



# Data Strategy and Evaluation Seminar Series

**DATA STRATEGY, PART 1**

Ryan Souza  
& Mia Bird

**HOUSEKEEPING/ZOOM**



# SEMINAR INTRODUCTION



What is CSAC and the Support Hub?



What will we cover in this series?



Why is the content we cover in this series important and useful?



How will we structure the seminars versus technical assistance?

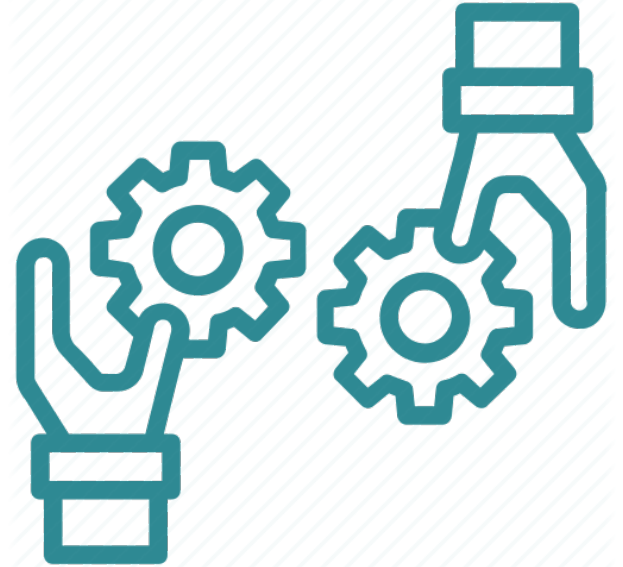


What would we ultimately like to accomplish by the end of this series?

# STRATEGIC FRAMEWORK FOR DATA-DRIVEN AND EVIDENCE BASED PRACTICE

## What is a strategic framework?

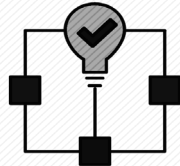
- A vision for where you would like to go and a map for how you plan to get there.
- Helps conceptualize the key components we may need to develop and how these components will build on each other over time to achieve that shared goal.



# STRATEGIC FRAMEWORK FOR DATA-DRIVEN AND EVIDENCE BASED PRACTICE



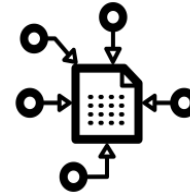
**Program  
Inventory &  
Literature Review**



**Logic Models &  
Process Maps**



**Contracting  
Practices**



**Data Strategy  
& Dashboards**



**Program  
Evaluation  
& Cost Benefit  
Analysis**

Seminar Series 1: Programming

Seminar Series 2: Data Strategy and Evaluation

## Data Strategy, Part 1

- Accessing County Data (Nov 2020)

## Data Strategy, Part 2

- Accessing State Data (Jan 2021)

## Data Strategy, Part 3

- Integrating County and State Data (Mar 2021)

## Data Dashboards

- Visualizing Data (May 2021)

## Outcomes Evaluation

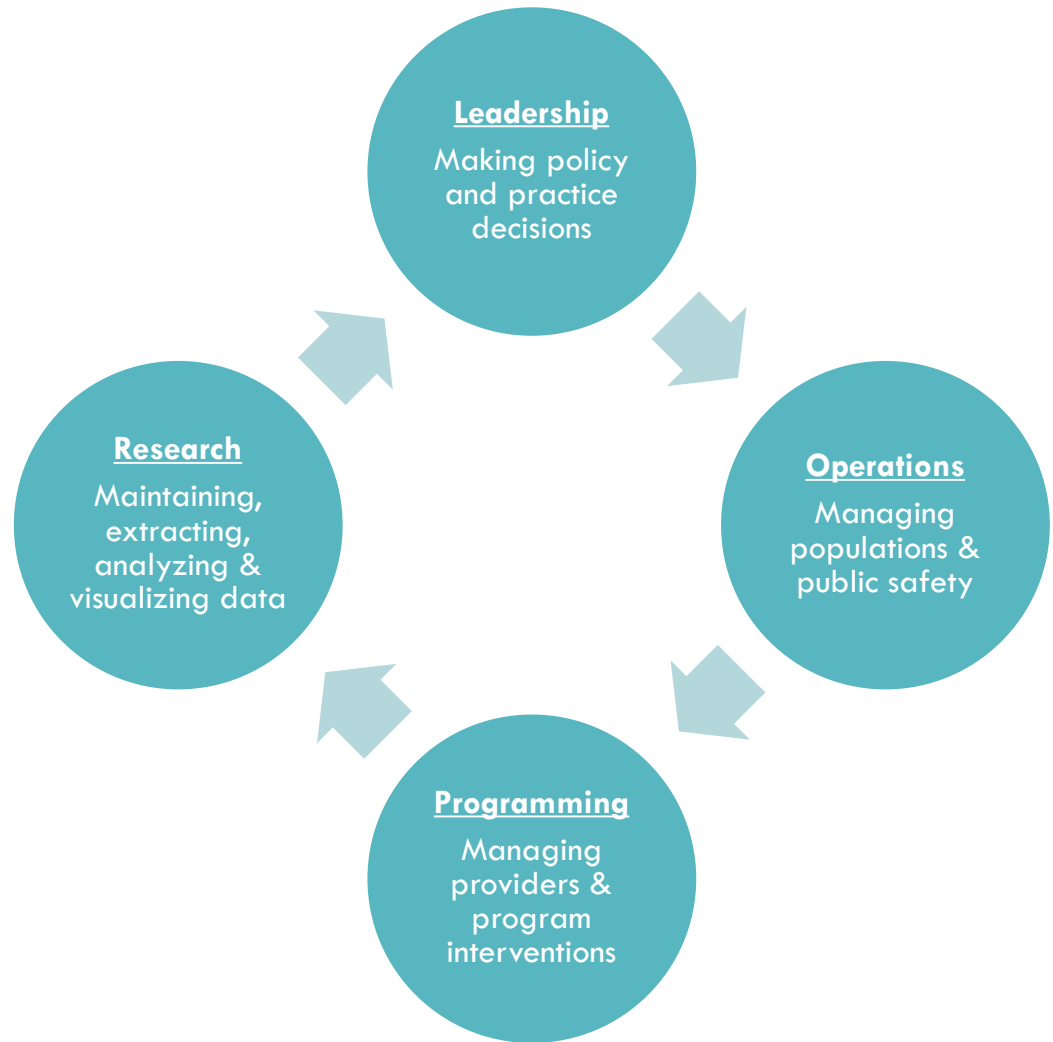
- Evaluating Program Outcomes (July 2021)

# DATA & EVALUATION SERIES CORE COMPONENTS



WHAT IS DATA? |

# WORKING AS AN EVIDENCE- BASED PRACTICE TEAM







Vision

Goal

Strategy

Action

SUCCESS

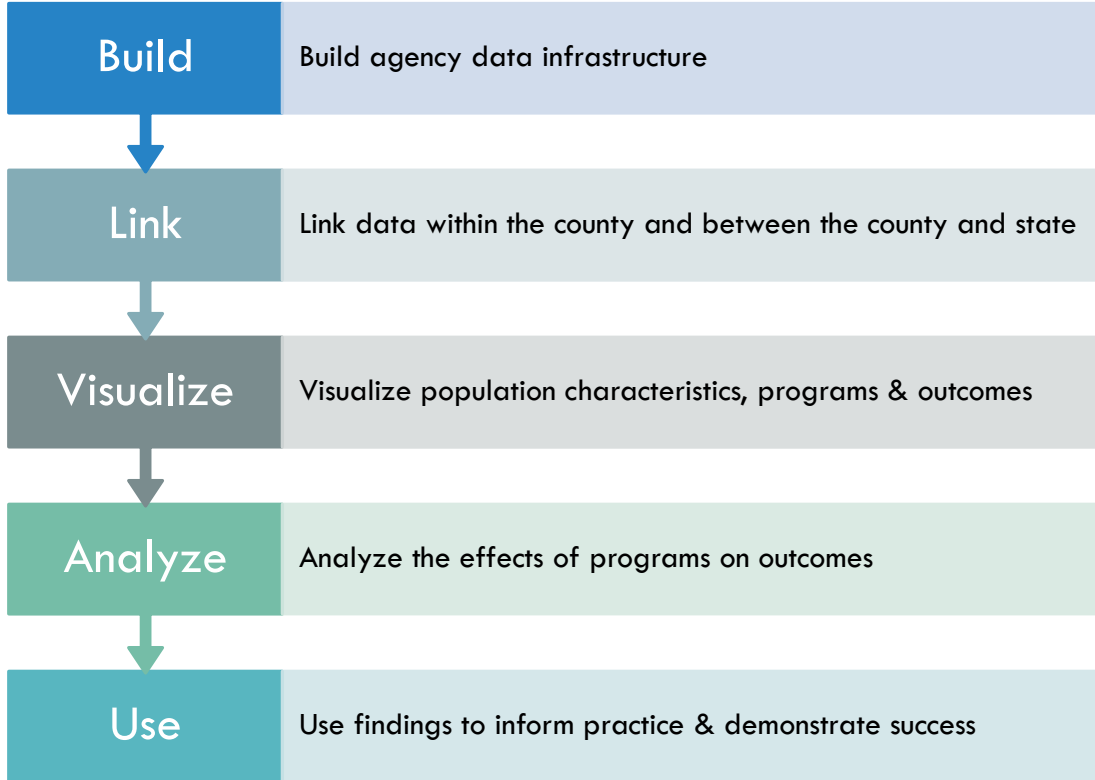
PATH TO  
DATA-DRIVEN  
POLICY & PRACTICE

# VISION

*We can leverage data and evidence to improve public safety and reduce recidivism*

# GOALS

- 1) Improve agency-level policy & practice
- 2) Improve county-level policy & practice
- 3) Demonstrate success



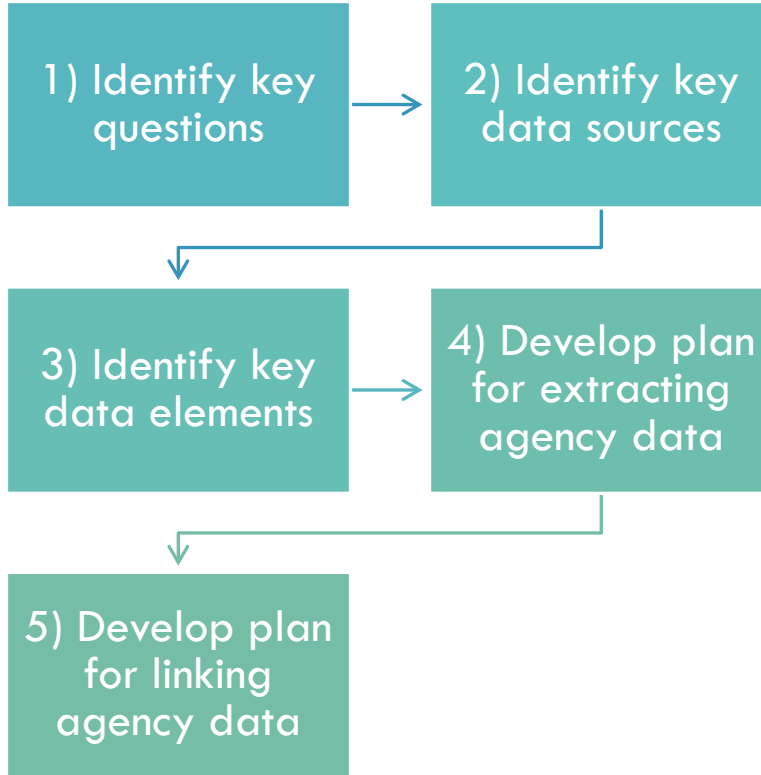
# STRATEGY

# BUILDING COUNTY DATA INFRASTRUCTURE

The remainder of this seminar will focus on how to build county data infrastructure

We will:

- Walk through agency and county action steps
- Provide supporting materials
- Follow-up to provide technical assistance



## BUILDING COUNTY DATA INFRASTRUCTURE

# 1) IDENTIFY KEY QUESTIONS

---



# POPULATION CHARACTERISTICS

What are the demographic characteristics of our population?

- How are they changing over time?

What are their criminal history characteristics?

- What are their risks and needs?



The background features a network of light gray silhouettes and circular nodes connected by thin lines. The silhouettes include a person in a dynamic pose on the left and another person with arms raised on the right. The nodes are scattered across the page, creating a sense of interconnectedness.

# PROGRAMMATIC INTERVENTIONS

Is population in need connecting with the appropriate programs?

- Are they completing programs?

Do our available programs align with population risks & needs?

- Should we change program targeting?
- Should we add new programs?

Rearrested

# RECIDIVISM OUTCOMES

Readjudicated

What are the recidivism outcomes of our population?

- How do they vary across groups?
- How are they changing over time?

Are our programs reducing recidivism?

- Which programs are most effective?
- Which are cost-effective?
- Should we shift resource allocations?

Reincarcerated

Reimprisoned

## 2) IDENTIFY KEY DATA SOURCES

---



# KEY DATA FALL INTO 3 BUCKETS

## Characteristics

- Demographic characteristics
- Criminal history characteristics
- Risks & needs

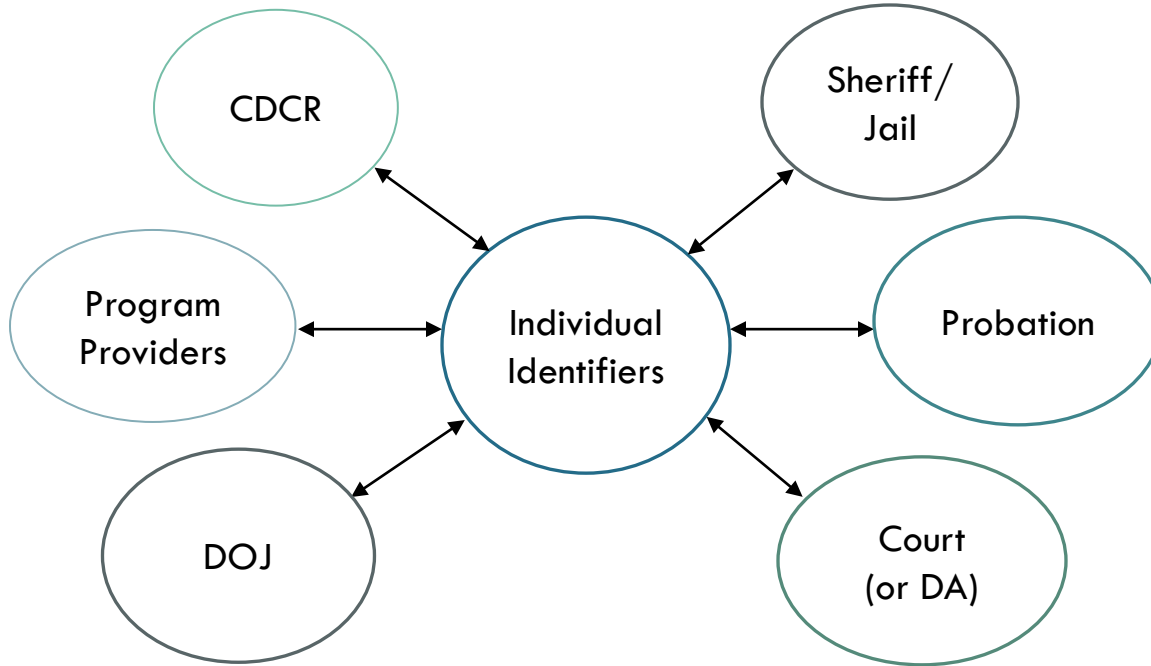
## Interventions

- Programs & services
- Correctional sentences & sanctions

## Outcomes

- Returns to custody & revocations
- Rearrests & reconvictions
- Additional reentry outcomes

# KEY DATA ARE HELD WITHIN THESE DOMAINS



# SAMPLE QUESTIONS: IDENTIFY DATA DOMAINS

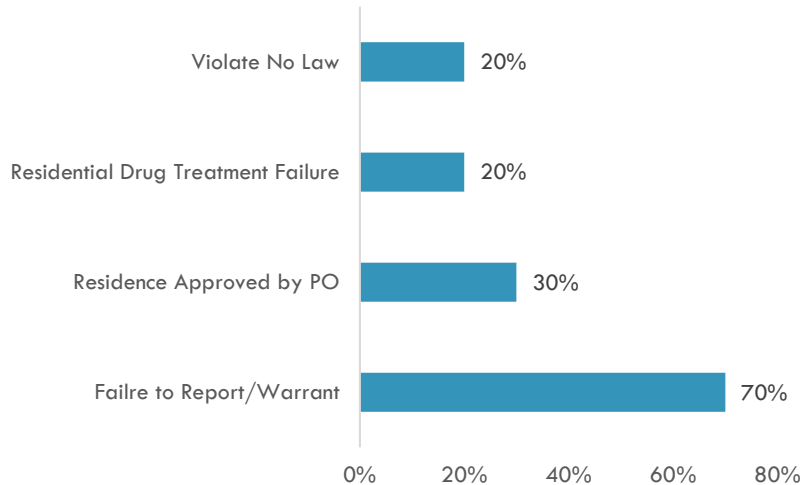
- What percent of probationers are booked into jail within one year of release?
- What are the most common booking types?
- How much jail space do probationers occupy?

## Corresponding Data Domains

- Link data from Jail & Probation


# EXAMPLE: MINING TECHNICAL PROBATION VIOLATIONS AND ASSESSING JAIL IMPACT

Terms and Conditions Violated, Percent of Petitions



15% of Jail ADP, and average length of stay of 26 days

*Leads to discussion about alternative responses and strategies to increase probation engagement*

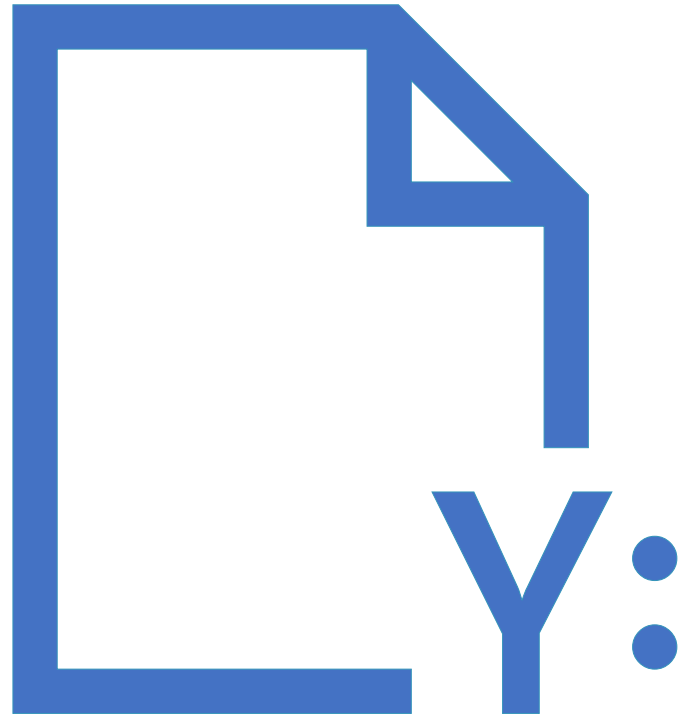


# Q&A



### 3) IDENTIFY KEY DATA ELEMENTS

---



# DRAWING ON PROBATION & JAIL DATA TO ADDRESS SAMPLE QUESTIONS

## Sample Questions

- What percent of probations are booked into jail within one year?
- What are the most common booking types?
- How much jail space do probationers occupy?

## Probation Data

- Individuals under supervision
- Supervision population groups
- Supervision start & end dates

## Jail Data

- Individuals booked into jail
- Booking date & type
- Release date

# PROBATION DATA CODEBOOK

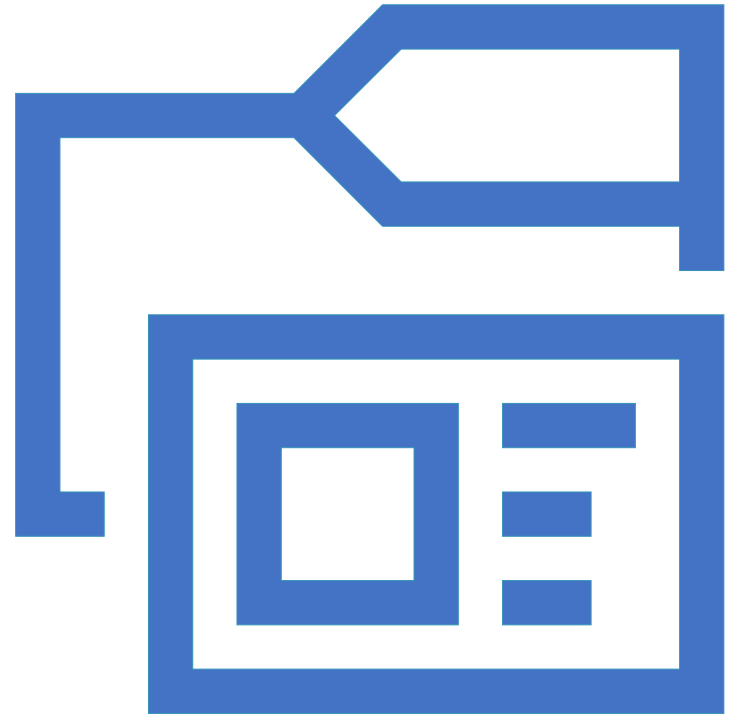
Variable Name	Variable Description	Values
CII	State identifier	8-digit number
LOCALID	Local identifier	Determined locally
SUP_NUM	Supervision episode identifier	Determined locally
SUP_START_DATE	Supervision episode start date	MM/DD/YYYY
SUP_END_DATE	Supervision episode end date	MM/DD/YYYY
SUP_TYPE	Supervision population group	PRCS Mandatory Supervision Felony Probation Misdemeanor Probation Other

# JAIL DATA CODEBOOK

Variable Name	Variable Description	Values
CII	State identifier	8-digit number
LOCALID	Local identifier	Determined locally
BOOK_NUM	Booking episode identifier	Determined locally
BOOK_DATE	Booking date	MM/DD/YYYY
BOOK_TYPE	Booking type	Fresh Arrest Warrant Parole Violation Probation Violation Flash Incarceration Commitment Hold Other
REL_DATE	Release date	MM/DD/YYYY

## 4) DEVELOP PLAN FOR EXTRACTING AGENCY DATA

---



# OBSTACLES TO OVERCOME

Extracting data from your system may be challenging at first

- Legacy data systems
- Capacity of staff with knowledge of data systems
- Changes in data availability and quality over time

If your agency experiences these obstacles, they can be overcome with planning and technical assistance

CII	LOCALID	SUP_NUM	SUP_START_DATE	SUP_TYPE	SUP_END_DATE
23456781	234561	12345	1/1/2017	Mandatory Supervision	12/31/2018
34567812	345612	23451	4/4/2018	Felony Probation	4/3/2020
12345678	123456	34512	12/1/2018	PRCS	11/30/2019
45678123	456123	45123	10/20/2020	PRCS	

## PROBATION DATA EXTRACT (MOCK DATA)

CII	LOCALID	BOOK_NUM	BOOK_DATE	BOOK_TYPE	REL_DATE
87654321	654321	54321	2/3/2018	Fresh Arrest	4/5/2020
87654321	654321	12345	4/30/2018	Probation Violation	10/30/2020
76543218	543216	43215	6/17/2019	Warrant	6/20/2019
65432187	432165	32154	9/15/2020	Hold	9/20/2020
54321876	321654	21543	10/20/2020	Probation Violation	

## JAIL DATA EXTRACT (MOCK DATA)



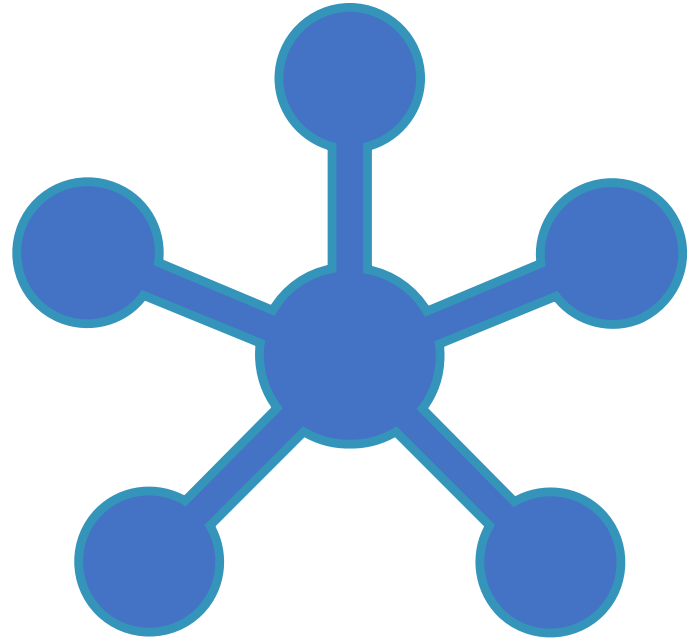
# ACTION STEPS: BUILDING AGENCY-LEVEL DATA INFRASTRUCTURE

These steps provide guidance on the process of building agency level data infrastructure:

- 1) Form an agency-level data working group
- 2) Identify key questions you would like to answer for your population
- 3) Develop a codebook describing the data contained in your system
- 4) Select and extract key data elements
- 5) Identify additional data elements you will need from other agencies to address your key questions

5) DEVELOP PLAN  
FOR LINKING  
AGENCY DATA

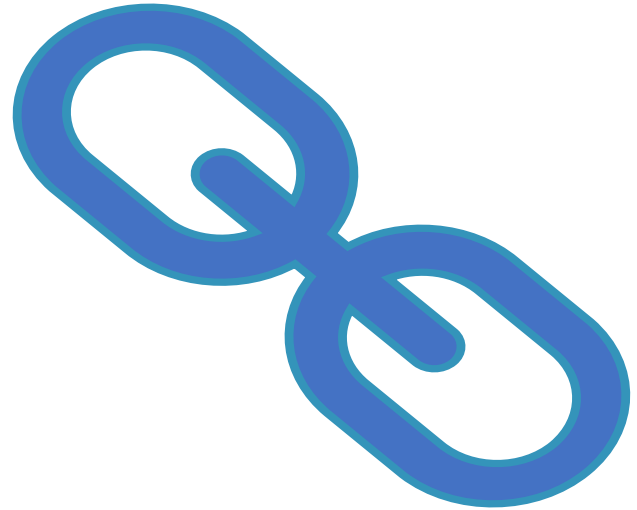
---



# PREPARING DATA FOR LINKING

Cleaning data prior to linking

Aligning identifiers to link data



# DECIDING ON A DATA SHARING STRUCTURE

## Options:

- One criminal justice agency may take the lead on receiving, cleaning, and linking data
- Criminal justice agencies may also work with an independent county-level department, such as a CAO's office
- Agencies may also choose to work with an outside entity, such as a university

Once you decide on a structure, you will want to complete data sharing agreements between parties

# ACTION STEPS: BUILDING COUNTY-LEVEL DATA INFRASTRUCTURE

These steps provide guidance on the process of building county level data infrastructure:

- 1) Form a cross-agency data working group
- 2) Identify key questions you would like to answer as a group
- 3) Determine which data will need to be linked to answer these questions
- 4) Develop a data-sharing plan and agreements
- 5) Extract, share, and link data using common identifiers



# Q&A

# MATERIALS, GUIDES AND TEMPLATES

Materials  
available:

---

Jail Data Codebook

---

Probation Data Codebook

---

Data Use Agreement Guide & Example

---

Data & Evaluation Series Info:

<https://www.counties.org/framework-seminar-series>

Support Hub Website:

<https://www.counties.org/csac-support-hub>



**LOOKING AHEAD**



# DATA AND EVALUATION SERIES, SEMINAR 2 (JANUARY)

Our next seminar focuses on accessing and integrating data held by CDCR and DOJ. We will provide a model template that identifies key data elements and demonstrates how these additional data can better inform criminal justice practice at the county level. We will describe the process of applying for access to these state data and linking state with county data once it is received.

# PROGRAMMING SERIES, SEMINAR 2 (DECEMBER)

This seminar provides an overview of findings from the available literature on programmatic interventions for your criminal justice populations, as well as the challenges in matching operational realities to model programs to evidence.



Contact:

Ryan Souza, Program Director

[RSouza@counties.org](mailto:RSouza@counties.org)

(m) 916.628.1404