

Data Collection Work Session



**Presented to the SCA
Adult Mentoring and
Juvenile Mentoring
Grantees**

**Washington, DC
February 25, 2011**

**Shelli B. Rossman and Rebecca Neusteter
The Urban Institute**



URBAN INSTITUTE
Justice Policy Center

Who Other than Program Participants Are Being Tracked?

Adult Mentoring

- **Mentors:**
 - # (10)
 - # trained (11)
 - # with increased knowledge (12)
- **Parole/probation officers**
 - # (29)
- **Case managers**
 - # (30)

Juvenile Mentoring

- **Mentors**
 - # (2)
 - # trained (3)
 - # with increased knowledge (4)
 - # retained (5)



What is Being Tracked?

Adult Mentoring

- **Enrollment** (15-16) qualify & enroll, pre- vs. post- release
- **Demographics** (17)
- **Risk & Needs** (18-20): Risk assessment, transition/case plans, substance abuse/mental health screening/assessment
- **Services** (21-28): Mental health, Substance abuse, Cognitive-based, Pro-social activities, Employment, Educational, Housing, Other
- **Successful & Unsuccessful (by type) Exits** (31)
- **Recidivism – 6 mos. Post-release & post graduation** (34) – arrests, tech violat., convict., revocat., reincarcerat.

Juvenile Mentoring

- **Enrollment** (6)
- **Assessed Needs & Service Enrolled** (7): Substance use, Mental health, Housing
- **Number Served** (9)
- **Number Successful & Unsuccessful Exits** (10)
- **Adjudications** (11-12) & **Technical Violations** (13-14) - **short & long term**: Juv. residen. commit., Adult prison, Other sentences
- **Improvements - short & long term** (15A – M): Anti-soc. behav., Family relat., Social competencies, Gang resist./involve., Substance use, School attend., GED, GPA, Soc. support, Victimiz.

Data Issues: Are Indicators Understandable? What Should Or Should Not Be Included in the Measure?

Adult Mentoring

- What falls into cognitive-based services (23)?
- What will you count in higher education (26)?
Enrollment in college? AA degree? Bachelors degree?
For what period of time?????
- What is included in housing services (27)?

Other questions or concerns?

Juvenile Mentoring

What will you include for tracking improvements in (15a-M):

- Family Relationships?
- Social competencies?
- Gang resistance/involvement?
- Victimization?
- Re-victimization?

Other questions or concerns?



Data Issues: Where Will You Get the Required Information?

- Some you can generate and track yourselves (e.g., number enrolled)
- Some may require you to design instruments for baseline & measure change (e.g., improvements in: mentors' knowledge; participants' attitudes, behaviors, supports)
 - Pre- and post-testing of mentor knowledge
 - Possible collection of individual self-reported information or systematic ratings by trained staff/mentors
- Access administrative or official records from active partners or other institutions: consider such things as:
 - Identify repositories of information you need – who has databases?
 - Build relationships for data sharing & MOUs to ensure continued access
 - Will this require individual consents or agreements to release information?
 - Timing/frequency of collection - how will you get info. to align with short- (during reporting period or under 6 mos. post-exit) and long-term (6 -12 mos. post-exit)
 - How will information be shared – logistics of transmission/exchange
- How will you track outcomes post-program? Following former participants over time?



Data Issues: Linking Data Across Systems, Data Security and Quality Assurance

- Establish a master list for each client of unique ids used by your program and partners who will share data
- Develop a plan for transmitting and receiving data among partners
 - Confidentiality & data security are important
 - Be particularly careful with **social security numbers**
- Quality Assurance
 - Who's going to enter data, when, and into what database within your program?
 - How will it be checked for accuracy?
 - Generate your own cumulative figures and compare them against the automated calculations of the reporting system to ensure accuracy – report any differences you're unable to reconcile