



PRA's 2018 Year in Review



As we prepare for a new year of *creating positive social change*, we'd like to take a step back and reflect on all that we have accomplished in 2018. Let's take a look at it from the numbers:

- **1:** In 2018, we were named the Top Small Employer in the Albany Times Union's Top Workplaces Survey. We spend a lot of time thinking about company culture and staff wellness, as having well staff helps us *do good work*. We are honored to have received this award twice!
- **65:** We have 65 staff members working across 10 states! Our staff members make Policy Research a *fun place to work*, where we try new experiences (like our morning of community service) or share knowledge (like our monthly seminar series).
- **350:** We traveled over 350 times in 2018 to 47 states and territories to conduct site visits, provide trainings, and host meetings. A *hard-working bunch* makes that possible!
- **4,294:** In 2018, there were 4,294 approvals on SOAR-assisted initial SSI/SSDI applications, as reported by SOAR practitioners across the country. This incredible number is just one outcome from one of our projects—now that's *making an impact*.

Want to learn more about our year in review? Visit our webpage to see our area highlights, big news, and what we have on the horizon in 2019!

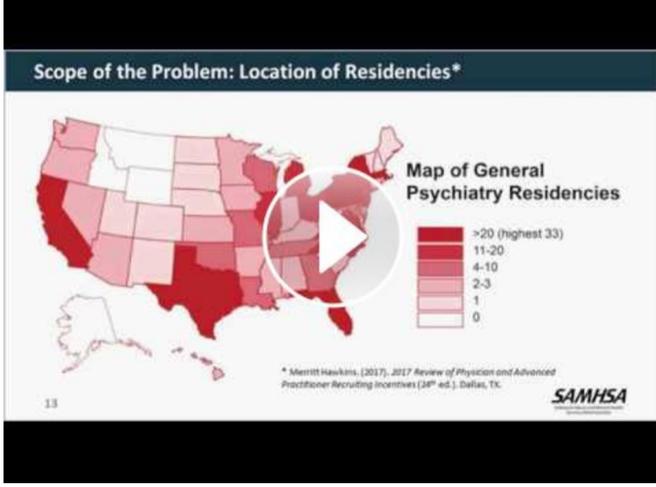
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The Myths, Realities, and Best Practices for Psychiatrists Treating Justice-involved Populations in Community Care

The Best Practices for Psychiatrists Treating Justice-involved Populations in Community Care project, awarded to Policy Research by the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration, was initiated by the fact that in 2017, 77 percent of U.S. counties reported a severe psychiatrist shortage (Merritt Hawkins, 2017). Further, as the number of psychiatrists diminishes, there are fewer psychiatrists pursuing post-residency fellowships in forensic psychiatry.

Research has shown that 17 percent of jail inmates have a serious mental illness in comparison to the rates of serious mental illness seen in the general population (about 4 percent) (Steadman et al., 2009). The decline in psychiatrists choosing to treat people with justice histories is the result of a variety of factors. A recent webinar, hosted by Policy Research worked to address these factors.

From the voices of psychiatrists working in the field and those who have experienced incarceration while living with mental illness, this webinar tackled the myths, realities, and best practices for psychiatrists treating justice-involved populations. As part of the complete package, this webinar also included four supporting documents that focused on four special populations: people with co-occurring disorders, those who identify as LGBTQ, transition-age youth, and Veterans. The archive of this webinar is now available for on-demand viewing and the supporting documents are now available for download.



<p>Best Practices for Psychiatrists Treating Justice-involved Populations: Transition-Aged Youth</p> <p>Executive Summary</p> <p>Health Inequities in Justice</p> <p>Mental Health and Developmental Needs</p> <p>SAMHSA</p>	<p>Best Practices for Psychiatrists Treating Justice-involved Veteran Populations</p> <p>Executive Summary</p> <p>Programs During Justice Involvement</p> <p>Women Populations</p> <p>Women Treatment Courts</p> <p>SAMHSA</p>	<p>Best Practices for Psychiatrists Treating Justice-involved Populations With Co-occurring Disorders</p> <p>Executive Summary</p> <p>The Role of Substance Use Clinics for Justice-involved Populations</p> <p>A Unique Opportunity to Intervene</p> <p>SAMHSA</p>	<p>Cultural Considerations when Working with Justice-involved LGBTQ Persons</p> <p>Executive Summary</p> <p>LGBTQ Persons</p> <p>SAMHSA</p>
Best Practices for Psychiatrists Treating Justice-involved Populations: Transition-aged Youth	Best Practices for Psychiatrists Treating Justice-involved Veteran Populations	Best Practices for Psychiatrists Treating Justice-involved Populations with Co-occurring Disorders	Cultural Considerations When Working with Justice-involved LGBTQ Persons

Learn About Our Work with the Safety and Justice Challenge

Curious about the work that Policy Research does with the John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation's Safety and Justice Challenge? Policy Research provides intensive technical assistance to the Safety and Justice Challenge Network to help the sites reduce over-incarceration of individuals with behavioral health disorders. Watch this new video to learn more about Policy Research's services and how those services impact local communities!



Recent Stories from the PRA Blog

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