



## **PROBATION OFFICERS PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATION OF INDIANA, Inc.**

P.O. Box 44148, Indianapolis, IN 46244

July 22, 2016

Mr. Jim Cosby, Director  
National Institute of Corrections  
320 First Street, NW  
Washington, DC 20534

Dear Mr. Cosby:

I am writing to support Indiana's application to participate in the Evidence Based Decision Making (EBDM) project Phase VI. The Probation Officers Professional Association of Indiana (POPAI) is willing to commit to continuing active participation in the EBDM project. Our organization will commit to sending representatives to attend and fully participate in the state policy team meetings as well as additional work groups and other meetings to further advance EBDM in this state. Our organization will partner with fellow EBDM stakeholders to inform probation officers about project activities and to educate probation professionals about the benefits of the EBDM approach to criminal justice decision making.

Indiana probation departments have been active participants in the EBDM pilot counties. The Grant County Probation Department has been a leader in implementing evidence based correctional practices and leading by example with the EBDM process. I have been fortunate to have served on the Indiana EBDM Policy Team this past year as the probation representative. Probation is a key player in Indiana's criminal justice system. Probation officers are change agents who work tirelessly to enhance public safety by reducing recidivism and by reducing the harm that criminal acts cause victims and communities.

Indiana probation leaders will participate in the EBDM project. These leaders will have expertise in evidence-based correctional practices and how to promote offender behavior change. Probation officers who volunteer for this project will have a commitment to work collaboratively across agencies and branches of government at the state and local level to advance EBDM.

POPAI's inclusion in Indiana's EBDM project will further the "justice reinvestment" activities that have been mandated by the Indiana General Assembly. POPAI will serve as a liaison between Indiana probation officers and the state EBDM initiative, communicating with local departments to assist them in developing and implementing their own harm reduction goals.

Sincerely,

  
Linda Brady

President, Probation Officers Professional Association of Indiana