

UCCI:EPICS

EPICS-I: INFLUENCERS



EPICS-I was designed as an extension of the Effective Practices in Community Supervision (EPICS) Model, an approach that teaches community supervision staff how to apply the core principles of effective intervention to community supervision. The goal of EPICS-I is to identify prosocial support (an “Influencer”) in an individual’s life, teach those Influencers skills used within the EPICS-I model to identify risky situations and practice them with a person to help successfully manage challenges.



An advantage of this intervention is that it is designed to be delivered during everyday interactions between the Influencer and individual. Another important benefit of this approach is that it builds on the interventions being taught in structured treatment groups and/or during contact sessions between the justice-involved individual and community supervision officers. Research shows that relapse prevention programs that trained significant others and family members in cognitive-behavioral approaches were three times as effective as programs that did not. An added benefit of this approach is the added dosage individuals receive through the interactions with a trained Influencer.

The Influencers model also employs the use of coaches. EPICS coaches are trained to provide community assistance for Influencers and the individuals they support. This on-going coaching will ensure fidelity to the model through regular meeting between the EPICS coaches and the Influencers. Emphasis will be placed on helping the Influencer to integrate cognitive-behavioral interventions and evidence-based strategies into regular interactions with the individual they support. Influencers are found in many areas of an offender’s life. EPICS for Influencers is designed individuals and organizations including; Mentors, Family Members, Significant others, Friends, Coaches, Faith-Based Organizations, Reentry Coalitions, Law Enforcement, School Officials.

OVERVIEW OF INFLUENCER TRAINING

M1: Recognizing Risky Situation

M2: EPICS-I Model

M3: Setting and Reviewing Goals

M4: Supporting Behavior Change

OVERVIEW OF COACHES TRAINING

S1: Review of Influencer training

S2: Rational for Coaching / Coaching Tools

S3: Coaching Structure

S4: Roadblocks/Barriers

S5: Tips for Success

Our goal is to provide a high-fidelity program. UCCI curricula and interventions are free to use! Our mission is to research, develop, disseminate and implement evidence-based practices in corrections. As such, we’ve worked with the university to offer this program at no “per-participant” fee. While copyrighted property of the University of Cincinnati, training materials received in our training events include permission to photocopy resources needed to facilitate interventions. Once trained facilitators have demonstrated proficiency, they may be eligible to participate in a training-of-trainers’ program to build agency sustainability of the program.

CONTACT

For more information about EPICS-I, please contact UCCI at corrections.institute@uc.edu or visit our website at www.uc.edu/corrections.