

Juvenile Justice Translational Research on Interventions for Adolescents in the Legal System (JJ-TRIALS)

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Project Description:

This NIDA-funded project was a five-year cooperative research study across 36 sites in seven states. It examined linkages between the juvenile justice and behavioral health systems. Youth entering the juvenile justice system are initially screened for drug use and/or mental health problems. Researchers at each site mapped out these systems and identified inefficiencies. Partners from juvenile justice agencies and the behavioral health system were asked to identify ways to improve. Half of the sites received facilitation to help them achieve their goals while the control group received no external assistance. This project was about determining how to make sure both systems worked together to provide these youth the services they required while improving upon efficiencies and access.