Evidence-Based Decision Making (EBDM) Initiative: Current Status and Pretrial Pilot Project

One Less
A STRATEGY FOR SAFER COMMUNITIES

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NIC
National Institute of Corrections

The National Institute of Corrections' Evidence-Based Decision Making (EBDM) Initiative

Overarching Goal:

To create a framework for justice systems that will result in improved system outcomes

through true collaborative partnerships,

systematic use of research,

and a shared vision of desired outcomes.

"A permanent shift in expectations about what is possible."

--Joe McCannon, Wisconsin EBDM Summit, Jan 2014

Why EBDM?

- Growing body of evidence that can (and does) inform justice system agencies' performance and increase effectiveness
- Historically, there have been demonstrations of successful approaches/changes within *individual* operating agencies around the country, *not systemwide*
- A primary perceived barrier is the lack of system collaboration around a common set of outcomes and principles

Through the EBDM Initiative NIC hoped to…

- Affirm existing practices that have been demonstrated to be effective
- Inspire and challenge practices that can be improved
- Create tools and processes that can be replicated elsewhere
- Address those thorny issues that are barriers to advancement, especially those that are barriers to true collaboration

EBDM Principles

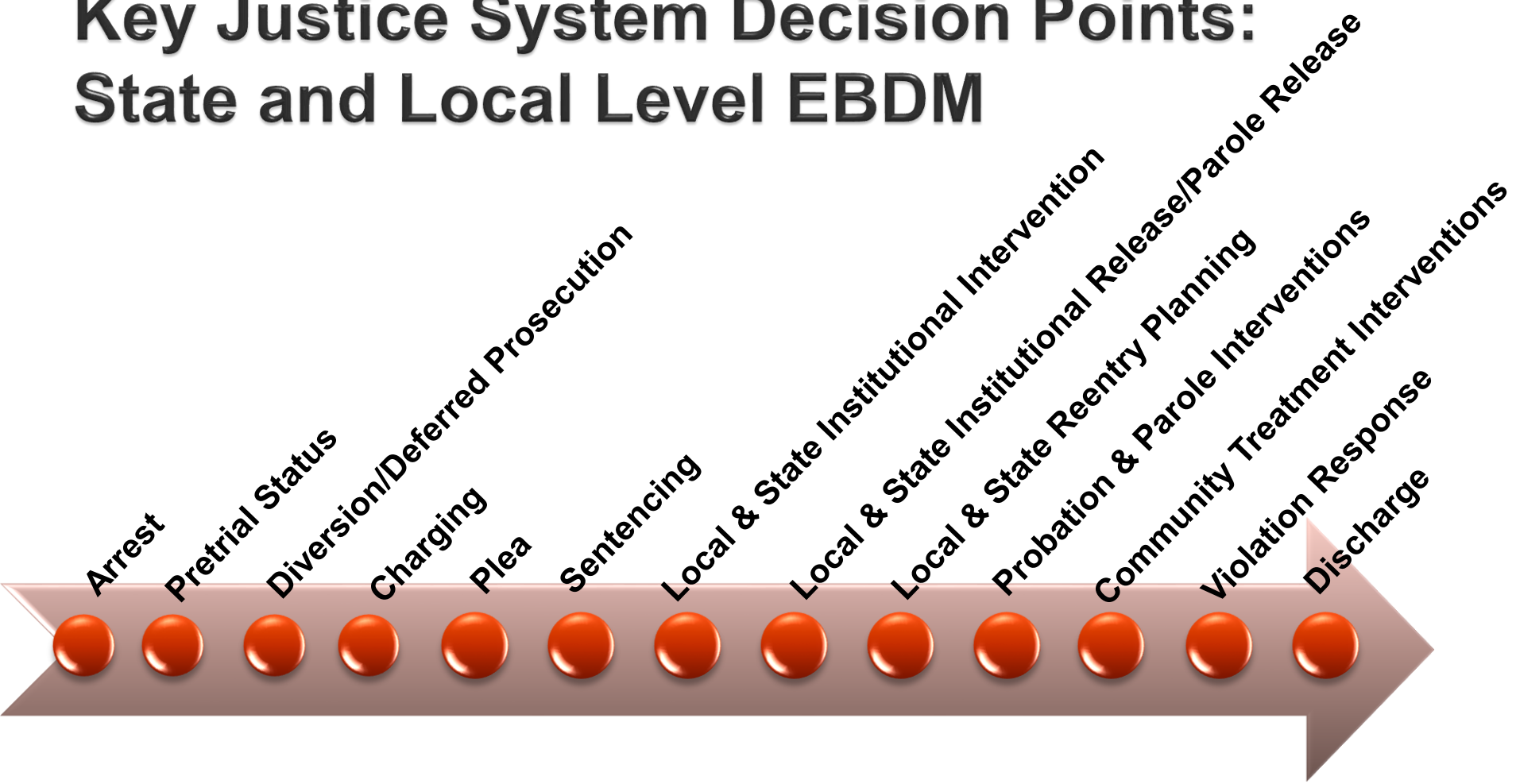
- **EBDM Principle 1:** The professional judgment of criminal justice system decision makers is enhanced when informed by evidence-based knowledge.

- **EBDM Principle 2:** Every interaction within the criminal justice system offers an opportunity to contribute to harm reduction.

- **EBDM Principle 3:** Systems achieve better outcomes when they operate collaboratively.

- **EBDM Principle 4:** The criminal justice system will continually learn and improve when professionals make decisions based on the collection, analysis, and use of data and information.

Key Justice System Decision Points: State and Local Level EBDM



Phase I-III: Overview of Local Level EBDM 2008-2013

Phase I

Framework Development

May 2008-March 2010

Phase II

Planning Process

June 2010-August 2011

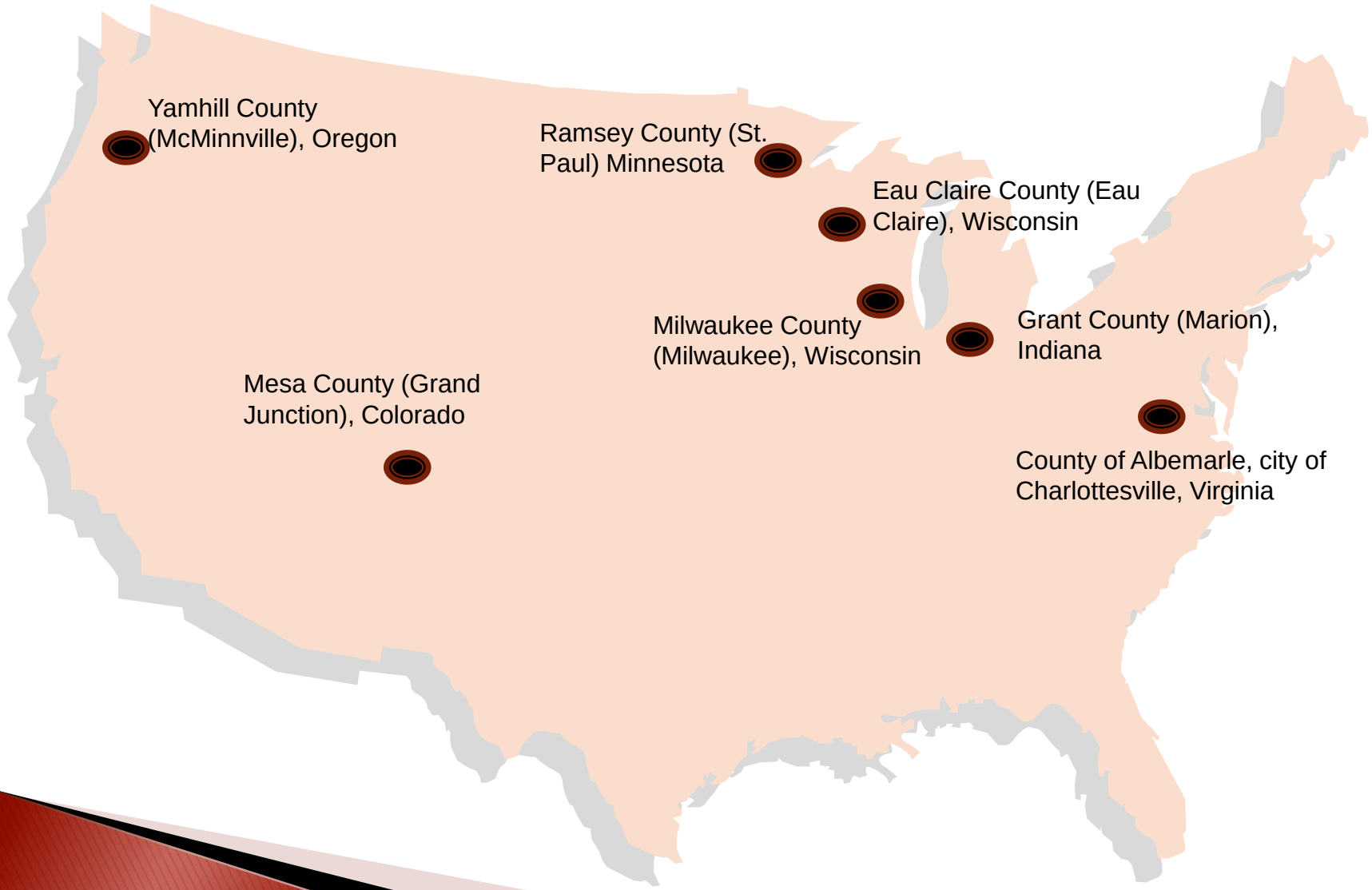
Phase III

Implementation

August 2011-Dec 2013

- NIC began its sponsorship of the *Evidence-Based Decision Making in Local Criminal Justice Systems* (EBDM) initiative in May 2008
- In Phase I, NIC built the EBDM "Framework"
- In August of 2010, NIC selected, on a competitive basis, seven local jurisdictions from across the country to participate in Phase II
- The same seven sites continued on to the Implementation Phase (Phase III)

EBDM Local Sites (Phases II & III)



Decision Makers at the Local Level

- Law Enforcement Officials
- Pretrial Officials
- Victim Service Providers
- Prosecutors
- Defense Attorneys
- Jail Administrators
- Court Administrators
- Judges, Commissioners, Magistrates
- Probation/Parole/Community Corrections Officials
- City/County Managers/Commissioners
- Community Representatives (e.g., civic leaders, members of faith-based organizations, service providers)
- Behavioral Health and Human Service Representatives

Phase IV-V: Overview of Statewide EBDM 2013 and Beyond

Phase IV

Preparation for Expansion

Sep 2013 – Dec 2014

Phase V

Planning Process

Mar 2015 – July 2016

Phase VI

Implementation

Begins Nov 1 2016

- Participate in a process designed to prepare teams within the state for the EBDM planning phase
- Engage in EBDM planning activities at state level and in multiple local jurisdictions (i.e., a state team + approx. 6 local teams)
  - Identify change targets
- Engage in EBDM implementation activities at state level and in multiple local jurisdictions
  - Implement change targets

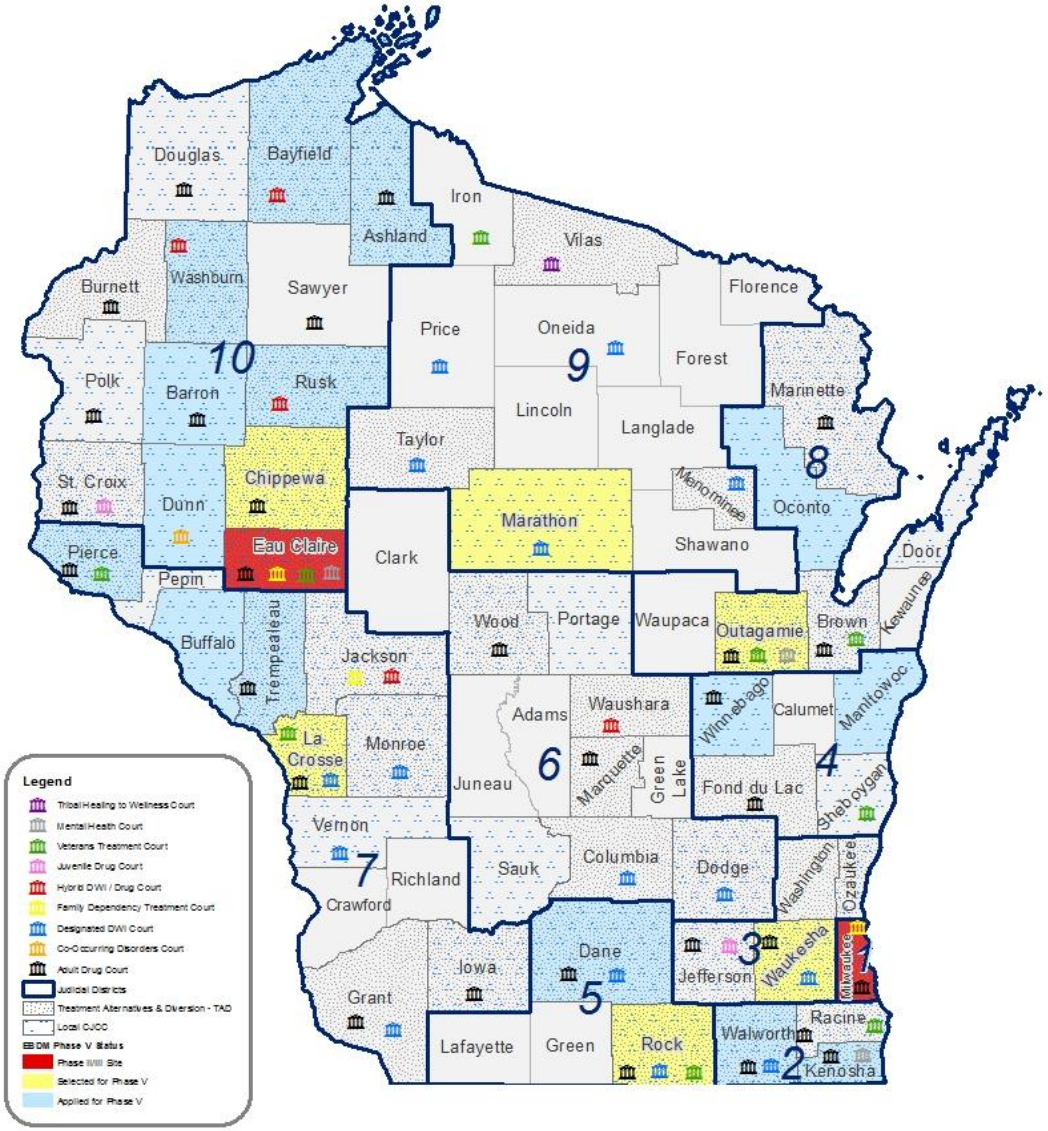
Phase VI

- On July 29, the Wisconsin State Team and the six local teams submitted their applications to NIC for Phase VI.
- On September 16, the Wisconsin State Team and our six local teams (plus original sites Eau Claire and Milwaukee Counties) were notified by NIC that they have been selected for inclusion in Phase VI of the Initiative.
- Phase VI officially began on November 1, 2016.

Phase VI

- During Phase VI, the State Team and 8 Local Teams will work collaboratively to implement their change target goals.
- Key goals for the State Team are to address barriers to Local Team implementation, as well as to continue to build capacity for additional local jurisdictions to create CJCCs and utilize the EBDM planning process.
- The State Team will also provide grant funding to counties to pilot evidence-based programs throughout Phase VI.

Wisconsin Counties
Evidence-Based Decision Making (EBDM) Update



State Team- Harm Reduction Goals

In Wisconsin, we are using evidence and research to reform the criminal justice system to…

- **Increase Public Safety, Reduce Harm, and Improve Quality of Life**
- **Promote Fairness and Equal Treatment**
- **Use Resources Effectively**

State EBDM Change Targets

- Diversion/Enhance Behavior Change Interventions
- Behavior Response
- Risk Assessment Tools and Evidence-Based Processes
- Developing Model Policies/Practices
- Professional Development and Training
- System-wide Collaboration
- Dosage Probation

State Team- Change Targets & Goals

Risk Assessment Tools/EBP

- Expand use of risk assessments
  - by law enforcement at point of contact.
  - between the time that an individual is booked into jail and their initial appearance.
  - to inform decisions regarding pre-charge diversion programs, treatment courts, and deferred prosecution.
  - to inform sentencing decisions regarding appropriate conditions of supervision to address criminogenic needs.
- Reform statutes regarding pretrial release, using technical assistance, Wisconsin bill drafts, and statutes from other states as resources.
- The pretrial pilot is one of the implementations of risk assessment tools at the point of pretrial release

Pretrial Pilot Project

- Includes all 8 EBDM counties
- Focus on pretrial release decision and use of a risk assessment tool
- Requested Arnold Foundation to bring the Public Safety Assessment (PSA) to all the EBDM counties
- Looking at whether Dane County would be interested in participating or collaborating with the pilot
  - As a current leader in the state with implementing the PSA

Pretrial Pilot Protocol

- Developed a draft pretrial pilot protocol
- To be shared with and used by all of the pilot counties
- Contains information on:
  - Research
  - Definitions
  - Baseline data collection
  - PSA Protocol
  - Expectations for pretrial sites
  - Critical incident review protocol
  - Sample documents including: quality assurance protocol, risk assessment report, consent form, MOU regarding pretrial protections, behavior matrix, etc.

Pretrial Pilot Project

- Multi-year pilot project
- Potential collaboration between the state team, the local EBDM sites, and Dane County
- If this is of interest, could bring Dane County in at the current planning and initial implementation phase
- Is still contingent on the approval of the PSA for use in the pilot counties and the timing of the implementation

Questions/Discussion

Resources

- National EBDM Websites:
  - http://info.nicic.gov/ebdm/
  - http://ebdmoneless.org/

- Wisconsin State Criminal Justice Coordinating Council Website: http://cjcc.doj.wi.gov