



Guidance on Applying Federal COVID-19 Housing Funding: New Paper From HHRC

The Homeless and Housing Resource Center has released a new resource to the field, *Applying New COVID-19-Related Funding*. This paper highlights newly available federal funds that can be utilized for housing and paired with supportive services funding for individuals who are experiencing or at risk of homelessness and who have a serious mental illness, a substance use disorder, or co-occurring disorders. The paper also notes several ways for state and local leaders to promote cross-system partnerships that pair housing resources with physical and behavioral healthcare and supportive services. Funding highlighted in this paper includes the following:



- HOME Investment Partnerships Program–American Rescue Plan
- Emergency Housing Voucher Program
- Emergency Rental Assistance Program
- Emergency Assistance for Rural Housing
- Community Development Block Grant—Recovery Housing Program
- Emergency Solutions Grant—CARES Act

With this information, homeless and behavioral health service providers can engage the appropriate stakeholders and access affordable housing and supportive services that together will optimize the health and wellness of the individuals they serve.

The Homeless and Housing Resource Center has made this resource available in both English and Spanish. It is available for free, public download.

[Download Applying New COVID-19-Related Funding](#)

SAMHSA's GAINS Center Seeks Experienced Trainers to Participate in Trauma-Informed Responses Train-the-Trainer (TTT) Event for Individuals

SOLICITATION FOR APPLICATIONS



SAMHSA's GAINS Center Seeks Experienced Trainers to Participate in Trauma-Informed Responses Train-the-Trainer (TTT) Event for Individuals

Apply by February 18, 2022

Application deadline: February 18, 2022

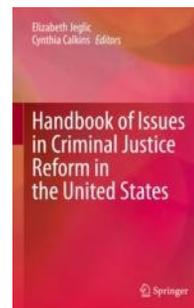
SAMHSA's GAINS Center is soliciting applications from experienced trainers (individuals) who are interested in developing their capacity to provide trauma-informed training in their local agencies/communities via its "How Being Trauma-Informed Improves Criminal Justice System Responses" curriculum. Selected applicants will learn to facilitate the training via a virtual TTT event and subsequently deliver the training program in their local communities. While not a requirement for applying to this opportunity, this year's selection process will place special emphasis on applicants who provide training to drug courts and/or reentry programs. Preference will be given to applicants that serve marginalized and/or underserved populations.

[Learn More and Apply](#)

Samantha Zottola and Sarah Desmarais Co-author Chapter on Bail Reform in *Handbook of Issues in Criminal Justice Reform in the United States*

PRA is pleased to announce the publication of a new handbook on bail reform with a chapter written by Research Associate Samantha Zottola, PhD, and Senior Vice President Sarah Desmarais, PhD. *Handbook of Issues in Criminal Justice Reform in the United States*, co-edited by Elizabeth L. Jeglic, PhD, and Cynthia Calkins, PhD, explores policing, policy and sentencing, reentry, treatment, and alternatives to incarceration from a multidisciplinary perspective. Each chapter provides research-based recommendations for holistic criminal justice reform.

The chapter by Drs. Zottola and Desmarais, co-authored with Sarah E. Duhart Clarke, PhD, is titled "Bail Reform in the United States: The What, Why, and How of Third Wave Efforts." The chapter explores bail decision-making practices, the impact of bail on marginalized groups and the broader society, bail reform efforts, and current challenges and concerns related to those efforts.



[View the Chapter](#)

[Purchase the Book](#)

New Mindfulness Exercise Series—Videos & Podcasts Available!



PRA Well-Being is pleased to announce the release of a new mindfulness exercise series! This three-part series, available in video and podcast format, is intended to boost well-being and mindfulness. This series was developed and led by Vanessa Marrufo of Solrise Wellness.

- **Body Scan Exercise:** In this exercise, you will be guided through a body scan to become more present, relaxed, and curious. Take 6 minutes to connect with your breath and body. ([Watch the Body Scan video](#) | [Listen to the Body Scan podcast](#))
- **Emotional Freedom Technique (EFT):** This exercise is designed to help you alleviate stress by tapping key acupressure points on the body. Spend 7 minutes to bring your body and mind into a state of balance. ([Watch the EFT video](#) | [Listen to the EFT podcast](#))
- **Vagus Nerve Reset:** In this exercise, Vanessa will help you process and release stress stored in your body through self-massage and stretching. Take 12 minutes to move to a place of calmness and ease. ([Watch the Vagus Nerve Reset video](#) | [Listen to the Vagus Nerve Reset podcast](#))

Bookmark the videos and download the podcasts to integrate mindfulness and self-care into your daily life!

[Listen to the Podcasts](#)

[Watch the Videos](#)

Zottola, Desmarais Co-author Article on Risk Assessment Algorithms

PRA is pleased to share the release of a new, public-access article co-authored by Drs. Zottola and Desmarais. The article, "It's COMPASlicated: The Messy Relationship between RAI Datasets and Algorithmic Fairness Benchmarks," was released in the *35th Conference on Neural Information Processing Systems Track on Datasets and Benchmarks*. The article explores how pretrial risk assessment instrument datasets, especially ProPublica's COMPAS dataset, can contain measurement biases and errors. Using these datasets as benchmarks to assess real-world outcomes has the potential to introduce bias and create harmful outcomes for marginalized groups. The authors recommend further exploration into whether benchmark data can exist in an unbiased, ethical manner.



[Read the Article](#)

PRA at an Event Near You

[Law & Mental Health Conference](#)

February 1-2, 2022; Online

Join **Ashley Krider** from February 1-2, 2022, at the virtual Law & Mental Health Conference, for the “Unbundling Police Funding and Building the Right Response” presentation and panel. This conference is being held in cooperation with the Alternative Mobile Services Association on Alternatives to Police. Ms. Krider’s session will provide an overview of the migration of law enforcement funding across the country and discuss what is needed to work toward true system change.

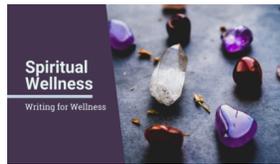
[American Psychology-Law Society Conference](#)

March 17-19, 2022; Denver, Colorado

Join PRA staff members at the American Psychology-Law Society Conference this March! Find us at the following sessions:

- March 17, 2022, 2:15-3:35 p.m. MT: **Sarah Desmarais** and **Anthony Fortuna** will present on the “Enhancing Trauma-Informed Practices in the Juvenile Justice System: Screening, Staff Perceptions” panel.
- March 17, 2022, 3:50-4:50 p.m. MT: **Kamiya Stewart** will present on the “Public and Professional Opinions about Judicial Responsibilities and Decision-Making” panel.
- March 19, 2022, 1:30-2:50 p.m. MT: **Sarah Desmarais** will present on the “Addressing Mental Health and Suicide in Carceral Settings: Current Gaps and Recent Developments” panel.
- March 19, 2022, 3:00-4:00 p.m. MT: **Kamiya Stewart** and **Samantha Zottola** will present on the “Predicting Judicial Performance” panel.

Recent Stories From the PRA Blog



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Are We Really Living?



Breaking Out of the Procrastination Mindset



To Go Far, Go Small and Be Extremely Precise



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