

## Results First – Santa Barbara County

*Santa Barbara County is the first California county to participate in the Pew-MacArthur Results First Initiative (Results First), a project of The Pew Charitable Trusts and the John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation.*

### Overview

The Santa Barbara County Board of Supervisors endorsed the Results First Initiative on August 27, 2013. The Board recognized the need to identify effective forms of recidivism reduction in order to maximize limited jail capacity and staff service delivery, as well as the County's capacity to manage overall public safety expenses.

Participation in Results First allows the County to use public safety performance data (the degree to which a program or strategy reduces recidivism) and County costs to inform decisions about how resources are allocated. By considering cost-benefit analysis, the County can identify and invest in effective strategies, allowing the County to:

- Reduce recidivism;
- Increase the success rates for members of the community receiving post-release services;
- Increase staff effectiveness; and
- Generate public support for using high quality cost and performance data to reduce recidivism.

Results First utilizes County-specific data to calculate and monetize the benefits of operating a program in the County based on its expected effect on recidivism. The Santa Barbara Results First model measures recidivism by reconviction rates and calculates the cost of recidivism using the marginal costs associated with each part of the criminal justice system (arrest, prosecution, defense, court processing, jail, probation, prison, and parole). This brief highlights preliminary results for one program provided to high-risk offenders, those at greatest risk to reoffend while supervised by Probation or after release from a local jail.

### The Problem

- On average, 63% of high-risk probationers are reconvicted within a 7-year period; 29% are reconvicted within the first year of being placed on probation.
- Recidivism is costly to the community. Each high-risk probationer reconvicted costs \$66,000 in criminal justice system and victimization costs.

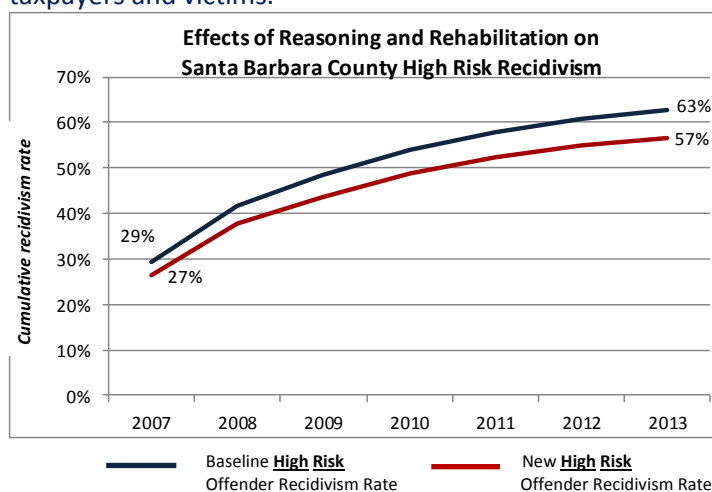
### The Solution

Reducing recidivism in the County will avoid crimes in the community and criminal justice system costs. Rigorous research has demonstrated that quality programs can improve public safety and reduce future crime. Using that research, cost-benefit analysis can assist the County to determine which investments will yield the best and most cost-effective results.

### Initial Results

*Choosing cost-effective programs with proven results.*

Reasoning and Rehabilitation (R&R) is an evidence-based cognitive behavioral treatment program that is used to alter maladaptive thought patterns and is known to reduce recidivism. In the County, this program is projected to reduce recidivism by over 10% over the long-term. Based on County data, this program is cost-beneficial; every dollar invested generates approximately \$20 in benefits to taxpayers and victims.



### Cost-Benefit Analysis: Reasoning and Rehabilitation for High-Risk Probationers in Santa Barbara County

BENEFITS AND COSTS PER PARTICIPANT	SANTA BARBARA 2014 DOLLARS	TYPE OF BENEFITS
Annual cost	<b>\$-215</b>	
Total benefits	\$4,488	Lower state and county criminal justice costs and reduced victimizations in the community
Net benefits (benefits-costs)	\$4,273	
<b>Benefits per dollar of cost</b>	<b>\$20.87</b>	
<b>Annual Recidivism Reduction: -10.4 %</b>		

### Next Steps

- Support improved data collection
- Establish costs for additional programs
- Finalize program inventory
- Assess program fidelity
- Educate stakeholders regarding the benefits of the Initiative

## Santa Barbara County Preliminary Results: Comparing Costs, Benefits, and Crime Reduction

*Cost benefit analysis (CBA) is a standard practice of the private sector. The Results First Model provides CBA by utilizing econometric modeling and simulations to project the fiscal and public safety outcomes for criminal justice interventions. The cost-benefit ratio is a measure of a program's cost effectiveness at reducing recidivism. This ratio shows the total benefits (government and society) realized for each dollar spent on the program. The Results First process provides reasonable expectations of performance for evidence-based interventions and brings the power of research to aid budget and policy decisions.*

PROGRAM/PRACTICE NAME	BENEFITS PER PARTICIPANT	COST PER PARTICIPANT	NET BENEFIT PER PARTICIPANT	COST-BENEFIT RATIO	RECIDIVISM REDUCTION
<b>Outpatient Drug/Alcohol Treatment</b>	<b>\$989</b>	<b>-\$1,755</b>	<b>-\$766</b>	<b>\$0.56</b>	<b>-1.9%</b>
<p><i>For drug/alcohol treatment, Santa Barbara County utilizes the Matrix Model, which is an intensive outpatient treatment approach for substance abuse and dependence that was developed through 20 years of experience in real-world treatment settings. The intervention consists of relapse-prevention groups, education groups, social-support groups, individual counseling, and urine and breath testing.</i></p>					
<b>Electronic Monitoring (in lieu of jail)</b>	<b>\$6,828</b>	<b>-\$1,643</b>	<b>\$5,186</b>	<b>\$4.16</b>	<b>-17.9%</b>
<p><i>Electronic Monitoring (EM) is provided as an alternative to detention in county jail. EM allows offenders to be supervised at home while being closely tracked and their compliance monitored. Locally, GPS technology is utilized and provides "real time" alerts.</i></p> <p><i>*Note: Since there is limited national research regarding the long term criminogenic impact of EM, the recidivism reduction was evaluated for only two years, while other programs use a seven-year term period.</i></p>					
<b>Reasoning and Rehabilitation</b>	<b>\$4,488</b>	<b>-\$215</b>	<b>\$4,273</b>	<b>\$20.87</b>	<b>-10.4%</b>
<p><i>Reasoning and Rehabilitation (R&amp;R) is a cognitive-behavioral curriculum that focuses on changing the criminogenic thinking of offenders. It includes cognitive restructuring, social skills enhancement, and the development of problem solving skills. The activities in each session challenge the offender's egocentric thinking and increase thinking, perspective-taking, and reasoning skills.</i></p>					
<b>Risk – Need – Responsivity</b>	<b>\$8,055</b>	<b>N/A</b>	<b>\$8,055</b>	<b>N/A</b>	<b>-18.7%</b>
<p><i>The Risk – Need – Responsivity (RNR) Model states that the risk and needs of an offender should determine the strategies appropriate for addressing the individual's criminogenic factors. RNR integrates the science around effective screening, assessment, programs, and treatment matching (responsivity) to improve individual and system outcomes. Locally, RNR strategies are utilized in the supervision and treatment of all high risk offenders.</i></p> <p><i>*Note: RNR utilizes traditional Probation resources, but directs the resources based on risk and needs. Because there are no increased costs for this supervision strategy, a cost-benefit ratio cannot be established, however, the RNR strategy is projected to reduce recidivism for participants by 18.7%.</i></p>					

ATTACHMENT C

PROGRAM/PRACTICE NAME	BENEFITS PER PARTICIPANT	COST PER PARTICIPANT	NET BENEFIT PER PARTICIPANT	COST-BENEFIT RATIO	RECIDIVISM REDUCTION
<b>Day Reporting Center</b>	<b>\$ 10,128</b>	<b>\$2,856</b>	<b>\$7,272</b>	<b>\$3.55</b>	<b>-23.5%</b>
<p><i>Day Reporting Centers (DRC) are non-residential facilities that are used as a form of intermediate sanction for offenders. DRCs have three primary goals: (1) enhance supervision and surveillance of offenders, (2) provide treatment directly or through collaboration with community treatment programs, and (3) reduce jail and prison crowding. DRCs differ in their implementation, but generally require offenders to attend the facility for multiple hours each week for supervision and other programming such as counseling, educational courses, employment training, and referrals for additional services. The DRC programs are typically 3 months in duration and require offenders to report to the center every weekday.</i></p>					
<b>WAGE\$\$</b>	<b>\$2,613</b>	<b>-\$198</b>	<b>\$2,415</b>	<b>\$13.19</b>	<b>-6.0%</b>
<p><i>Work and Gain Economic Self Sufficiency (WAGE\$\$) is designed to assist unemployed or under-employed clients. In addition to receiving direction as to where to seek employment, participants learn job-seeking skills with a focus on how to answer difficult questions regarding a felony conviction. Clients are taught interviewing techniques, how to select suitable interview attire, and how to complete a résumé.</i></p>					