

Tuesday Lunchtime Speakers:

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Dr. Van Deirse is a research associate professor at the UNC Chapel Hill School of Social Work and a mental health services researcher focused on intervention implementation at the intersection of the mental health and criminal justice systems. Her research focuses on the science of implementing and disseminating cross-system interventions to divert people with mental illnesses from the criminal justice system.

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Implementation Strategies for Specialty Mental Health Probation:

Clinical Case Consultation and Building Resource Networks

UNC Chapel Hill School of Social Work

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Andrea Murray-Lichtman, PhD Candidate, LCSW

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 - 2013 - North Carolina Governor's Crime Commission PROJ009298 (PI: Cuddeback)

Agenda

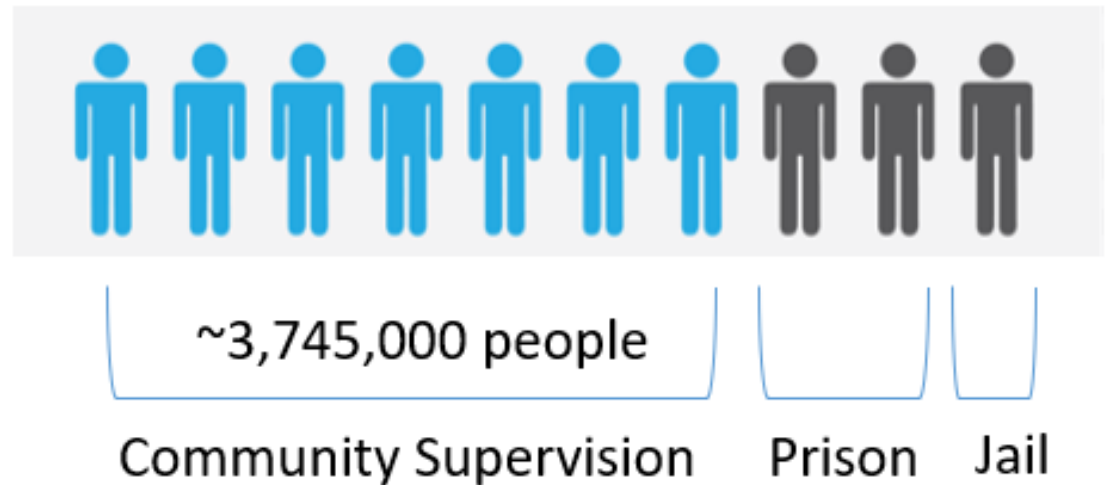
- Background and development of specialty mental health probation in NC
- Implementation science and specialty mental health probation
- Implementation strategies
- Q&A

Background and Development of Specialty Mental Health Probation in NC

Mental Illnesses in Community Corrections: Prevalence and Challenges

- Limited/insufficient resource availability in community
- Inadequate officer training and expertise
- High caseloads
- Punishment vs. treatment orientation
- Individuals w/mental illnesses face:
 - Greater difficulty meeting the terms of supervision
 - Higher rates of probation violations and recidivism
 - Co-occurring substance misuse and SUD
 - Lack of housing
 - Lack of medication adherence
 - Lack of health insurance
 - And more...

5.4+ million people are under
correctional supervision



16-27% have a
mental illness

Specialty Mental Health Probation

- Specialty Mental Health Probation (SMHP) is a promising practice for supervising individuals with mental illnesses
- Evidence suggests that SMHP improves mental health and criminal justice outcomes → mixed
- Five elements of prototypical SMHP model

SMHP Core Components



Designated mental health caseloads

Reduced caseload size

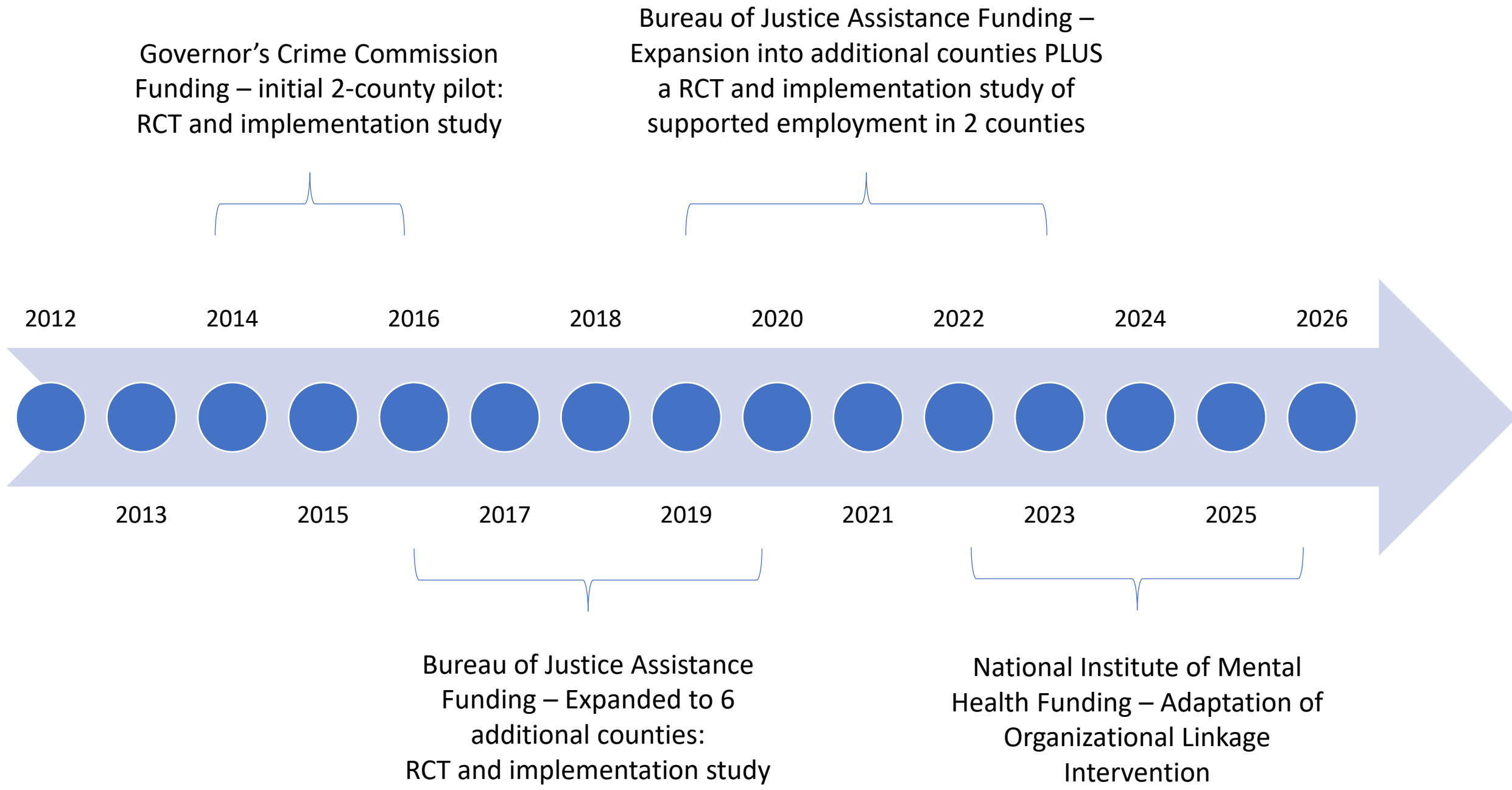


Ongoing mental health training

Enhanced interaction with resource providers



Problem-solving orientation



Governor's Crime Commission
Funding – initial 2-county pilot:
RCT and implementation study

Bureau of Justice Assistance Funding –
Expansion into additional counties PLUS
a RCT and implementation study of
supported employment in 2 counties

2012

2014

2016

2018

2020

2022

2024

2026

2013

2015

2017

2019

2021

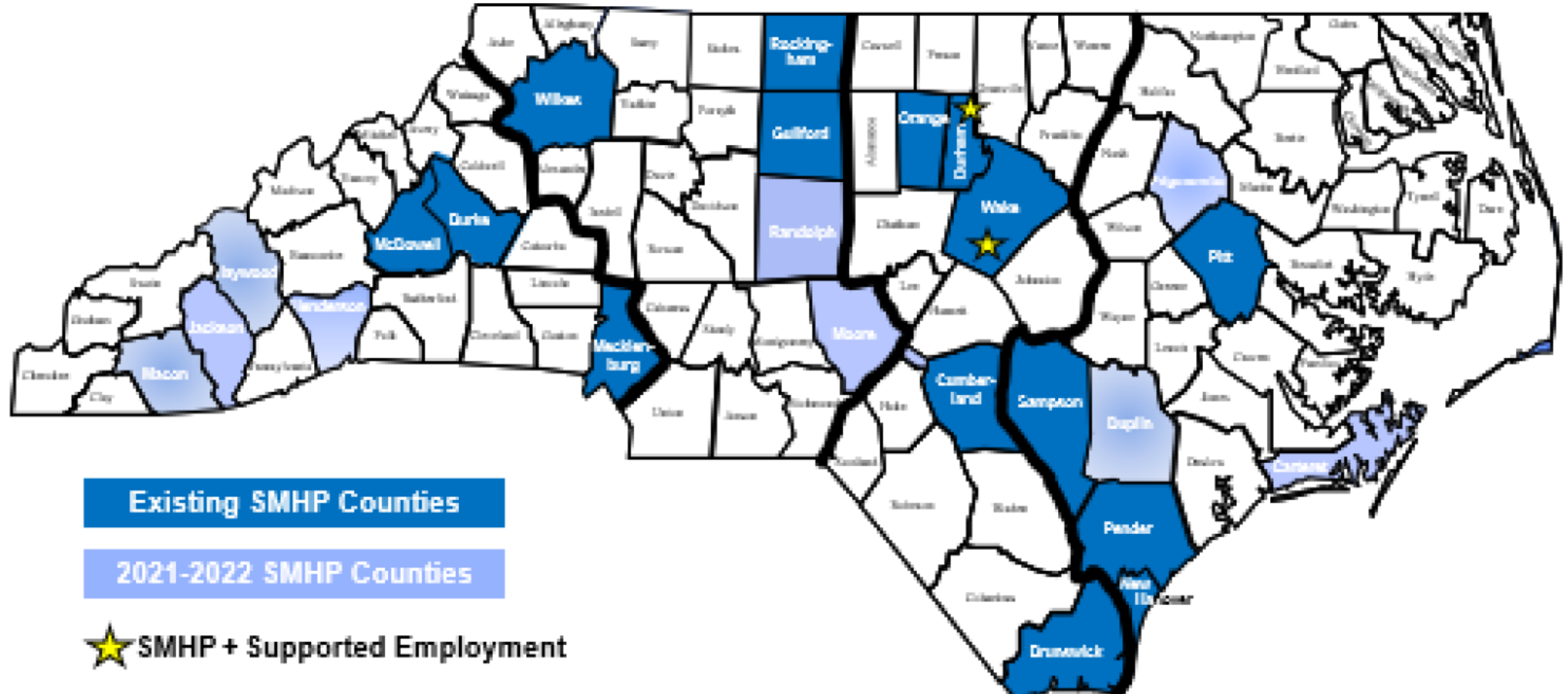
2023

2025

Bureau of Justice Assistance
Funding – Expanded to 6
additional counties:
RCT and implementation study

National Institute of Mental
Health Funding – Adaptation of
Organizational Linkage
Intervention

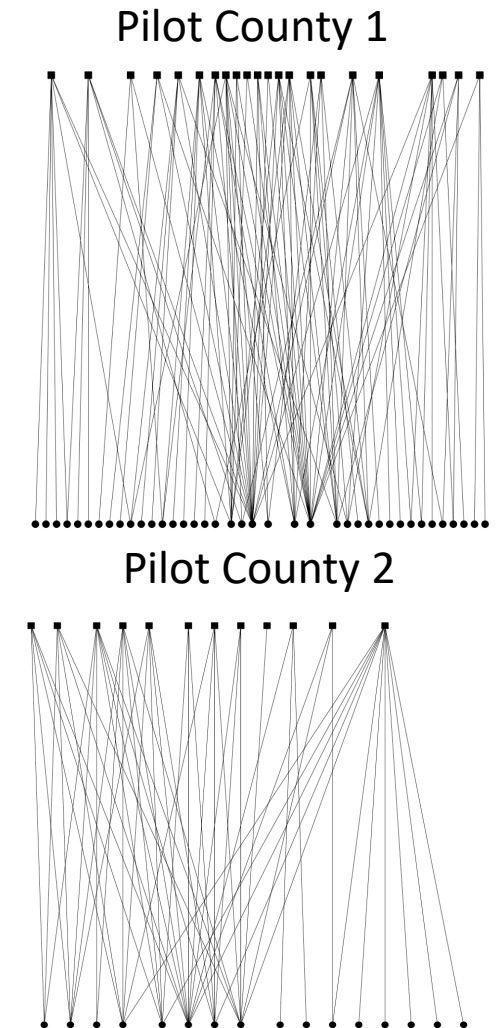
The Current Map of SMHP Counties



Implementation Science and Specialty Mental Health Probation

Why implementation science?

- **SMHP is complex.** Five interrelated components that are completely dependent on context
- **Agency context.** Although the larger probation agency is invested, the context in the local jurisdiction varies
- **Reliance on the local service system.** SMHP is dependent on availability of resources and officers' ability to network with providers
- **Probation officers are stepping outside traditional roles.** This is a new and enhanced skillset for PPOs and we need to be sure they are equipped to implement



How we have applied implementation science to specialty mental health probation in North Carolina

1

Use hybrid effectiveness-implementation designs

- Generate knowledge about the intervention
- Design more effective implementation strategies
- Speed up the uptake

Curran et al., 2013; Glasgow et al., 2003

2

Apply frameworks to help us assess the implementation context

- What might get in the way of implementation? (implementation barriers)
- What might we leverage to help us implement the intervention? (implementation facilitators)

3

Design/adapt strategies to address implementation barriers

- Using what you know about the context and potential barriers and facilitators, design strategies that will help the organization implement the intervention

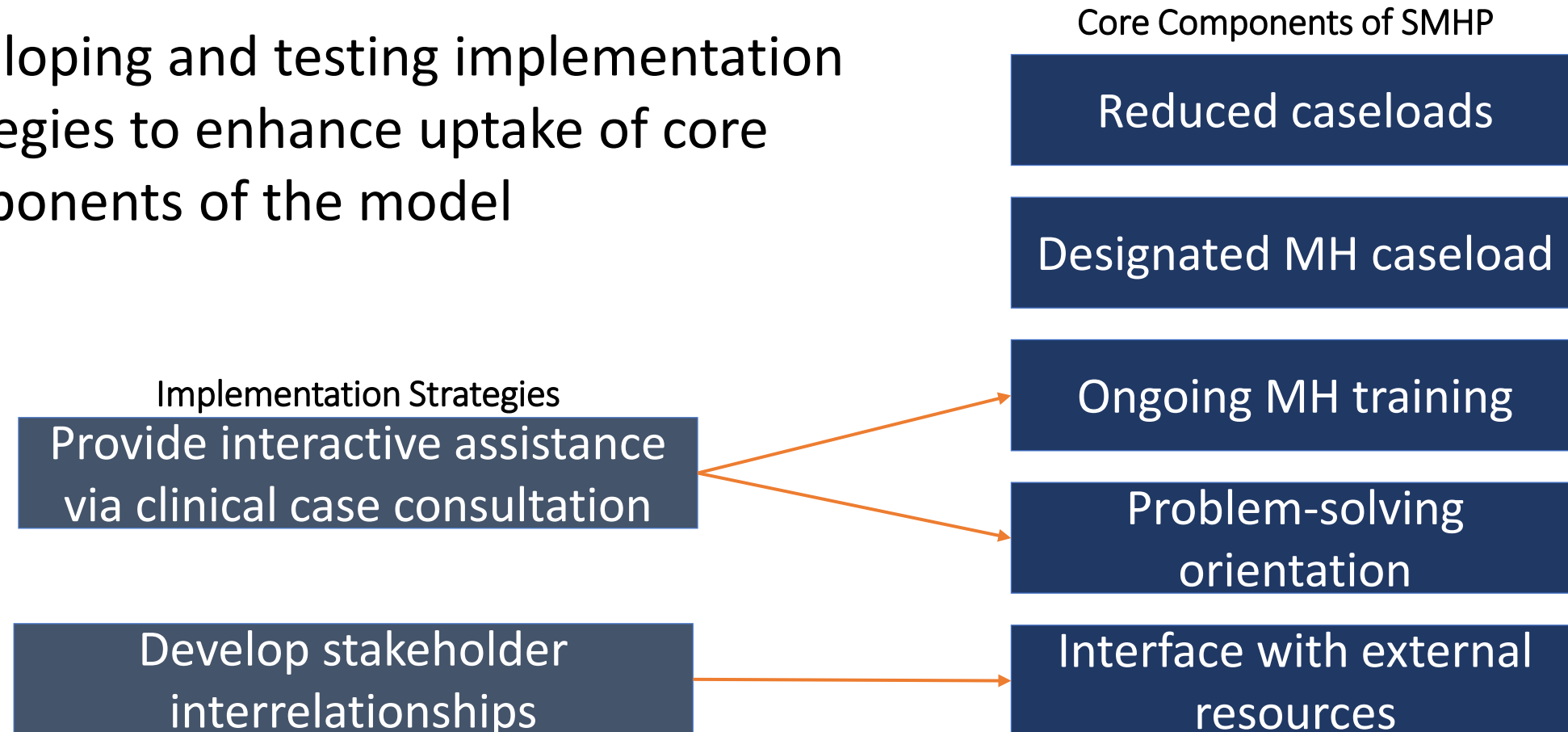
4

Test the implementation strategy

- Examine the impact of implementation strategies on implementation outcomes (e.g., reach, fidelity)

Where we are now...

Developing and testing implementation strategies to enhance uptake of core components of the model



Implementation Strategy: Clinical Case Consultation

Overview

- Interactive support and guidance provided to the SMHP officer by a licensed clinician
- Case consultations occur 4 to 6 weeks (virtually or in-person)
- Case consultations involve 2 to 4 SMHP officers and their direct supervisor
- Officers are asked to present challenging cases as well as success stories to illustrate effective supervision strategies

Presenting and discussing a case

- Officers present case and discuss behaviors
- Consultant uses a problem-solving orientation
- Consultant facilitates understanding of connection between behaviors and symptoms of mental illness
- Consultant and officers discuss strategies for enhancing intervention

What we hope to see

- Officers gain an understanding of the connection between diagnosis—symptoms—behaviors—needed support
- Officers more likely to
 - Reinforce efforts to build trusting relationship
 - Address barriers to successful outcomes
 - Increase strategies to enhance motivation for treatment engagement
- The person on probation perceives fair, caring, and trusting relationship and experiences enhanced honesty, motivation for change, and confidence in the ability to engage in treatment and make behavioral change

Our research on clinical case consultation thus far

- Descriptive analysis of clinical case consultation as an implementation strategy
 - Presented at the Academic and Health Policy Conference on Correctional Health, 2018
 - AcademyHealth/NIH Conference on the Science of Dissemination and Implementation in Health, 2017
- Acceptability of clinical case consultation
 - Presented at the Academic and Health Policy Conference on Correctional Health, 2021
 - Manuscript in preparation (Van Deinse, Crable, Ghezzi, Murray-Lichtman, Cuddeback – 2023 submission)
- Future research to focus on impact of clinical case consultation on implementation outcomes

Implementation Strategy: Developing Stakeholder Interrelationships

Overview

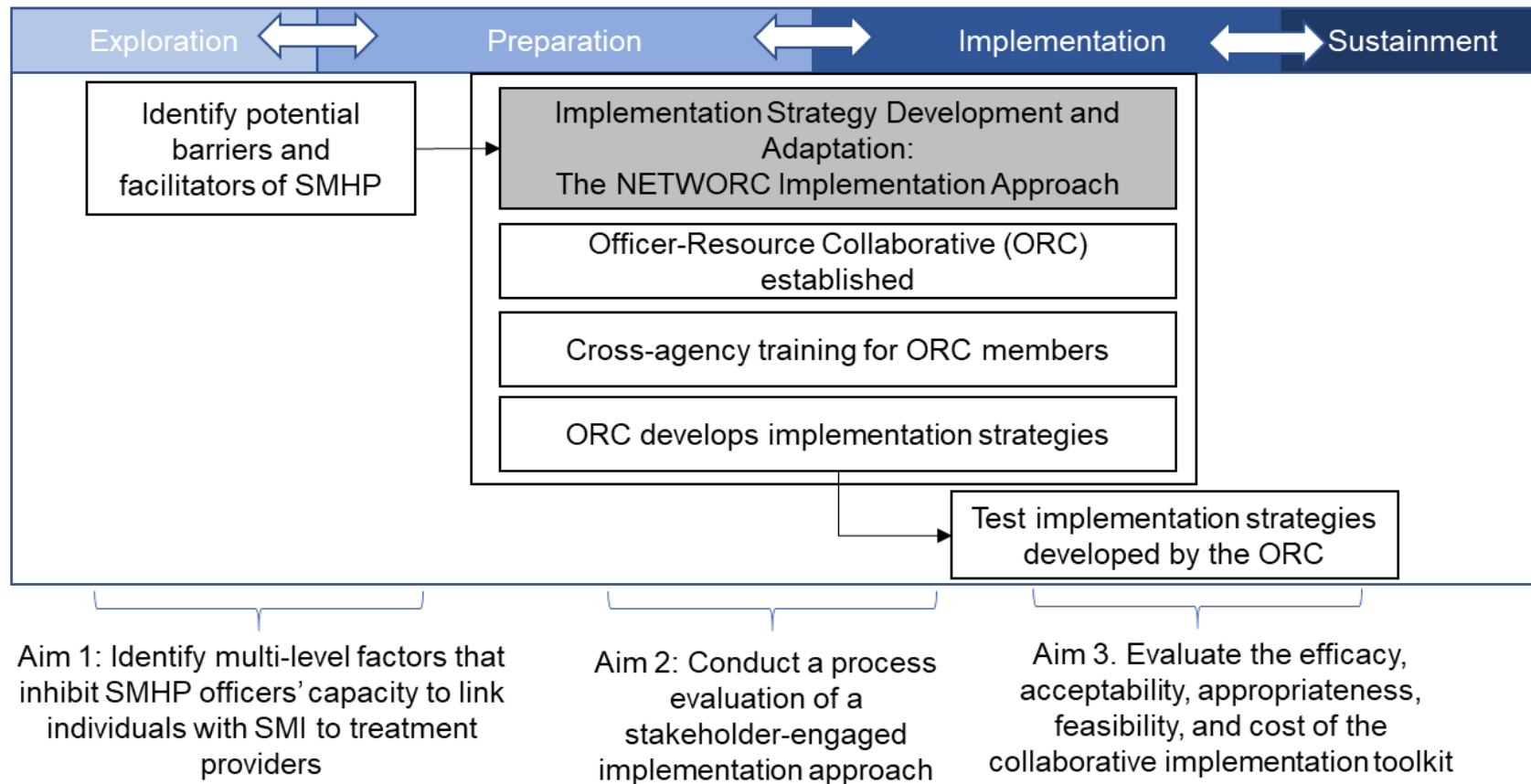
- Since the inception of SMHP, we have hosted engagement meetings between SMHP officers and service providers
 - Breakfast
 - Introduction to SMHP
 - Service providers sharing resource information
- Over the years, our implementation studies yielded key findings about officer-resource provider relationships:
 - Reciprocal relationships between probation officers and mental health service providers were an implementation facilitator (Van Deirse et al., 2019)
 - Probation officers reported that having relationships with service providers was critically important to the model (Van Deirse et al., 2021b)
 - Probation officers were more likely to have frequent communication, collaborate, and share expertise if these behaviors were reciprocated by mental health providers (Van Deirse et al., 2022)
- Given these findings and the fact that collaboration and coordination to enhance service linkage is key to SMHP fidelity, we needed to enhance stakeholder engagement

Networking to Engage in Treatment: Working within Officer-Resource Collaboratives (NETWORC)

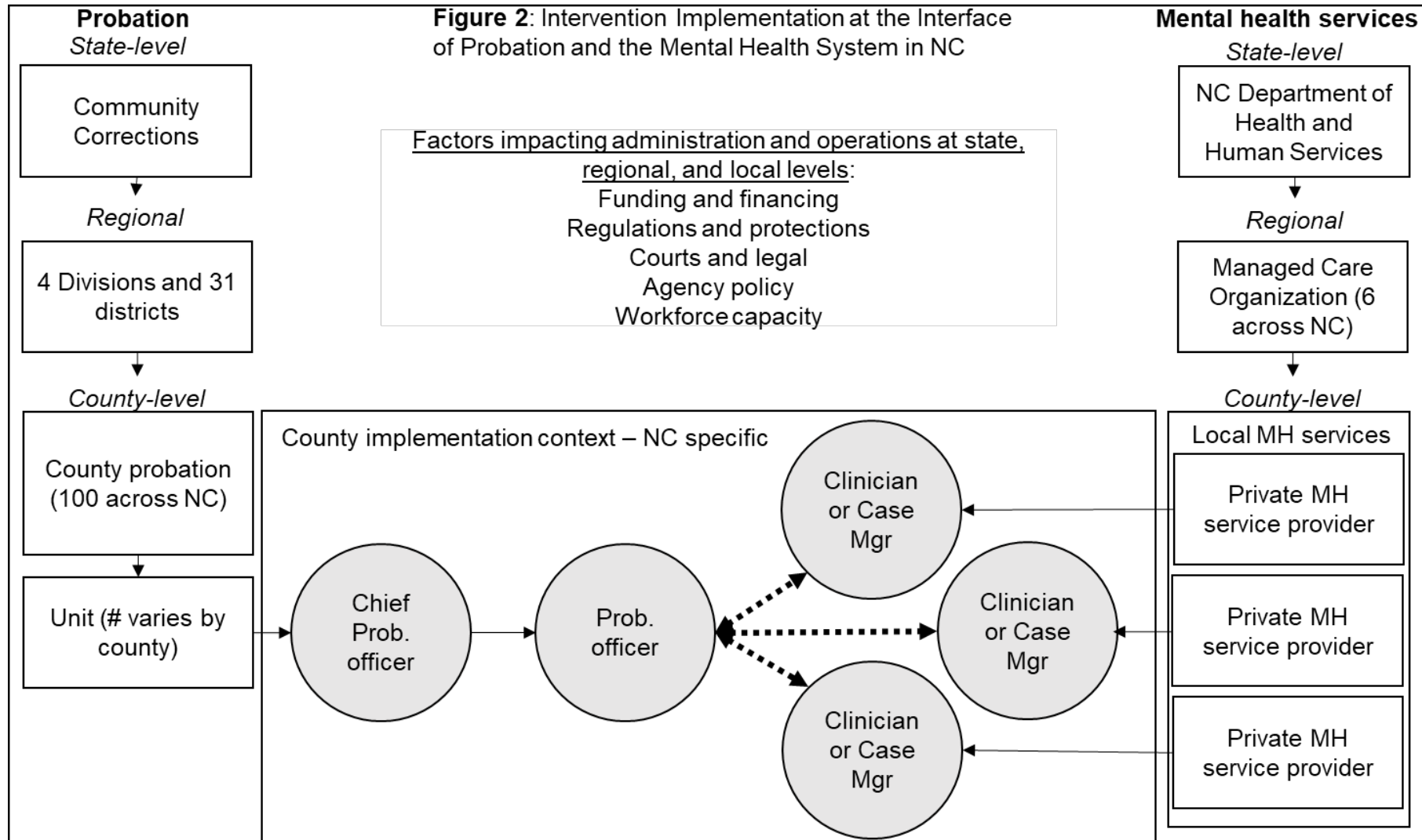
- Funded by NIMH - 1K01MH129619 (PI: Van Deirse)
- Adaptation of an organizational linkage intervention
 - Medication Assisted Treatment Implementation in Community Correctional Environments (MATICCE), part of the Criminal Justice Drug Abuse Treatment Studies (National Institute of Drug Abuse)
- Specific Aims
 - Aim 1: Identify multilevel factors that inhibit SMHP officers' capacity to link individuals with SMI to treatment providers.
 - Aim 2: Conduct a process evaluation of the NETWORC implementation approach.
 - Aim 3: Evaluate the efficacy, acceptability, appropriateness, feasibility, and cost of the collaborative implementation toolkit.

Application Implementation Science Frameworks

Figure 1: EPIS Framework Phases, Research Activities, and Study Aims



Where we are now...



Q&A

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