



THE UNIVERSITY OF UTAH

*Utah Criminal Justice Center*

COLLEGE OF SOCIAL WORK  
COLLEGE OF SOCIAL & BEHAVIORAL SCIENCES  
UTAH COMMISSION ON CRIMINAL & JUVENILE JUSTICE  
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# **Research Addendum Additional Findings**

## **Salt Lake County CPC Pilot**

### **Evidence-Based Practice Adherence Summary Report**

*Prepared For:*

*Salt Lake County Criminal Justice Advisory Council*

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## **Salt Lake County CPC Pilot**

### **Evidence-Based Practice Adherence Summary Report**

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**February 2015**

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## Acknowledgements

We would like to thank the Salt Lake County Criminal Justice Advisory Council (CJAC), their Coordinator David Litvack, and the Salt Lake County Evidence-Based Practice (EPB) Committee for their ongoing support and for allowing us the opportunity to complete the EBP program evaluation with county criminal and social justice providers, as well as provide ongoing consultation and quality improvement technical assistance. We especially would like to thank the program directors and staff of the following seven programs who volunteered to participate and graciously hosted us during the evaluation site visits and who have worked diligently on improving their programs to adhere to evidence-based practices: *2013 Program Evaluations* - First Step House, Life Skills at Oxbow, Correctional Addiction Treatment Services (CATS) at Oxbow, Criminal Justice Services Domestic Violence (CJS-DV) Unit, and Co-Occurring Reentry and Empowerment (CORE) at Valley Mental Health (VMH) and *2014 Program Evaluations* – Salt Lake County Third District Felony Drug Court (FDC) and Jail Diversion Outreach Team (JDOT).

## Introduction

During the past year, the Utah Criminal Justice Center (UCJC) at the University of Utah has continued to partner with the Salt Lake County Criminal Justice Advisory Council (CJAC) to enhance evidence-based practices (EBP) at both the program and system levels. To this end, two additional county criminal justice agencies were selected in 2014 to participate in the program evaluation and quality improvement process with the UCJC: Salt Lake County Third District Felony Drug Court (FDC) and the Jail Diversion Outreach Team (JDOT). As with the current five participating agencies<sup>1</sup>, these two agencies have been working toward enhancing their service delivery to be more consistent with EBP. This addendum to the *Salt Lake County CPC Pilot: Evidence-Based Practice Adherence Summary Report* (2013) incorporates the finding from the 2014 program evaluations in to the aggregate summary to update EBP implementation strengths and critical areas for system-wide improvements. Due to the findings of this continued research, the recommendations provided in the initial report will remain the same and continue to act as a roadmap for sustainable implementation and replication of EBP in Salt Lake County and to develop a just, effective, evidence-based system.

## Description of 2014 Participating Programs

The following two programs have participated in the program evaluations and subsequent quality improvement processes during the second year (2014) of the process with Salt Lake County adult criminal and social justice programs. A brief description of each program is provided in this section from the time of their program evaluation site visit.

### 1) Jail Diversion Outreach Team (JDOT)

The Jail Diversion Outreach Team (JDOT) is a program of Valley Behavioral Services (VBH). JDOT provides case management and treatment services to adults who: 1) have been diagnosed as seriously and persistently mentally ill (SPMI) and who may also have co-occurring disorders; and, 2) who have a history of frequent contact with the criminal justice system. The program is structured as an Assertive Community Treatment (ACT) Team and provides comprehensive, individualized services to reintegrate clients into the community after a period of incarceration and to keep them from cycling in and out of the criminal justice system.

Services include individual and group therapy, substance abuse treatment, medication management, skills development, personal services, and case management. Services are provided in the office (both drop in and scheduled) and in clients' homes and dwelling places (approximately one-third of JDOT clients are homeless). While JDOT is a voluntary program, many clients are involved as a condition of their involvement with the criminal justice system (e.g., as a condition of mental health court or probation) and program staff work actively to coordinate between clients, the courts, and correctional departments.

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<sup>1</sup> **2013 CPC Program Evaluations:** First Step House, Life Skills at Oxbow, Correctional Addiction Treatment Services (CATS) at Oxbow, Criminal Justice Services Domestic Violence (CJS-DV) Unit, and Co-Occurring Reentry and Empowerment (CORE) at Valley Mental Health (VMH).

2) Salt Lake County Third District Felony Drug Court

Salt Lake County's Third District FDC is a collaboration of courts, prosecutors, public defenders, law enforcement, and community treatment providers to serve adult male and female substance-dependent felony offenders, who are identified as having high levels of risk and need(s) in relation to recidivism. The mission of FDC is to "decrease the prevalence of substance abuse and drug related crime in Salt Lake County by breaking the cycle of addiction, crime and incarceration"<sup>2</sup> To accomplish this, FDC provides, "Diversion of qualifying offenders to a program of comprehensive treatment and education, offender accountability and intensive court supervision designed to help offenders gain control of their lives and stop the cycle of recidivism, caused by their addiction"<sup>3</sup>

Felony Drug Court serves offenders on a continuum of care, as identified through the American Society of Addiction Medicine (ASAM) Placement Criteria. This includes the service of offenders on an outpatient, intensive outpatient and residential basis (offenders' requiring residential treatment are referred to community providers).

Offenders successfully complete FDC by advancing through a four phase system. Each offender advances through the various phases by completing a combination of legal (e.g., the payment of restitution and fines) and treatment requirements. Treatment requirements consist of the engagement of offenders in a variety of individual and group interventions; including therapy, case management and educational services. Offenders' treatment activities are supplemented through regularly scheduled, and mandated, court hearings that reduce in frequency as the offender advances through the four phases. The duration of the program is a minimum of 52 weeks.

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<sup>2</sup> Retrieved from Salt Lake County Third District Felony Drug Court, 2011, p. 4.

<sup>3</sup> Retrieved from Salt Lake County Third District Felony Drug Court, 2011, p. 4.

## Methods

### *Evidence-Based Practice Adherence Program Evaluations*

#### *Purpose*

To supplement the information presented in the *Salt Lake County CPC Pilot: Evidence-Based Practice Adherence Summary Report* (2013), the UCJC researchers added the 2014 program evaluation scores (2 programs) to the existing 2013 program evaluations (5 programs). This addition provides more depth into the areas where programs were adhering to EBP and critical areas that are in need of improvement at a system level. This additional review provides further insight for CJAC as to where system changes can continue to better support providers in their EBP endeavors.

#### *Methods*

The process for conducting and scoring the Correctional Practice Checklist (CPC)<sup>4</sup> is described in the *Salt Lake County CPC Pilot: Evidence-Based Practice Adherence Summary Report* (2013). The program evaluation dates for the 2014 programs are provided in Table 1. The methodology for identifying changes in strengths and areas for improvement for this addendum report are as follows:

1. 2014 program evaluation scores were added into the 2013 program evaluation database;
2. Scales were recalculated to incorporate the additional program evaluations;
3. Change analysis was conducted to determine EBP characteristic that improved or declined due to the addition of the 2014 program evaluation scores; and
4. 2013 recommendations were reviewed to determine where updates were warranted.

*Table 1. 2014 Program Evaluation Dates*

<b>Program</b>	<b>Evaluation Date</b>
Salt Lake County Third District Felony Drug Court	June 20, 2014
Jail Diversion Outreach Team (JDOT)	November 25, 2014

<sup>4</sup> A full description of the CPC can be found in the *Salt Lake County CPC Pilot: Evidence-Based Practice Adherence Summary Report* (2013).

## Results

### *Summary of Evidence- Based Practices Adherence Program Evaluations*

To provide further insight into systems level EBP implementation strengths and areas for improvement, a recalculation of the aggregate program evaluation scores was conducted to include the 2014 programs. The following subsection provides the change in scoring with the additions.

#### *EBP Adherence Change from Five to Seven Program Evaluations*

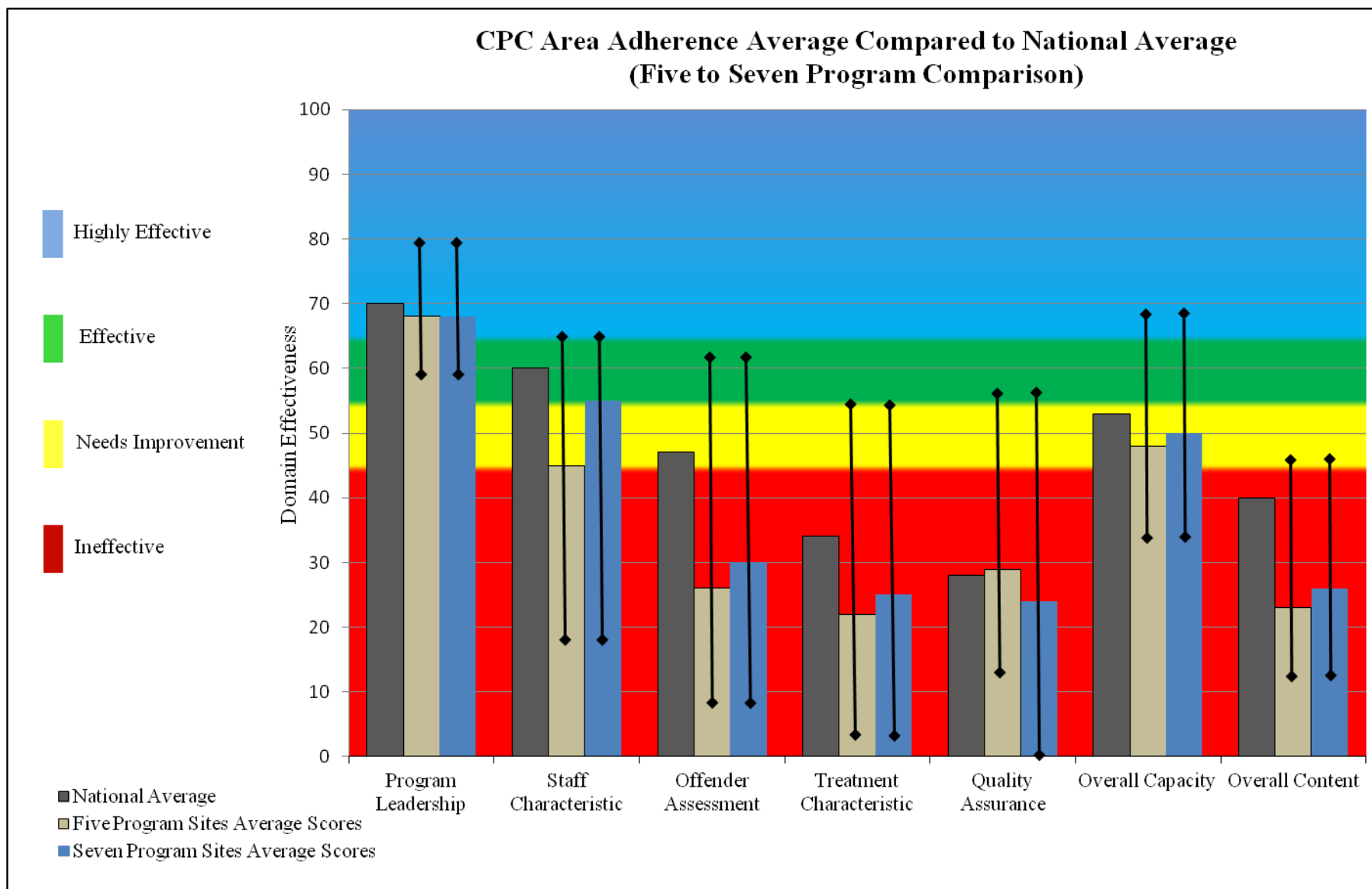
Overall there was very little EBP adherence change when two additional programs were added to the aggregated scores. The only EBP characteristic that showed an adherence change was *Staff Characteristics*; increasing from *Needs Improvement* to *Effective* (increase 10%). However, it is important to point out that most categories showed at least a two percent increase in aggregate scores; the increase was just not enough to merit an adherence change. *Quality Assurance* was the only EBP characteristic that showed a decrease in aggregate percentage (decreasing 6%) with the additional two programs. Table 2 represents both the EBP adherence and percentage change among all EBP Characteristics. Figure 1 (shown on the next page) compares the aggregate change scores between five and seven programs.

*Table 2. EBP Characteristic Change Scores from Five Programs to Seven Program Evaluations*

<b>EBP Characteristic</b>	<b>EBP Adherence Change</b>	<b>Percentage of Change</b>
Program Leadership	No-Change – Highly Effective	Same
Staff Characteristic	Needs Improvement to Effective	Up 10%
Offender Assessment	No Change – Ineffective	Up 4%
Treatment Characteristic	No Change – Ineffective	Up 3%
Quality Assurance	No – Change – Ineffective	Down 6%
Overall Capacity	No Change – Needs Improvement	Up 2%
Overall Content	No Change - Ineffective	Up 3%



Figure 1. CPC Area Adherence Average Compared to National Average (Five to Seven Program Comparison)



## Changes to 2013 Recommendations

Since there was a small degree in which programs changed within the EBP adherence, the recommendations made in the original report remain. These recommendations will continue to serve as the foundation for developing the EBP strategic and sustainability plan for Salt Lake County and guide the work for the Salt Lake County EBP Committee.