



## Quarterly Impact Report: January to March 2021

Policy Research is pleased to release its impact report for quarter 1 of 2021. Each quarter, Policy Research publishes an impact report highlighting our work across the country via our technical assistance centers, projects, and fee-for-service activities. Highlights of the January-to-March reporting period include the following:

- Hosted 17 trainings, training 3,604 people
- Held 64 virtual meetings and events with 9,728 attendees
- Released 12 products to the public



Read the full quarter 1 impact report for our highlights:

- Policy Research, Inc. Hosts Virtual Town Hall to Support Safety and Justice Challenge on Correctional Worker Wellness: "Moving from Corrections Fatigue to Fulfillment"
- SAMHSA's GAINS Center Launches Early Diversion Virtual Learning Community Series
- SMVF Completes First Virtual Implementation Academy of 2021

[Download the Quarter 1 Impact Report](#)

## Article Shares Examples of Tele-mental Health Service Integration in Rural Communities During COVID-19

An article co-authored by Policy Research, Inc. staff members was recently published in the *Journal of Rural Mental Health*. "COVID-19 Tele-Mental Health: Innovative Use in Rural Behavioral Health and Criminal Justice Settings," from authors Senior Project Associate Ashley Krider, MS, and Program Area Director Travis Parker, MS, LIMHP, CPC, provides an overview of the challenges COVID-19 has posed to behavioral health service delivery in rural communities and suggests how tele-mental health can contribute to addressing the resulting needs.

The article offers descriptions of programs in four rural areas of the United States that have either implemented or expanded the use of tele-mental health in their behavioral health and criminal justice system services since the outbreak. Their examples may serve as guidance for other rural communities around the country as they consider, plan, or implement tele-mental health programs to meet the particular needs of their communities.

[Read the Article](#)

## Access Recordings of Recent Events



**Addressing Racial Injustice Through Behavioral Health**

*Mental Health Section of the American Public Health Association*

Senior Project Associate Crystal L. Brandow, PhD, of Policy Research Associates, Inc., joins co-presenters to discuss topics related to health equity and social justice at this event, convened by the Mental Health Section of the American Public Health Association in recognition of Mental Health Month. The presenters explore intersections between addressing racial injustice and behavioral health and offer recommendations for intervention points to confront the social determinants and adverse community experiences that contribute to health inequity, as well as to promote recovery.

**Improving Equity and Inclusion in SOAR Programs**

*SAMHSA SOAR TA Center*

This webinar addresses barriers to equity in SOAR implementation and presents strategies to overcome them. It includes a panel discussion with a diverse group of SOAR providers who are working on creating equitable and more culturally relevant SOAR programs in their communities.

**From Siloes to Collaboration: Linking Health Care, Public Safety, and Behavioral Health (Part 2)—Aligning Regional Responses with Identified Needs and Resources**

*SAMHSA's GAINS Center*

This webinar focuses on planning considerations and practical steps for adapting cross-disciplinary partnership models to support individuals with mental and substance use disorders within diverse regional settings. A local program offers strategies for planning, scaling, and implementing behavioral health and criminal legal system partnerships that are consistent with identified regional needs and resources, such as population size, geographic size, staffing, training needs, technological supports, and funding.

**Recent Stories From the PRA Blog**



*Asian Pacific American Heritage Month: Reflecting on Heritage—What have we learned?*



*Writing for Wellness: Eight Dimensions, Eight Experiences*



*Writing for Wellness: Occupational Wellness*



*At Home Workouts and Tips for Success*



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