CLIENTS

- U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) - Administration for Children and Families
- National Institute on Minority Health and Health Disparities (NIMHD)
- National Eye Institute (NEI)
- National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism (NIAAA)
- National Institute on Drug Abuse (NIDA)
- National Institute of Mental Health (NIMH)
- National Institute of Dental and Craniofacial Research (NIDCR)
- National Institute of Child Health and Human Development (NICHD)
- Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP)
- SAMHSA – Centers for Mental Health Services, Substance Abuse Prevention, and Substance Abuse Treatment
- U.S. Department of State – Bureau of International Narcotics and Law Enforcement Affairs (INL)
- U.S. Department of Education – Offices of Innovation and Improvement, Special Education Programs, & Elementary and Secondary Education
- University of Kentucky – Center for Drug Abuse Research Translation
- State Departments of Health and Human Services (e.g., AL, KY, NH, OH, TN)
- State Departments of Education (e.g., KY, MD, OH, VT)
- Children International

MISSION

PIRE has a significant national presence in the area of applied science, with funded research projects centering on prevention, treatment, and policy. PIRE scientists and practitioners continually focus on the design and implementation of responsive program evaluation strategies and the conduct of rigorous research focused on health, education, social welfare, and criminal justice issues. PIRE practitioners and scientists provide training and technical assistance in many health-related areas to states and communities that are attempting to improve public health.

VISION

The synergy between PIRE’s attractive organizational culture and our growing base of talent and expertise will spark creative collaboration across the Institute and invite strategic and productive partnerships with others. The resulting output will dramatically advance social science and practice and fulfill the promise latent within PIRE of producing a truly significant, positive impact on community and national well-being.

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The Louisville Center specializes in applied research, program evaluation, the application of prevention technology, survey research, and training and technical assistance.
LOUISVILLE CENTER

Established in 2000, the Louisville Center’s work is focused on improving the health, education, safety, and well-being of children, adults, and families throughout the world. Our work has included the evaluation of alcohol, tobacco, and drug use interventions targeting youth, college students and adults, prevention technology transfer, character education and civic engagement program evaluation, school violence prevention and student safety, educational curriculum evaluation, HIV/STD and pregnancy prevention research, program performance improvement and organizational development, state and community capacity-building and sustainability research, and evaluation of corrections and public safety programs. Our scientists collaborate with universities, federal, state, and local community organizations, educators, and health practitioners to study, develop, test, and disseminate innovative ideas, programs, and initiatives that enhance the quality of life for individuals and communities.

AREAS OF EXPERTISE

Advanced Multivariate, Multilevel, and Complex Data Analysis; ATOD Intervention and Environmental Strategies Evaluation; Educational Program Evaluation; Health Communications Research; HIV/STD and Pregnancy Prevention, Interventions and Evaluation; International Health and Development Research, Monitoring, and Evaluation; Juvenile Justice Research and Program Evaluation; Randomized Control Trials; Safe and Drug-Free School Program Evaluation; State and Community Capacity-building and Sustainability Research; Survey Research

RECENT PROJECTS & INITIATIVES

International Evaluations for the U.S. Department of State. PIRE has completed and published a family of large-scale evaluations of ATOD training, prevention, and treatment programs in Afghanistan, Brazil, Peru, and Thailand. The Louisville Center has also evaluated law enforcement training in Southeast Asia and studied drug-related gang violence in El Salvador.

Oral Health Intervention for Intellectually/Developmentally Disabled. People with intellectual and/or developmental disabilities (IDD) living in group homes are more likely to have poor oral hygiene, poor dietary practices, increased decay, periodontal disease, and total tooth loss than the general population—a significant health disparity. This NIDCR (NIH) study is designed to improve the oral health care of this population using a stratified cluster Phase 2 randomized controlled trial to test the efficacy of an oral health promotion strategy on persons with IDD living in group homes.

Associations of Youth E-Cig and Tobacco Use: Ecological Momentary Assessment. Youth e-cigarette use is a major public health concern due to the rapid increase of initiation and use, and the concurrent lack of established regulation and understanding about its effects, including the potential for e-cigarette use to influence subsequent tobacco use and dual use. Using a framework based in the Social Ecological and Prototype Willingness Models, the proposed NIDA (NIH) study will be one of the first to use ecological momentary assessments (EMA) and survey data to assess within-person and between-person associations of e-cigarette and tobacco use, exposure, motivations, use, willingness, and intentions.

RECENT PROJECTS & INITIATIVES (continued)

Count It, Lock It, Drop It™ (CLD) Evaluation. All 95 counties in Tennessee are now implementing BC/BS of Tennessee Health Foundation’s CLD, working with law enforcement and medical practitioners to reduce access to prescription drugs and increase perceptions of harm related to misuse. The evaluation of this community-based strategy to build capacity and readiness among anti-drug coalitions assesses feasibility of CLD implementation across TN as well as its impact on coalitions and on key outcomes related to Rx drug use access, beliefs, perceptions of harm, and use.

Mentoring Research Best Practices Grants. In partnership with Big Brothers Big Sisters of Kentuckiana, these projects used advanced research designs to understand the impact of parental factors and family dynamics on mentoring matches and the impact of enhanced mentor training and match support on the length and strength of mentoring relationships.

Ohio Strategic Prevention Framework-Partnership for Success (SPF-PPS). In our collaboration with Ohio University, the Ohio SPF-PPS initiative is engaging ten Appalachian and rural Ohio communities, using SAMHSA’s SPF to address underage drinking and Rx drug use among 12 to 25-year-olds. Communities have built capacity for data collection, strategic planning, strategy implementation, and evaluation.

VA Office of Patient-Centered Care and Cultural Transformation Whole Health Education Support. This contract is designed to develop and deliver (live and online) comprehensive and highly experiential education and workforce training programs pertinent to the professional healthcare and Veteran populations across VHA. These cutting-edge programs optimize learning and knowledge transfer and are evaluated using a rigorous process to track, assess, and report the effectiveness of the Whole Health education programs based on the Kirkpatrick Training Evaluation Model.

HRSA Rural Communities Opioid Response (Planning) Grant. PIRE is leading a consortium that is preparing a strategic plan and analyzing opportunities and gaps in opioid use disorder prevention, treatment and/or recovery workforce services, and access to care within the target rural service area and existing federal, state, and local OUD resources that could be leveraged. This project further details plans for recruiting, integrating, training, and retraining new and existing substance use disorder providers into consortium member organizations.

“PIRE’s work on the Global Survey has been a huge part of our transformation as an organization over the past several years, and we are excited about how we can use the 2018 data to inform our decisions moving forward. Your work has and continues to help us get better at serving the children, youth, and their families. From the entire Children International global team, congratulations on reaching this milestone and thank you!”