

# ICJIA RESEARCH & ANALYSIS UPDATE

The Research & Analysis UPDATE newsletter highlights the work of ICJIA's Research & Analysis Unit. Over 30 dedicated researchers work to improve the administration of justice and inform policy and practice in criminal justice, victim services, and violence prevention.

## **SPOTLIGHT:** ICJIA SUMMIT HIGHLIGHTS REENTRY BEST PRACTICES AND NEW COLLABORATIONS



ICJIA hosted an inaugural Reentry Service Provider Summit last fall to build collaboration among reentry service providers, state leaders, those with lived experience, and other stakeholders. Hosted in Bloomington in partnership with the Illinois Justice Project, the event featured research presentations and discussions on best practices, trends, and effective collaborations in the reentry space. Research Scientist Ryan Maranville presented [award-winning research on employment after prison](#). The event also featured a panel of Illinois Department of Corrections, Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity, and Housing Development Authority representatives to discuss strategies to enhance support for returning citizens and expand reentry service reach across the state.

## New Publications



### Evaluation of Youth Mental Health First Aid Trainings for Illinois Schools, 2022-2023

Researchers evaluated Youth Mental Health First Aid training offered to Illinois K-12 public school personnel, including school administrators, teachers, nurses, and other support staff. The evaluation revealed training participants gained mental health knowledge and reported increases in responsiveness and preparedness to help youth with mental health concerns.



### 2024 Domestic Violence Pretrial Practices Working Group Final Report: Recommendations for Improving Court Procedures

The Illinois Safety, Accountability, Fairness, and Equity-Today Act (SAFE-T Act) established the Domestic Violence Pretrial Practices Working Group. Comprised of Illinois criminal justice and victim service stakeholders, the working group's final report makes eight recommendations for evidence-based improvements to court procedures.

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## Research Grants

- ICJIA received a **\$125,000 annual increase** from the Illinois Department of Human Services Bureau of Domestic Violence, Sexual Assault, and Human Trafficking to support InfoNet. Funds will be used to hire a project manager to oversee system updates and maintain the Homeless Management Information System.
- ICJIA received a **\$93,000 sub-award from the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration grant** through the Illinois Department of Public Health to support an evaluation of the Rural Illinois Opioid Overdose Prevention Initiative Public Safety Involved Linkage to Care Program.

## Research Presentations & Training

Researchers participated in many events this winter, including:

- The **Researchers Peer Group** at the National Police Treatment and Community Collaborative Summit in Seattle, Wash., in October 2024.
- The **5th Edition of the Global Conference on Addiction Medicine, Behavioral Health and Psychiatry** in October 2024.
- The ICJIA Reentry Summit, with a presentation on “**Employment of Individuals after Release from Illinois Prisons: Employee Characteristics, Occupations, and Wages**,” in Bloomington in November 2024.
- The North Central Deflection Action Planning event, with a presentation on “**Drug-Related Data and Homelessness in North Central Illinois**,” in Petersburg in November 2024.
- The Governor’s Opioid Prevention and Recovery Steering Committee, with a presentation on “**Illinois Police and the Opioid Crisis: Examining Discretion, Stigma, and Knowledge in Officer Interactions with People with Opioid Use Disorder**,” in November 2024.
- The State Crisis Intervention Program (SCIP) Advisory Committee with a presentation on **updated SFY24 SCIP Plan and Funding Priorities** in December 2024.

Researchers also provided grantees with technical assistance and training, including:

- **InfoNet** sexual assault interface data entry training to victim service provider agencies.
- **InfoNet** domestic violence interface data entry training to victim service provider agencies.
- **InfoNet** training to all Chicago rapid rehousing grantees.
- **InfoNet** user training on entering Safe Exchange/supervised visitation clients.
- **Safe From The Start** database trainings to grantees.
- **Safe from The Start** evaluation protocol training to grantees.

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## New Research Staff



### ANDREA WILSON

Andrea Wilson is the new Project Director of the Domestic Violence Fatality Review initiative.

