

Using Data to Make Informed Decisions

Working Together to Improve Outcomes for Families Affected by Substance Use Disorders

Jane Pfeifer, MPA, Senior Associate
Children and Family Futures
September 29, 2017

Family Drug Courts

*Improving
Family
Outcomes*

*Strengthening
Partnerships*





*National
Leadership*

*Cross-Agency
Coordination*

*Technical
Assistance
Resources*

Acknowledgement

This presentation is supported by:

The Office of Juvenile Justice and
Delinquency Prevention Office of Justice
Programs
(2016-DC-BX-K003)

Points of view or opinions expressed in this presentation are those of the presenter(s) and do not necessarily represent the official position or policies of OJJDP or the U.S. Department of Justice.

FDC Movement

Next

**National Strategic Plan
Institutionalization,
Infusion, Sustainability**

2014

Systems Change Initiatives

2007

**Practice Improvements – Children Services,
Trauma, Evidence-Based Programs**

2004

Grant Funding – OJJDP, SAMHSA, CB

2002

Six Common Ingredients Identified (#7 added in 2015)

1994

First Family Drug Courts Emerge – Leadership of Judges Parnham & McGee

10 Key Components and Adult Drug Court model

National Family Drug Court *Strategic Plan*

Vision: *Every family in the child welfare system affected by parental/caregiver substance use disorders will have timely access to comprehensive and coordinated screening, assessment and service delivery for family's success.*

Ensure Quality
Implementation

Build Evidence Base

Expansion of
FDC Reach

Definitions

Research and Evaluation

Concerned with questions of attribution

Performance Measures/Indicators

Carefully chosen set of indicators of performance in critical areas of functioning

Data Elements

Data points that make up performance measures

Why are data important?



**Program
Improvement**



Garner Resources

Why else?

Data Driven Decision-Making

Application of data should focus on continuous quality improvement rather than efforts to satisfy compliance

Campie and Sokolsky, 2016

How Data Driven is Your Program?



- We currently do not collect data or monitor performance
- We collect data mainly for compliance or grant requirements
- Data collection is in place but used sparingly to make decisions garner resources
- Data collection and performance monitoring is a part of business as usual and is regularly used to make decisions and garner resources

Research on Research

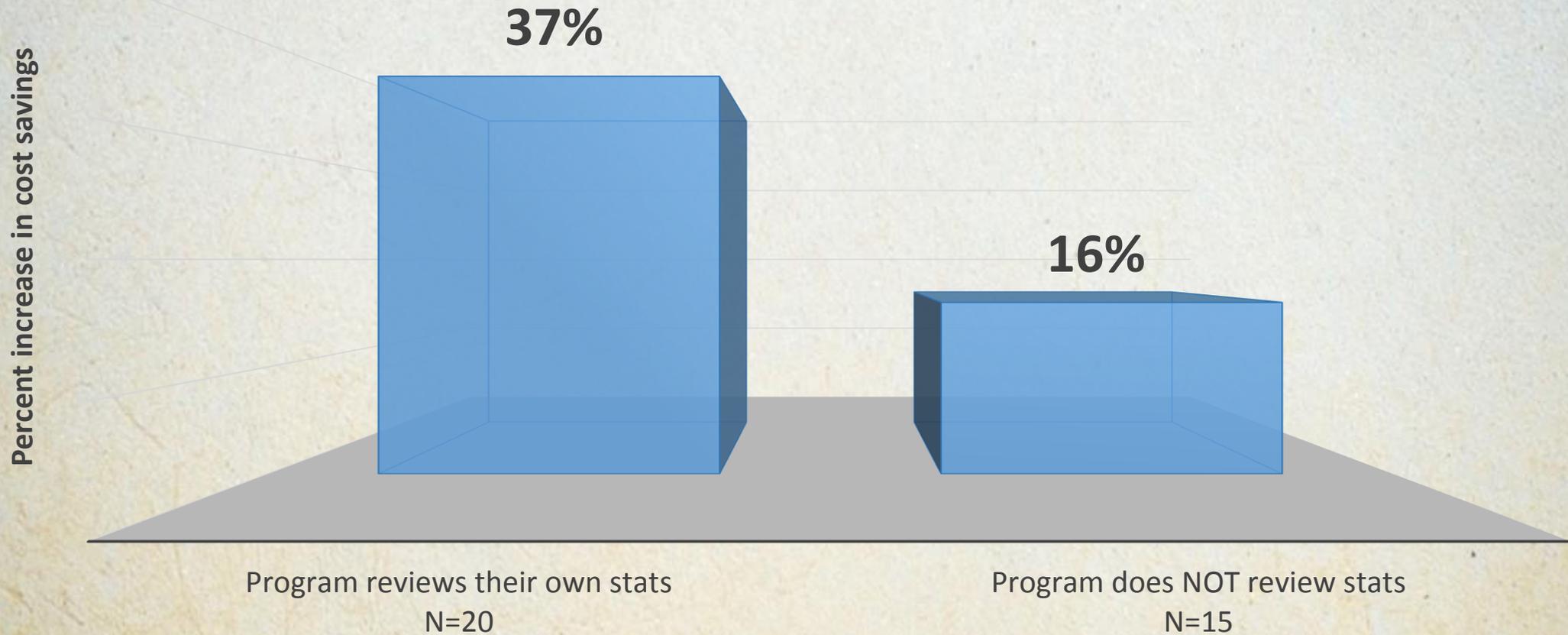


Studies find that courts that monitor their own effectiveness outperform programs that don't by a significant margin

Lessons from Adult Drug Courts



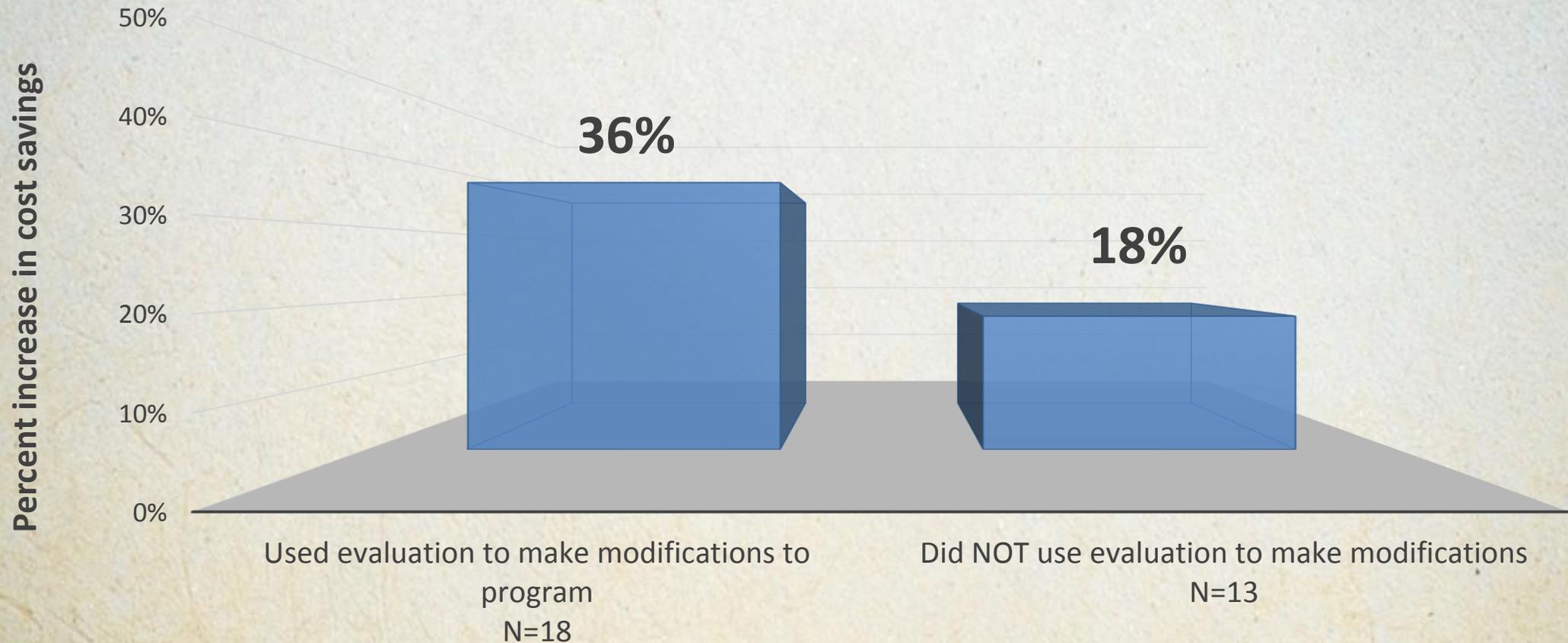
Drug Courts Where Review of The Data and Stats Has Led to Modifications in Drug Court Operations had a 131% Increase in Cost Savings



Note: Difference is significant at $p < .05$



Drug Courts Where the Results of Program Evaluations Have Led to Modifications in Drug Court Operations Had a 100% Increase in Cost Savings



Note: Difference is significant at $p < .05$

Evidence-Based Practice Recommendations

Recommendation #1: A sustainable outcome monitoring process should be in place that collects information on key program characteristics and youth outcomes.

Recommendation #2: Information collected through the outcome monitoring process should be stored electronically, so that data analysis and report development can be easily completed.

Recommendation #3: A clear data collection process should be articulated.

Recommendation #4: Data collected as a part of the outcome monitoring process should be reviewed on a regular basis.

Recommendation #5: Information collected should be summarized and disseminated to key stakeholders.

Recommendation #6: Juvenile drug courts should seek out support for conducting a full outcome evaluation.

Lessons from Juvenile Drug Courts

Models for Change Initiative, National Center for Mental Health and Juvenile Justice, 2009

How Collaborative Policy and Practice Impacts



5Rs

Recovery

Remain at home

Reunification

Recidivism

Re-entry



Family Drug Courts as a

“Feel Good” Program

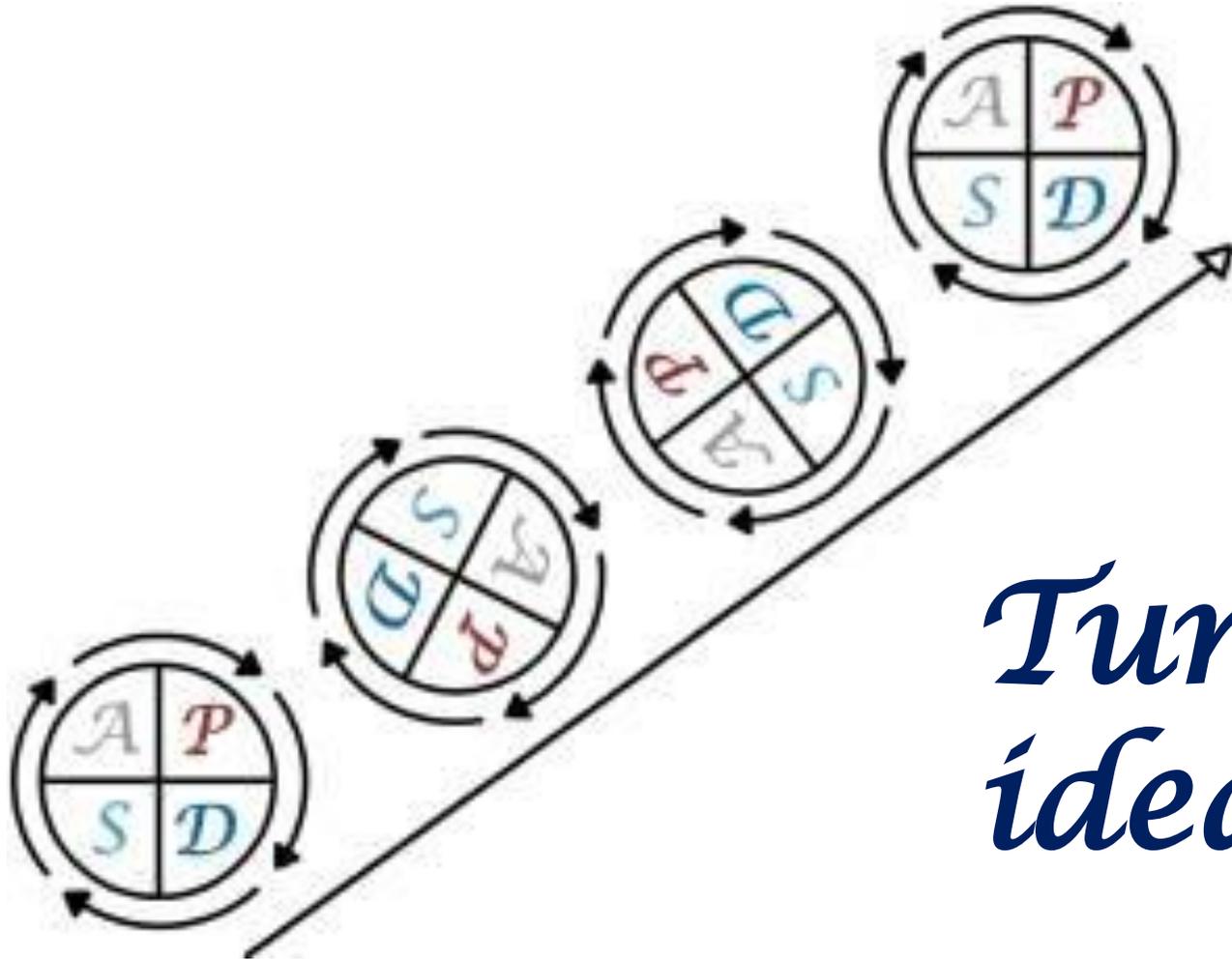
How do you know.....

How will you.....



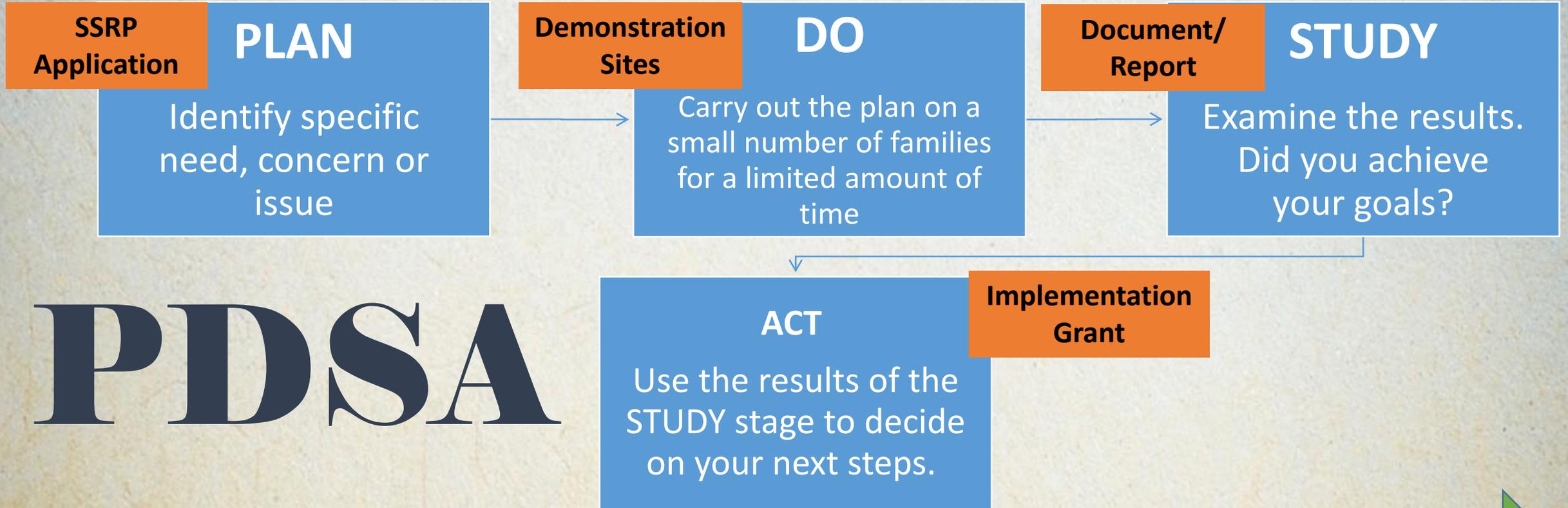
- How are families doing?
- Doing good vs. harm?
- What's needed for families?
- Monitor and improve performance?
- Demonstrate effectiveness?
- Secure needed resources?

Plan Do Study Act



*Turns a change
idea into action...*

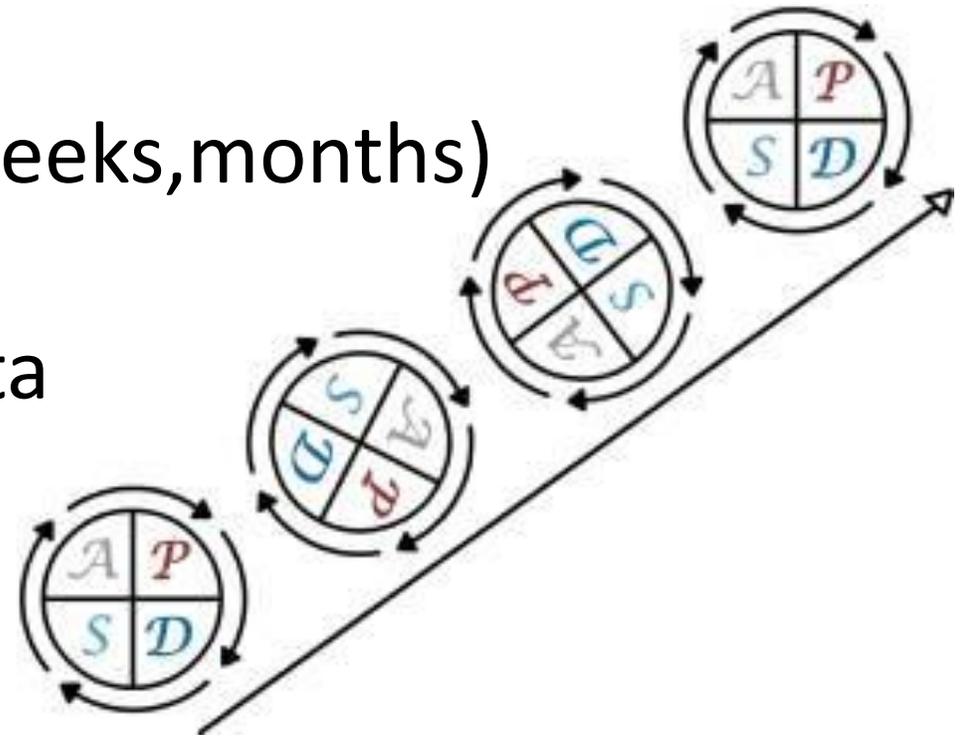
Data-Driven & Problem-Focused: Identifying Opportunities for Change



DOCUMENT AND COMMUNICATE AT ALL DECISION POINTS

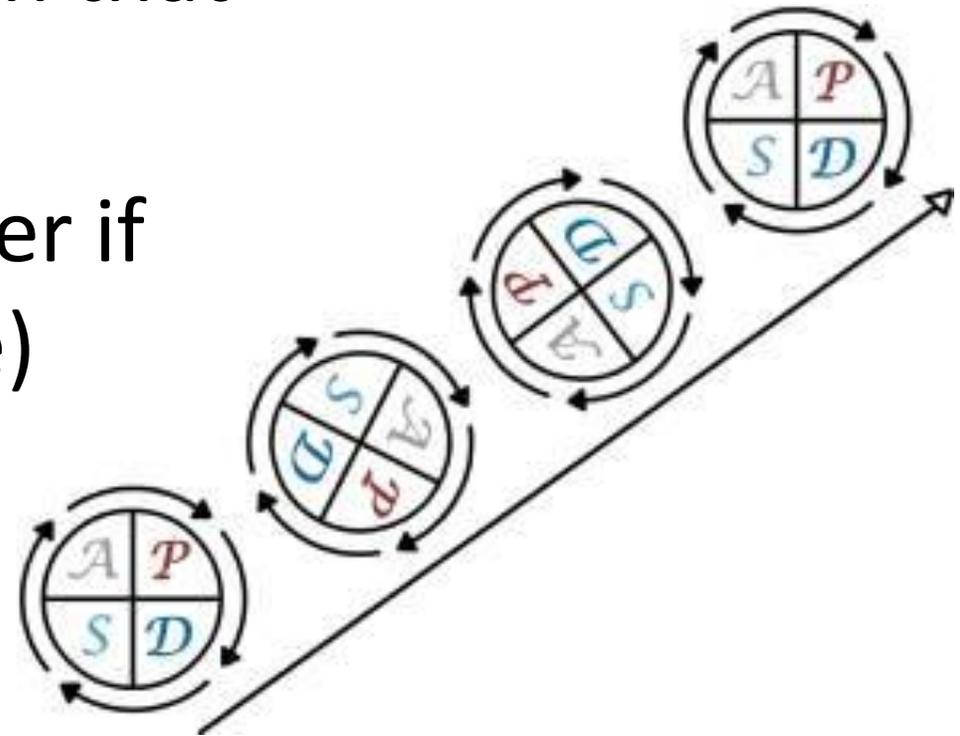
Plan

- Determine how you can test the change on a small scale
- Prepare a detailed plan
 - Identify staff
 - Identify testing schedule (days, weeks, months)
 - Assign responsibilities
 - Develop documentation (e.g. data collection forms)
 - Ensure collaborative approval
- Document at all decision points



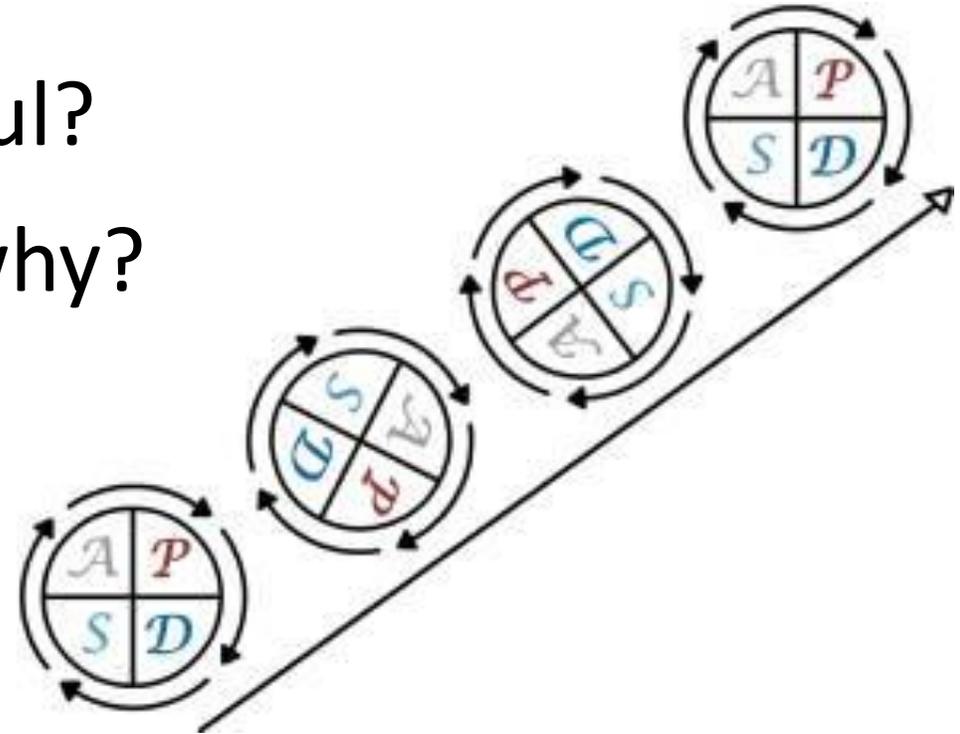
Do

- Follow the plan as outlined
- Document any changes to the plan that were made, and why
- Track data before, during, and after if changes were made (is applicable)
- Document at all decision points



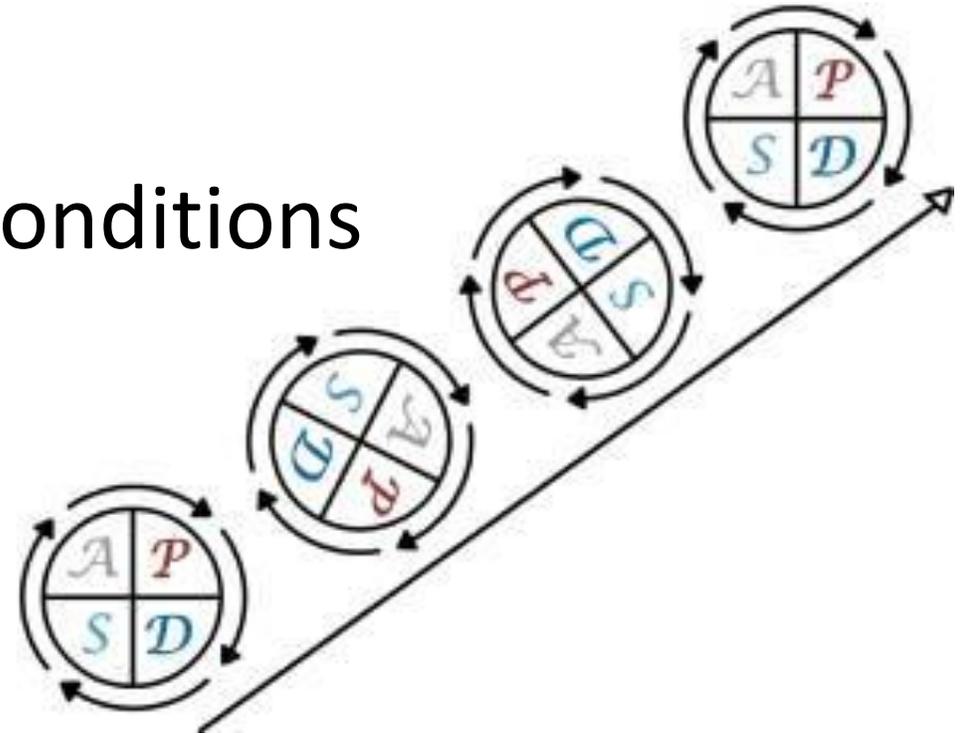
Study

- Ask questions about the data
- What is it telling you?
- Was the process change successful?
- If the change was unsuccessful, why?
- Document at all decision points



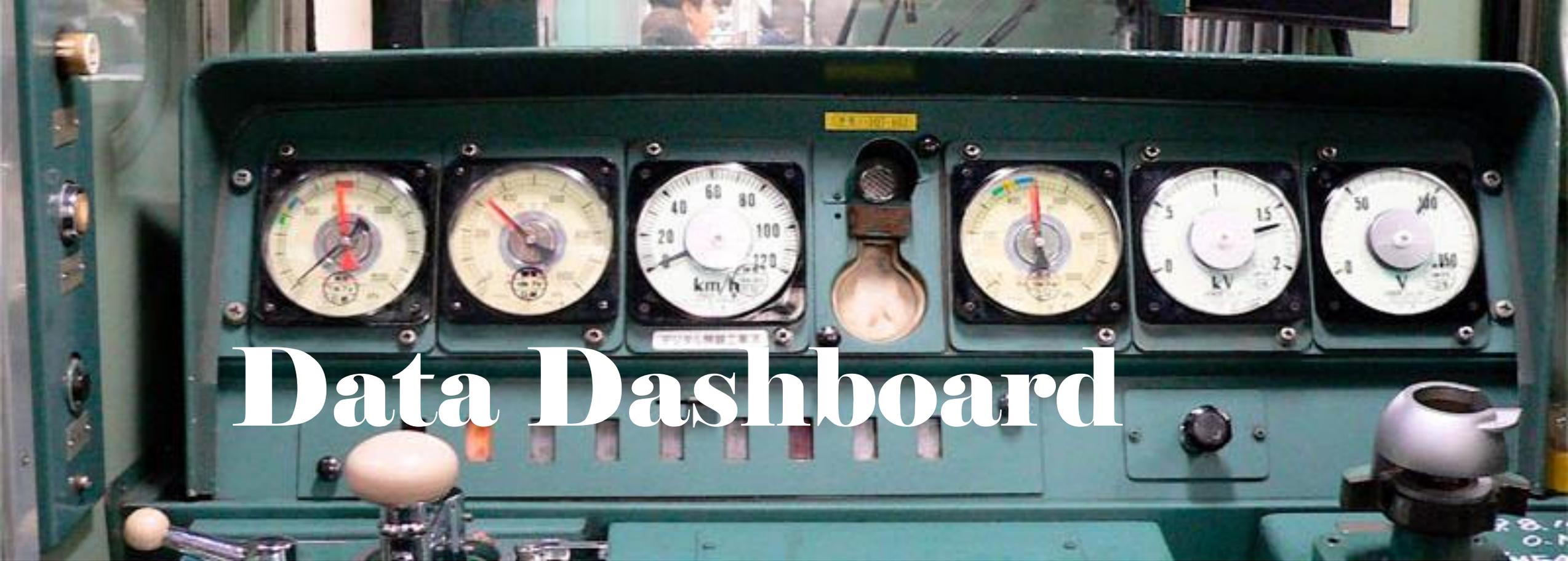
Act

- Use the results of the STUDY and decide on next steps
- Determine if change should be increased in scope
- Determine if the scope or testing conditions need to change
- **Adopt, Adapt, or Abandon**
- Document at all decision points



Why PDSA?

- Minimize risks and expenditures of time and money
- Make changes that are less disruptive, best for social sciences
- Reduce resistance to change by starting on a small scale
- Learn from the ideas that work, and from those that do not



Data Dashboard

- What needles are you trying move?
- What outcomes are the most important?
- Is there shared accountability for “moving the needle” in a measurable way, in FDC and larger systems?
- Who are we comparing to?

Number of Intakes screened "Yes" with substance abuse question

438*

Number of SUD screening records created

170 (28.9%)

71% Drop Off

Number of records where a screening tool was administered

154 (90.6%)

11 % Drop Off

Number of recommendations for assessment

43 (27.9%)

70% Drop Off

Indicated in Need of TX*

17 (50%)

Accessed TX*

10 (58%)

Learning Activity



- **Using the example of the screening data provided, what PDSA cycle would you recommend?**
- **What were your discussion points?**
- **Did you discuss alternative approaches?**

Building Trust – Cross-System Collaboration

Partners across systems have:

- Agree upon shared mission
- Identified shared goals
- Obtained knowledge about their own and each other's data system capacities
- Established cooperative working relationships to track families involvement across systems
- Secured support and buy-in for performance monitoring at all levels

A photograph of a winding asphalt road through a rural landscape. The road curves from the bottom center towards the right. The left side of the road is bordered by a dry, golden-brown field, and the right side is bordered by a lush green field. In the distance, there are rolling hills and a clear blue sky with scattered white clouds. A semi-transparent grey box is overlaid on the upper half of the image, containing text.

A permanent shift in doing business that relies on **relationships** across systems and within the community to secure needed **resources** to achieve better **results** and outcomes for all children and families.

Systems Change

The image features a collection of wooden geometric shapes, including squares, triangles, and trapezoids, arranged in two rows on a grey stone surface. The top row consists of four pieces: a large trapezoid, a square, a triangle, and a large square. The bottom row consists of five pieces: a trapezoid, a square, a triangle, a square, and a trapezoid. A horizontal blue band with a textured, paper-like appearance runs across the center of the image, containing the text 'Q&A Discussion' in white, bold, sans-serif font.

Q&A
Discussion

View the Recorded Webinar!

Data & Information Systems

The Fuel that Drives the FDC Bus

Includes Team
Discussion Guide!



Family Drug Court *National Strategic Plan*

Vision:

Every family in the child welfare system affected by parental/caregiver substance use disorders will have timely access to comprehensive and coordinated screening, assessment and service delivery for family's success.

Ensure Quality
Implementation

Expansion of
FDC Reach

Build Evidence Base

National Strategic Plan For Family Drug Courts

MARCH 2017



This project is supported by Award No. 2012-D10-002 awarded by the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention, Office of Justice Programs. The opinions, findings, and conclusions or recommendations expressed in this publication are those of the author(s) and do not necessarily reflect the views of the Department of Justice.

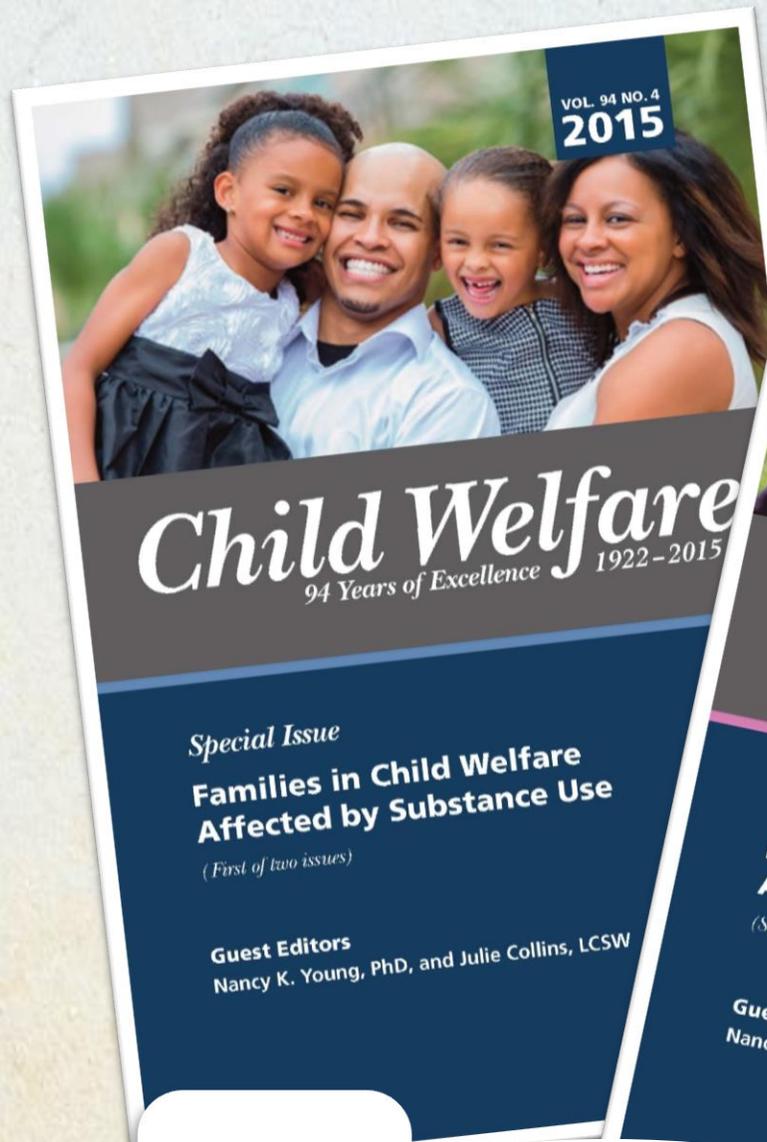


www.cffutures.org/fdc

2015 Special Issue

Includes four Family Drug Court specific articles presenting findings on:

- Findings from the Children Affected by Methamphetamine (CAM) FDC grant program
- FDC program compliance and child welfare outcomes
- Changes in adult, child and family functioning amongst FDC participants
- Issues pertaining to rural FDCs



www.cwla.org

Family Drug Court *Learning Academy*



- Over 40 webinar presentations
- 5 Learning Communities along FDC development
- Team Discussion Guides for selected presentations



www.cffutures.org



Family Drug Court *Blog*



- Webinar Recordings
- FDC Resources
- FDC News



www.familydrugcourts.blogspot.com

Discussion Guide *Understanding Treatment*



www.cffutures.org

- For Child Welfare and Court Professionals
- Build stronger partnerships with treatment
- Ensure best treatment fit for families

Family Drug Court *Online Tutorial*

- Self-paced learning
- Modules cover basic overview of FDC Model
- Certificate of Completion

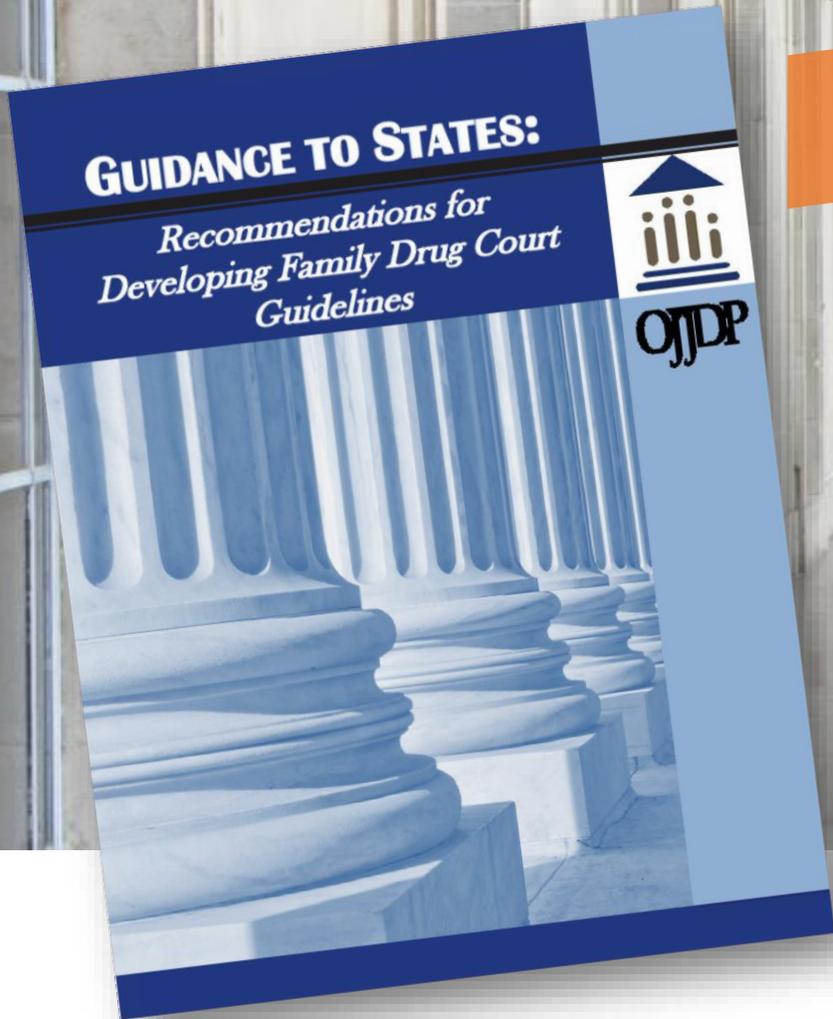
New Resource!



www.cffutures.org



Family Drug Court *Guidelines*



2nd Edition – Research Update



www.cffutures.org/fdc/

Family Drug Court *Peer Learning Court Program*



fdc@cffutures.org

Family Drug Court *Orientation Materials*



Discipline Specific

Child Welfare | AOD Treatment | Judges | Attorneys



www.cffutures.org/fdc

Collaborate with Center for Children and Family Futures, Inc. to **Design and Implement Your Evaluation**

Measure the Difference You Are Making



Center for Children and Family Futures
Strengthening Partnerships, Improving Family Outcomes

CCFF is a leading provider of **Research and Evaluation** support to national, state, and county efforts to address the needs of children and families

For more information visit: **www.cffutures.org/evaluation** or

Contact us at: **evaluation@cffutures.org**



Contact Information

National FDC TTA Program

Center for Children and Family Futures

(714) 505-3525

Fdc@cffutures.org

*Improving
Family
Outcomes*

*Strengthening
Partnerships*

