



UNIVERSITY of
DENVER

COLORADO EVALUATION
AND ACTION LAB

Reducing Recidivism for Justice-Involved Individuals with Traumatic Brain Injury: Determining the Efficacy of a Screening, Identification, and Referral Model

The goal of this project is to inform how the Colorado Department of Human Services (CDHS) and the Colorado Division of Probation Services tailor recidivism reduction services to individuals with traumatic brain injuries (TBI). This work builds on a federal grant launched by MINDSOURCE – the Brain Injury Network housed within CDHS, which focused on ensuring that justice-involved individuals with TBI were properly screened, identified, and referred for support. In the current project, the research team will link the previously collected MINDSOURCE data to Colorado Division of Probation Services data to determine if there are consistent risk factors and/or vulnerabilities across individuals who screen positive for TBI and to determine whether or not the referral model is associated with successful completion of probation and/or reductions in recidivism. If consistent risk factors can be identified and the model increases successful completion, this information can be used to guide probation, county jails, and the Colorado Department of Corrections in the development of screening, support, and referral policies statewide.

Researchers:

Principal Investigator: Dr. Kimberly Gorgens (Clinical Professor, Graduate School of Professional Psychology, University of Denver)

Research Team Members: Judy Dettmer (Director, MINDSOURCE – Brain Injury Network, Colorado Department of Human Services), Russha Knauer (Analyst, Evaluation Unit, Division of Probation Services, State Court Administrator’s Office, Colorado Judicial Branch), Dr. Laura Meyer (Clinical Associate Professor, Graduate School of Professional Psychology, University of Denver), Jaime Horsfall (Criminal Justice Specialist, Brain Injury Alliance of Colorado), Lisa Cheney-Philp (Evaluator, Brain Injury Alliance of Colorado), Research Associates TBD