

STEPPING UP

The Pennsylvania Stepping Up Technical Assistance Center

Launched in 2018 by the Pennsylvania Commission on Crime and Delinquency (PCCD) in partnership with The Council of State Governments (CSG) Justice Center, the Pennsylvania Stepping Up Technical Assistance (TA) Center **assists PA counties in adopting and implementing the Stepping Up systems change framework to reduce the number of people with serious mental illnesses in PA jails.**

Pennsylvania was the first state in the nation to launch a statewide TA Center with the CSG Justice Center and one of the first to launch a statewide Stepping Up initiative.

The [Stepping Up initiative](#), a national partnership between the CSG Justice Center, National Association of Counties (NACo), and American Psychiatric Association Foundation (APAF), aims to address the prevalence of mental illness and co-occurring substance use disorders in local justice systems, providing counties with resources and tools to effect systems-level change.

How Does the TA Center Work?

The Pennsylvania Stepping Up TA Center aims to position each county in Pennsylvania to (1) bolster cross-systems collaboration, (2) have accurate baseline data on the prevalence of mental illnesses in their jail, (3) use jail-based metrics to better understand the impact of community efforts and drive policy and programming decisions, and (4) build out services and supports based on best practices to address incarceration and ultimately prevent contact with the justice system in the first place.

Key benefits and activities of the TA Center:

- Dedicated staff as a primary point of contact
- Individualized, 1:1 training and technical assistance
- Peer connections with sites across Pennsylvania and nationally
- Access to national experts and resources on best practices
- Guidance on high-impact strategies and policies that achieve lasting results
- Open line of communication between county and state leaders to guide policy reform efforts and resource allocation

How Does My County Get Involved?

Email Gretchen Frank at gfrank@csg.org to learn more and get added to the TA center's distribution list.

Counties on the distribution list will receive notifications of all available technical assistance opportunities such as upcoming webinars, trainings, and peer-to-peer connection hours.

Watch past webinars and trainings on the [TA Center website](#).



Learn more about Stepping Up.