

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 core skills used within the EPICS-I model to identify risky situations and practice these skills with their individual to help successfully manage these 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 Program Director Jennifer Scott at Jennifer.Scott@uc.edu or visit our website at www.uc.edu/corrections.