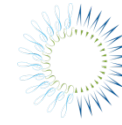


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Bridging the Gap Between Evidence and Policy: The Pew-MacArthur Results First Initiative

April 25, 2015



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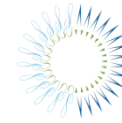
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The Challenge

- Though policymakers strive to make strategic choices, the decision process often relies on inertia and anecdote
- Reasons for this:
 - Limited data on current spending
 - Limited data on ‘what works’
 - Disconnect between researchers and policymakers
 - Yes, politics
- **Results First approach: bring systematic evidence into the process**



Results First Approach

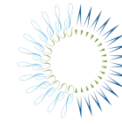


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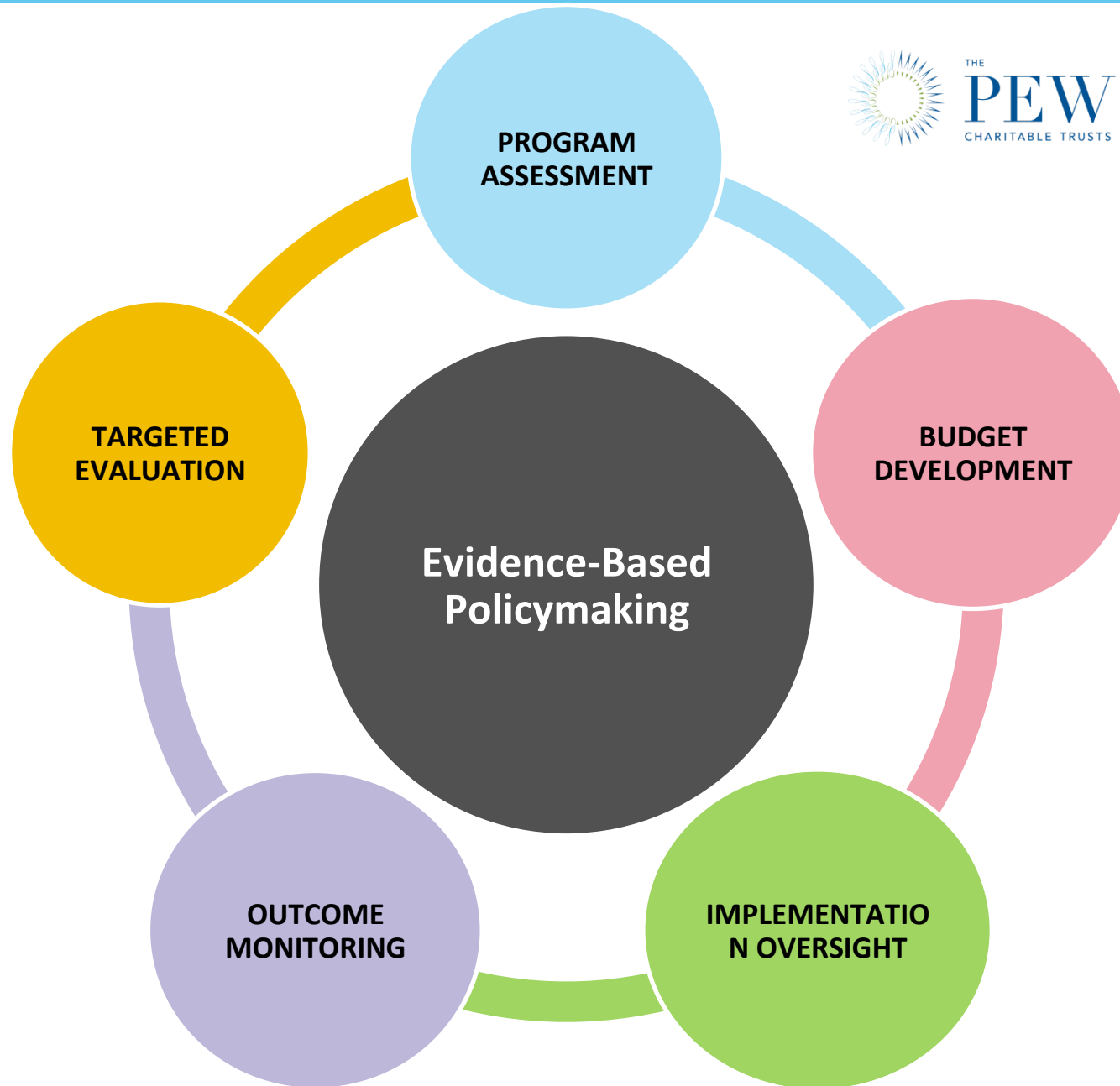
- Focuses on “**What Works**”, with goal to target funds to programs shown to be effective by rigorous research
 - Uses lists of ‘proven’ and ‘promising’ programs identified by clearinghouses
- **Outcome-oriented approach**
- **Asks whether programs’ benefits justify their costs**



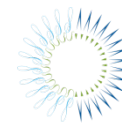


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Results First Steps



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1. Inventory current programs

2. Compare current programs to rigorous evidence of effectiveness

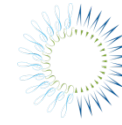
3. Conduct benefit-cost analysis to compare returns on investment

4. Help policymakers target funds to evidence-based programs

Goal: achieve dramatic outcome improvements without increasing spending



Step 1: Inventory Current Programs

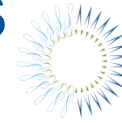


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PROGRAM INFORMATION	BUDGET	
Program Name	Program Budget (FY13)	% of FY13 Program Budget
Thinking for a Change	\$50,000	2%
Vocational Education in Prison	\$300,000	16%
Transcendental Meditation	\$75,000	4%
Sober Living Environment	\$180,000	9%
Adult Boot Camps	\$250,000	13%
Veterans Courts	\$70,000	4%
All Others	\$1,000,000	52%

Step 2: Compare Programs to Evidence Base

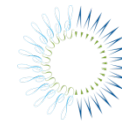


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- What is known about the effectiveness of current interventions?
- Compare current programs to lists of evidence-based programs compiled by major research clearinghouse
- If no match, consider what other data exists about program results (local evaluations, outcome data, etc.)

Central Database of Clearinghouses



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Clearinghouses	Areas of Interest
Blueprints for Healthy Youth Development	Youth
California Evidence-Based Clearinghouse for Child Welfare	Child Welfare
Coalition for Evidence-Based Policy	Multiple Policy Areas
CrimeSolutions.gov	Adult and Juvenile Justice
RAND's Promising Practices Network	Children and Families
SAMHSA's NREPP	Substance Abuse and Mental Health
What Works Clearinghouse	Education
What Works in Reentry	Reentry
WSIPP	Multiple Policy Areas

Results First Clearinghouse Database

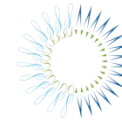


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- **950 Unique Interventions**
- **29 Program Areas**
- **Rating Assigned by the Clearinghouse**
 - **Hyperlink to Program Page**
- **Rating Color**

Program areas

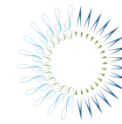


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- Adult Criminal Justice (172)
- Child Welfare: General (80)
- Child Welfare: Parenting (22)
- Early Childhood Education (36)
- General Prevention (50)
- Housing (7)
- Juvenile Justice (59)
- K-12 Education: Adolescent Literacy (20)
- K-12 Education: Beginning Reading (30)
- K-12 Education: Dropout Prevention (22)
- K-12 Education: Elementary School Math (13)
- K-12 Education: English Language Learners (13)
- K-12 Education: General Achievement (18)
- K-12 Education: High School Math (5)
- K-12 Education: Middle School Math (9)
- K-12 Education: Science (4)
- K-12 Education: Students with Learning Disabilities (6)
- Mental Health: Adult (61)
- Mental Health: Adult and Child (6)
- Mental Health: Child (84)
- Physical Health (21)
- Relationship Strengthening (4)
- Risky Sexual Behaviors/Teen Pregnancy (18)
- Sexual/Dating Violence (7)
- Student Behavior/Character Education (43)
- Substance Abuse: Adult (65)
- Substance Abuse: Adult and Child (13)
- Substance Abuse: Child (63)
- Workforce (1)

Database uses consolidated ratings

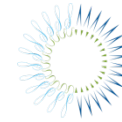


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Clearinghouse	Effective	Promising	Mixed effects	No effects	Negative effects
Blueprints for Healthy Youth Development	Model (10)	Promising (40)	n/a	n/a	n/a
California Evidence-Based Clearinghouse for Child Welfare	1 = Well-supported by research evidence (26); 2 = Supported by research evidence (40)	3 = Promising research evidence (95)	n/a	4 = Evidence fails to demonstrate effect (0)	5 = Concerning practice (0)
Coalition for Evidence-Based Policy	Top tier (9)	Near top tier (6)	n/a	n/a	n/a
CrimeSolutions.gov*	Effective (80)	Promising (184)	n/a	No effects (40)	n/a
National Registry of Evidence-based Programs and Practices*	Score of 3.0-4.0 (198)	Score of 2.0-2.9 (114)	n/a	n/a	n/a
Promising Practices Network	Proven (29) and proven/promising (4)	Promising (63)	n/a	n/a	n/a
What Works Clearinghouse*	Positive (22)	Potentially positive (81)	Mixed effects (7)	No discernible effects (36)	Negative (0)
What Works in Reentry*	Strong positive (23)	Modest positive (19)	n/a	No effect (12)	Modest harmful (0) and Strong harmful (1)
WSIPP	Effective (148)	n/a	Mixed effects (11)	No effects (5)	Negative effects (3)

Rating are color-coded

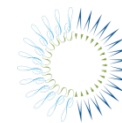


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Rating color	Broad tier of evidence rating	Definition
	Effective	Research with the highest level of rigor shows a positive impact (Strong Evidence)
	Promising	Research with a high level of rigor shows a positive impact (Good Evidence)
	Mixed effects	Evidence differs on effectiveness: at least one study shows outcome had a positive effect while another shows the same outcome had a negative effect
	No effects	Evidence of no impact
	Negative effects	Evidence of a negative impact

Some Programs Are Rated by Multiple Clearinghouses

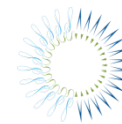


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Program Area	Intervention	Blueprints for Healthy Youth Development	California Evidence-Based Clearinghouse for Child Welfare	CrimeSolutions.gov	Promising Practices Network	NREPP
Sexual/Dating Violence	4th R Curriculum			Promising		
Early Childhood Education	Abecedarian Project				Proven	
Mental Health: Adult	Acceptance and Commitment Therapy (ACT)		1: Well-Supported			3.7
General Prevention	All Stars			No Effects		2.2
Juvenile Justice	Functional Family Therapy (FFT)	Model	2: Supported	Effective		
Student Behavior/Character Education	Good Behavior Game	Promising		Effective		3.2

End Result – Evidence Rating of Current Programs



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PROGRAM INFORMATION	BUDGET		EVIDENCE-BASED
Program Name	Program Budget (FY13)	% of FY13 Program Budget	Ratings
Thinking for a Change	\$50,000	2%	Evidence-based
Vocational Education in Prison	\$300,000	16%	Evidence-based
Transcendental Meditation	\$75,000	4%	Strong beneficial: high rigor
Sober Living Environment	\$180,000	9%	Promising
Adult Boot Camps	\$250,000	13%	No Effects
Veterans Courts	\$70,000	4%	N/A
All Others	\$1,000,000	52%	N/A

22%: Highest-rated

9%: Second-highest rated

13%: No Effects

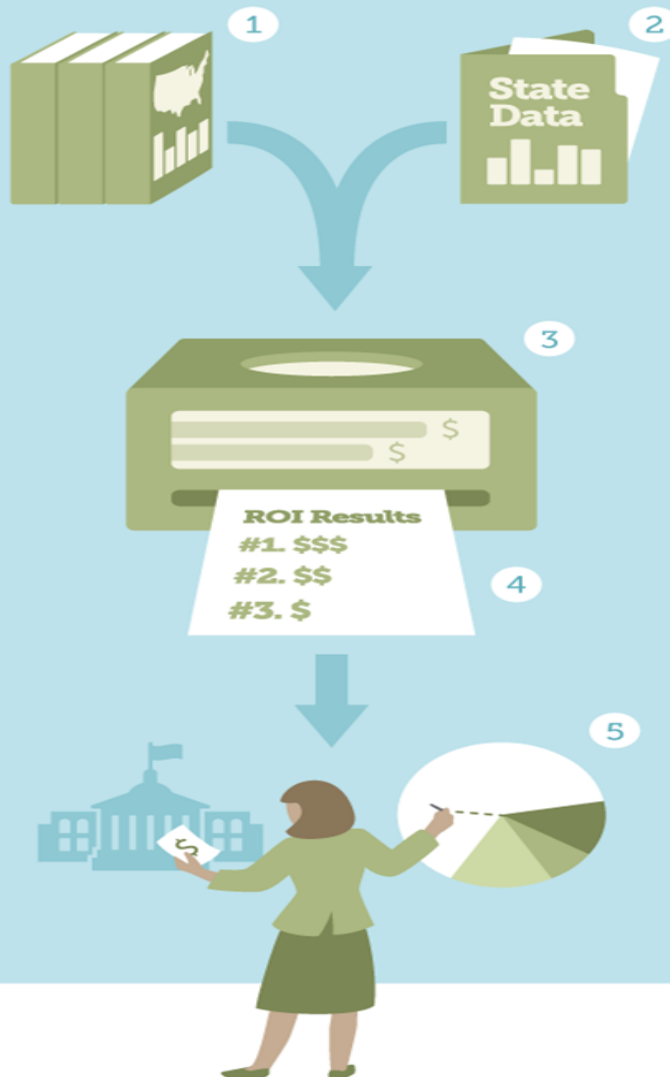
56%: No Evidence

Step 3: Conduct Benefit-Cost Analysis



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- 1 Results First provides a national database of evidence on program effectiveness.
- 2 The state adds and analyzes their own state-specific population and cost data.
- 3 The model calculates long-term costs and benefits for each program.
- 4 The model ranks programs according to their return on investment.
- 5 Policymakers consider the information during the budget process.

**For further information,
please visit:**

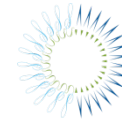
pewstates.org/resultsfirst



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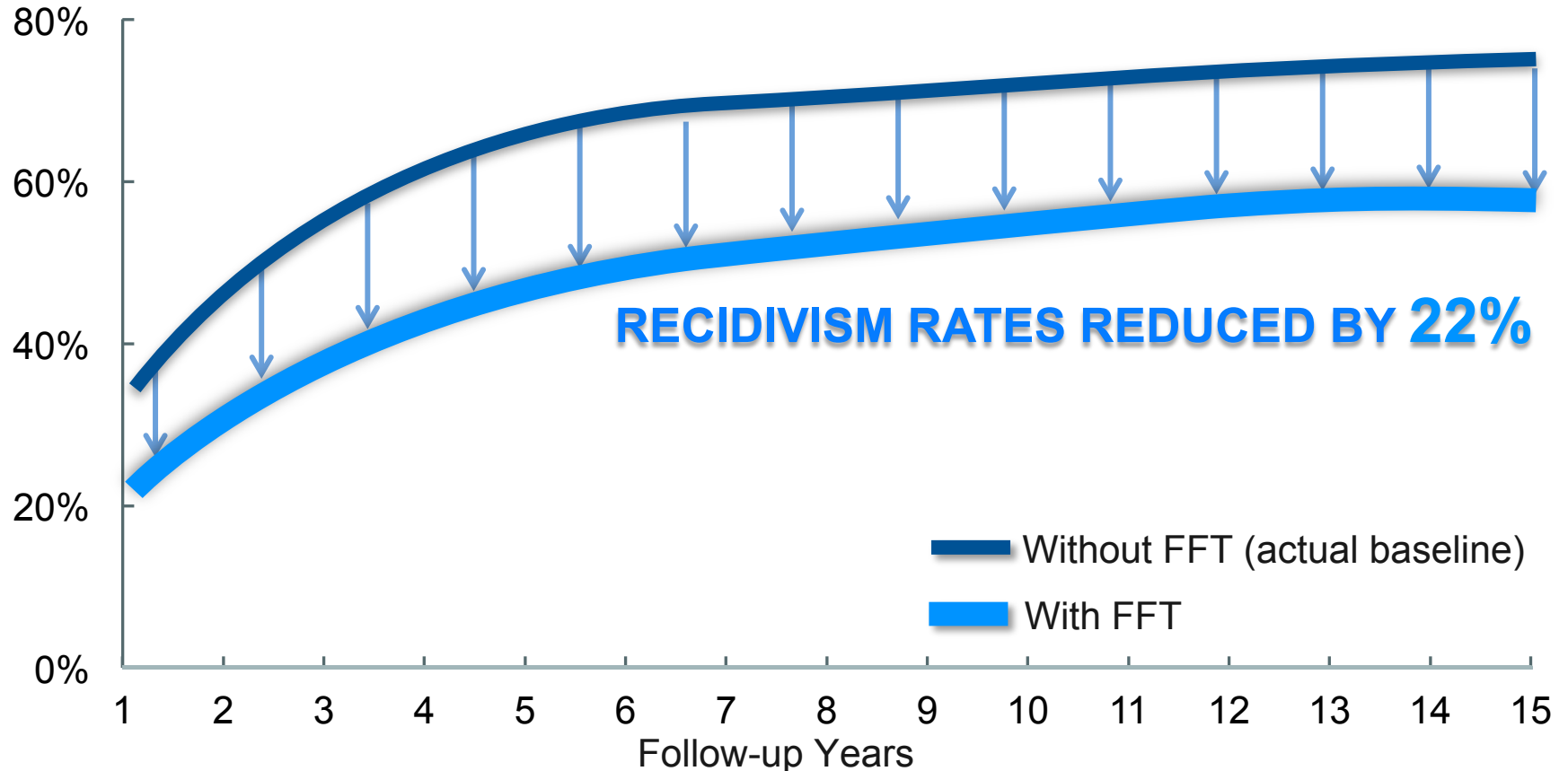
Example: Meta-analysis of Functional Family Therapy



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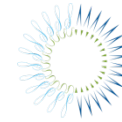
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Recidivism Rate



Source: Washington State Institute for Public Policy

Example: Benefit-Cost Analysis of FFT



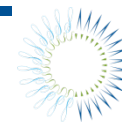
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OUTCOMES FROM PARTICIPATION		MAIN SOURCE OF BENEFITS
Reduced crime	\$29,340	Lower state & victim costs
Increased high school graduation	\$9,530	Increased earnings
Reduced health care costs	\$398	Lower public costs
Total Benefits	\$37,587	
Cost	\$3,333	
Net Present Value	\$34,254	
Benefits per Dollar of Cost	\$11.28	

Source: Washington State Institute for Public Policy

Report Portfolio-Wide BCA Data - “Consumer Reports”



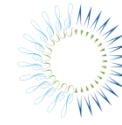
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ADULT PROGRAMS	COST	LONG-TERM BENEFITS	BENEFIT/COST RATIO
Cognitive behavioral therapy	\$419	\$9,954	\$24.72
Electronic monitoring	\$1,093	\$24,840	\$22.72
Correctional education in prison	\$1,149	\$21,390	\$19.62
Vocational education in prison	\$1,599	\$19,531	\$13.21
Drug court	\$4,276	\$10,183	\$3.38
Domestic Violence treatment	\$1,390	-\$7,527	-\$4.41
JUVENILE PROGRAMS			
Aggression replacement training	\$1,543	\$55,821	\$37.19
Coordination of services	\$403	\$6,043	\$16.01
Drug court	\$3,154	\$11,539	\$4.66
Scared Straight	\$66	-\$12,988	-\$195.61

Source: Washington State Institute for Public Policy

Step 4: Promote Use By Policymakers

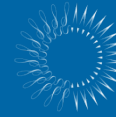


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- Our strategy:
 - Leverage existing structures
 - House work in ‘honest broker’ unit close to policymakers
 - Create policymaker workgroup to oversee effort
 - Support ongoing staff & policymaker training & outreach
 - Support outreach to key constituencies
 - Document & publicize successes



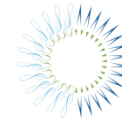


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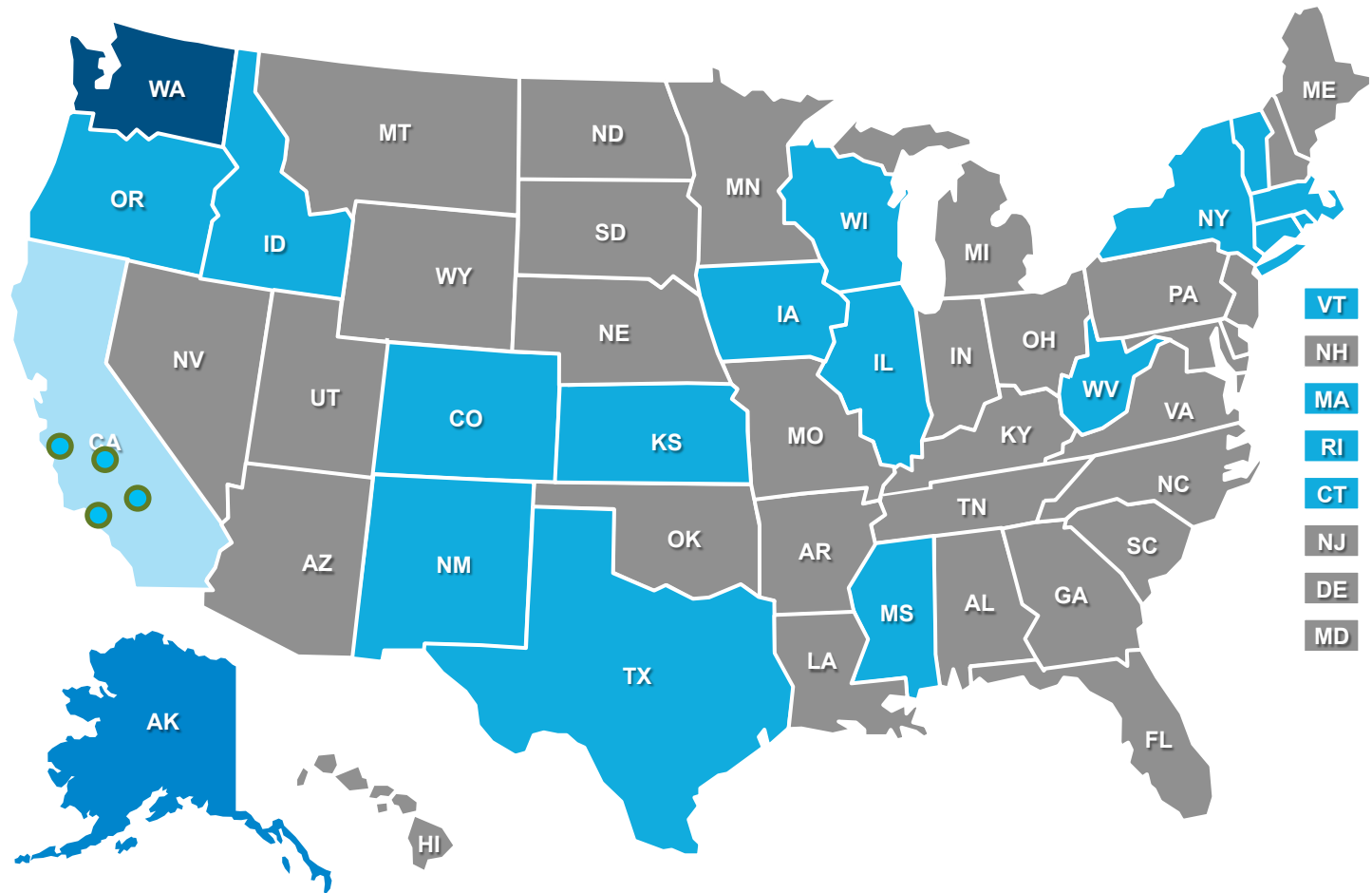
Case Studies

21 Participating Jurisdictions

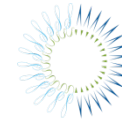


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New Mexico



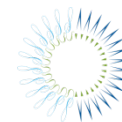
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- Implemented in all available policy areas
- Produced Innovative Reports
 - “Cost of Doing Nothing”: offenders released in 2011 will cost state additional \$360M over 15 years if current policies and programs continue
- Used Results First approach to target \$57M for evidence-based programming in early education, child welfare, and criminal justice over past two years



Mississippi



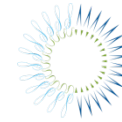
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- Developed comprehensive inventory of criminal justice & educational programs
- Eliminating and replacing ineffective corrections programs
- Implementing data-driven efforts to standardize and increase accountability in drug courts
- Passed legislation that defines evidence-based, research based, & promising programs :
- Requiring agencies to justify new programs by rigorous evidence that they are likely to succeed



Iowa

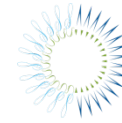


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- Determined that its existing domestic violence treatment program had the effect of increasing crime; replaced with alternative that generates strong results
- Expanding *Cognitive Behavioral Therapy* (CBT) and vocational education programs
 - Received federal grant funding to train staff on new CBT programs





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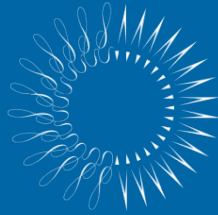
Summary Impacts Through 2014

**14
Jurisdictions** Completed implementation of the model and presented results to stakeholders

**11
Jurisdictions** Released 20 reports or briefs

4 States Enacted legislation incorporating Results First into their policymaking process

**5
States** Used the approach to target **\$80 million** in funding



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www.pewtrusts.org/ResultsFirst