

Implementing an RCT in the Juvenile Justice System: Experiences in Rural New Mexico and West Virginia

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New Orleans | Seattle

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Project Background

- Funded by:
 - Administration for Children and Families, Family & Youth Services Bureau
- Program Partners:
 - Intervention developers:
 - ✦ Resources for Resolving Violence & Sentient Research
 - Implementation site partners:
 - ✦ New Mexico Children, Youth, & Families Department
 - ✦ West Virginia Division of Juvenile Services

Youth Empowerment Study Overview

- RCT targeting juvenile justice-involved youth aged 14-19
- Target enrollment: 600 participants
- Testing e-PS-R's impact on sexual behaviors associated with teen pregnancy
- Current status:
 - **231** youth enrolled
 - 3 month follow-up rate: **81%**
 - 6 month follow-up rate: **71%**
 - 12 month follow-up rate: **56%**

Study Region Comparisons

Regions	New Mexico	West Virginia
Partner Agency	NM Children, Youth, and Families Department	WV Division of Juvenile Services
Implementation Site Structure	Field Services Offices	Youth Reporting Centers
Services Provided at Sites	Probation meetings	Individual/family counseling; anger management, etc.
Site Contacts	Community Behavioral Health Clinicians	Youth Reporting Center Directors
Parent Permission	Required	Not required
Characteristics of Youth Population	White: 18-22% Black: <1% Hispanic: 66-70% American Indian: 8-9%	White: 84% Black: 9% Hispanic: 2% American Indian: NR

Regional Facilitators and Barriers/Challenges

	New Mexico	West Virginia
Facilitators	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Large pool of youth	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Access to youth▪ Centralized agency
Barriers	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Access to youth▪ Complex agency structure▪ Parent permission▪ Out-of-home placements (Residential treatment centers)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Smaller pool of youth▪ Out-of-home placements
Challenges	<p>Program participation Recruitment Follow-up rates</p>	

New Mexico: Program Participation Strategies & Solutions

- Ongoing feedback
 - Project partners
 - Focus group
- Developing incentives plan
 - Incentives and gift cards
 - E-PS-R schedule card
 - Positive messaging
 - Certificate of Achievement
 - Healthy snacks and beverages

e-PS-R

OPPORTUNITIES FOR
GIFTS & REWARDS

8 ONLINE SESSIONS





Get a \$5 e-gift card each time you finish an online session!


4 IN-PERSON MEETINGS

Earn 1 point for completing each in-person meeting!

Cash in 1 point per meeting Cash in all 4 points at meeting 4


MTG 1 = 

MTG 2 = 


MTG 3 = 

MTG 4 = 

OR

MTG 4 = 

RAFFLE PRIZE



Complete the full e-PS-R program (all 12 components) and enter a raffle to win a \$50 gift card!

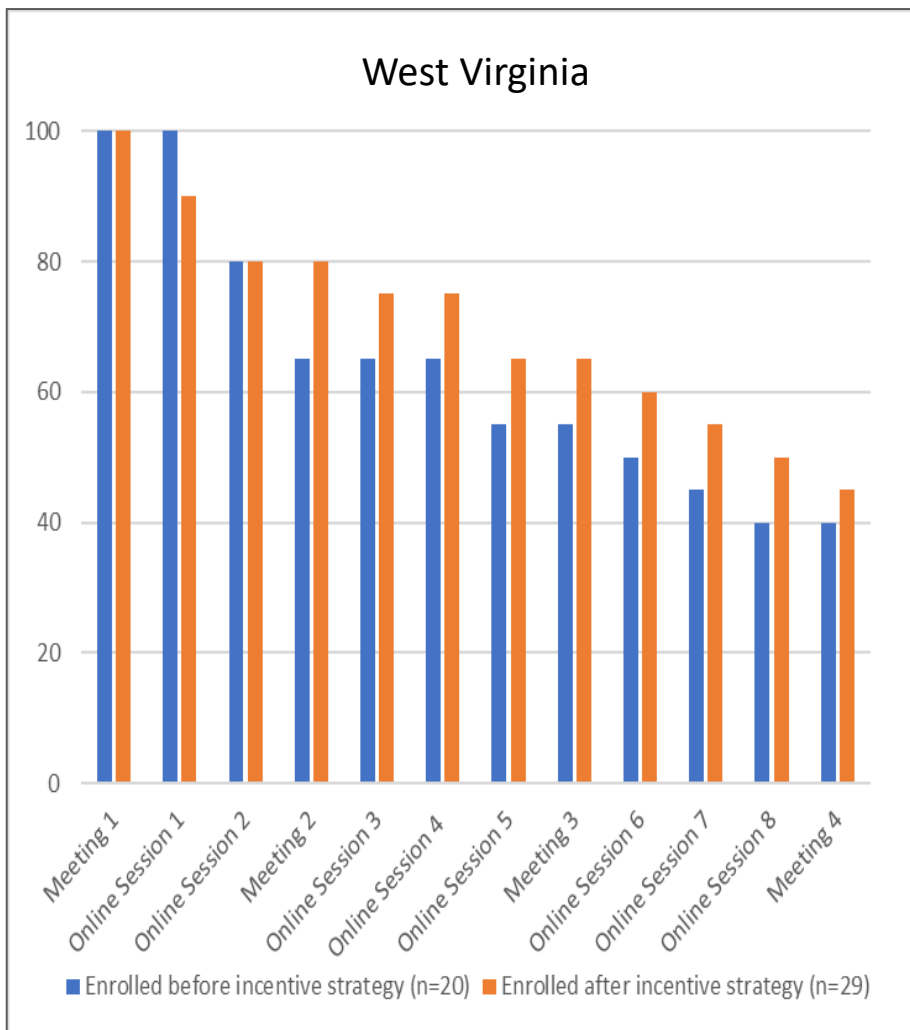
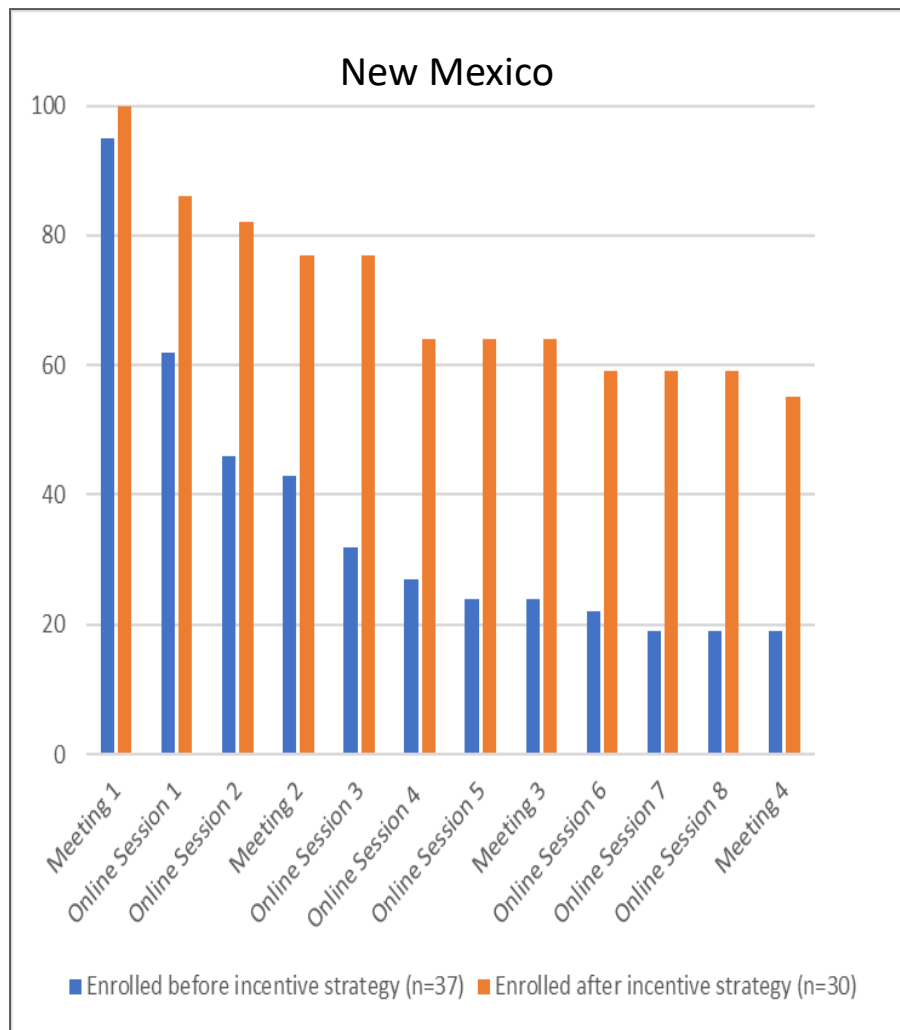
New Mexico: Program Participation Strategies & Solutions (continued)

- Partnering with schools and community agencies
 - Chromebooks available
- Updated guidance for study coordinators
 - “Bundling” program components

West Virginia: Program Participation Strategies & Solutions

- Chromebooks available at site
- Updated guidance for study coordinators
- Components of incentives plan
 - E-PS-R schedule card
 - Positive messaging
 - Certificate of Achievement
 - Healthy snacks and beverages
- Incorporating e-PS-R in site scheduling

Program Progression Pre-/Post-Incentives Plan



Recruitment Strategies and Solutions

- New Mexico
 - Refresher trainings for site staff
 - ✦ Increasing % of “yes” parent permission forms
 - Community service hours (Farmington)
 - Site expansion
- West Virginia
 - Expanding pool of potentially eligible youth
 - Site expansion

Follow-up Strategies and Solutions

Strategies	New Mexico	West Virginia
Community agencies	✓	
Schools	✓	✓
Probation officers	✓	
Revising locator forms	✓	✓
Detention centers	✓	✓
Ongoing communication	✓	✓

Next Steps

- Youth Advisory Panels (YAPs)
 - Obtaining feedback from youth in each distinct region
- Social Media
 - Developing engaging and interactive visual content
 - ✦ Animations, memes, gifs
- Exploring incentive ideas in West Virginia

Questions?

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