

RESULTS FIRST CONNECTICUT NEWSLETTER, OCTOBER 2016

This update on evidence-based policymaking and budgeting is prepared by the [Institute for Municipal and Regional Policy \(IMRP\)](#). The IMRP manages the [Results First Initiative in Connecticut](#) – an evidence-based approach to policymaking and budgeting sponsored by the Pew-MacArthur collaboration. This letter intends to provide you with an interesting and useful avenue for news on the practice of evidence-based policymaking and budgeting. We intend to bring you information from a variety of sources and at various levels of government.

CONNECTICUT ACTIVITY

IMRP, an economist from Southern Connecticut State University and Pew-MacArthur consultants are gathering information to update the Results First model in Connecticut in preparation for loading data from the four Results First Connecticut agencies (DOC, DCF, DMHAS and Jud/CSSD). The program inventories prepared by these agencies will be submitted to statutory recipients by October 1, 2016.

NEWS FROM OTHER STATES

New York

Earlier this year, New York reported that it had enhanced its use of Evidence-Based Policymaking in the following ways:

- Investing in analysis by creating a robust, customized Results First benefit-cost model that helped leaders identify cost-effective, evidence-based interventions that can reduce criminal recidivism and generate government savings, with some interventions projected to return more than \$4 for each dollar spent.
- Investing in evidence by securing more than \$60 million over three years targeted to effective evidence-based programs through new grant initiatives, including about \$50 million in state general funds and \$12 million in “Pay for Success” funding from the U.S. Department of Labor.
- Investing in outcomes by requiring grant recipients to show that the programs are being implemented according to their original design—demonstrating fidelity—and that they are achieving expected outcomes.

New York pointed to a few important characteristics that jurisdictions embarking on this work should focus on: the need for dedicated staff, careful timing, strategic focus, relationship building, and ongoing commitment. See a more complete description with further links [here](#).



INSTITUTE FOR MUNICIPAL & REGIONAL POLICY
Central Connecticut State University

NATIONAL/FEDERAL

[Evidence-Based Policymaking Collaborative](#)

The Laura and John Arnold Foundation is sponsoring a new collaborative effort bringing the Urban Institute, Brookings Institution, American Enterprise Institute, and Pew-MacArthur Results First Initiative together to create the Evidence-Based Policymaking Collaborative. This new group will create tools and host gatherings to further the use of evidence-based policymaking. The establishment of the collaborative is related to the growing interest in and use of evidence-based policymaking in government.

According to the Collaborative, the Toolkit will include:

- **Principles of Evidence-Based Policymaking:** An outline of the core principles that apply to policymaking at every level of government.
- **Evidence-Based Policymaking Toolkit:** Actionable strategies to advance an evidence-based policymaking agenda, including both existing approaches that can be implemented in new areas and fresh ideas applicable to multiple policy contexts.
- **Policy Briefs:** Practical policy proposals that demonstrate where evidence-based strategies can be applied in different areas of social policy or to specific issues.

Commission on Evidence-Based Policymaking

On September 9, 2016, the commission held a meeting on “Key Issues for Considering Privacy in the Commission’s Charge”. The website is under construction and not available for reference at this time.

Thank you for your interest in this work and taking the time to read this issue. We hope to continue to provide fresh updates and insights periodically in the future. Please let us know if this is a valued resource in enhancing your understanding and use of evidence-based policymaking and budgeting practices. Visit our website: www.resultsfirstct.org.