

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

November 9, 2023

Media Contacts:

Len Engel
Crime and Justice Institute
lengel@cjinstitute.org
(508) 782-5125

Kevin Dugan
The Council of State Governments Justice Center
kdugan@csg.org
(646) 376-6129

The Crime and Justice Institute and The Council of State Governments Justice Center, with support from the U.S. Department of Justice’s Office of Justice Programs’ Bureau of Justice Assistance, Debut Justice Reinvestment Initiative Website

The website will serve as a resource for states to learn how the initiative can help them address pressing criminal justice challenges

Boston, Mass.—The Crime and Justice Institute (CJI) and The Council of State Governments (CSG) Justice Center, with support from the U.S. Department of Justice’s Office of Justice Programs’ Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA), today announced the launch of the first-ever Justice Reinvestment Initiative (JRI) website. The new website will serve as the central information hub about JRI efforts for state leaders across the country interested in advancing fair, efficient, and proven criminal justice strategies.

States face complex challenges in their efforts to protect public safety, reduce recidivism, respond to the unique needs of justice-involved individuals returning to communities from jail and prison, and improve services for victims of crime. Through JRI, state leaders work with experts to conduct agency-spanning data analysis; develop and implement data-driven, tailored solutions to address complicated criminal justice challenges; and maximize resources to achieve stronger and safer communities.

“The launch of this website marks a significant milestone in our collective efforts to advance fair and effective criminal justice strategies through the JRI,” said Megan Quattlebaum, director of the CSG Justice Center. “By providing lessons learned from almost 15 years of JRI, this vital resource will empower states to take the next step to address pressing criminal justice challenges. The CSG Justice Center looks forward to supporting existing partners and forging new collaborations as state leaders continue to build stronger and safer communities across the country.”

“CJI applauds the work of its state partners throughout the country that are committed to using data and research to address justice system challenges and improve public safety. CJI looks forward to supporting these partners and developing new ones,” said Len Engel, CJI Director of Policy & Campaigns. “This website is an invaluable tool for sharing lessons learned from nearly 15 years of JRI.”

To date, [44 states](#) have used JRI to implement data-driven solutions to address complex criminal justice challenges. Through JRI, states have averted costs or saved more than \$3.2 billion cumulatively, enabling investments in effective supervision and treatment programs that make communities safer. By 2024, projected savings will grow to over \$4 billion.

JRI is funded by BJA with support from The Pew Charitable Trusts and Arnold Ventures and utilizes experts from CJJ and the CSG Justice Center to work with state partners interested in using data to analyze and improve their justice systems.

Visit the website at <http://www.justicereinvestmentinitiative.org/>.

###

ABOUT THE COUNCIL OF STATE GOVERNMENTS JUSTICE CENTER

The Council of State Governments (CSG) Justice Center is a national nonprofit, nonpartisan organization that combines the power of a membership association, serving state officials in all three branches of government, with policy and research expertise to develop strategies that increase public safety and strengthen communities. For more information about the CSG Justice Center, visit www.csgjusticecenter.org.

ABOUT THE CRIME AND JUSTICE INSTITUTE

The Crime and Justice Institute (CJI) works with national, state, and local organizations to develop and implement evidence-based solutions to strengthen their justice systems. The CJI team brings decades of experience facilitating the development of nonpartisan, data-driven policies, managing complex processes with diverse stakeholders, and driving systems-level organizational change. For more information about CJI, visit www.cjinstitute.org.

ABOUT THE BUREAU OF JUSTICE ASSISTANCE

BJA helps America's state, local, and tribal jurisdictions reduce and prevent crime, lower recidivism, and promote a fair and safe criminal justice system. BJA provides a wide range of resources—including grants, funding, and training and technical assistance—to law enforcement, courts and corrections agencies, treatment providers, reentry practitioners, justice information sharing professionals, and community-based partners to address chronic and emerging criminal justice challenges nationwide. To learn more about BJA, visit bja.ojp.gov or follow us on Facebook (www.facebook.com/DOJBJA) and Twitter (@DOJBJA). BJA is a component of the Department of Justice's Office of Justice Programs.