Collaboration with Law Enforcement and the Justice System

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Leadership
Daniel Flannery, PhD, Director
Mark Singer, PhD, Deputy Director
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Staff
23 Professional Researchers and Trainers
13 Staff and Students
Dedicated to the multidisciplinary study of violence that leads to scientifically based violence prevention programs and widely applicable violence prevention policy.

Key goals include

• Forming interdisciplinary academic partnerships
• Promoting community-based strategies for violence prevention
• Conducting research/interventions that address the social stressors associated with youth violence
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Current Activity
• 71 funded projects in 2016
• $6,814,749 funding

Major Topic Areas
Juvenile Justice
Specialty Courts
Violence Prevention
Behavioral Health
Community Based Research
Law Enforcement
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Selected Projects for Presentation Today
• Police Assisted Referral
• Fugitive Safe Surrender
• Sexual Assault Kit Initiative
Police Assisted Referrals
Empowering Law Enforcement to Be First Social Responders
PI: Mark Singer

Officer Training

Police as First Social Responders

Help is on the way...

FrontLine Service Beech Brook

Longer-term services
2013 Survey Results

• 90% of respondents felt the officer was respectful
  • N=1,119, 270 responses; 24% response rate

• 76% indicated the referral was helpful to them

• 93% thought all police should be able to make referrals like these
PAR: Consumer Survey

• Has your opinion of the police changed as a result of receiving this referral?

- It is WORSE: 4%
- It is the SAME: 56%
- It is BETTER: 37%
Community Testaments

• “PAR gives the police and the citizens more chances to connect”
• “PAR makes my situation more personal to the officer”
• “They were there when I needed it most”
• “It’s good for single moms who need help”
Fugitive Safe Surrender

• Created by U.S. Marshall Pete Elliott in Cleveland in 2005
  – Guidance and evaluation collaboration with Daniel Flannery, CWRU
• Program is a response to the killing of Cleveland Police Officer Wayne Leon, who was Elliott’s friend, during a routine traffic stop. The driver had an outstanding warrant.
• Fugitive Safe Surrender is a community re-entry program for non-violent offenders and offers individuals with felony and misdemeanor warrants.
• It gives them the ability to turn themselves into law enforcement and have their cases adjudicated in a safe and non-violent environment, such as a faith location, (Baptist Church).
Fugitive Safe Surrender

• Authorized by Congress in 2006.
• Over 50,000 individuals in over 35 cities nationally have turned themselves in.
• In addition to the judicial process, the program gathers information on why a person chooses to surrender vs. living with an open warrant, trust of law enforcement, impact of living with a warrant

Sexual Assault Kit Initiative (SAKI)

PI: Daniel Flannery & Rachel Lovell

- Begun Center serves as a research and evaluation partner to the Cuyahoga County Prosecutor’s Office for the Sexual Assault Kit Project. Partnering with Cleveland Police Dept., Bureau of Criminal Investigation, Cuyahoga Co. Sheriff’s Dept., and Cleveland Rape Crisis Center.

- Police department historical treatment of women who were victims of sexual assault left cases not investigated, kits left on shelves

- Embedded research partner with county prosecutor investigative team
Sexual Assault Kit Initiative (SAKI)
PI: Daniel Flannery & Rachel Lovell

• Attention to DNA testing of backlogged untested kits
  – 6,838 SAKs from 1993-2009 untested
• 2,450 completed investigations
  – 446 indictments leading to 536 unique defendants for 588 victims
• Identifying significant number of serial offenders
Sexual Assault Kit Initiative (SAKI)
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• Linking information on DNA to criminal history, police reports, victim statements and new investigations
• Identifying economic and social justice cost of failure to address sexual assaults; new policies and procedures in place
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