Statewide Data Collection Assessment

Findings and Recommendations

Disclosure

This project is supported by Grant No. 15PBJA-22-GG-01205-BRND awarded by the Bureau of Justice Assistance. The Bureau of Justice Assistance is a component of the Department of Justice's Office of Justice Programs, which also includes the Bureau of Justice Statistics, the National Institute of Justice, the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention, the Office for Victims of Crime, and the SMART Office. Points of view or opinions in this document are those of the author and do not necessarily represent the official position or policies of the U.S. Department of Justice.



Background

Interviews with with 21 RJCs and 4 State Funders to determine:

- what data collection processes are currently used,
- how each entity currently measures racial justice, equity and inclusion,
- how the RJC complies with required reporting,
- what is working well with data collection, analysis and reporting, and
- what the pain points are for the RJCs and funders.

Historical Data Collection

- State Funder data collection and reports
- RJCs case tracking methods and metrics beyond the funders' requirements

Data Through an Equity Lens

Restorative Justice Centers (RJCs) uniform position regarding racial injustice:

- 1. Harmful actions are violations of people and relationships.
- 2. Violations create obligations.
- 3. Restorative justice seeks to engage and support those who have been harmed or victimized according to three guiding principles.
 - Equity of Access
 - Equity of Experience
 - Equity of Outcome



State Data Topography: Findings & Recommendations

1. **People and Relationships:** Harmful actions are violations of people and relationships.

2. Fulfilling Obligations: Violations create obligations.

3. **Putting Things Right:** Restorative justice seeks to engage and support those who have been harmed or victimized, according to three guiding principles.

1. Findings: People and Relationships

- Data variables required across funders lack of consistent categories for <u>race/ethnicity</u>.
 - One funder <u>did not list Latino/Hispanic</u>
 - Different ways of reporting <u>more than one race/ethnicity</u>
 - Incongruities around <u>Native American/Native Alaskan</u>



1. Findings: People and Relationships

Additional Findings

- Gender categories (including non-binary) are aligned.
- Harmed parties are often left out of the demographic data collection.
- Responsible parties are the focus of most data collection.



1. Recommendations: People and Relationships

- Develop Additional Equity Data Variables:
 - Significant information is missing to better understand the overall equity issues, especially around harmed parties.



1. Recommendations: People and Relationships

- Funders Agree on Consistent Data Variables:
 - Without consistent data variables, RJCs as a group cannot compare data amongst themselves and statewide.



1. Recommendations: People and Relationships

• Commit to Understanding Equity:

• The lack of relevant and consistent data prevents RJCs and funders from understanding racial and other dimensions of equity within the programs.



2. Findings: Fulfilling Obligations

- No identifiable common data points exist regarding the second RJ principle: that violations create obligations.
- The wide variety of scope and focus of the funder programs makes this difficult.
- Each of the programs supports different efforts and has different expected outcomes.



2. Findings: Fulfilling Obligations

- No identifiable common data points exist regarding process/service evaluations.
- Each of the programs supports different efforts and has different expected outcomes.



2. Recommendations: Fulfilling Obligations

- Create Consistent Service Evaluations:
 - Evaluate each program with metrics related to RJ values and principles, along with program/service specific metrics.



2. Recommendations: Fulfilling Obligations

Funders Provide Service Evaluations to RJCs to inform RJCs own practices:

- Programs with statewide funders lack measures of performance for providing services.
- RJCs lack feedback from clients about the clients' experiences with the program services.

3: Putting Things Right

Do RJCs and Funders have a responsibility to constituents to report on how RJCs' services are "Putting Things Right?"



3: Findings: Putting Things Right

- The state data topography is insufficient to answer whether RJCs services:
 - meet the needs of harmed participants
 - result in meaningful repairs
 - lead to the satisfaction and healing of participants
- Only AGO-funded programs are collecting metrics regarding participant satisfaction. (Approx. 5% response rate)

3. Recommendations: Putting Things Right

• Measure Outcomes for Clients:

 Participant outcomes relevant to the community can be measured by changes in <u>attitudes, knowledge, and skills</u>.

Other Indicators:

- \circ satisfaction,
- feeling listened to,
- feeling treated with respect,
- o contacted in a timely manner,
- feeling like the resolution reflected input of participants.

3. Recommendations: Putting Things Right

- Share the Benefits of the Restorative Approach:
 - Collecting and reporting on other indicators would help to <u>create a</u> more full picture of the restorative justice experience and benefits to the communities and the Vermont as a whole:



Data Practices of Funders

- 1. No uniform funder tool exists that meets the needs of the RJCs.
- 2. Disparate practices for data reporting, auditing, and software resources.
- 3. The legislative stakeholders focus on numbers of people being served and have little interest in details including racial equity.



Data Practices of RJCs

- 1. Little consistency in data collection, analysis and reporting.
- 2. No consensus on what data to collect outside of state funding requirements.
- 3. No standardized tools or common processes for required data collection.
- 4. A Majority of RJCs double-enter data into the state reporting system.
- 5. 58% of RJCs do not collect any survey data directly from participants.
- 6. Extremely low (4.0-6.8%) response rates for clients completing surveys.
- 7. No centralized funding is available to support data efforts.



Additional Recommendations: Modify Data Variables

- Create Common Data Variables to Use Across All Funders
- Align Data Variables with Restorative Justice Core Principles



Additional Recommendations: Deploy Resources

- Set up Systems to Assess Racial Equity
- Provide Resources to Collect, Analyze and Report on Data
- Develop Statewide Survey Tools



Additional Recommendations: Engage Third Parties to Maximize Insights

- Utilize Historical Data to Create a Baseline
- Delegate/Outsource the Design of the Data Collection, Analysis and Reporting Tasks



Discussion

- What resonates?
- What needs to be included?
- What needs to be done?



Intermission

Topic Transition Video

Results-based Accountability Metrics

Best Practices and Recommendations

Best Practices

- Ensure equity is being measured across customer satisfaction and outcomes
- Collect information:
 - stakeholders want to know
 - relevant to populations served
 - relevant to services provided
- Surveys should not change as that makes comparison of results difficult to impossible

1. Customer Satisfaction

Who is a customer?

- Youth & adult clients
- Parents & support persons
- Harmed persons
- Volunteers
- Other process/service participants



1. Customer Satisfaction

Example questions for customer satisfaction:

- I think the program I participated in was...(rated poor to great)
- I feel I benefited from this program...(not at all, some, a lot)
- I thought the people who ran the program were...(very helpful, somewhat helpful, not helpful)
- Would you tell a friend or schoolmate to come to this program if they needed it? (yes, maybe, no)



1. Customer Satisfaction Sample

Sample Survey Tool							
Customer Satisfac Reflecting back or how you feel abou	n your time in t		ne response to the ri	ight that best matches			
I think the program I participated in was:	Great	Good	Poor	Does not Apply			



2. Service Productivity

Why?

• Service productivity measures whether participants are better off as a result of participating in the program.

How?

- Service productivity is assessed via questions that allow the participant to reflect on whether certain changes occurred due to the services.
 - Better Off
 - Worse Off
 - No Change



2. Service Productivity

Measuring Responses, a Simple Approach:

- Service productivity ratings range from -100% to +100%
 - **-100% :** everyone got <u>worse</u> on a particular measure to
 - **+100% :** everyone got **<u>better</u>** got better on a particular measure
 - 0% : participants experienced <u>no change</u>



2. Service Productivity Sample

Sample Survey Tool				
Service Productivity Reflecting back on your time in the matches how you feel	e program, ciı	rcle the respo	nse to the right t	that best
Because of this program, my	Better	Worse	The Same	Does not



2. Scoring Survey Results

- Each RJC will receive surveys to administer.
 - Input the surveys into RJCs' preferred platform/format
- In an automated data collection and reporting system, the results of the survey are automatically transferred to the scoring form without double entry.
- A handout is available for programs that will manually calculate the results.

Discussion

- 1. What is most motivating about starting to collect survey data from Clients?
- 2. How easily do you think it will be to get responses to surveys?
- 3. What motivates you to begin providing clients the opportunity to provide feedback for all services?
- 4. What do you think will be the biggest barriers?



Feedback Survey

