



POLICY RESEARCH ASSOCIATES, INC.
IMPACT REPORT

2020

QUARTER FOUR (OCTOBER TO DECEMBER)



2020 Quarter 4 Highlights



Homeless and Housing Resource Center Launches, Hosts Webinar on Eviction Prevention

In September 2020, Policy Research launched the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration-funded Homeless and Housing Resource Center (HHRC). HHRC works in partnership with national experts in homelessness, mental health, and substance use services to develop up-to-date, comprehensive toolkits, webinars, and self-paced online trainings. HHRC provides training on housing and treatment models focused on adults, children, and families who are experiencing or at risk of homelessness who have serious mental illness, serious emotional disturbance, substance use disorders, and co-occurring disorders. As part of its initial activities, HHRC hosted a webinar on December 16, 2020, titled **"Eviction Prevention and Housing Retention During and After COVID-19"**. This webinar had 6,938 registrants and 3,435 attendees.



SAMHSA's GAINS Center Hosts State Summit on Behavioral Health and Justice for the State of Maryland

The Maryland Governor's Commission to Study Mental and Behavioral Health requested SAMHSA's GAINS Center's assistance with planning and hosting a state summit focusing on issues related to behavioral health and the justice system. The Maryland State Summit on Behavioral Health and the Justice System was held November 17-18, 2020. It focused on introducing the Sequential Intercept Model (SIM) as a strategic planning tool to inform legislation, policy, planning, and funding; informing state and local stakeholders about best practices in the behavioral health and criminal justice fields; identifying existing resources and gaps throughout the state; and increasing coordination and collaboration among state and local stakeholders from the criminal justice and behavioral health systems.



SOAR TA Center Releases 2020 National Outcomes, Maintains 65 Percent Approval Rate on Initial Applications

In December 2020, the SAMHSA SOAR TA Center released the **2020 National SOAR Outcomes** to the field. The 2020 National SOAR Outcomes provide a snapshot of all Supplemental Security Income (SSI)/Social Security Disability Insurance (SSDI) applications submitted using the SOAR model from 2006 through June 30, 2020! In the 2020 reporting period, decisions on SOAR-assisted initial SSI/SSDI applications were received in an average of 115 days with an allowance rate of 65 percent. Decisions on SOAR-assisted appeals were received in an average of 211 days with an allowance rate of 50 percent (a 19.05-percent increase from 2019!). Over the last 15 years, the SOAR model has been used to assist 55,210 people who were experiencing or at risk of homelessness gain access to the Social Security Administration's disability benefit programs.