

BEHAVIOR RESPONSES WORK GROUP REPORT

Chris Cunningham, Chair and Angie Hensley, Vice Chair
Behavior Responses Work Group Chairs Meeting
August 17, 2018

1. Workplan Review:

The prior Behavior Responses Workgroup workplan (see attachment) was targeted toward the activities of community supervision officers as agents of change to achieve harm reduction goals within our communities. The workplan has been updated with new dates and activities related to community supervision implementation, pretrial supervision, and facility management. The BR Harm Reduction Goals (Impact) are still relevant for promoting offender change imperative for the Indiana EBDM State Policy Team.

Behavior Responses Work Plan Goal:

“Implement a system wide, evidence-based approach to shaping behavior across all decision points that considers risk and needs, public safety risk, and interventions and strategies most likely to result in positive behavior change.” This goal remains relevant and the workgroup plans to expand its focus to decision points beyond community supervision, pretrial supervision, and facility management. The workgroup also plans to work with the Indiana Office of Court Services as it continues to implement probation incentives and sanctions as required by IC 11-13-1-8. IOCS recently contracted with Dr. Paula Smith to update the behavior response curriculum and implementation expansion.

2. Needed Resources.

- a. Technical Assistance to counties implementing Behavior Response Strategies (trainers, facilitators, coaches).
- b. An Infrastructure to allow collection of data and evaluation of results and outcomes both local/state.
- c. SRS install priority for counties that pursue BR Pilot status.
- d. State Team and Judicial Conference Board approval to move forward with implementation expansion.

3. Committee membership. Committee membership includes representation from the following: probation, community corrections, parole, problem-solving courts, and a judicial officer. The workgroup needs representation from the Indiana Prosecuting Attorneys Council, the Indiana Public Defender Council, pretrial services, jails, and correctional facilities. The workgroup chairs will propose meeting dates for 2018 and 2019, connect with current members to gauge interest in continued membership, and fill vacancies as needed.

4. Workgroup Vision. Our vision for the Behavior Response Workgroup is to develop best practices for counties to implement behavior response strategies. This includes minimum standards, training for stakeholders and supervision staff, technical assistance, and data collection. We would like to evaluate outcomes for counties using incentives and sanctions, and with the Risk Reduction Strategies Workgroup on other decision point priorities.