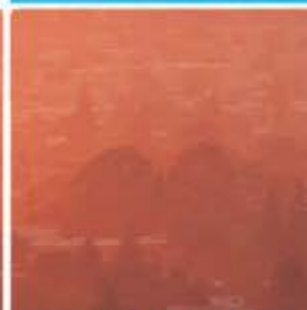BERKELEY

REIMAGINING PUBLIC SAFETY

NEW AND EMERGING MODELS **OF COMMUNITY SAFETY AND POLICING**

NICJR
National Institute for
Criminal Justice Reform

Report Updates

01 Alternate 911 Call Response

02 Alternatives to Addressing Substance Use Related CFS

03 Alternatives to Traffic Enforcement

04 Police Accountability Enhancement Options

Alternate 911 Response

Seattle City Council passed Resolution 31962 in August of 2020

→ Lays the foundation for a civilian led 911 dispatch center

→ Police operators will be replaced by civilian controlled systems

→ Department of Community Safety and Violence Prevention will house new dispatch center

Alternatives to Addressing Substance Use Related CFS

- **25% of lethal law enforcement shootings in the US involved individuals undergoing behavioral or substance use crises**
- **Options for addressing this problem deal with underlying substance use issue rather than immediate "criminal" behavior**

Safe injection locations

- Supervised areas that allow for the uptake of drugs in a safe and hygienic setting

- Positive impacts include:
  - Prevention of overdose deaths
  - Reduction in transferable diseases
  - Increase in treatment uptake
  - Decrease in public drug usage

Needle exchange programs/ syringe services programs

- Offer hygienic and safe needles along with service referral

- Provide testing for diseases, vaccinations, and naloxone provision

- Positive impacts include:
  - Decrease in rate of drug use frequency
  - Reduction in transferable diseases

- Berkeley NEED Program
  - SSP mobile van created in 1990
  - Funded by grants from the City of Berkeley and Alameda County

STREET OUTREACH PROGRAMS:

CONNECT DRUG USERS AND INDIVIDUALS WITH SUBSTANCE USE DISORDERS TO SERVICES AND SUPPORTS

Sobering Site in San Francisco, California

- Launching a sobering site for individuals using methamphetamine
- Clients will be transported to the site in non-emergent cases and be offered medication
- Will reduces the burden on emergency departments

Arlington Opiate Outreach Initiative

- Partnership between social workers, CBOs, health workers, public health clinicians, and the APD
- Goal is to foster relationships with residents of the community and connect them to treatments and support
- Individuals in the community are identified for treatment through frequent police contact, prior history, or previous hospitalization related to overdoses

Conversations for Change in Dayton, Ohio

- Centered around meetings that serve to engage the community and offer residents education regarding potential treatment choices and services
- Partnership with Dayton Police Department and East End Community Services, a non-profit
- Incentives in the form of grocery store gift cards are provided

DECRIMINALIZATION

- Oregon decriminalized possession of all drugs in February of 2021

- Criminalization has failed
  - Drug use is not deterred post-criminalization of drug users

- Disproportionately impacts people of color
  - POC are more likely to be searched, arrested, and imprisoned for a drug-related offense

- Decriminalization allows reinvestment in treatment
  - Drug-related expenditures for the government were $47.8 billion in 2016

TRAFFIC

Pretextual stops are in the process of being regulated in many states across the country
- Oregon's Supreme Court banned pretextual stops in 2019
- Other legislation has been introduced that prevents police officers from conducting certain types of pretextual stops such as broken tail lights, tinted windows, etc.

BerkDOT analogous programs have been proposed in Massachusetts, Minnesota, and Maryland

NY's Attorney General has also proposed ending NYPD involvement in traffic enforcement

In 2019, automation enforcement was transferred to DOT in Washington D.C.

ELIMINATION OF THE POLICE OFFICER BILL OF RIGHTS

16 states involve some version of a **POBR**

- Includes erasing misconduct complaints after a time period
- Bar against civilian investigation

Provide safeguards for police officers

Maryland recently repealed their POBR

Replacement includes use-of-force measures, civilian panels for discipline, and de-escalation tactics

ACCOUNTABILITY:

Elimination of Qualified Immunity

- Established by the Supreme Court in 1967 to protect LEOs from personal liability unless a violation of a "clearly established statutory or constitutional rights" has occurred
- Gives LEOs free rein to use excessive force
- Colorado and New Mexico have passed legislation to modify their qualified immunity provisions
- The George Floyd Justice in Policing Act of 2020 calls for the national elimination of qualified immunity

Social Media Oversight

- Powerful tool to address potentially racist or otherwise problematic posts
- Police departments should check assigned department software and social media to identify and hold biased officers accountable

Early Intervention Systems (EIS)

- Analyze a variety of indicators for potentially problematic behavior
- Officers assigned to the same beat are compared to identify habitual misconduct
- Reviews of EIS data is necessary for successful implementation