

San Francisco Works to Reduce Wait Times for Inpatient Beds

As a result of its participation in the joint Policy Academy, the City of San Francisco is making strides to reduce wait times for inpatient beds at the state hospitals. San Francisco has revamped its processes of submitting required paperwork to the state hospitals by switching to an electronic-based system to admit individuals with behavioral health disorders more quickly. The joint Policy Academy was hosted by SAMHSA's GAINS Center and the John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation's Safety and Justice Challenge and focused on developing strategies for diverting people with behavioral health disorders out of the criminal justice system and into community-based treatment.

Colorado, Virginia Work to Enhance Care for SMVF

Through their involvement with the VA/SAMHSA Governor's and Mayor's Challenge to Prevent Suicide Among Service Members, Veterans, and their Families (SMVF), the Commonwealth of Virginia and Adams County, Colorado (Denver), are taking action to enhance care for SMVF. Virginia has launched the Virginia Identify, Screen, and Refer Pilot to recognize SMVF, screen for suicide risk, and connect individuals to services. In Adams County, the County Veterans Service Office and the Denver Vet Center are working collaboratively to provide readjustment counseling and whole-body wellness services to local SMVF.

NCYOJ Provides Training on Effectively Working with Youth in Crisis

From October to December 2019, the National Center for Youth Opportunity and Justice (NCYOJ) provided train-the-trainer events across the country using its cornerstone training curricula: Mental Health Training for Juvenile Justice and Crisis Intervention Teams for Youth. These two programs support professionals working with adolescents experiencing behavioral health and traumatic stress conditions in juvenile justice, school, and community settings. To learn more about these training opportunities, visit NCYOJ's [Trainer Network](#).

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