



# HOW BEING TRAUMA-INFORMED IMPROVES CRIMINAL JUSTICE SYSTEM RESPONSES

## ABOUT THIS TRAINING

Although prevalence estimates vary, there is consensus that high percentages of justice-involved women and men have experienced serious trauma throughout their lives. The reverberating effects of traumatic experiences can challenge a person's capacity for recovery and pose significant barriers to accessing services, often resulting in an increased risk of coming into contact with the criminal justice system.

## OBJECTIVES

**How Being Trauma-Informed Improves Criminal Justice System Responses** is a ½-day training program for criminal justice professionals to

- Increase understanding of trauma
- Create an awareness of the impact of trauma on behavior
- Develop trauma-informed responses

Trauma-informed criminal justice responses can help to avoid retraumatizing individuals and thereby increase safety for all, decrease recidivism, and promote and support recovery of justice-involved women and men. Partnerships across systems can also help to link individuals to trauma-informed services and treatment for trauma.

## TRAIN-THE-TRAINER

- This 2-day event is designed to teach participants how to deliver this training in their communities by reviewing the training design and tools, training participants in facilitation skills, and engaging participants in practice sessions

## LEARNING OBJECTIVES

Upon completion of this program, participants will be able to

1. Define trauma and discuss why criminal justice system professionals should have an understanding of its impact on justice-involved individuals
2. Discuss how trauma and the impact of trauma is often ongoing for many justice-involved individuals and can affect various aspects of functioning and behavior
3. Describe the pervasive impact trauma can have on an individual's life and how trauma relates to mental and substance use disorders
4. Discuss how a history of trauma may result in problematic behavior and survival mechanisms, poor relationships, and justice involvement
5. Understand ways in which the criminal justice system may retraumatize individuals
6. Discuss how to make policies and procedures trauma informed, including approaches to responding to behavior

## TRAINING PARTICIPANTS

This highly interactive training is tailored to criminal justice professionals, including community corrections (probation, parole, and pre-trial services officers), court personnel, police, and service providers who work with justice-involved populations.

## ABOUT PRA

We are a national leader in behavioral health services research and its application to social change. Since 1987, we have assisted over 200 communities nationwide through a broad range of services to guide policy and practice.

We conduct meaningful, quality work through evaluation and research, technical assistance and training, and facilitation and event planning to improve the lives of people who are disadvantaged. We strive to make an impact in the field and promote a positive work environment.

## LEARN MORE

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CREATING POSITIVE SOCIAL CHANGE