



Center for Social Development

GEORGE WARREN BROWN
SCHOOL OF SOCIAL WORK



Washington University in St. Louis



Promote Smart Decarceration

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Strategies & Recommendations

SDI Strategies

- Advancing innovations in policy and practice
- Identifying a continuum of viable exit strategies
- Cultivating networks to promote new approaches

GC Policy Recommendations

1. Incarceration for Incapacitation Only
2. Reduce Disparities
3. Remove Legal Exclusions
4. Reallocate Resources



Research-Practice-Policy Integration

Promote Smart Decarceration Working Groups advance social work policy practice through engaging:

Research – Generate evidence on promising practices; disseminate findings through policy briefs and media

Practice – Identify and implement innovations to shape research; leverage networks to advocate for policy and practice reform

Education – Translate evidence and innovations into curriculum, practicums, professional development, and continuing education



Research-Practice-Policy Integration

Implementation Action Plan:

Three Key Focus Areas

Core Activities for Each Area of Focus

Actionable Steps to Execute Core Activities

Establish a Timeline for Activity Completion

Deliverables



Dissemination



Broadening dissemination

- Convening: conferences: Smart Decarceration, SSWR, CSWE
- Media: Op-eds (e.g., Chicago Tribune, NY Times); research coverage (e.g., Huffington Post, Christian Science Monitor, St. Louis Post Dispatch)
- Concept and working papers online
- Edited volume with Oxford University Press
- Peer reviewed journals



Research on Policy Innovation



Deferred prosecution programs divert people from being charged with criminal offenses and into supportive services.

Deferred prosecution programs can reduce the number of individuals entering the criminal justice system and promote public well-being.

A strong evidence base is needed to develop uniform deferred prosecution programs for widespread dissemination



Case Study: Deferred Prosecution



Smart Decarceration Initiative Multi-Site Study of Deferred Prosecution Program

- Logic Model of Deferred Prosecution Program
- Implementation Guide
- Development of Randomized Controlled Trial Designs
- Policy Implications