

2017 YEAR IN REVIEW

Policy Research Associates, Inc.

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OUR VALUES

doing good work

has been at the core of our values since our birth. we create meaningful, quality work and we thoughtfully consider the opportunities we pursue. in taking on new work, we always ask the question, “does the work fit our mission?”

at a fun place

where you do your best work is of paramount importance at PRA. we promote a **positive work environment** by offering rich benefits, encouraging work-life balance, and providing plenty of opportunities to unwind!

with a hard-working bunch

days go by fast at PRA! there is a lot of (good) work to be done, and we are **committed** to being **responsive** to the needs of our clients and innovative in our approach to creating solutions.

to make an impact

We are (and have been) at the forefront of systems change. **making an impact in the field** has been a pillar of PRA’s value system since its inception, and we continue to advance the field in our areas of expertise.

PRA ACRONYMS

- ARDRAW - Analyzing Relationships between Disability, Rehabilitation and Work Small Grant Program
- DDP – Disability Determination Process Small Grant Program
- GAINS – GAINS Center for Behavioral Health and Justice Transformation
 - SIM – Sequential Intercept Model
 - TTT - How Being Trauma-Informed Improves Criminal Justice System Responses Train-the-Trainer Event
- NCMHJJ – National Center for Mental Health and Juvenile Justice
 - AMHT-SRO - Adolescent Mental Health Training for School Resource Officers
 - CIT-Y - Crisis Intervention Teams for Youth Training
- PAW – Program to Achieve Wellness
- SMVF – Service Members, Veterans, and their Families Technical Assistance Center
- SOAR - SSI/SSDI Outreach, Access, and Recovery Technical Assistance Center

2017 CONTRACTS – A SELECTION

- SAMHSA’s Service Members, Veterans, and their Families Technical Assistance Center
- Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration’s (SAMHSA’s) Best Practices for Psychiatrists Treating Justice-Involved Populations in Community Care contract
- Assistant Secretary for Planning and Evaluation’s Youth Engagement Strategies to Prepare Youth for Successful Adulthood project
- SAMHSA’s Expanding the Adoption of Workplace Mental Health Approaches project
- Bureau of Justice Assistance’s (BJA’s) VALOR Initiative: Law Enforcement and Community: Crisis Intervention Training Model program
- Olivia Y. v. Bryant Foster Care Settlement Monitoring contract with Public Catalyst

TOP ACCOMPLISHMENTS

EDUCATION & CHILD WELFARE

- Developed a multimedia suite of resources to support School Responder Model development
- Supported eight high schools in designing School Responder Models
- Completed a review of follow-up healthcare for children in foster care in Mississippi

JUVENILE JUSTICE

- Implemented a study to test the impact of trauma-informed case planning on youth outcomes in partnership with the Center for Trauma Recovery and Juvenile Justice
- Supported policy reform planning and implementation efforts to improve the lives of tribal youth exposed to violence in four tribes in partnership with the National Native Children's Trauma Center and American Institutes for Research Red Star Indigenous Peoples Institute

SOAR

- Over 4,900 case managers have successfully completed the SOAR online course
- 134 new Local Leads from 42 states and the District of Columbia
- 40,308 people have gained access to SSA benefits with SOAR

ARDRAW

- Released the final report for predecessor program DDP
- Kicked off Cohort 1 with 11 research projects

TOP ACCOMPLISHMENTS (CONT'D.)

WELLNESS

- Convened an Expert Panel on “Emotional Wellness and Mental Health in the Workplace”
 - Based on panel recommendations PRA was awarded a second contract, “Expanding the Adoption for Workplace Mental Health Approaches
- PAW launched a Pledge for Wellness on SAMHSA’s Wellness Initiative page to create awareness around National Wellness Week
- Awarded SAMHSA’s Recognition of Excellence in Wellness to three organizations
- Released a two-part animated video series, “Heart Disease Risks and Prevention Strategies for Individuals with Serious Mental Illness”

SMVF

- Held a successful Virtual Implementation Academy on “Advancing Suicide Prevention Best Practices in Peer Support for SMVF.” Convened military and civilian peer leaders with key suicide prevention leaders from 7 states and 1 city
- Conducted 3 learning communities with a total of 50 participants from 22 states
- Completed 28 onsite or virtual site visits with 13 states and 1 city
- Awarded a new 5-year SMVF contract, which includes a Policy Academy and Conference focusing on suicide prevention

CRIMINAL JUSTICE

- Secured multi-year contract with BJA to further develop, implement, and evaluate its Crisis Intervention Team (CIT) training
- Awarded the largest contract in PRA’s history to operate SAMHSA’s GAINS Center in Fiscal Year 2018
- Expanded PRA’s role with the John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation to provide technical assistance to Safety and Justice Challenge sites



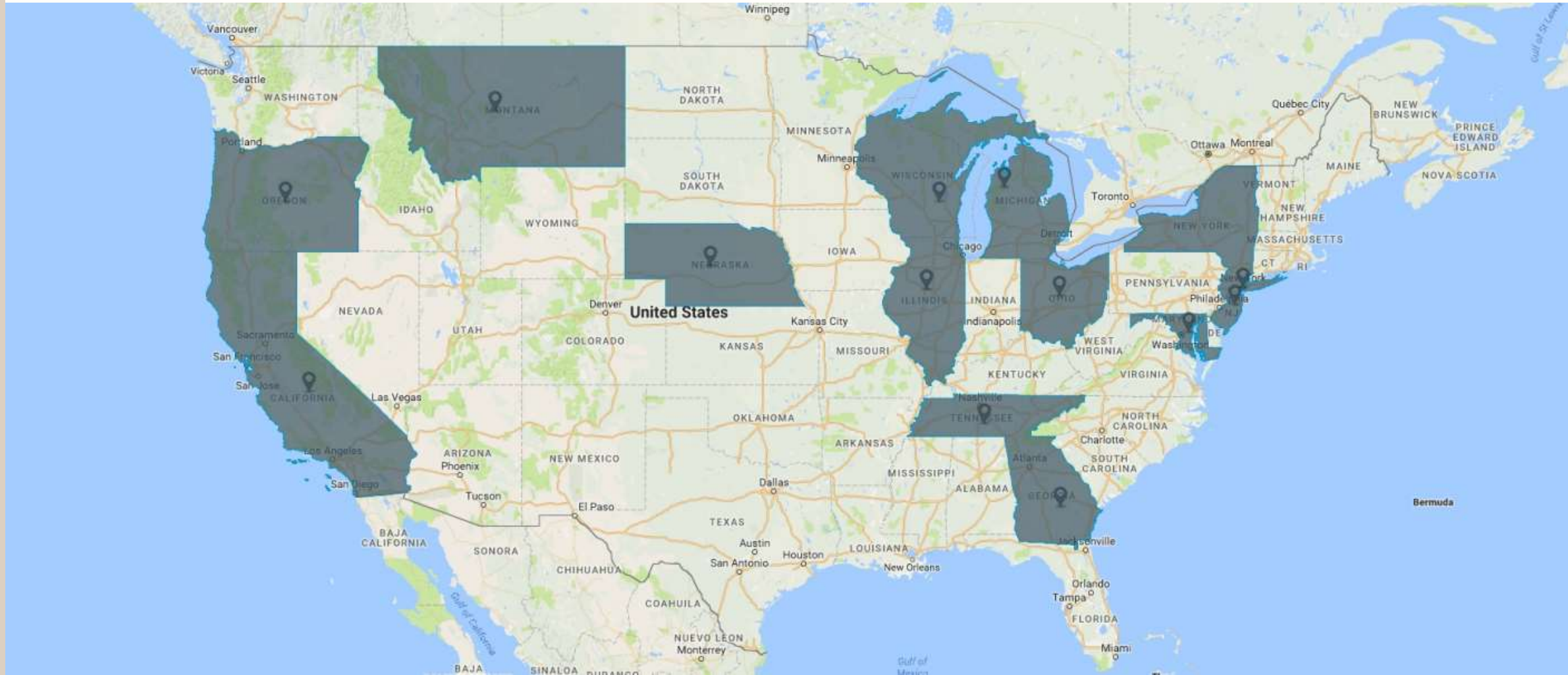
BIG NEWS IN 2017

- Celebration of PRA's 30th Anniversary
- Award of Bethlehem Businessperson of the Year to President and CEO Pamela C. Robbins
- Retirement of PRA President and Founder Henry J. Steadman
- Creation of the Business Directions Team
- Expanded Expertise focus to include Education and Child Welfare
- Delivery of 18 fee-for-service trainings held in 13 different states
- Expansion of New Parent Leave and Student Loan Repayment benefit to PRA's benefits package

PRA'S 30TH ANNIVERSARY



2017 FEE-FOR-SERVICE TRAINING STATES



PUBLICATIONS

TOPIC SAMPLES

- Connecting Veterans to Social Security disability benefits
- Family engagement in juvenile drug treatment courts
- Disrupting school-justice pathways for youth with behavioral health needs
- Violence to others, violent self-victimization, and violent victimization by others among persons with a mental illness
- Outcomes from the San Diego Veterans treatment review calendar

PRA IN THE NEWS – A SELECTION

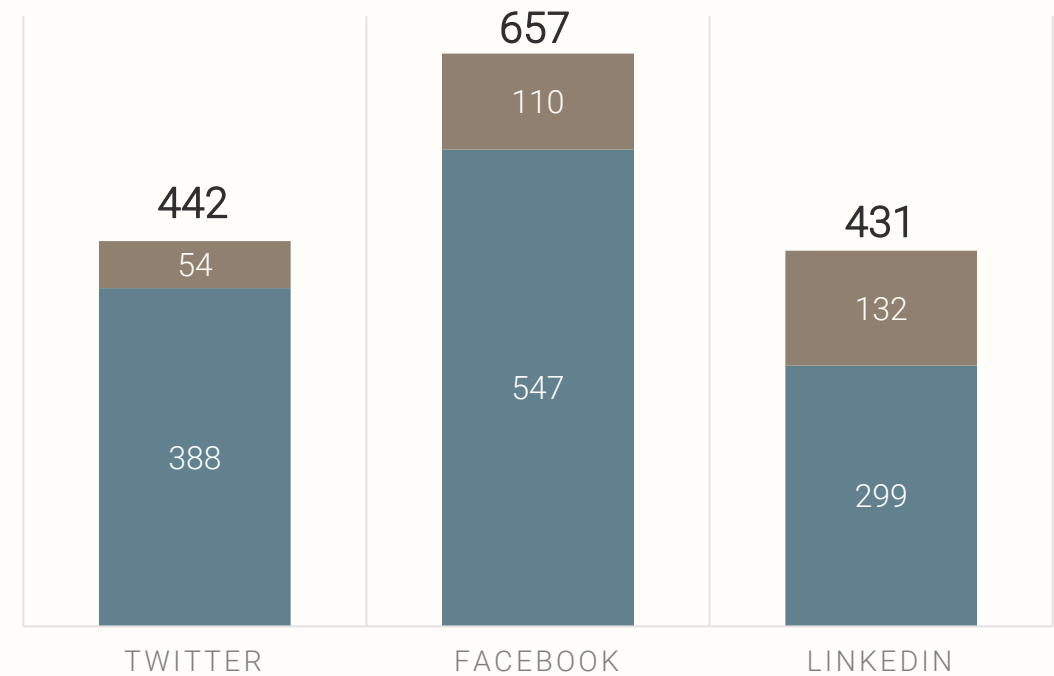
- Governor's Mental Health Diversion Council Seeks Input to Help People with Mental Health Issues with Criminal Justice Diversion - [Michigan Department of Health and Human Services](#)
- Lincoln County, OR to Receive Federal Mental Health Assistance - [The News Guard](#)
- We Need to Address Mental, Behavioral Health in Kids Who Land in Justice System - [Juvenile Justice Information Exchange](#)
- Incorporating SOAR Training into Social Work Education - [National Center For Excellence in Homelessness Services](#)
- Cook County Agencies Meet to Tackle Community's Behavioral Health Issues - [Correctional News](#)

SOCIAL MEDIA GROWTH

- Twitter
 - 12% increase
- Facebook
 - 17% increase
- LinkedIn
 - 31% increase

SOCIAL MEDIA GROWTH IN 2017

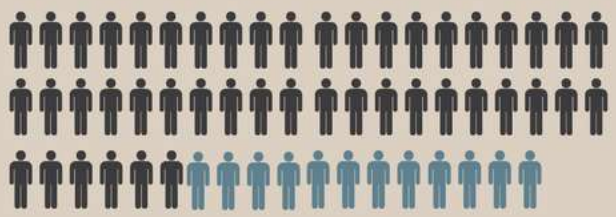
■ 2016 FOLLOWERS ■ NEW FOLLOWERS IN 2017



OUR STAFF



STAFF FACTS



58 employees
12 new hires



82.7% female
17.3% male



13.8% of staff
are remote

STAFF EVENTS

- **DEVELOPMENT**

- PRA Seminar Series
- Tech Talks
- Scoop Group
- Senior Staff Retreat
- Day of Reflection
- Professional Development

- **CULTURAL COMPETENCE**

- Cultural Competence Seminars
- Cultural Competence Book Club
- Historical Trauma Workshop

- **WELLNESS**

- Recovery Month Celebration
- PRA Community Garden
- Whole Health Month Workshops
- CDPHP Workforce Challenge

- **COMMUNITY SERVICE**

- Interfaith Shelter Breakfasts
- Month of Giving
- Fostering Futures New York Family Support Team

- **FUN**

- Holiday Party
- Cookie Exchange
- Pumpkin Carving
- Staff Luncheons
- Track Day
- PRA Olympics
- Valley Cats Game
- Take Your Dog to Work Day
- Day at the Movies

PRA'S COMMUNITY SERVICE

- 2 SOAR applications in the Capital Region community
- Bethlehem Student Senate
 - Donated: \$946 to create 5 backpacks for students
- Girls on the Run:
 - Donated: \$360, snacks, 35 pairs of socks, 8 first aid kits
- Grocery Shopping for Fostering Futures Family
 - Donated: \$2,255, 3 meals, and 1 dozen brownies
- Albany County Department of Children Youth and Families
 - Fulfilled holiday gift list (99 items) for 10 people in 2 families
- Participation in BOU Bethlehem Spelling Bee
- Sponsorship of Bethlehem First Night

ON THE HORIZON

PAW

- Release of podcast series, “Perspectives on Non-Opioid Approaches to Chronic Pain Treatment for People with Serious Mental and/or Substance Use Disorders”
- Expansion of activities and technical assistance to support and promote National Wellness Week 2018
- Completion of the best practices toolkit for implementing a mentally healthy workplace

SMVF

- Development of the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs Mayor’s Challenge to Prevent Suicide among SMVF – hosting 7 cities in Washington, DC for a 2.5-day Policy Academy in Washington, DC to develop plans to prevent SMVF suicide
- Development of a toolkit for best practices in suicide prevention for SMVF

SOAR

- Expansion of the SOAR Online Course to include a curriculum for child disability claims
- Development of a special 2-day Leadership Academy for SOAR State Team Leads

ARDRAW

- Advertising for Cohort 2 with targeted Facebook Ads
- Outreach to over 600 new programs

ON THE HORIZON (CONT'D.)

EDUCATION AND CHILD WELFARE

- Monitor health care provision, educational continuity, and transition to independent living for children in foster care in Mississippi
- Produce an issue brief on youth engagement strategies for successful adulthood

JUVENILE JUSTICE

- Increase the availability of adolescent mental health training to School Resource Officers nationwide through an exciting partnership with the National Association of School Resource Officers.

CRIMINAL JUSTICE

- Continue to pursue U.S. Department of Justice funding to diversify PRA's support basis for its criminal justice work
- Continue to explore research and evaluation opportunities and partnerships to support and enhance PRA's presence in the field
- Provide technical assistance to the field by convening 9 national meetings, conducting 60+ site visits, hosting 65+ on-site TA events, providing support to 60+ grantees across four grant programs, and delivering numerous fee-for-service events



H A N K

2017 WORD OF THE YEAR



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*Creating positive social change through technical assistance,
research and training for people who are disadvantaged.*

