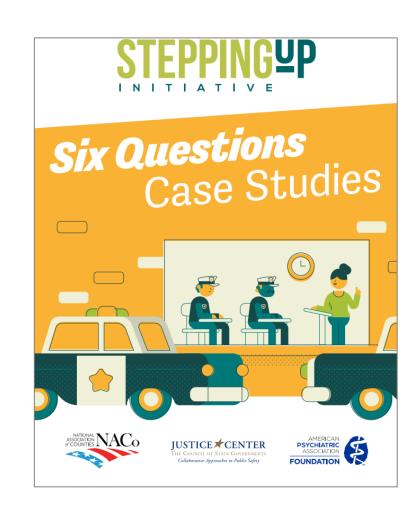
www.StepUpTogether.org/Toolkit



Stepping Up Six Questions

Archived Webinars

- Is our leadership committed?
- 2 Do we conduct timely screening and assessments?
- 3 Do we have baseline data?
- 4 Do we conduct a comprehensive process analysis and inventory of services?
- 5 Have we prioritized policy, practice and funding improvements?
- 6 Do we track progress?



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Upcoming Webinars

Stepping Up: Communicating
About Your Efforts to Reduce the
Number of People with Mental
Illnesses in Jails
March 15, 3pm EST



Stepping Up: Engaging People with Mental Illnesses in Your Planning Efforts
April 26, 2pm EST



NACo.org/Webinars







WHERE:

YOUR Community

WHO:

Stepping Up Champions in YOUR County

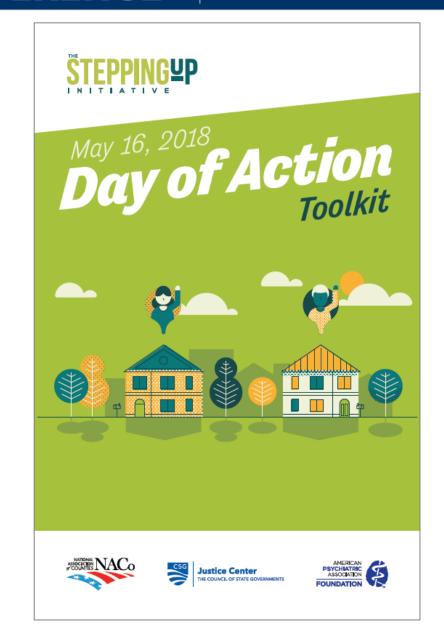
FIND OUT MORE:

www.StepUpTogether.org/Events



Potential Day of Action Events

- Hold a Town Hall or Press Conference
- Host an Open House or Offer Tours
- Bring Information to Residents
- Encourage Engagement and Community Service





Questions?

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#StepUp4MentalHealth

Engaging the Public in Stepping Up



Lincoln County, Oregon Commissioner Bill Hall

Communication is Critical!

- Building your partnerships
- Maintaining and accelerating momentum and urgency
- Generating public interest and support



It's All About Marketing and Branding



What Stepping Up is NOT

- Not a new program
- Not a way to create more government jobs
- Not a get soft on crime approach



What Stepping Up Is:

- A get SMART on crime approach
- Utilizing best practices
- Fostering innovation and collaboration
- Using every dollar as effectively as we can
- Improving and saving lives

It's Personal to More People Than You Probably Realize



Use Your Bully Pulpit!



Engage the Media and the Public



The Options are Limitless



...Start With Your Own Website





Local, Local!



Create A Sense of Urgency



Create A Sense of Community Ownership



Think About Empowerment Differently

- Make "Yes" Your Default Answer
- Make sure your employees and community partners know you value collaboration, best practices and innovation
- Celebrate those who are on the front lines of Stepping Up in Your Community

Questions?



Stepping Up:

Communications Strategies on County Efforts to Reduce the Number of People with Mental Illness in Jails

MEDIA LIASON,

OFFICE OF THE SHERIFF
LOS ANGELES COUNTY SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT
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The Nation's Largest Sheriff's Department The LASD

- 4,000 PLUS SQUARE MILES
- METROPOLITAN TRANSIT AUTHORITY
- 42 CONTRACT CITIES
- 130 UNINCORPORATED COMMUNITIES
- 9 COMMUNITY COLLEGES
- 216 COUNTY FACILITIES AND PARKS
- 6 MAJOR HOSPITALS
- 37 COURTHOUSES
- LARGEST JAIL SYSTEM IN USA
 - 8 CO. JAILS



Serving Millions of People

In 2016

- 2 million contacts with the public.
- 1.1 million calls for service.
- 33,000 were 9-1-1 calls.
- 18,061 calls for service involving an individual suffering from mental illness.
 - That is an increase of 54% since 2010.





Understanding the LA County Sheriff's Department Jail

- 50% the inmates are booked for assaultive or violent charges
- 70% of inmates who are booked report a medical or mental illness
- 12% say they are homeless
- 25% of our jail population is suffering from severe mental illness.
 - This population will double by 2025.
- Inmate on inmate assaults have increased 87%,
- Inmate assaults on our staff have increased
 148%



Mentally ill in the LASD Jail System

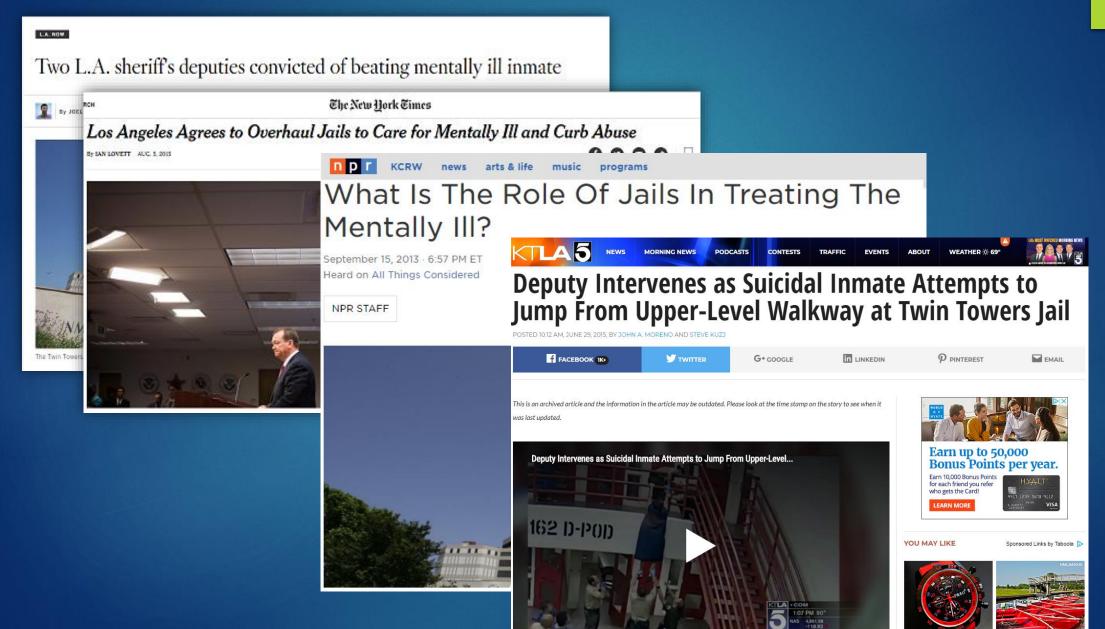
As of Jan 2018, there are approx.



- 4,620 mentally ill inmates,
 - 28% of our total inmate population.
- This population has increased 49% in the last five years.
- The most severely mentally ill, those who require observation 24/7, has increased by 33% in just two years.
- We currently have a total of 1,228 inmates who require high observation, single man cells.



Mentally ill in the LASD Jail System





Communication Strategies

First consider...

- Your objective or message
- Are you trying to inform or influence a change?
- Who is your audience?
- How will you accomplish that? What is your plan?



Communication Strategies



Know which strategies "tools" to use in your media tool box

- Press conferences
- Exclusive stories
- Press releases
- Social media platforms
- Op-eds
- Monthly appearances
- Public Service Announcements (PSAs)
- Posters/flyers/bulletins
- Town Hall Meetings
- Website



Communication Strategies

- Which tool?
- Use data
- Interview & visuals
- Need for speed





Case study: Deputies work in dangerous conditions at Men's County Jail





Return on investment

- Clear message
- Exclusive story: Over 4 minutes of air time, two part series
- Visuals
- Data points
- Multiple interviews

Social Media Communications

Pew Research Center reports:

- Two-thirds of Americans (66%) use Facebook, and a majority of those users get news on the site
- YouTube and Twitter are the top sites after Facebook
- 26% of U.S. adults get news from social media, up from 18% in 2016
- Able to reach a greater audience <u>without</u> the media as the gatekeeper
- Analytics from posts can gage public interest and comments

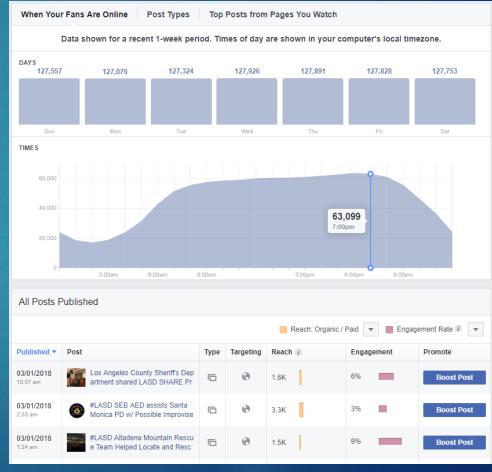


Social Media Communications

Twitter



Facebook





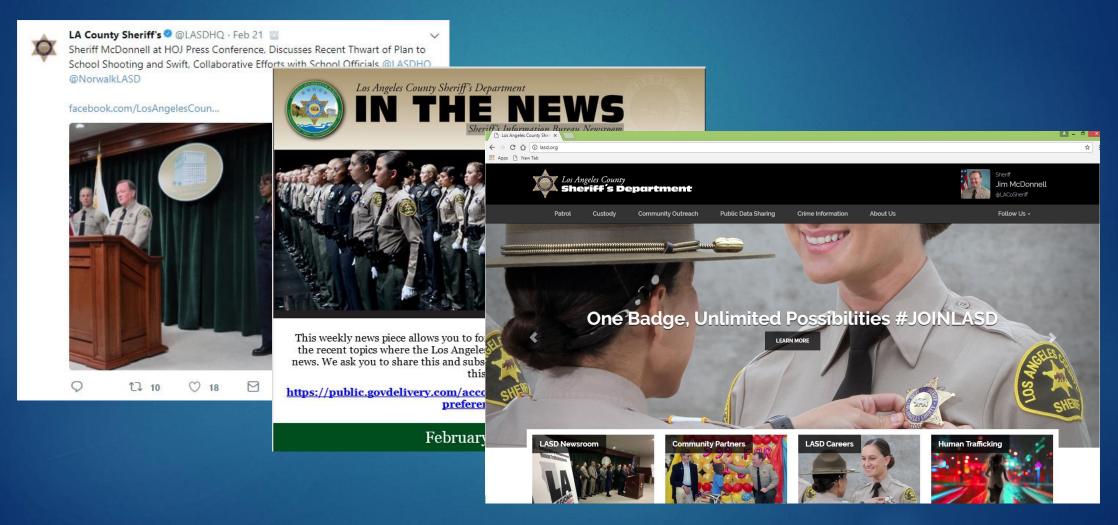
Why should we do pro-active positive communications?

- Tell YOUR story...because nobody else will
- Build awareness about your agency's good work
- Build an abundance of good will and credibility
- Each method can be very successful if you select it correctly
- Determine which tool will work best with the media to obtain the desired outcomes.



Post communication considerations

Rule of Three

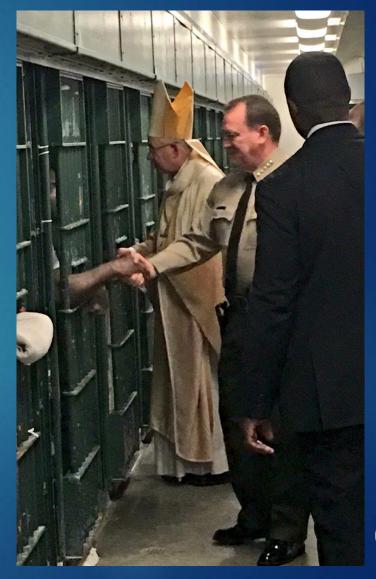




One Main goal for LASD

Sheriff Jim McDonnell wants to shed light on the fact that the Sheriff's Department Jails have become overcrowded and has become a de-facto mental health institution, and the challenges that law enforcement faces with mental illness on the streets and the jails.

Need to replace Men's central jail and build a correctional treatment facility





Case study: How LA law enforcement deals with the mental health population despite lack of resources

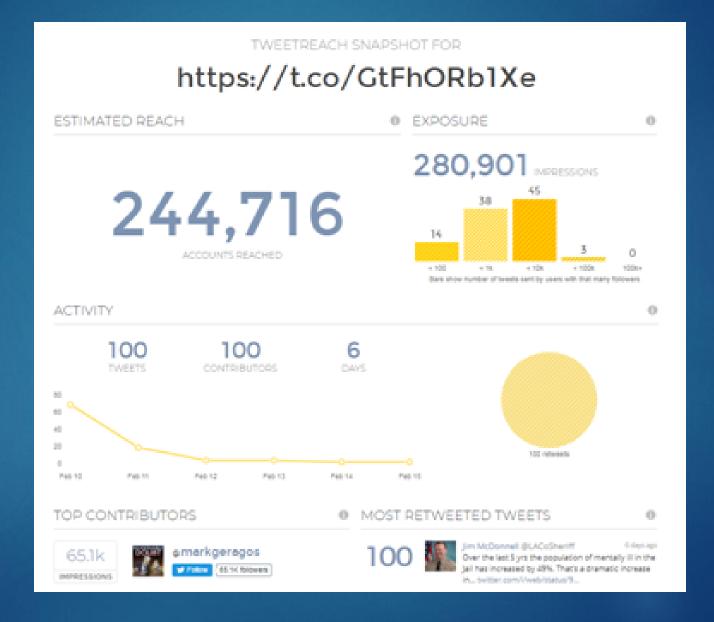




Return on investment

- Clear message: Social issues that law enforcement is facing on the streets and in the jails.
- Exclusive story
- Visuals
- Data points given to reporter
- Multiple interviews
- Social media push

Tweet Reach - LACoSheriff ABC 7 story





Case study: Deputy Intervenes as Suicidal Inmate Attempts to Jump From Upper-Level Walkway at Twin Towers Jail

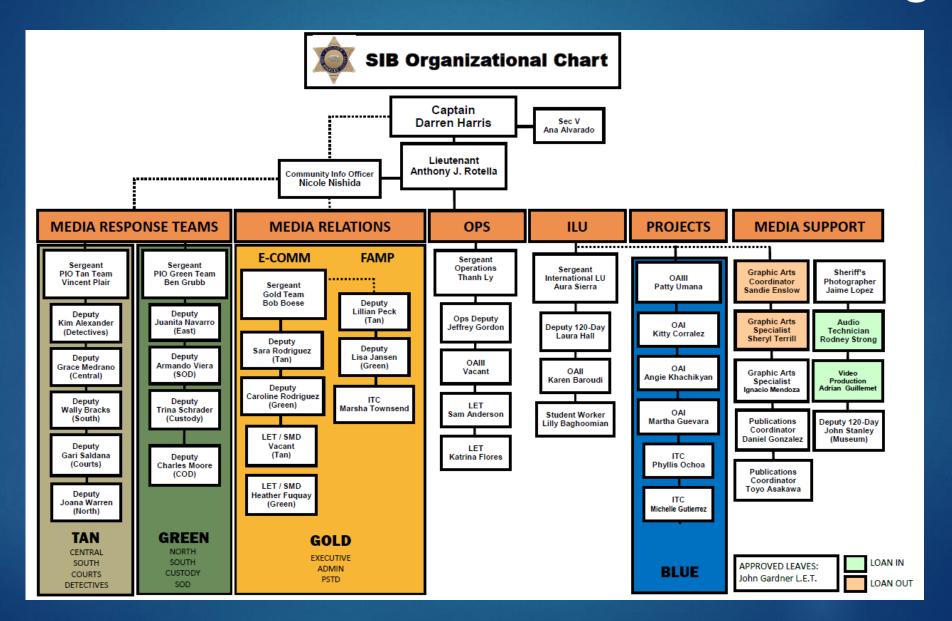




Return on investment

- Clear message: Personnel recognition
- Press conference tactic
- Visuals: Surveillance footage (blur faces of inmate)
- Social media
- Deputy interviewee

Communications Resources and Staffing





Questions







2018 NACo LEGISLATIVE CONFERENCE

