



INNOVATIVE PROSECUTION SOLUTIONS

Program Sustainment Strategies Fact Sheet

I. Introduction

Sustaining effective, innovative, and evidence-based strategies is the cornerstone for IPS Initiatives. An essential plan for program continuance and sustainment beyond the grant period should be developed at the outset of a grant award.

II. What is Sustainability

“The ability to maintain programming and its benefits over time.”¹

III. Sustainability Planning

a. Develop a Sustainability Plan or Strategy at the Outset of Grant Award

- Prosecutors are leaders in their community and can foster key collaborations to develop new initiatives
- Involve principal partners and stakeholders at sustainability strategy discussions and planning meetings

b. Parties to Include at Sustainability Strategy Discussions and Planning Meetings

- Key Partners and Stakeholders
- Internal Agency Staff
- Research Partner

c. Communicate Program's Progress

- Internal agency communication from leadership to line assistants to foster buy-in
- Robust external communication with partners, stakeholders, and community members to foster trust and transparency
- Publicize initiative and program successes

d. Training

- Integrate evidence-based principles of IPS into an office-wide training program for new and current prosecutors
- Promote cross-training for practitioners, partners, and stakeholders

e. Data Collection, Project Outcomes and Evaluation

- Engage research partner throughout project design, implementation, and evaluation
- Collect and analyze data
- Identify measures for success
- Conduct a program evaluation
- Report-out program outcomes

f. State Administrative Agency (SAA) for Potential Funding

- SAA administers formula and discretionary grants
- Research administrative agency or agencies that manage federal funding in your state
- Engage SAA early-on and throughout project development, implementation, and evaluation processes
- SAA collects crime data which can be used for grant applications
- Data-driven grant applications eclipse anecdotal-based funding requests

g. Explore National Initiatives for Potential Support

h. Research Foundations for Potential Support

i. Explore Local Government and Councils of Government for Potential Funding

¹ Washington University in St. Louis, Center for Public Health Systems Science. Program Sustainability Assessment Tool. Accessed September 8, 2017 from: https://cpshs.wustl.edu/Products/Documents/SustainabilityTool_5.22.12.pdf

IV. Practical Tips

- a. Engage agency leadership in sustainment planning
- b. Identify necessary partners and stakeholders for collaboration
- c. Build multi-agency and multi-disciplinary partnerships
- d. Conduct vigorous and ongoing communication with partners
- e. Garner community support
- f. Attain buy-in from the entire agency
- g. Consult with research partner throughout program development and implementation for data-driven decision-making
- h. Pinpoint a Champion in your agency for your initiative

“The keys to the future sustainability of your high-quality programs are your structure and resources. And I cannot emphasize enough the reality you have to be prepared to strategize for and go for ongoing resources (in a data driven manner) almost immediately as you receive your initial funding”

*-Steve Siegel, Director, Special Program Unit,
Denver District Attorney's Office*

V. Additional Resources

- a. Webinar: Sustainability Strategies for Prosecutors
<http://www.innovativeprosecution.apainc.org/recent-webinars>
- b. Publications: Sustaining Evidence-Based Practices
http://www.jrsa.org/projects/ebp_briefing_paper3.pdf
- c. Community Readiness for Community Change, Tri-Ethnic Center for Prevention Research, Colorado State University: http://triethniccenter.colostate.edu/docs/CR_Handbook_8-3-15.pdf

