

Corporate Capabilities



ABOUT US

Policy Research, a women-owned small business, leads the behavioral health field through people-centered positive social change. Our core services are research and evaluation, technical assistance, training, and policy evaluation. Since 1987, we have transformed services and systems that support individuals with behavioral health needs on their journey to recovery. Our extensive experience includes the operation of national technical assistance centers and large-scale evaluations for federal, state, and foundation clients. We are known for our expertise in the following areas:



Behavioral Health



Service Members, Veterans,
and their Families



Trauma



Criminal Legal System



Systems Mapping



People With Lived
Experience



Homelessness and Housing



Systems Change



Positive Youth Development



Income Supports



Recovery Support



Wellness and Well-Being

SERVICES

RESEARCH & EVALUATION

Our researchers structure data collection to evaluate program transformation, design research protocols, train staff, gather and analyze data, and present results in formats geared toward policymakers and funders.

Highlighted services include the following:

- ✓ Policy analysis
- ✓ Program assessment and improvement
- ✓ Evaluation design
- ✓ Data collection and analysis
- ✓ Performance measures, including NOMs and GPRA
- ✓ Report and publication writing

TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

Our technical assistance services are available to states, cities, counties, tribes, and community-based organizations to assist with the implementation of evidence-based practices and support services. We offer the following:

- ✓ On-site and virtual consultation
- ✓ Needs assessment and gap analysis
- ✓ Strategic planning
- ✓ Summit, academy, and meeting facilitation
- ✓ Systems mapping
- ✓ Fact sheet, brief, toolkit, and report development

TRAINING

We provide virtual and in-person training workshops in our areas of expertise to help communities transform behavioral health service delivery. Our workshops are offered as training deliveries or train-the-trainer events.

Highlighted trainings include the following:

- ✓ Sequential Intercept Model Mapping Workshops
- ✓ SOAR Strategic Action Plans, Online Course Facilitation, and Leadership Academies
- ✓ Trauma-Informed Criminal Legal Responses

POLICY EVALUATION

We work with partners to review, assess, and suggest policy at the local, state, and federal levels to ensure that there is systemic support for their initiatives. We are adept at evaluating current policies and laws for recommendations and enhancements to ensure that your communities of focus receive the care and support to which they are entitled.

Policy Research Associates leads the nation in driving sustainable, impactful change for people with behavioral health conditions. Ready to transform your community? [Contact us](#) to get started.

SELECT FUNDERS

FEDERAL GOVERNMENT

- National Institutes of Health
- Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA)
- Bureau of Justice Assistance, U.S. Department of Justice (BJA)
- State Justice Institute
- U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs
- U.S. Social Security Administration (SSA)

STATE & LOCAL GOVERNMENTS

- California Department of State Hospitals
- South Carolina Department of Mental Health
- State of South Dakota Unified Judicial System
- Texas Health and Human Services Commission

FOUNDATIONS & NATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

- Annie E. Casey Foundation
- John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation

WORK HIGHLIGHTS

- The GAINS Center for Behavioral Health and Justice Transformation (since 1995)
- SAMHSA Service Members, Veterans, and their Families (SMVF) Technical Assistance Center (since 2010)
- Homeless and Housing Resource Center (since 2020)
- MacArthur Foundation's Safety and Justice Challenge—Serious Mental Illness Technical Assistance (since 2015)
- BJA's Academic-Based Training to Inform Police Responses (since 2020)
- California Felony Incompetent to Stand Trial Continuum of Care Evaluation (since 2022)
- Pretrial Risk Management in the Safety and Justice Challenge (since 2022)
- SAMHSA Supplemental Security Income/Social Security Disability Insurance Outreach, Access, and Recovery (SOAR) Technical Assistance Center (2009–2025)
- SSA's Analyzing Relationships Between Disability, Rehabilitation, and Work Small Grant Program (2011–2023)
- National Center for Youth Opportunity and Justice (2001–2022)
- BJA's VALOR Initiative: Crisis Intervention Training Model Program (2017–2020)
- SAMHSA's Statewide Family and Consumer Networks Technical Assistance Center (2009–2014)

RESOURCE AND PRODUCT HIGHLIGHTS

- [Systems Mapping and Training Center](#): This center provides cross-systems mapping and training services to create data-driven systems change.
- [Sequential Intercept Model](#): A conceptual model to inform community-based responses to the involvement of people with mental and substance use disorders in the criminal legal system.
- [Brief Jail Mental Health Screen](#): A booking tool for jails and detention centers to screen people for the need for further mental health assessment.
- [Data Points](#): A podcast series that translates research produced by Policy Research into key takeaways to advance positive social change.
- [Competence to Stand Trial Microsite](#): A one-stop-shop microsite for competence to stand trial/competence restoration resources, research, and useful tools.
- [The SOAR Model](#): This page provides resources for case workers using the SOAR model to submit complete and thorough SSA disability benefit applications for eligible adults, youth, and children.
- [Introduction to Housing Models, Housing Navigation, and Engagement](#): This course provides information about housing models, engagement, and navigation strategies.
- [Understanding the Population of People With Frequent Jail Contact](#): A mixed-methods research project examining the flow of people with frequent jail contact through the criminal legal system.
- [SMVF Recorded Webinars](#): Seminars designed to increase awareness about behavioral health issues important to SMVF.
- [Promising Practices for Suicide Mortality Review Committees Toolkit](#): A guide for communities establishing suicide mortality review committees.

Policy Research Associates, Inc.

🏠 433 River St, Suite 1005, Troy, NY 12180

✉️ pra@prainc.com | 🌐 prainc.com

Creating positive social change for people and communities through technical assistance, research, and training.