## Santa Barbara County Probation Department The Pew-MacArthur Results First Initiative

# Santa Barbara County Results First: INVESTING IN PROGRAMS THAT WORK

December 15, 2015



### The Results First approach: Bring evidence into the process

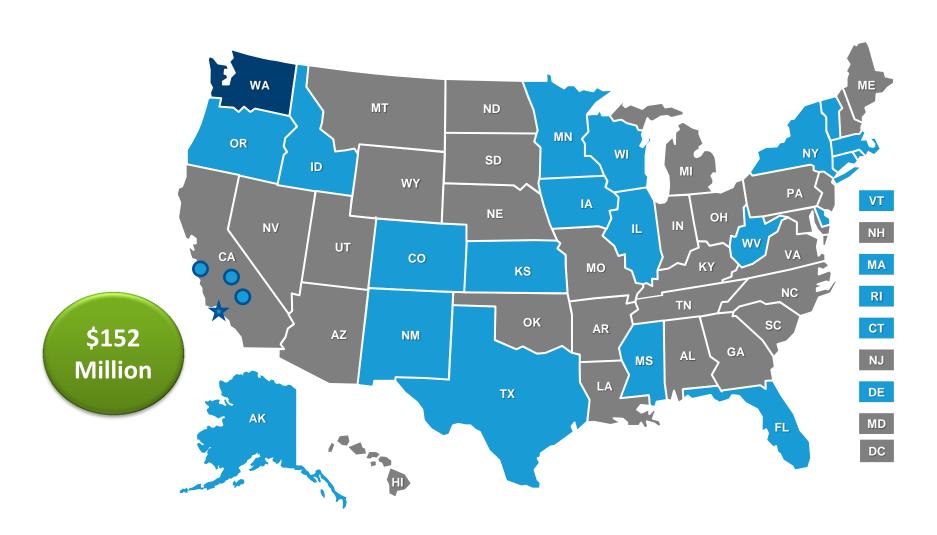


- IDENTIFY program budget portfolio and what you know about each program
- CONSIDER whether benefits justify costs
- TARGET funds using rigorous evidence

**IMPROVE** outcomes *without* increased spending

#### **Participation in Results First**





### PEW MacArthur Foundation

### Santa Barbara County Results First: Implementation

- Launched in August 2013
  - First county in California to partner with Results First

- Criminal justice partners collaborated to:
  - Assemble comprehensive program inventories
  - Collect and analyze recidivism and cost data
  - Conduct cost-benefit analyses of programs
  - Identify ways to use results to inform decisions

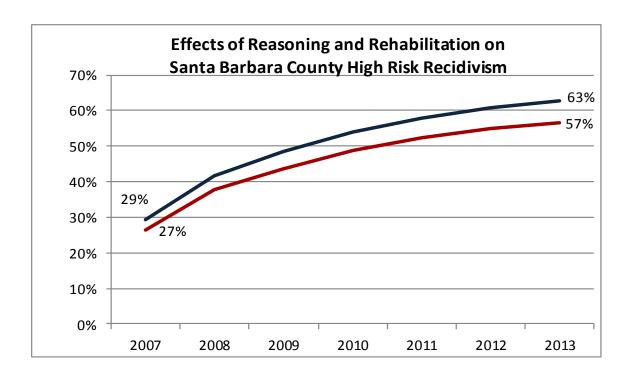


#### Santa Barbara County Results First: Key findings

- Recidivism is expensive: \$66,000 per offender
- Recidivism rates are high: 63% of high risk offenders are reconvicted within a 7-year period
- Evidence-based programs decrease recidivism and costs
- Results First approach has helped us identify which programs are projected to produce a higher level of return on county investments

### Analysis of Reasoning and Rehabilitation





Baseline <u>High</u> <u>Risk</u>
Offender Recidivism Rate

New <u>High</u> <u>Risk</u>
Offender Recidivism Rate

#### **Analysis of Reasoning and Rehabilitation**



#### **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	\$-215	
Total benefits	\$4,488	Lower state and county criminal justice costs and reduced victimizations in the community.
Net benefits (benefits-costs) \$4,273		
Benefits per dollar of cost \$20.87		
Annual Recidivism Reduction: -10.4%		



### Santa Barbara County Results First: CCP Recommendations

- Maintain and expand evidence-based programs to reduce recidivism and make the best use of limited public resources
- Identify alternative programs for current strategies that project low ROI
- Evaluate promising programs with limited evidence
- Continue to target funds at evidence-based and promising programs (e.g., Prop. 47 and Pre-Trial Services)



#### **Options for your consideration**

- Targeted investments in evidence-based and promising programs
- Targeted cuts for programs proved not to work
- Sustainability framework
  - Contract restructuring (Kern, Santa Cruz, NM)
  - Required program inventories in other areas (CT, NM, MN, MS)
  - Funding floors for evidence-based programs (NM, OR)
  - Codifying definitions to support common metrics (CT, MA, MS, NY)
- Using the Results First approach in additional policy areas