

# PRA ENEWS

MARCH



## 2022 Policy Research Impact Reports Released



### Annual Impact: 2022

Policy Research is pleased to release its 2022 annual impact report to the field. This annual impact report provides a quantitative look at the events, trainings, meetings, presentations, and products Policy Research delivered throughout 2022. Highlights of the past year include the following:

- Hosted 203 meetings and events with 24,361 attendees
- Facilitated 150 site visits and technical assistance (TA) visits with 2,696 attendees
- Released 57 public products (e.g., reports, videos)
- Delivered 30 professional presentations to the field
- Influenced 29 policy and practice changes among state, county, and local agencies
- Held 11 trainings, which trained 29,867 people

Read the 2022 annual impact report for our full list of project highlights!

[View the 2022 Impact Report](#)

### Quarterly Impact: October to December 2022

In addition to its 2022 annual impact report, Policy Research has released its impact report for Quarter 4 of 2022. This report highlights Policy Research's work through its TA centers, projects, and fee-for-service activities from October to December of 2022.

Highlights of the reporting period include the following:

- Reached 5,329 people through 38 meetings and events
- Hosted 19 trainings, training 4,058 people
- Released 13 public products and delivered 8 professional presentations to the field
- Helped facilitate the change of 17 policies and practices through TA

Read the full quarter 4 impact report for more on the following featured topics:

- SAMHSA SOAR TA Center Releases 2022 National SOAR Outcomes
- Research and Evaluation Team Presents at the American Society of Criminology's Annual Conference
- Policy Research Releases 2022 Year in Review

[View the Quarter 4 Impact Report](#)

## Academic Training Releases New Tool Outlining Steps for Deflection or Pre-arrest Diversion for People with Developmental Disabilities

People with developmental disabilities (DD) may come into contact with the criminal legal system as victims of a crime or through incarceration in jails and prisons. Most communities offer limited community-based services for people with DD who are in crisis, increasing the likelihood that they will encounter a law enforcement official. Law enforcement must be equipped with tools and strategies to successfully navigate these interactions and provide pathways for deflection or diversion from the criminal legal system when appropriate.

A new tool from The Academic Training to Inform Police Responses provides law enforcement with strategies to promote successful encounters with people with DD. *Law Enforcement Response to People with Developmental Disabilities: Steps for Deflection or Pre-Arrest Diversion* offers tips for successful interactions and outlines options for safe and effective deflection and pre-arrest diversion. This document is intended to increase an officer's ability to problem solve.

The resource outlines core values and tips for responses, introduces The Arc's *Pathways to Justice* model to support diversion for people with DD, and provides a listing of disability services and supports that are operated by governments (federal, state, and local) and nonprofit and academic organizations. Download the FREE resource today to enhance your law enforcement response to people with DD!

[Gain Strategies for Successful Interactions](#)

## HHRC Fact Sheet Outlines Disaster Planning and Response Steps for Homelessness Response Programs

As natural disasters become more common and severe around the country, local homelessness response programs must consider the implications of a natural disaster for the people they serve and have a plan in place before disaster strikes. The Homeless and Housing Resource Center's (HHRC's) guide *Disaster Planning and Response: A Guide to Preparation for Homelessness Response Programs* provides questions that homelessness response programs should answer as they plan for their response to natural disasters. The guide emphasizes the needs and situations of people experiencing homelessness with a serious mental illness, substance use disorder, or co-occurring disorder.

The guide is centered around questions homelessness response programs should ask themselves. Each question is accompanied by an explainer of the need and considerations for planning. The document is organized into the following sections:

- Disaster Awareness and Disaster Plans
- Staffing, Training, and Communication
- Population and Needs
- Additional Resources

The *Disaster Planning and Response Guide* provides links to additional disaster planning resources to help homelessness response programs develop comprehensive and robust disaster plans. This FREE resource is available in both English and Spanish.

[Prepare Your Program](#)

## Upcoming Webinars

### SMVF: Peer Support for Military-Affiliated Populations

March 15, 2023, 1:00–2:30 p.m. ET

This webinar will provide attendees with information regarding the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration's available resources to support implementing and strengthening peer support within the behavioral health system of care for military-affiliated populations.

### GAINS: Steering in the Right Direction: Diversion and Supports for Transition-Age Youth in the Criminal Justice System

March 29, 2023, 12:00–5:00 p.m. ET

This three-session virtual summit will feature innovative programs and implementation strategies to support transition-age youth prior to and throughout involvement with the criminal legal system. Registering for the summit will automatically register you for all three panels.

### Presentation 1: Mobile Response and Stabilization for Transition-Age Youth 12:00–1:30 p.m. ET

This webinar will provide an overview of Mobile Response and Stabilization Services, including core components, goals, and best practices.

### Presentation 2: Alternative Solutions Supporting Diversion from the Criminal Justice System 1:45–3:15 p.m. ET

In this webinar, two diversion programs for transition-age youth will present on their approach, program components, stakeholder partnerships, and program outcomes.

### Presentation 3: Preparing Transition-Age Youth for Successful Reentry to the Community 3:30–5:00 p.m. ET

This webinar will feature two innovative programs that are designed to meet the needs of transition-age youth in reentry.

### HHRC: Housing Supports for Older Adults Experiencing Homelessness

April 19, 2023, 2:00–3:30 p.m. ET

This webinar will present an overview of factors impacting older adults experiencing homelessness and share strategies to support their housing needs.

## Policy Research at an Event Near You

### Society for Research in Child Development

March 23–25, 2023; Salt Lake City, Utah

Are you headed to the Society for Research in Child Development 2023 Biennial Meeting? Join Research and Evaluation Area Director **Elan Hope, PhD**, for the session *Civic & Political Engagement in Uncertain Times*. Her session will take place on March 24, 2023, from 12:00–1:30 p.m. MT.

### 41st Annual Protecting Our Children Conference

April 2–5, 2023; Reno, Nevada

Headed to the National Indian Child Welfare Association's 41st Annual Protecting Our Children Conference? Join Project Associate **Amanda Starkey, MA**, for the session *Families SOAR to Recovery: Increasing Access to Income, Housing, and Treatment through SSI Benefits*. Her session will take place on April 5, 2023, from 8:30–10:00 a.m. PT in Naples 5.

### Impact of Health & Justice Research on Policy & Practice Conference

April 17–18, 2023; Fort Worth, Texas

Attending the Institute of Behavioral Research at Texas Christian University's Impact of Health & Justice Research on Policy & Practice Conference? Policy Research President **Sarah Desmarais, PhD**, will be delivering the *Policy Impact* keynote address on Tuesday, April 18, 2023, from 10:15–11:00 a.m. CT.

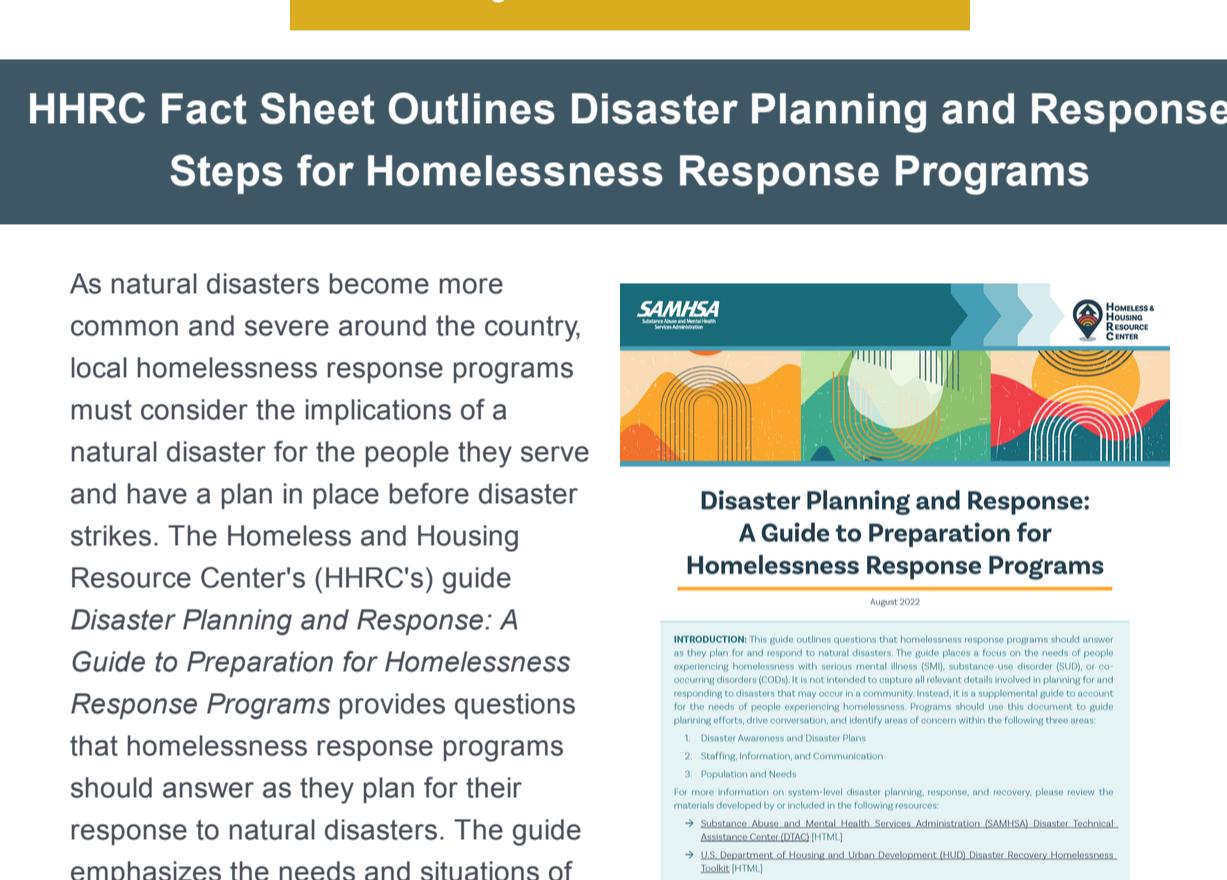
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## Recent Stories From the Policy Research Blog



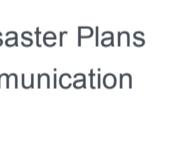
My Research Internship Experience at Policy Research

Forest Bathing for a Day of Reflection

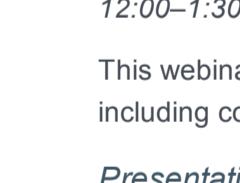


Physical Therapy on Speed Dial

Warriors on the Way—My Journey



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