

The Future of Treatment Courts

Aaron Arnold

Wednesday, November 8th, 3:45pm-5:15pm

Aaron Arnold is chief development officer at the National Association of Drug Court Professionals, where he works to develop new initiatives to support and strengthen drug courts across the country. Prior to joining NADCP, Aaron spent 15 years at the Center for Court Innovation, overseeing the Center's national work in the areas of treatment courts, community justice, alternatives to incarceration, tribal justice, and more. Aaron has served as a prosecutor with the Maricopa County Attorney's Office in Phoenix, Arizona, where he gained first-hand experience working in several problem-solving courts. Aaron is graduate of Cornell University and the University of Arizona College of Law.

Session Description:

Treatment courts are the most effective justice system innovation in the last 30 years. Dozens of evaluations have shown that treatment courts reduce recidivism, save lives, strengthen families, and save money. Despite their unparalleled success, however, treatment courts are facing challenges. First, a shifting legal and cultural landscape is prompting reformers to turn to earlier off-ramps from the justice system, like prearrest models and prosecutor-led diversion. Second, too many treatment courts struggle to adhere to best practices. This session offers recommendations for building on the success of treatment courts, adapting the model to changing times, and harmonizing treatment courts with emerging justice reform models.

