

Five Ways to Engage County Elected Officials in Your Justice Initiatives

1. Regularly educate elected county leaders on justice initiative efforts

- Regularly update them on progress and outcomes of initiatives through memos, briefs or presentations
- Host site visits, tours and meetings with program beneficiaries
- Brief them on emerging county justice innovations

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 **SAFETY+JUSTICE
CHALLENGE**
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3. Encourage elected county leaders to become active champions for justice initiatives

- Invite them to join or create justice taskforces or committees
- Position them as the face for justice initiatives for the press and community

4. Make specific asks that are data-driven and measurable

- Request formal commitments with a specific target or outcome
- Support requests with data showing impact and outcomes
- Present integrated data that shows links to other policy areas

2. Listen to elected county leaders' ideas and concerns and be responsive

- Discuss areas that need improvement and their priorities for change
- Engage at onset of implementation to identify policy barriers and opportunities
- Set common goals to align policy

5. Give elected county leaders tools and resources to share with the media and community

- Create comprehensive communication and community engagement plans
- Train them on giving presentations and answering critical questions from the media and public