



Policy
Collaboratory

COVID-19 RESEARCH SPOTLIGHT

COVID-19 Impacts on Community-Based Interventions for Justice-Involved Minority Young Adults: Practitioner and Consumer Perspectives

This project will study focus groups of young adults and practitioners in the justice system to understand how a shift to community-based interventions during the pandemic has affected the youth



JONATHAN GLENN

NCCU Juvenile Justice
Institute

Associate Project Director



DARREN BENEBY

NCCU Department of
Criminal Justice

Assistant Professor

Can you describe the focus of your research project?

Dr. Beneby: "Most offenders, particularly in the age group that we're interested in, between ages 18-25, we know that the system tends to dispose of their cases by adjudicating them and giving them some type of institutional disposition — so for instance: facilities, institutions, and secure facilities. However, the COVID pandemic has resulted in many of the traditional criminal justice responses sending the offenders to community-based programs."

Dr. Glenn: "We're trying to learn these lessons. Even after this pandemic wanes and it's something that we can just think back on, what are the things that we need to be trying to implement on a more long-term basis?"

What are community-based interventions?

Dr. Beneby: "We know that incarceration, as a counter disposition to community-based alternatives, really does break up those types of social ties and the familial relationships that offenders have. So when we talk about community-based interventions, we're talking about any type of intervention that not only allows those relationships to remain intact, but it also uses those relationships as a source of support for those offenders who are trying to turn around their lives."