DATA-INFORMED COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT AND PUBLIC SAFETY COLLABORATIVES

Center For
POLICING EQUITY

Data-Informed Community Engagement

Data-Informed Community Engagement (DICE) is an evidence-based, community-centered approach that **empowers communities to co-create equitable public safety strategies** through data analysis that is transparent, effective, and tailored to local problems. DICE is powered by **Risk Terrain Modeling (RTM)** and delivered via RTDMx software that diagnoses crime patterns, identifies environmental conditions that contribute to crime problems, and drives decision-making for public safety. RTM seeks to reduce crime by **focusing on places, not people.**

DICE in St. Louis

In St. Louis, DICE powered by RTM will help coordinate multiple community stakeholders to maximize existing local resources for better public safety outcomes. Through DICE, community groups will be able to diagnose crime patterns, prioritize places in need, and coordinate programs that are pragmatic, impactful, and connected to lived experiences.

DICE Nationwide

In Dallas, DICE powered by RTM was used to identify the causes of crime in a neighborhood with vacant lots, convenience stores, and high poverty rates. Crime was addressed in several community-driven ways, including i**mproving lighting, building new homes on vacant lots,** and **creating a poverty assistance center**. After using DICE, this neighborhood saw a 23% crime reduction and a 59% drop in arrests in 2021 compared to 2019.

Similarly, in Newark, community partners in a **Public Safety Collaborative** used RTM to inform discussions about how to effectively remediate the situational contexts for crime in their neighborhood. As a result, community-based organizations **remediated abandoned properties, partnered to adopt vacant city-owned lots in high-risk areas**, and **improved access to affordable housing**. Motor vehicle theft decreased by 40% in the area after an educational campaign to inform locals about motor vehicle theft due to car idling.

What is a Public Safety Collaborative?

A Public Safety Collaborative (PSC) is a group of individuals from a community who work together within the DICE framework to co-produce comprehensive, dynamic, transparent, and effective crime prevention strategies tailored to their community.

- The PSC works closely with a **Trusted Broker** to explore community-driven approaches to address, resolve, and reduce harm in high-risk areas.
- The group is typically made up of volunteers, with two-year terms, who are not beholden to a single agency or nonprofit organization.

What is a Trusted Broker?

A salaried, full-time role that helps lead the day-to-day operations of the PSC and DICE. The Trusted Broker oversees, organizes, and coordinates a community-engaged approach to crime prevention.

- The Trusted Broker requires ongoing support from a part-time **Simsi Analyst** to help facilitate the dissemination of data, findings, and reports.
- The Trusted Broker must be an experienced community organizer. In partnership with the Simsi Analyst, they will socialize data findings, explore next steps to help the community address risk, and take appropriate action to respond to the findings with the PSC.

Public Safety Collaborative Network

Communities across the country are using DICE and Public Safety Collaboratives to redesign public safety systems that are equitable, effective, and sustainable. Pioneers in Dallas, Newark, and St. Louis are coming together to form a broader Public Safety Collaborative Network to support people committed to making their communities safer. The PSC Network will share lessons learned, best practices, and provide support to other Public Safety Collaboratives across the country looking to make bold change in their communities.