

DOCTOR ASHLEY YINGER

Dr. Ashley Yinger is the Criminal Justice Programming Administrator at the Dauphin County District Attorney's office. Within that role, she serves as the Stepping Up coordinator, which is a national initiative to reduce Serious Mental Illness (SMI) in prisons/jails. Dauphin County worked with the Council of State Government to receive technical assistance in 2016, which resulted in recommendations to address individuals with SMI in the local prison. Crisis Intervention Team (CIT) training for law enforcement and a Coresponder program model, working side by side with law enforcement, are two of the recommendations that Dr. Yinger implemented and is overseeing, among a few others.

Dr. Yinger graduated in 2019 with her PhD in Criminal Justice with a focus on Justice Administration. Her dissertation entailed the experiences of Police Officers who are CIT trained. Much of her research interests has included individuals with special needs and their involvement with the criminal justice system. She has over 14 years' experience in human services. Prior to Dauphin County, she was the Mental Health/Intellectual Disabilities/Early Intervention Administrator in Franklin and Fulton counties.

Outside of her work in the County, she also serves as an adjunct professor for Penn State Mont Alto and Shippensburg University, in their Criminal Justice department.