

Blog Media Our Projects

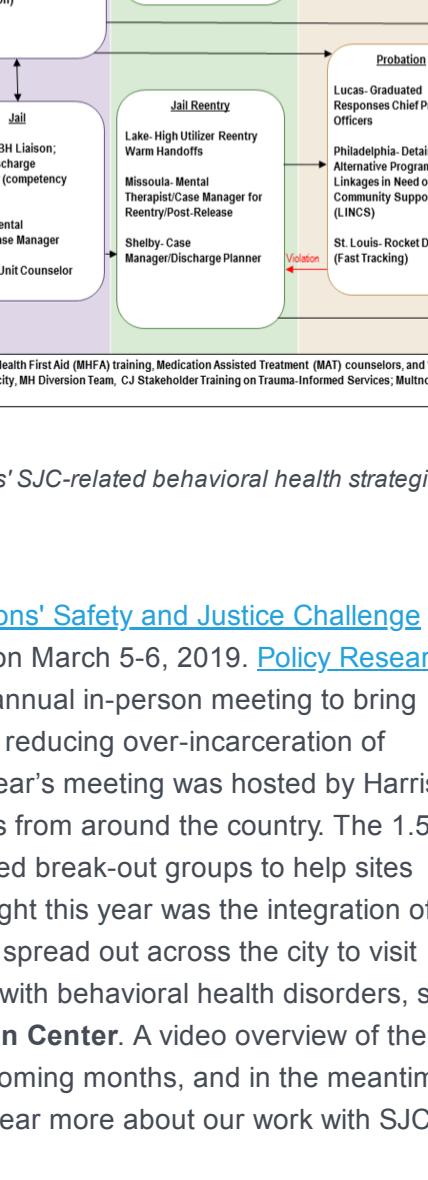


PRA's Impact in the Field: October to December 2018

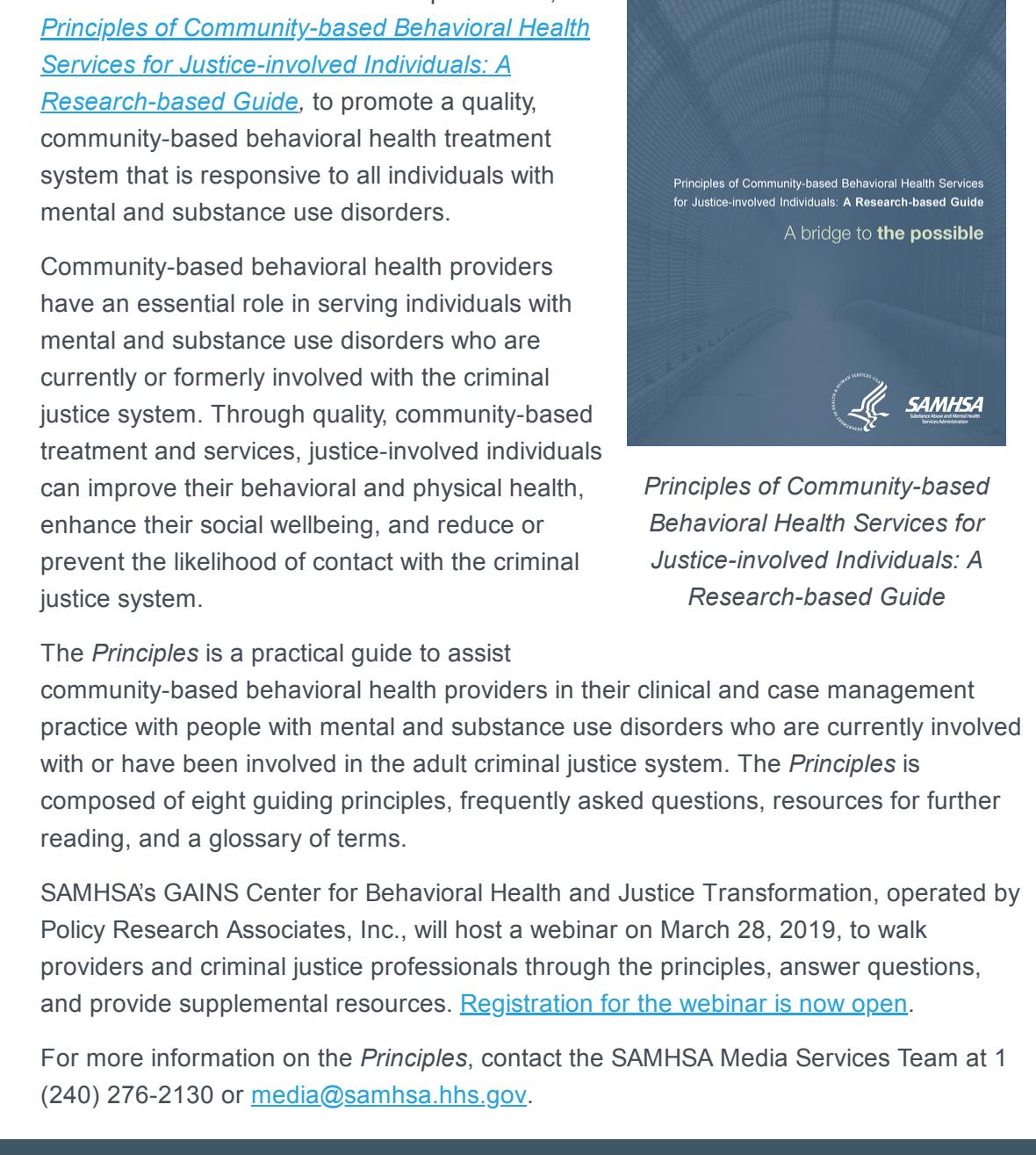
Since our founding in 1987, PRA's mission has been to create positive social change. We've traveled the nation to improve access to income supports, divert individuals with behavioral health disorders from the criminal justice system, keep kids out of the juvenile justice system, and enhance care for service members, Veterans, and their families.

Our reach has been felt both locally and nationally, but we have never shared our impact with the field outside of our [Year in Review](#). That is changing this month as we introduce our **new quarterly impact report!** We've quantified our reach across all projects—calculating the number of site visits we've held, number of virtual events we've hosted, practices changed in the agencies we work with, and much more. This report, covering October to December 2018 contains both quantitative impact and qualitative measures, providing a glimpse into the impact we have in the field.

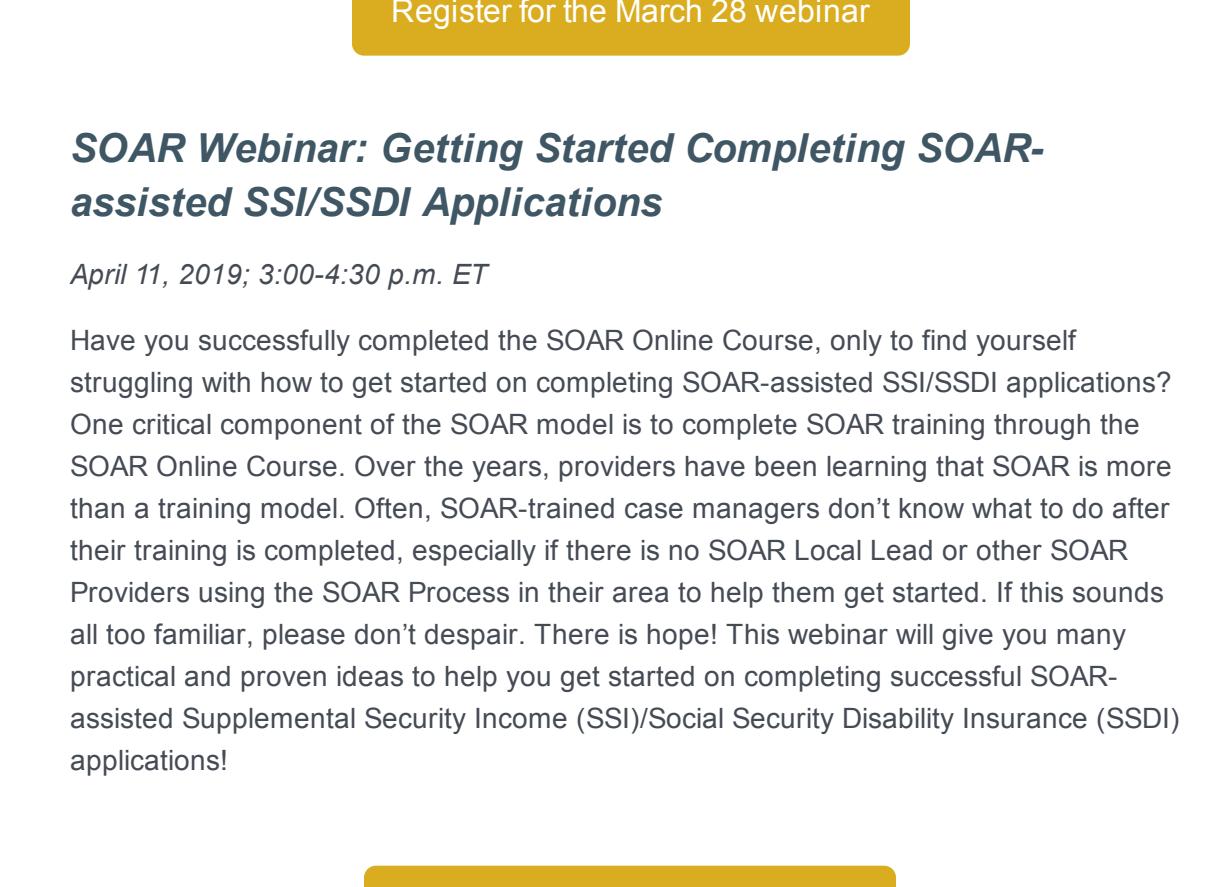
In this report, you'll read about the release of the [SOAR Online Course: Child Curriculum](#), meet the jurisdictions that developed Crisis Intervention Team implementation plans, and see how six localities strengthened services for Veterans! We look forward to sharing this impact report with you each quarter, and look forward to your [feedback!](#)



MacArthur Foundation's Safety and Justice Challenge 2019 Behavioral Health Meeting



The [John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundations' Safety and Justice Challenge](#) (SJC) 2019 Behavioral Health Meeting took place on March 5-6, 2019. [Policy Research, Inc.](#) (PRI, PRA's sister non-profit) coordinates this annual in-person meeting to bring together SJC sites that have strategies focused on reducing over-incarceration of individuals with behavioral health disorders. This year's meeting was hosted by Harris County (Houston), Texas and involved 20 SJC sites from around the country. The 1.5-day meeting included topical plenaries and facilitated break-out groups to help sites advance their behavioral health strategies. A highlight this year was the integration of on-the-ground learning, where teams were able to spread out across the city to visit seven stand-out initiatives working with individuals with behavioral health disorders, such as the **Judge Ed Emmett Mental Health Diversion Center**. A video overview of the Behavioral Health Meeting will be released in the coming months, and in the meantime, you can check out PRI's [SJC Partner Spotlight](#) to hear more about our work with SJC and view images from the meeting below.



New Publication: Principles of Community-based Behavioral Health Services for Justice-involved Individuals

The Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration has released a new publication, [Principles of Community-based Behavioral Health Services for Justice-involved Individuals: A Research-based Guide](#), to promote a quality, community-based behavioral health treatment system that is responsive to all individuals with mental and substance use disorders.

Community-based behavioral health providers have an essential role in serving individuals with mental and substance use disorders who are currently or formerly involved with the criminal justice system. Through quality, community-based treatment and services, justice-involved individuals can improve their behavioral and physical health, enhance their social wellbeing, and reduce or prevent the likelihood of contact with the criminal justice system.

The *Principles* is a practical guide to assist community-based behavioral health providers in their clinical and case management practice with people with mental and substance use disorders who are currently involved with or have been involved in the adult criminal justice system. The *Principles* is composed of eight guiding principles, frequently asked questions, resources for further reading, and a glossary of terms.

SAMHSA's GAINS Center for Behavioral Health and Justice Transformation, operated by Policy Research Associates, Inc., will host a webinar on March 28, 2019, to walk providers and criminal justice professionals through the principles, answer questions, and provide supplemental resources. [Registration for the webinar is now open.](#)

For more information on the *Principles*, contact the SAMHSA Media Services Team at 1 (240) 276-2130 or [media@samhsa.hhs.gov](#).

PRA at an Event Near You

NYAPRS Executive Seminar

Headed to the New York Association of Psychiatric Rehabilitation Services' [15th Annual Executive Seminar](#) being held April 16 and 17, 2019 in Albany, New York? Come visit PRA's table in the exhibition hall! You'll get to meet PRA staff members, pick up some of our new resources, and learn how we are creating positive social change!

[Register for the March 28 webinar](#)

GAINS Webinar: SAMHSA's Eight Guiding Principles for Behavioral Health and Criminal Justice

March 28, 2019; 3:00-4:30 p.m. ET

Community-based behavioral health providers and systems have an essential role in serving individuals with mental and substance use disorders who are currently or were formerly involved with the criminal justice system. SAMHSA's Eight Guiding Principles for Behavioral Health and Criminal Justice provide a foundation for realizing a quality, community-based behavioral health treatment system that is responsive to all individuals. This webinar will include information about all of SAMHSA's Eight Guiding Principles, then drill down to focus on two principles that are critical to effective community-based behavioral healthcare for justice-involved populations: (1) integrated physical and behavioral healthcare and (2) case management services.

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[Register for the April 11 webinar](#)

SOAR Webinar: Getting Started Completing SOAR-assisted SSI/SSDI Applications

April 11, 2019; 3:00-4:30 p.m. ET

Have you successfully completed the SOAR Online Course, only to find yourself struggling with how to get started on completing SOAR-assisted SSI/SSDI applications? One critical component of the SOAR model is to complete SOAR training through the SOAR Online Course. Over the years, providers have been learning that SOAR is more than a training model. Often, SOAR-trained case managers don't know what to do after their training is completed, especially if there is no SOAR Local Lead or other SOAR Providers using the SOAR Process in their area to help them get started. If this sounds all too familiar, please don't despair. There is hope! This webinar will give you many practical and proven ideas to help you get started on completing successful SOAR-assisted Supplemental Security Income (SSI)/Social Security Disability Insurance (SSDI) applications!

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[Register for the April 22 webinar](#)

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[Register for the March 28 webinar](#)

GAINS Webinar: Effective Implementation of RNR in Treatment Court Settings

April 22, 2019; 1:30-3:00 p.m. ET

The Risk-Need-Responsivity (RNR) principles have applications that benefit both criminal justice and behavioral health practitioners. This webinar, the second in a three-part series, will cover role-specific implementation of the RNR model, focusing on effective integration of RNR principles in treatment court settings. Presenters will provide an overview of the importance of RNR, different types of tools available, and specific considerations for treatment court professionals.

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