Importance of the PFS Pilot: Getting to Project Launch

PFS in Higher Education Cohort & Provider Advisory Group

December 3, 2019
Purpose

• To give an overview of the pilot and ramp-up phases in PFS projects

• To provide examples from previously launched PFS pilots

• To share the benefits of using PFS pilots in higher education
## Agenda

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Our guest on today’s webinar is a Director in Third Sector’s SF office

Oscar Benitez
Director

Focus Areas & Experience

• Housing, homelessness, education
• Justice and recidivism, child welfare
• Outcomes contract design
• Request for Procurement process design

Selected Projects

• Alameda County Justice Restoration Project
• The Way Home: Lane County Reentry Collaborative
• Annie E. Casey Foundation: Pathways for Youth and Young Adult Learners
• Social Impact Partnerships to Pay for Results Act (SIPPRA) Advisory
We are nearing the end of the PFS national cohort, where we’ve explored PFS’s application in higher education with partners across the U.S.
Since convening at NCAN, the state and system cohort partners have made incredible progress on some goals to support project development

“Phase Three” PFS Cohort Goals

1. **Develop** a draft project hypothesis that has been vetted with priority stakeholders

2. **Understand** the purpose behind PFS tools & resources for project construction

3. **Co-create** an implementation roadmap outlining next steps for project construction
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Introductions & Welcome 5 Minutes

What do PFS Pilots Offer? 10 Minutes

Examples from Launched Projects 20 Minutes

Why Develop a PFS Pilot in Higher Ed? 5 Minutes

Q&A 15 Minutes

Closing & Next Steps 5 Minutes
A pilot period can be essential to a PFS project’s development as it allows for “course correction” in critical areas prior to project launch.

Areas of Course Correction in PFS Pilots

- Referral Pathways
- Project Enrollment
- Operational Processes
- Stakeholder Relationships
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Case Study #1: Alameda County Justice Restoration Project

*Providing wrap-around services in lieu of incarceration using PFS*

Prosecutors, courts, families, and providers coordinated to prioritize community-based services

**Project details**

**Population:** Up to 150 young adults (ages 18-34) re-arrested for low-level felonies

**Services:** 18 months of case management and navigation support from Coaches with similar lived experiences

**Project Budget:** $4mm from State of California, County of Alameda, and philanthropic partners

**Evaluation:** RCT to assess 2-year recidivism

**Timeline:** *Planning & Assessment (~ 2 years), Pilot (6 months)*, and Implementation (Aug. 2018)

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**Outcome Payments**

$1.4mm contingent on:

- Incarceration for 150 residents enrolled in the program
- Re-arrest rates after coaching & case management
In Alameda County, the pilot phase was critical for verifying project enrollment and testing referral pathways.

**Challenges**

**Referral Pathways**
- Formalizing government decision-making and data input/analysis
- Coordinating and educating justice system staff

**Project Enrollment**
- Releasing clients from custody prior to program enrollment
- Low enrollments (only 12 enrollments in the initial Pilot)

**Actions**

- Created internal materials (goals, eligibility, structure)
- Hosted trainings for community providers & Probation Officers
- Agreed to a 2nd Pilot (“Ramp Up”)
- Revised randomization ratio
- Modified eligibility criteria
- Established priority for ages 18 – 24
Adjustments made during the pilot phase resulted in increased enrollment and smoother referral processes

**Alameda County PFS Pilot Results**

1. Refined referral process map and validated initial estimate of number of young adults to serve

2. Increased automation and consistency of eligibility criteria application throughout the county

3. Enrolled an additional 12 participants during the “Ramp-Up” phase
Case Study #2: Lane County Reentry Collaborative

*Breaking the cycle of recidivism for homeless Oregonians*

Housing, justice, and healthcare resources were integrated to expand reentry services

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**Project details**

**Population:** 100 high-risk individuals who are homeless upon reentry

**Services:** Housing First Permanent Supportive Housing, case management, and probation supervision

**Project Budget:** $4.5mm from HUD/DOJ, Oregon Community Foundation, and the State of Oregon

**Evaluation:** Natural Experiment to assess 5-year justice, housing, and healthcare utilization

**Timeline:** Planning & Assessment (~ 2 years), *Pilot (16 months)*, and Implementation (Sep. 2018)

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**Outcome Payments**

*$3.0mm contingent on:*

- Incarceration due to a felony conviction within 3 years
- Days of stable housing (validated by lease or sub-agreement)
In Lane County, the pilot phase was critical for ironing out operational processes such as data integration and staffing.

### Challenges

**Operational Processes**
- Service provider had limited history with Housing First PSH
- Accessing / integrating justice, housing, & healthcare outcomes

**Stakeholder Relationships**
- Prioritizing unit availability (service provider & housing authority)
- Developing a sustainable funding plan for Years 2 and beyond

### Actions

- Designed services & staffing with input from all, including tenants
- Drafted data sharing agreements to validate “baseline outcomes”
- Established recurring working groups and Advisory Committee
- Engaged & integrated state, county, and local priorities
Adjustments made during the pilot phase resulted in data integration and enhanced trust among stakeholders

Lane County PFS Pilot Results

1. Improved data access and sharing processes and procedures developed at the local level

2. Developed data access/integration plan to include more appropriate healthcare utilization metrics

3. Aligned key stakeholders around expectations and project goals
The Alameda and Lane County pilots ensured the success of the launched PFS projects

Key Takeaways from Alameda and Lane County Pilots

- Provided crucial time to foster **cross-collaboration** between agencies
- Led to real-time revisions to the **Operations & Implementation** Plans
- Created a culture of **continuous improvement** and learning
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| What do PFS Pilots Offer?                | 10 Minutes |
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| **Why Develop a PFS Pilot in Higher Ed?**| 5 Minutes |
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Developing a PFS pilot in higher education will give stakeholders an opportunity to course-correct and launch successful initiatives.

**Benefits of a PFS Pilot in Higher Education**

- **Referral Pathways**
  - Validate target numbers for referrals
  - Formalize referral strategies

- **Project Enrollment**
  - Identify and enroll appropriate students
  - Refine eligibility criteria

- **Operational Processes**
  - Gain access to new data sources
  - Develop a concrete evaluation plan

- **Stakeholder Relationships**
  - Build new relationships among HEIs and providers
  - Execute fundraising strategies in a lower risk way
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If you have any questions, feel free to use the chat box or unmute your line.
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Upcoming virtual learning opportunities will accompany exposure to PFS tools and resources required to develop projects

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All webinars below will be recorded and shared.

**Learning Opportunities**

- **Today 10/22**
  - "PFS 101" to introduce application of PFS in Higher Ed

- **10/30 2-3 pm ET**
  - "Funding Sources and Uses in PFS Projects"

- **11/13 2-3 pm ET**
  - "Services with an Evidence-Based and Procurement Implications"

- **11/18 2-3 pm ET**
  - "Pitching to PFS Stakeholders"

- **12/3 2-3 pm ET**
  - "Importance of PFS Pilots in Order to Launch PFS Projects"

**Readiness Assessment**

- **October 23-31st**
  - 1:1 Provider interviews to complete PFS "Readiness Assessment"

**December 11th 1-2:30 pm ET**

**All-Cohort Final Virtual Convening**

**January 2020**

- Provider closeout conversations about PFS readiness
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