Creating Pathways to Justice® for People with I/DD in 2018 and Beyond

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The Arc of New Jersey’s Webinar Series
Sept. 20, 2018
Learning Objectives

• Background on both NCCJD and Pathways to Justice training
• Accomplishments/resources available
• Current projects
• Looking to the future
Overrepresentation as both Victims and Suspects/Defendants

• Represent 4-10% of prison population
• 2 in 10 prisoners and 3 in 10 jail inmates report having a cognitive disability* (BJS, 2015)
• They also experience highest rate of victimization compared to other types of disabilities (NCVS, 2015)
• 65-70 percent of justice-involved youth have a disability (3x higher the rate)

* Cognitive disability: Because of a physical, mental, or emotional problem, do you have serious difficulty concentrating, remembering, or making decisions?
About NCCJD

• Created in 2013 – grant from Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA)
• $800K from Nov 2013-Nov 2017
• Create NCCJD and Pathways to Justice
• Advocate at the intersection of criminal justice reform and the advancement of disability rights
  – Work on both victim/witness issues and on issues facing those who are charged with crimes
NCCJD: What We Do

• Training and technical assistance
  – For criminal justice professionals (Pathways to Justice)

• Information and referral (800+ calls)
  – For both disability and criminal justice communities

• Resource collection and creation
  – White papers, fact sheets, articles

• Education
  – Social media, archived webinars, and conferences
I&R, TA, Consultation

- White House Domestic Policy Council
- Policing Post-Ferguson Conference, Yale Law School
- DOJ’s COPS program – article for online newsletter and current MOU
- IACP - revise model policy and issues paper
- Vera Institute of Justice – male victims with disabilities, judicial curriculum
- US Dept. of State, International Disability Rights
- DOJ’s Community Relations Services – hate crimes panel
- Georgia Dept of Behavioral Health and Developmental Disabilities
- The Arc of Calhoun and Cleburne Counties & VA agency (AL)
- ATF (Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives)
- Numerous individual requests re: death penalty, suspects of sex crimes, assistance with IJPs, etc.
Training: NCCJD Webinars

• Conducted 23 webinars with 4,500 attendees
• Archived webinars available
• Broad range of topics covering:
  • Intersection of race and disability
  • Disability awareness and CIT training
  • Crime victims with disabilities
  • Supporting victims re: sexual violence
  • Alternatives to incarceration
  • People with FASD in the CJ system
  • Services/supports for sex offenders with I/DD
NCCJD White Paper Series

• Violence, Abuse and Bullying Affecting People with Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities (April 2015)
• Sex Offenders with Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities (July 2015)
• Justice Involved Youth with Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities (Sept 2015)
• Competency of Individuals with Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities in the Criminal Justice System: A Call to Action for the Criminal Justice Community (Sept 2016)

http://www.thearc.org/NCCJD/publications
NCCJD Web Site

- Pathways to Justice video & conversation guide
- State-by-state map; list of resources searchable by target audience and location
- Revamping site to make more user friendly overall and accessible
- Social media presence via Facebook page
- Pathways to Justice page

Follow us!
https://www.facebook.com/NCCJD
Pathways to Justice®

• Community-based program
  – Includes self-advocates and other key stakeholders

• Multi-disciplinary approach
  – Training for law enforcement, legal professionals, and victim services providers

• Disability Response Teams (DRTs)

www.NCCJDpathwaystojustice.org
Disability Response Teams (DRTs)

- Multidisciplinary teams of criminal justice professionals and disability advocates.
Pathways to Justice® Overview

• One day, 8 hour training

• Core Components
  – Increasing awareness, debunking myths
  – Identifying disabilities (with disability rights focus)
  – Providing supports/accommodations
  – Knowing/using vital resources
  – Sustaining training efforts
Pathways to Justice Modules

Module 1: *Introduction to DRTs and the Pathways to Justice Training Program*

Module 2: *Disability Basics*

Module 3: *Law Enforcement*

Module 4: *Victim Service Providers*

Module 5: *Legal Professionals*

Module 6: *Developing a Pathways to Justice Plan*
Pathways to Justice®
Profession Specific Tip Sheets

- **10 Facts Law Enforcement Needs to Know When Serving & Protecting People with Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities (I/DD)**

- **5 Facts Attorneys Need to Know When Representing or Working With Citizens with Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities (I/DD)**

- **10 Facts Victim Service Providers Need to Know When Serving & Protecting People with Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities (I/DD)**

Available at: [http://www.thearc.org/NCCJD/publications](http://www.thearc.org/NCCJD/publications)
Pathways to Justice ®

• Piloted PTJ at 5 chapters in 2015 (including The Arc of New Jersey)
• Conducted PTJ trainings at 6 chapters in 2017
• First Train-the-Trainer in Ohio in 2018
• Over 500 participants to date
• Findings (from pilot sites)
  • 49% of participants filled out pre/post test
  • 92% indicated knowledge level increased and intent to use new strategies learned
NCCJD’s Projects
New Projects (2018-2020)

Serving Safely: The National Initiative to Enhance Policing for Persons with Mental Illnesses and Developmental Disabilities

Funder: Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA)
Dates: April 30, 2018 - April 30, 2019
Amount: $330,000 for 1 year
Description: Provide training and TA on the topic of people with I/DD in the criminal justice system

NCCJD’s Role: Partner with Vera Institute

https://www.vera.org/projects/serving-safely/overview
What “Serving Safely” Offers

• No cost trainings with police officers, emergency dispatchers, law enforcement leaders, legal professionals, victim service professionals, peers, and family members
• Assistance with the development, review, evaluation, and implementation of policies and protocols that aim to improve police responses to persons with mental illnesses and developmental disabilities
• Support after crisis incidents—and tailored solutions to promote long-term safety improvements in police departments and the communities they serve.

Apply for FREE training and TA here:
https://www.vera.org/projects/serving-safely/training-and-technical-assistance

The Arc
National Center on Criminal Justice & Disability
Achieve with us.
New Projects (2018-2020)

Supporting Crime Victims with Disabilities

Funder: Office for Victims of Crime (OVC)
Dates: March 30, 2018 - Sept 30, 2020
Amount: $320,000 for 3 years
Description: Ensure the voices of people with I/DD are key in the process of revising two OVC publications

NCCJD’s Role: Partner with Vera Institute
Other Projects/Contracts

• Ohio UCCEDD Pathways to Justice® Train the Trainer (piloted)
• Vera Institute of Justice National Center on Underserved Victims
• Council of State Governments (CSG)
• Speaking and consultation fees
  – ATF request to review training
  – Growing number of requests for speaking engagements (many from NPR series)
Unfunded Projects/Partnerships

• Vera Project: Ending Violence of People with Disabilities (NoVo Foundation)
• National Council of Juvenile & Family Court Judges
• COPS Office, U.S. Department of Justice
  – Creating videos with supplemental information
• Legal Reform for People with I/DD (LRIDD)
  – https://lridd.org/
• National Coalition for Sexual Health
• 1in6; No More Steering Committee
Looking to the Future

• Applying the lens of intersectionality

• Supporting self-advocates as leaders in the #MeToo movement and criminal justice reform

• Create and support innovative ways to educate officers and others about I/DD (ie, procedural justice, CIT advanced course)
2018 Priorities

• Addressing police misunderstandings of and misconduct toward people with disabilities

• Healing victims with disabilities, especially survivors of sexual assault

• Increasing attention on the plight of people with I/DD accused of sex offenses

• Increasing professional competence
  – Using Pathways to Justice as a primary tool
  – Targeted outreach to the legal community

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Intersectionality
Improving NCCJD’s Diversity & Cultural Competence

• Nature of criminal justice advocacy is *intersectional*

• NCCJD’s Strategies:
  – Information and resources (e.g., current white paper)
  – Strategic planning
  – Staffing
NPR’s Abused & Betrayed Series

The rate of rape and sexual assault against people with intellectual disability is more than seven times the rate for people without disabilities.

Image: Three pictures of people with disabilities whose stories were shared in NPR’s Abused and Betrayed series.
The Arc of New Jersey’s Blueprint to Address Sexual Violence

- At least 1 in 6 men have been sexually assaulted
- PSA - first time included a man with disabilities
- Over 4 million views to date
- [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2p06x-yumc0](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2p06x-yumc0)

*Image: Picture of man (James Meadours) shaking hands with woman who just read his story about surviving sexual assault for the first time. Both are sitting on stools and smiling.*
Pathways to Justice & Procedural Justice Highlighted in UMN Impact Publication

https://ici.umn.edu/index.php?products/view_all/14
Future Activities

• Pathways to Justice®
  – Focus on outreach to chapters in 2018-9
    The Arc of Philadelphia, The Arc of Kent County (MI)

• Kessler Foundation
  – Innovative project combining employment with police training

• WITH Foundation
  – Talk About Sexual Violence project

• People with Disabilities Foundation
  – Support Pathways to Justice training

• Open Society Foundation
  – International hub project
NCCJD’s 5-Year Strategic Plan

• NCCJD’s advocacy is growing; time and resources can become strained

• Questions:
  – How do we meet the demand with limited resources?
  – What’s most important to those we serve?
  – Where do we have the most expertise to offer?
  – How can we expand our impact?

• The solution & the challenge: goal-directed advocacy, with measurable impacts overtime
NCCJD Policy Priorities

• Require training for law enforcement, prosecutors, and public defenders
  • So that individuals with I/DD are supported throughout their experience in the criminal justice system (whether as defendant, suspect, witness, victim, or incarcerated person)

• Create opportunities for alternatives to sentencing and pre-trial diversion for suspects/defendants with I/DD

• Ensure individuals with I/DD have access to sentencing reduction programs with needed accommodations and support

• Ensure individuals with I/DD obtain needed support and accommodations while incarcerated

• Create effective systems for identifying individuals who have I/DD in all stages of the criminal justice system
NEW Chapter Community of Practice

• Online community to support chapters providing criminal justice advocacy:
  – Share practice resources
  – Identify and discuss common practice issues
  – Jointly problem-solve and discuss solutions
  – Celebrate good practice and good ideas
  – Promote a culture of shared learning and continuous improvement
  – Disseminate valuable information and transfer of best practices
Take Action!

• Learn more about the intersection of disability and criminal justice
• Support organizations like The Arc’s NCCJD
  – Sign up for emails and follow us on Facebook
  – View webinars, download white papers
  – Use NCCJD’s request assistance online form
• Support/collaborate with The Arc of New Jersey’s Criminal Justice Advocacy Program
• Offer Pathways to Justice training to raise awareness

https://www.thearc.org/NCCJD/about/request-assistance
Questions?

Contact Information:

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