

National Summit to Advance States' Criminal Justice Priorities



BJA
BUREAU OF JUDICIAL ASSISTANCE
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE



Justice Center
THE COUNCIL OF STATE GOVERNMENTS



National Summit to Advance States' Criminal Justice Priorities Identifying Data-Driven and Research-Based Strategies for State Leaders

States face numerous and pressing criminal justice challenges that directly impact communities and agencies across multiple levels of government. State leaders—governors, legislators, and agency officials—play a critical role in ensuring public safety by setting priorities, identifying policies and programs to achieve them, and allocating finite resources that impact every area of the justice system. At the same time, state leaders are struggling to address challenges in accessing treatment across the continuum and acute shortages in the workforce, improve services for victims of crime, and increase opportunities for people returning to their communities from incarceration. Effectively addressing these challenges requires state leaders to carefully examine system operations, define the outcomes they want to see, and work collaboratively to adjust key policies, practices, and budgets to bridge the gaps.

At this 50-state summit, your state team will:

- Receive data—both national and state-specific—to better understand challenges, including the drivers of corrections admissions, recidivism, and costs, as well as concerns such as returns to prison and jail from community supervision and high utilization of behavioral health and criminal justice resources.
- Engage with in-depth assessments of state statutes, policies, and practices across the nation to provide context for key data and levers for change.
- Obtain compelling examples of policy innovations that are responsive to your state's challenges.

The sessions at the summit will provide data-driven strategies to help states reduce crime and recidivism, including how to prioritize prison space and manage lengths of stay effectively for people convicted of serious and violent crimes; expand front-end interventions and behavioral health strategies to address underlying causes of justice-system involvement; increase the capacity and effectiveness of community supervision; and align reentry supports with needs of people returning to diverse communities across the nation.

The logo features a blue circle on the left containing three white stars. To the right of the circle, the text "National Summit to Advance States' Criminal Justice Priorities" is written in a bold, blue, sans-serif font, with "National Summit" on the top line, "to Advance States'" on the second line, and "Criminal Justice Priorities" on the third line.

National Summit to Advance States' Criminal Justice Priorities

December 5–6, 2023

Courtland Grand Hotel, Atlanta, GA

Please join Arnold Ventures and The Pew Charitable Trusts for a welcome reception on Monday, December 4 from 5:00–7:00 p.m. (Third Floor, Salon D/E).

Agenda Tuesday, December 5, 2023

7:00–8:00 a.m.

*Location: Capitol
Ballroom –
North/Center/South
(NCS)*

Registration and Breakfast

Networking breakfast sponsored by Arnold Ventures and The Pew Charitable Trusts.

8:00–8:10 a.m.

*Location: Capitol
Ballroom –
North/Center/South
(NCS)*

Emcee Welcome

Representatives from The Council of State Governments (CSG) Justice Center and the Crime and Justice Institute (CJI) will convene the summit.

Speakers:

grace beil call, Director of State Initiatives, The Council of State Governments (CSG) Justice Center

Len Engel, Director of Policy and Campaigns, Crime and Justice Institute (CJI)

8:10–8:40 a.m.

*Location: Capitol
Ballroom –
North/Center/South
(NCS)*

Welcome

Representatives from the Bureau of Justice Assistance, The Pew Charitable Trusts, and Arnold Ventures will commence the program, highlight the goals of the summit, and provide an overview of the sessions to follow.

Speakers:

Juliene James, Vice President of Criminal Justice, Arnold Ventures

Karhlton F. Moore, Director, Bureau of Justice Assistance, U.S. Department of Justice

Julie Wertheimer, Project Director, The Pew Charitable Trusts

8:40–9:00 a.m.
*Location: Capitol
Ballroom –
North/Center/South
(NCS)*

Opening Remarks

The U.S. Department of Justice’s Assistant Attorney General of the Office of Justice Programs will address summit participants.

Speaker:

Amy L. Solomon, Assistant Attorney General, Office of Justice Programs, U.S. Department of Justice

9:00–9:45 a.m.
*Location: Capitol
Ballroom –
North/Center/South
(NCS)*

Plenary Session: Setting the Stage

States face numerous and pressing criminal justice challenges that directly impact communities and agencies across multiple levels of government. State leaders—governors, legislators, and agency officials—play a critical role in ensuring public safety by setting priorities, identifying policies and programs to achieve them, and allocating finite resources that impact every area of the justice system. Data is a key ingredient to understanding challenges and developing solutions. With that in mind, the summit will kick off with a series of presentations designed to provide a baseline understanding of trends in three vital areas that influence corrections and criminal justice: national trends in crime and recidivism, substance use and mental illness, and prison and jail populations.

Speakers:

Dr. Carrie Chapman, Senior Data and Policy Specialist, Crime and Justice Institute (CJI)

Marshall Clement, Deputy Director, The Council of State Governments (CSG) Justice Center

Senator Gerald Malloy, State Senator, 29th District, South Carolina

Cam Ward, Director, Alabama Bureau of Pardons and Paroles

9:45–10:00 a.m.

Break

10:00–10:45 a.m.
*Location: Capitol
Ballroom –
North/Center/South
(NCS)*

Plenary Session: Rising to the Challenge

For more than a decade, states have turned to the collaborative process of data analysis, practice and policy assessment, and research to ground discussions to make their criminal justice systems more effective, just, and sustainable. This data-driven process has helped states reduce the unnecessary use of incarceration, improve supervision and community-based programs, and shift resources to proven strategies that reduce recidivism and improve public safety. Recently, new challenges, as well as chronic problems, have strained corrections systems at the state and local levels. During this session, we will hear from a state leader who has committed to the use of data and research to address complex challenges and how these components can be a cornerstone for addressing today’s challenges.

Speaker:

Honorable Kevin J. Stitt, Governor, Oklahoma

Moderator:

Len Engel, Director of Policy and Campaigns, Crime and Justice Institute (CJI)

10:45–11:15 a.m.

*Location: Capitol
Ballroom –
North/Center/South
(NCS)*

Plenary Session: Using Data to Make the Justice System Fairer and More Effective

When people across the country think of disparities in the criminal justice system, they tend to think of early decisions in the criminal justice process that have a compounding effect by the time someone is paroled or ending their supervision. By isolating key decision points like arrests, diversion, programming, parole, and supervision terms, state leaders regain tools and authority over making equitable decisions. Additionally, inequities in the criminal justice system are also better understood in broader social, educational, and health contexts. This short presentation will focus on the ways data can identify disparities and inequities in criminal justice outcomes and policies. This will be followed by a facilitated discussion with state data experts about how they have worked to incorporate data measures and reporting into identifying these inequities and changing policies to reduce them.

Speakers:

Kelly Lyn Mitchell, Assistant Commissioner of Community Services and Reentry, Minnesota Department of Corrections
Representative Steve Stafstrom, State Representative, District 129, Bridgeport, Connecticut

Moderator:

Dr. Jessica Saunders, Director of Research, The Council of State Governments (CSG) Justice Center

11:15–

11:45 a.m.

*Location: Capitol
Ballroom –
North/Center/South
(NCS)*

Plenary Session: Holding People and Systems Accountable

Across the country, state leaders are hearing concerns from the public about rising crime and violence. At the same time, the number of violent crimes solved by law enforcement has continued to decline. During this session, speakers will address the complexities of managing accountability from an arrest, investigation, and prosecution standpoint. Speakers will also interrogate current data on how many crimes are committed by people on supervision.

Speakers:

Representative Kelly Cassidy, State Representative, 14th District, Illinois
Gordon Ramsay, Sheriff, St. Louis County, Minnesota
Senator Clarke Tucker, State Senator, 14th District, Arkansas

Moderator:

Marshall Clement, Deputy Director, The Council of State Governments (CSG) Justice Center

11:45 a.m.

Location: Capitol Ballroom – North/Center/South (NCS)

Lunch

12:15–1:00 p.m.

Location: Capitol Ballroom – North/Center/South (NCS)

Working Lunch and Plenary Session: Aligning Sentencing and Release Policies with Research on Crime and Recidivism

People in prison are serving longer sentences than ever before. At the same time, research demonstrates that increasing the certainty of accountability has a greater impact on crime than increasing length of punishment, and appropriate community supervision and treatment services can reduce further participation in crime and recidivism. This session explores how sentencing policies and other administrative rules are designed to yield the best returns on public safety. Speakers will review the research, consider best practices around release mechanisms to incentivize behavioral change, and highlight state examples. *Lunch is supported by private funding through Arnold Ventures and The Pew Charitable Trusts, not by federal monies.*

Speakers:

Dr. Kristin Bechtel, Senior Justice Researcher, RTI International
Brandon Gibson, Chief Operating Officer, State of Tennessee
Assemblyman Steve Yeager, Speaker of the House, 9th District, Nevada

Moderator:

Maura McNamara, Manager, Crime and Justice Institute (CJI)

1:00–1:15 p.m.

Break

1:15–2:00 p.m.

Location: Capitol Ballroom – North/Center/South (NCS)

Plenary Session: Adapting to State Policy at the Local Level

As state leaders have worked to reform their state corrections systems, local criminal justice stakeholders have felt the impact of some of those decisions. During this session, we will look at examples of how local decision-makers have adapted to state policy changes that affect local jail populations. This session will also highlight successful policy and practice changes, including innovative programming in county jails and the rise in the number and types of problem-solving courts to divert people from incarceration.

Speakers:

Mike Brouwer, Criminal Justice Coordinator, Johnson County, Kansas

Ron Gordon, State Court Administrator, Utah Administrative Office of the Courts

Damion Shade, Director, Oklahomans for Criminal Justice Reform

Moderator:

Michael Nail, Commissioner, Georgia Department of Community Supervision

2:00–2:45 p.m.

Location: Capitol Ballroom – North/Center/South (NCS)

Plenary Session: Staffing for a Fair and Effective System

Vacancy rates and understaffing threaten the ability of leaders in the criminal justice system to ensure adequate response times to calls for service, behavioral health programming options for diversion or pre-criminal justice involvement programming, safety in facilities, and effective recidivism-reduction strategies. This session will present data and information related to the current crises in staffing across corrections, law enforcement, and behavioral health agencies throughout the country. It will also highlight immediate and long-term strategies that states can begin investing in to ensure they have the necessary capacity for safe and healthy communities.

Speakers:

Christopher Fisher, Senior Advisor, Office of Justice Programs, U.S. Department of Justice

Dr. Brian Sims, Senior Medical Advisor, National Association of State Mental Health Program Directors (NASMHPD)

Josh Tewalt, Director, Idaho Department of Correction

Mike Thompson, Principal, Mike Thompson Consulting

Moderator:

Megan Quattlebaum, Director, The Council of State Governments (CSG) Justice Center

2:45–3:00 p.m.

Break

3:00–3:45 p.m.

Breakout Sessions

Location: Atlanta 2 & 3

Developments in Law Enforcement Deflection and Diversion

A growing body of research shows, for certain types of individuals, alternatives to detention are more effective in reducing recidivism than detention. Such alternatives commonly take two forms: the “deflection” approach in which a person avoids justice system contact and receives necessary support and services and the “diversion” approach that diverts a person from a custodial setting once they enter the system. This session will focus on understanding these options, how they operate, and who has discretion, as well as the importance of using both approaches to address the underlying causes of criminal conduct. The session will feature representatives from law enforcement, the judiciary,

and a district attorney's office describing their use of pre-arrest deflection and post-arrest diversion.

Speakers:

Tim Doyle, Lieutenant, Rapid City Police Department, South Dakota
Honorable Carlos Moore, Municipal Judge Pro Tem, City of Clarksdale, Mississippi
James Stewart, District Attorney, Caddo Parish, Louisiana

Moderator:

Hope Fiori, Acting Director of the National Deflection Technical Assistance Center, TASC

*Location: Atlanta 4
& 5*

Advancing Violent Crime Reduction Efforts by Improving Trust and Cooperation between Communities and Police

With the rise in homicides from 2020 to 2021, inequities in homicide victimization, falling clearance rates, and inequities in which homicides are getting solved, states need a solution to reverse these trends and reduce disparities in deaths and solve rates. This panel will talk about strategies to solve violent crime, improve system capacity and fairness, and reduce recidivism.

Speakers:

Eddie Bocanegra, Senior Advisor, Office of Justice Programs, U.S. Department of Justice
Assemblymember Mike Gipson, State Assembly, 65th District, California
Teny Gross, Executive Director, Institute for Nonviolence Chicago

Moderator:

Madeleine Dardeau, Deputy Program Director, The Council of State Governments (CSG) Justice Center

*Location: Georgia 2
& 3*

Improving Behavioral Health and Justice System Agency Collaboration

Justice system agencies across the country have stepped up to respond to behavioral health needs and ultimately achieve better outcomes for people in the justice system who have substance use and co-occurring substance use and mental health disorders through partnerships with behavioral health providers. This session will focus on effective policies and practices, such as Medication for Opioid Use Disorder (MOUD) services, substance use disorder and mental health screening and assessment tools, services that address co-occurring disorders, and opportunities to divert people from incarceration and best serve people during the reentry process. In addition, panelists will share how they have developed and maintained effective collaborations between behavioral health and justice system agencies.

Speakers:

Regina LaBelle, Director, Addiction and Public Policy Initiative, O'Neill Institute at Georgetown University Law Center

Steve Seitchik, Medication Assisted Treatment (MAT) Statewide Coordinator, Pennsylvania Department of Corrections

Dr. Stephanie Woodard, former State Mental Health Authority and Single State Authority for Substance Abuse, Nevada Division of Public and Behavioral Health

Moderator:

Barbara Pierce, Director of Justice Initiatives, Crime and Justice Institute (CJI)

Location: Georgia 5 & 6

Safer Prisons and Effective Supervision Systems

Inadequate staffing in prisons and jails threatens the ability of corrections systems to ensure the safety of staff and people who are incarcerated. Additionally, without proper levels of staffing, incarcerated people are missing out on core correctional programming and essential strategies to ensure their success upon returning to their community. This session will take a deep dive into the challenges related to having fewer staff in prisons and jails, supervision departments, and treatment providers. It will explore how we can safely reduce populations to ensure appropriate caseloads and ratios of prison staff to people who are incarcerated, as well as effective management and support.

Speakers:

Gary Marvel, Field Operations Director, Vermont Department of Corrections

Kelly Lyn Mitchell, Assistant Commissioner of Community Services and Reentry, Minnesota Department of Corrections

Dr. Beth Skinner, Director, Iowa Department of Corrections

Moderator:

David D'Amora, Senior Policy Advisor, The Council of State Governments (CSG) Justice Center

Location: Georgia 7 & 8

Between a Rock and a Hard Place: The Politics of Parole

Paroling authorities are under considerable pressure and subject to substantial public and political scrutiny as they strive to reach parole decisions that incentivize rehabilitation, reduce unnecessary incarceration, and ensure public safety. Political pressure can lead to fewer releases, and many states have restricted their parole boards' ability to release individuals on a discretionary basis. There can also be a lack of consistency and transparency of paroling authorities' procedures for decision-making. In this session, panelists will discuss the progress made in their jurisdictions to improve paroling practices and decisions while balancing public safety. Panelists will highlight how they respond to difficult political environments; the tools they use to help make decisions and track outcomes; and opportunities to improve the process.

Speakers:

Rosalyn Cotton, Chair, Nebraska Board of Parole
Andrew Hundley, Executive Director, Louisiana Parole Project
Kecia Rongen, Chair, Indeterminate Sentence Review Board, Washington Department of Corrections

Moderator:

Jonathan Ogletree, Chair, Kansas Prisoner Review Board

*Location: Georgia 10
& 11*

Setting Reentry Goals and Using Data to Track Outcomes

There are a host of data problems that limit a state's ability to see how laws, policies, and practices impact reentry outcomes, including insufficient detail on supervision practices and outcomes, reliance on raw numbers or counts, and an inability to produce up-to-date reports. This panel will focus on urging state leaders to establish clear and ambitious goals for improving reentry outcomes and reducing revocations or recidivism. It will also explore the necessity of enhancing data on successful reintegration measures such as employment, housing, and treatment.

Speakers:

Roni Burkes-Trowsdell, Director of the Office of Reentry, Ohio Department of Rehabilitation and Correction

Sarah Fineran, Research Director, Iowa Department of Corrections

Karen Friedman, Director of Criminal Justice Innovation, Development, and Engagement, Bureau of Justice Assistance, U.S. Department of Justice

Ray Woodruff, Reentry Director, Wisconsin Department of Corrections

Moderator:

Nina Salomon, Deputy Director of Reentry Initiatives, The Council of State Governments (CSG) Justice Center

3:45–4:00 p.m.

Break

4:00–5:00 p.m.

*State teams assigned
different rooms.*

State Teams Meet

5:00 p.m.

Adjourn

6:00 p.m.

*Location: Capitol
Ballroom –
North/Center/South*

Dinner

Supported by private funding through The Pew Charitable Trusts and Arnold Ventures, this dinner will provide a featured speaker and offer networking opportunities to state teams and participants.

Speakers:

Sam Lewis, Executive Director, Anti-Recidivism Coalition

Carlton Miller, Director of Criminal Justice, Arnold Ventures

Barbara Pierce, Director of Justice Initiatives, Crime and Justice Institute (CJI)

Agenda Wednesday, December 6, 2023

7:00–8:00 a.m.

Location: Capitol Ballroom – North/Center/South (NCS)

Registration and Breakfast

Networking breakfast sponsored by Arnold Ventures and The Pew Charitable Trusts.

8:00–8:15 a.m.

Location: Capitol Ballroom – North/Center/South (NCS)

Welcome and Objectives for Day Two

A representative from the Bureau of Justice Assistance will reflect on and summarize day one and provide an overview for day two of the summit.

Speaker:

Ruby Qazilbash, Deputy Director, Bureau of Justice Assistance, U.S. Department of Justice

8:15–9:15 a.m.

Location: Capitol Ballroom – North/Center/South (NCS)

Plenary Session: Succeeding after Incarceration

Understanding the paths and experiences of people who were incarcerated, on probation, or otherwise involved in the criminal justice system is fundamental. This session will include a facilitated discussion about the personal challenges people face when they leave prison; how community supervision requirements and policies hinder successful reentry; the impact that connection to or lack of supportive housing, employment training, and behavioral health supports had; and why it is so essential to uplift and center voices of people who have been incarcerated in policy discussions.

Speakers:

Amanda Hall, East Region Chief Operating Officer, Addiction Recovery Care, Kentucky

Andrew Hundley, Executive Director, Louisiana Parole Project

Christopher Poulos, Executive Director, Center for Justice and Human Dignity, Washington

Kevin Reese, Executive Director, Until We Are All Free, Minnesota

Moderator:

Marsha Curry-Nixon, Executive Director, Amiracle4sure, Inc., Pennsylvania

9:15–10:15 a.m.

Location: Capitol Ballroom –

Plenary Session: Behavioral Health and the “Front End” of the Criminal Justice System

Sheriffs and jail administrators continue to point out that a

North/Center/South
(NCS)

disproportionately large share of the jail population has behavioral health issues that can and should be better served elsewhere without a negative impact on public safety. State and local partnerships between justice system leaders and their counterparts in health, housing, and other social services can reduce criminal justice system contact by developing pathways into services, housing, and other supports. These partnerships can include strategies for data sharing to identify and connect people to needed community-based services, collaboration to ensure smooth transitions into appropriate housing upon reentry, and diverse strategies to ensure high-quality services in the community. Panelists will explore the impact of managing behavioral health in the criminal justice system, explore opportunities to strengthen community responses to behavioral health crises, and share thinking about how to replace the criminal justice response with sustainable alternatives even beyond diversion.

Speakers:

Dr. Margie Balfour, Chief of Quality & Clinical Innovation, Connections Health Solutions, Arizona

Dr. Michael Champion, Senior Advisor for Mental Health and the Justice System, Hawaii Office of the Governor

Lisa Moultrie, Deputy Chief Assistant District Attorney, DeKalb County, Georgia

Arthur Pepin, Director, New Mexico Administrative Office of the Courts

Moderator:

Hallie Fader-Towe, Interim Director of Behavioral Health Initiatives, The Council of State Governments (CSG) Justice Center

10:15–10:30 a.m.

Break

10:30–11:15 a.m.

Breakout Sessions

Location: Atlanta 2 &
3

Ensuring Accountability through Judicial Engagement

In most cases, judges have the authority to impose a period of incarceration or an alternative, non-custodial response to address criminal conduct and the causes of such behavior. While the use of incarceration has increased over the past 40 years, so has the availability and use of alternatives to incarceration. However, while incarceration typically ends the court’s involvement in the case, programs that provide alternatives to incarceration require significant judicial involvement and resources. This session will feature judges discussing the responsibilities incumbent on the court to weigh the various goals of a criminal sentence and impose a sanction that meets these goals.

Speakers:

Honorable Linda Cooke, Judge, Boulder Municipal Court, Colorado

Honorable Rusty Knight, Judge, 22nd Judicial District Court, Louisiana

Honorable Ginger Lerner-Wren, Judge, Broward County Court, Florida
Honorable Mary Logan, Judge, City of Spokane Municipal Court,
Washington

Moderator:

Caitlin Flood, Senior Policy Specialist, Crime and Justice Institute (CJI)

*Location: Atlanta 4 &
5*

Adopting Policies that Improve Pretrial Decisions and Reduce Burdens on Jails

Across the country, the number of people held in local jails awaiting trial continues to grow. In addition to the strain this puts on facility resources, detaining low- and moderate-risk individuals pretrial, even for a few days, can increase the likelihood of reoffending. There is a growing body of evidence showing that statewide policies regarding the implementation of pretrial assessment tools and evidence-based practice changes on the front end can aid jurisdictions in their efforts to reduce incarceration without compromising public safety. Statewide efforts to address these issues can result in reduced rates of recidivism and a reinvestment of justice savings. This breakout session will focus on these early decision-making points and provide participants with helpful resources to navigate changes in a statewide effort.

Speakers:

Angie Darcy, Executive Officer, Department of Pretrial Services,
Administrative Office of the Courts, Kentucky

Daron Hall, Sheriff, Davidson County, Tennessee

Barbara Hankey, Director, Oakland County Public Services, Michigan

Moderator:

Jessica Hickman, Manager, Crime and Justice Institute (CJI)

*Location: Georgia 2 &
3*

Advancing Wraparound Behavioral Health Services for People Leaving Jails and Prisons

People leaving jail or prison without adequate medication, connection to treatment, and wraparound services to support their behavioral health needs are at a high risk of returning to incarceration. This session will highlight the importance of accurately and consistently assessing a person's behavioral health needs while they are incarcerated in jail or prison. The session will also address the need to effectively plan for and provide a comprehensive array of relevant and effective services to address their needs once they are in the community to reduce crime and recidivism and improve public health.

Speakers:

Jori Dovey, People and Culture Manager, Bridges of Colorado

Lisa Madden, President and CEO, Riverbend Community Mental Health,
New Hampshire

Gary Marvel, Field Operations Director, Vermont Department of Corrections

Moderator:

Sarah Wurzburg, Deputy Director of Behavioral Health Initiatives, The Council of State Governments (CSG) Justice Center

Location: Georgia 5 & 6

Decision-Making for Better Justice Outcomes

There is an active dialogue across the country about the tools and levers available to criminal justice system decision-makers to address criminal conduct, hold people accountable, and address the causes of criminal behavior. This session will discuss decisions and opportunities from the front end at arraignment and detention to the back end at release with a focus on impacts and sustainability.

Speakers:

Honorable Thomas Boyd, Judge, State Court Administrator, Michigan Supreme Court

Senator Gerald Malloy, State Senator, 29th District, South Carolina

Stephen Talpins, Chief Assistant State Attorney, Miami-Dade County State Attorney's Office, Florida

Marshall Thompson, former Vice Chair, Utah Parole Board, and former Director, Utah Sentencing Commission

Moderator:

Molly Robustelli, Manager, Crime and Justice Institute (CJI)

Location: Georgia 7 & 8

Reducing Employment Barriers and Scaling Up Services

Myriad structural barriers to reintegration exist in state legislative and administrative policy. These collateral consequences hinder access to jobs, housing, and education for people with criminal records. This session will highlight the challenging employment barriers in states as well as the practical and impactful ways state and local leaders have reduced or eliminated these barriers and the effects they have seen as a result.

Speakers:

Dr. William Arnold, Jr., Director, Tennessee Office of Reentry

Shelley Cortese, Associate Director of Community Corrections, Rhode Island Department of Corrections

Karen Friedman, Director of Criminal Justice Innovation, Development, and Engagement, Bureau of Justice Assistance, U.S. Department of Justice

Kyle Kaminski, Offender Success Administrator/Legislative Liaison, Michigan Department of Corrections

Moderator:

Josh Gaines, Project Manager, The Council of State Governments (CSG) Justice Center

Location: Georgia 10 & 11

Removing Barriers and Scaling Up Housing Services

Housing is a critical need for successful reentry. Given tighter housing markets, jurisdictions are faced with significant housing shortages due to increases in demand and inadequate supply for private and public housing that make access for reentering individuals difficult. The pervasive lack of housing—including safe, affordable housing paired with appropriate additional supports—continues to stymie reentry success. Different states and counties have worked to identify their housing needs for people returning to the community, make the necessary funding available and impactful, remove barriers to housing for people with criminal histories, and create clear pathways to stable housing upon reentry. This session will showcase how different states are making concrete strides in what often feels like an unmanageable situation.

Speakers:

Dr. Ronald F. Day, Vice President of Programs and Research, The Fortune Society

Connor McDonnell, Permanent Supportive Housing Assistant Manager, Arlington County, Virginia

Moderator:

Charley Francis, Deputy Program Director, The Council of State Governments (CSG) Justice Center

11:15–11:30 a.m.

Break

11:30 a.m.–
12:15 p.m.

Breakout Sessions

Location: Atlanta 2 & 3

Collecting and Sharing State and Local Criminal Justice Data and Information

The criminal justice system is made up of law enforcement agencies, prosecution offices, defense attorney offices, courts, jails, prisons, and community supervision agencies. Additionally, victim services, community advocacy, behavioral health organizations, and other community supports all play a critical part in the overall efficacy of public safety efforts. Looking at data across these systems helps states and local governments pinpoint critical decision-making points that may be driving specific criminal justice challenges. This session will highlight not just the importance of but the potential for overcoming data silos to get to the most nuanced and actionable analyses possible. Through data matching of criminal justice and behavioral health information through the Justice Reinvestment Initiative, states have been able to understand when people first interacted with the criminal justice system and how they continue to cycle through jails, emergency rooms, and prisons. Additionally, Justice Counts is a suite of tools, backed by new technology, available to states and local jurisdictions to improve data

sharing across the criminal justice system. Data sharing between criminal justice and behavioral health systems; information about staffing, budgets, and operations; and improved data visualizations can enhance our ability to make data-driven criminal justice improvements.

Speakers:

Andrew LeFevre, Executive Director, Arizona Criminal Justice Commission

Dr. Timothy Magner, President, Greater Shreveport, Louisiana, Chamber of Commerce

Marc Pelka, Undersecretary of Criminal Justice Policy and Planning, Connecticut Office of Policy and Management

Moderator:

Katie Mosehauer, Deputy Director of State Initiatives, The Council of State Governments (CSG) Justice Center

Location: Atlanta 4 & 5

Using Data-Driven Tools to Improve the Consistency of Community Supervision Practices

Over the past several years, four states have instituted new technology to improve their agency's ability to understand what is working, or not working, for people on supervision. These states have set big recidivism-reduction goals and worked with their community supervision leadership to connect people on supervision to more programming, reduce the number of technical violations, and increase the likelihood that people will get off supervision successfully. This session will feature a discussion that highlights the disconnect between data tracking and community supervision and supervision policy and practice and the improvements that can be made at a systems and individual level when new data tools are integrated into standard operating procedure for community supervision and supervision agencies and staff.

Speakers:

Bree Derrick, Deputy Director, Idaho Department of Correction

Tom Erhardt, Director of North Dakota Parole and Probation, North Dakota Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation

Julie Kempker, Director, Division of Probation and Parole, Missouri Department of Corrections

Moderator:

Sara Friedman, Program Director, The Council of State Governments (CSG) Justice Center

Location: Georgia 2 & 3

Women in the Justice System

The number of incarcerated women grew each year from 1980 to 2015 and as of 2021 stands at 168,449 women. There are also over 800,000 women on probation or parole. Women involved in the justice system face unique needs and challenges; for example, incarcerated women

have higher rates of trauma than incarcerated men and worse physical and behavioral health outcomes than incarcerated men and non-incarcerated women. They also face gender-related challenges that are often compounded and may require additional programming, treatment, and support. This session will discuss the drivers of women's involvement in the justice system and how states are addressing the challenges women face as a result. The panel will provide examples of policies and practices they are implementing to improve outcomes for women.

Speakers:

Rhonda Bear, Founder, She Brews Coffee House and Transition Center, and Member Oklahoma Board of Corrections

Honorable Cynthia Leung, Judge, Las Vegas Municipal Court, Nevada

Amanda Woolford-Wessling, Director of Women's Services, Maine Department of Corrections

Moderator:

Ashley Bauman, Director, Bauman Consulting Group

Location: Georgia 5 & 6

Addressing Supervision Gaps to Reduce Revocations

Almost 4 million people are on some form of community supervision in the U.S. While a majority of those placed on community supervision will succeed, a significant number of individuals are being returned to prison and jails for violations of supervision conditions, often for noncriminal behavior. This session will discuss the findings and lessons learned from an examination of the factors driving revocation trends in four states. This session will bring together a panel of stakeholders to discuss the study's results and the opportunities that exist to improve outcomes for people on probation and parole.

Speakers:

Jim Anderson, Public Safety Chief, Montana Department of Corrections

Reggie Fullwood, President and CEO, Operation New Hope, Florida

Kristina Lucero, former member, Montana Parole Board, and Director of the American Indian Governance and Policy Institute at the University of Montana

Glenn Tapia, Director, Probation Services, State Court Administrator's Office, Colorado

Moderator:

Colby Dawley, Deputy Director, Crime and Justice Institute (CJI)

Location: Georgia 7 & 8

Ensuring Reentry Progress Is Equitable

There are various ways to consider equity in reentry, for example (1) What does individual access to treatment programs look like? (2) What is the quality and accessibility of programming? (3) How do outcomes vary based on the people participating in the program? Institutionally, there are broader policy factors to consider. This session will include a

panel discussion that will explore and address the crucial issue of equity in the context of reentry programs for people transitioning back into their communities after incarceration. The panel will engage in discussions about the multifaceted aspects of equity, both at the individual and institutional levels, and how to foster a fair and inclusive reentry process.

Speakers:

Danielle Armbruster, Assistant Secretary, Washington State Department of Corrections

Yaacov Delaney, Director of Justice, Equity, and Opportunity Initiative, Office of the Illinois Lt. Governor

Moderator:

Val Carpico, Project Manager, The Council of State Governments (CSG) Justice Center

12:15–12:45 p.m.

Location: Capitol Ballroom – North/Center/South (NCS)

Lunch

12:45–1:30 p.m.

Location: Capitol Ballroom – North/Center/South (NCS)

Working Lunch and Plenary Session: Pushing toward Parity: Examining Racial Disparities in the Prison System

The Council on Criminal Justice (CCJ) has published several reports looking at how racial disparities have changed in prisons over the last two decades. During this lunch-and-learn session, co-author Thaddeus Johnson will discuss the findings outlined in CCJ’s reports. *Lunch is supported by private funding through Arnold Ventures and Pew Charitable Trusts, not by federal monies.*

Speaker:

Dr. Thaddeus Johnson, Senior Fellow, Council on Criminal Justice and Professor, Georgia State University’s Andrew Young School of Policy Studies

Moderator:

Jessie Halladay, Senior Policy Specialist, Crime and Justice Institute (CJI)

1:30–1:45 p.m.

Break

1:45–2:30 p.m.

Location: Capitol Ballroom –

Plenary Session: Ensure Individual Success by Removing Barriers to Reentry

North/Center/South
(NCS)

For over a decade, there have been improvements to reentry policy and practice. As a result, successful reentry and recidivism reduction are now central to the missions of federal, state, and local agencies, and a remarkably diverse set of constituencies outside of the justice system embrace these same goals. The science about what works to reduce recidivism has advanced considerably. However, there are several serious factors that impact reentry success: (1) lack of full-scale implementation of what works, (2) lack of coordination, (3) limited public goalposts for reentry success and limited accountability for racial disparities, (4) limited data to understand the problem and drive solutions, and (5) structural barriers to reintegration. Yet each of these systemic flaws also presents an opportunity for jurisdictions to set measurable goals for improvement. There are multiple points at which state leaders can intervene to clear the runway and create new opportunities for success. From removing occupational licensing barriers to barring prison admissions that result from technical violations, state leaders have the power to offer second chances—and not just at the point of prison release. The panelists will share how state leaders can unlock these opportunities, look to other agencies, and rethink the role of supervision, seeking to support rather than punish.

Speakers:

Priya Sarathy Jones, Deputy Executive Director, Fines and Fees Justice Center

Dr. Beth Skinner, Director, Iowa Department of Corrections

Neil Volz, Deputy Director, Florida Rights Restoration Coalition

Moderator:

Dr. Nicole Jarrett, Director of Reentry Initiatives, The Council of State Governments (CSG) Justice Center

2:30–3:15 p.m.

Location: Capitol
Ballroom –
North/Center/South
(NCS)

Plenary Session: Resiliency and Engagement: Understanding Our Responsibility to Victims, Survivors, and People Who Are Harmed

People who experience harm, who identify as victims or survivors, are not a uniform group and have different paths toward healing and recovery. Many survivors are engaged in criminal justice advocacy and improvements to sentencing, parole, probation, prosecution, and other criminal justice processes. This conversation will celebrate the voices and work of people who have resiliently advanced criminal justice practice improvements.

Speakers:

Priscilla Bordayo, Michigan Crime Survivors for Safety and Justice Statewide Manager, Alliance for Safety and Justice

Audrey Cress, Statewide Recruitment Manager, Kansas Department of Administration

Lisa Daniels, Executive Director, Darren B. Easterling Center for Restorative Practices, Illinois

Gayle Thom, Retired FBI Victim Specialist, South Dakota

Moderator:
Christelle Perez, Bureau Chief, Office of the Illinois Attorney General

3:15–3:30 p.m.

Break

3:30–4:30 p.m.

*State teams assigned
different rooms.*

State Teams Meet

4:30 p.m.

*Location: Capitol
Ballroom –
North/Center/South
(NCS)*

Plenary Closing Session: Facing the Future with Data and Collaboration

Over the past two days of the summit, leaders have had a chance to learn and share strategies for addressing key criminal justice challenges. What happens next? How do the conversations at this event, in these rooms, at these tables build into strategies that can advance changes in each state to improve the criminal justice system and reduce recidivism?

Speakers:

Honorable Michael Boggs, Chief Justice, Georgia Supreme Court
Jake Horowitz, Senior Director, Safety and Justice, Pew Charitable
Trusts

Juliene James, Vice President of Criminal Justice, Arnold Ventures

Ruby Qazilbash, Deputy Director, Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA),
U.S. Department of Justice

Josh Tewalt, Director, Idaho Department of Correction

5:00 p.m.

Farewell and Adjourn