

ABOUT THE OJP DIAGNOSTIC CENTER



A top priority of the U.S. Department of Justice Office of Justice Programs (OJP) is to ensure the integrity of, and respect for, science in approaches to criminal and juvenile justice. OJP is committed to maximizing its investment in science and enhancing justice outcomes nationwide. In pursuit of this objective OJP has committed itself to translating scientific evidence about what works in criminal justice and public safety to the field, ensuring it is both accessible and user-friendly.

OJP launched the Diagnostic Center in spring 2012 to serve as a technical assistance resource for state, local and tribal policymakers seeking to implement data-driven strategies to combat crime and improve public safety in their communities. The defining characteristic of the Diagnostic Center is its approach to being smart on crime by helping state and local leaders to use local data to apply what works in criminal justice in their communities. This effort ensures that limited local resources are invested wisely, federal assets are leveraged where they are needed most and communities reap better public safety outcomes.

While the Diagnostic Center engages with communities to address a particular presenting public safety concern, each engagement is also intended to build the community's capacity to act independently and use data to make future decisions about criminal justice and public safety. Since its launch, the Diagnostic Center has already engaged with communities, including states, tribes, counties and cities to tackle public safety issues ranging from improving clearance rate on homicides to improving management of juveniles in detention facilities.

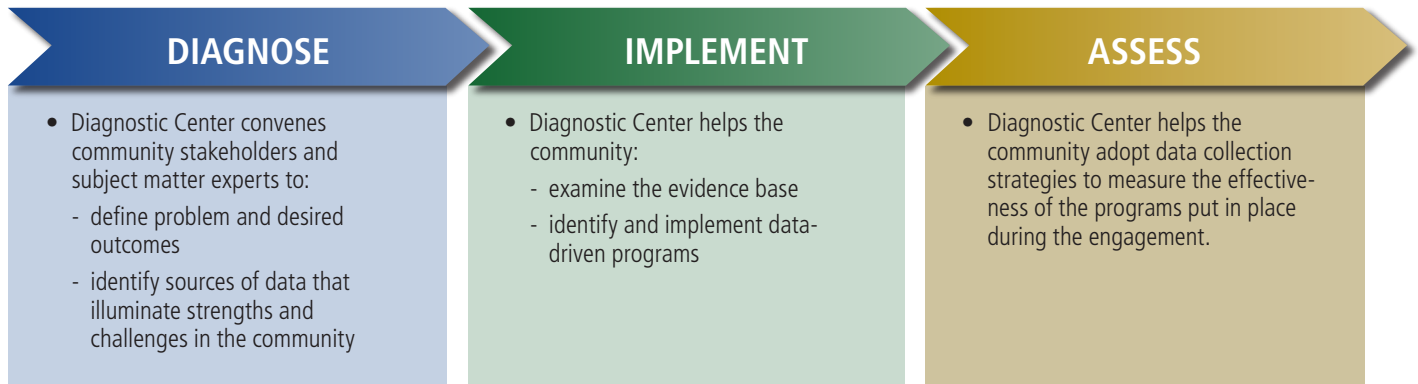
The Diagnostic Center is currently working with a variety of communities and agencies at the state, local and tribal level across the country to address a broad spectrum of systemic justice and safety concerns. The Diagnostic Center has engaged on issues including correctional facility realignment, violent crime and homicide, system response to victims of interpersonal violence and sexual assault and community-oriented policing. The following listing is a sample of some of the Diagnostic Center engagements to date:

- City of Charlottesville and Albemarle County: System Response to Victims of Interpersonal Violence
- District of Columbia: System-wide Sexual Assault Response
- City of Ft. Myers: Violent Crime and Community-Oriented Policing
- State of California: Correctional Realignment
- Middlesex County: Correctional Officer Wellness
- Red Lake: Alternatives to Incarceration for Juveniles



Our Approach to Providing Assistance:

Throughout engagement with communities facing a broad range of justice and public safety concerns, the Diagnostic Center consistently applies its three-phased process for providing assistance to communities. This model proceeds through three phases – Diagnose, Implement and Assess – to identify the true contributing factors to crime and map them to strategies and solutions that have demonstrated success in reducing crime. The model below outlines each of these three phases and the key activities conducted throughout each.



Opportunities to Engage With the Diagnostic Center:

As it works with communities to address persistent justice and safety concerns, the Diagnostic Center leverages resources and expertise from across the Department of Justice and industry experts. The Diagnostic Center relies on this expertise to support in the analysis of data, diagnosis of contributing factors and implementation of training and programs to enhance public safety. For example, the Diagnostic Center helped approximately 231 criminal justice practitioners build their capacity, knowledge and skills in the pilot year through the execution of 12 on-site training events across six communities. A key component of the Diagnostic Center process is the evaluation of new programs to validate decision-making and gauge impact. If you would like to contribute your expertise to a Diagnostic Center engagement as an expert consultant, please contact the Diagnostic Center to discuss opportunities to provide support.

Requesting Diagnostic Center Assistance:

Communities experiencing persistent criminal justice, juvenile justice and victims services issues are encouraged to contact the Diagnostic Center to discuss the opportunity for technical assistance services. The Diagnostic Center will review the scope of the community issue to determine whether it is the most appropriate Department of Justice resource to address the community request. The Diagnostic Center also accepts referrals from other Department of Justice components, industry experts and OJP partners and providers. If your community, or a community that you work with, would benefit from Diagnostic Center support, please reach out to us at the contact information provided below.



Contact the Diagnostic Center:



www.ojpdiaagnosticcenter.org



(855) 657-0411



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