



Criminogenic Thinking

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Disclosure

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Overview



- Explore the Risk Need Responsivity model
- Examine criminogenic thinking and how it shapes behavior
- Identify tools to change behavior

**How do you help
someone change
their behavior?**

**How do you lower a
person's risk to re-
offend?**



Need to Understand

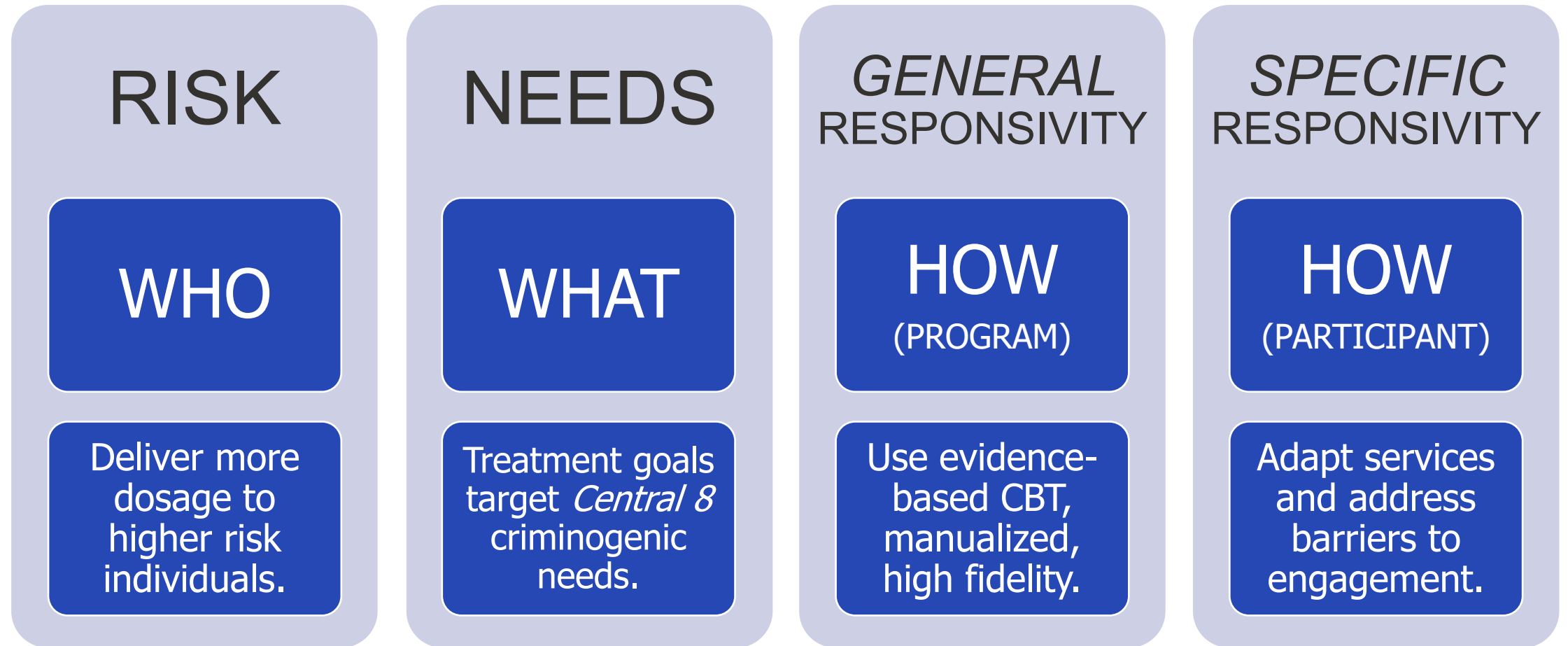


What is putting
them at risk?

Why and How
this puts them
at risk?



Risk Needs Responsivity (RNR)



RNR in Practice



To lower a person's risk to re-offend, first you must understand *what* is putting them at risk, and then you must work to understand

Why?

Central Eight



- Criminal history
- Antisocial personality pattern
- Pro-criminal attitudes
- Pro-criminal associations
- Family/marital
- School/work
- Leisure/recreation
- Substance misuse/abuse

Research over the last decade has shown no difference between the Big Four and the Moderate Four. The Big Four has been replaced with the Central Eight.

Source: Bonta, J. and Andrews, DA (2024). *The psychology of criminal conduct* (7th ed.). Routledge Publishing Co. pg. 362

Example ORAS Score and Domains

ORAS Domains

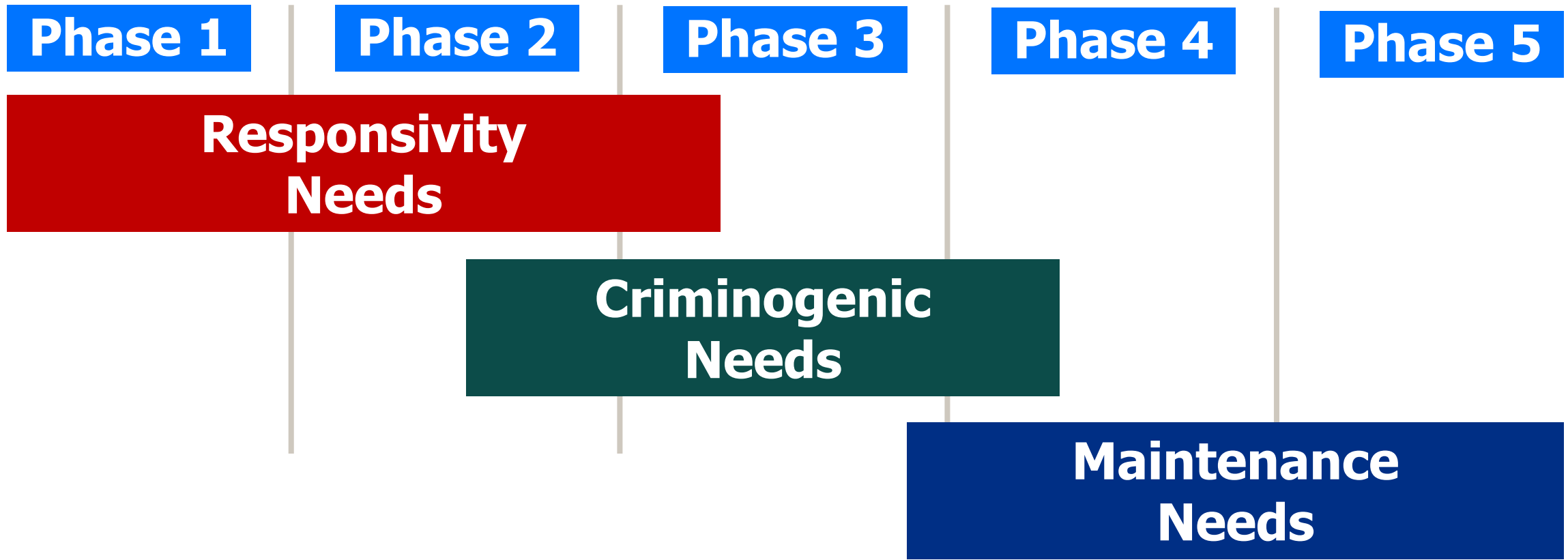
1. Criminal History
2. Peer Association
3. Criminal Attitudes/Behavior
4. Educ./Employ./Financial
5. Family And Social Support
6. Neighborhood
7. Substance Use

Max Score

8
8
13
6
5
3
6

Pay attention to
the **score** in
each **domain**
to build case
plans

Timing Matters



Identifying Criminogenic Needs



Examine the
Risk Assessment



Select the
Criminogenic
Needs



Analyze the Criminogenic
needs to understand the
“why” and the “how”

Cognitive Behavioral Chain



External Event

- Something happens

Internal Response

- What a person thinks about the external event

Behavior

- The person's actions that result from their thoughts/feelings about the external event

Outcome

- The result or consequences of the behavior

Behavioral Chain

The diagram is a horizontal flowchart titled "Behavioral Chain" set against a large blue arrow pointing right. It consists of several interconnected boxes for user input:

- Life Situation at Time of Crime:** A box on the left with four horizontal lines for text.
- Emotion Section:** Two boxes stacked vertically. The top box is labeled "Positive Emotion" and the bottom "Negative Emotion". Each has four horizontal lines for text.
- Coping with Emotion:** A box with four horizontal lines for text.
- How was Crime Planned or Unplanned?:** A box with four horizontal lines for text.
- How Did You Justify What You Were Doing & Going to Do?:** A box with four horizontal lines for text.
- Offense:** A red box with the word "Offense" in bold black text.
- How Did You Justify Why You Did It?:** A box on the right with four horizontal lines for text.

Criminogenic Thinking Errors



Impact On Criminal Behavior

- Influence decision-making
- Obscure reality
- Contribute to the continuation of criminal activity



Antisocial Personality Traits vs Antisocial Attitudes & Thinking Patterns

Antisocial Personality Traits

Characterized by long-term patterns of behavior:

- Disregard for rules and social norms
- Deceitfulness and manipulation
- Impulsivity and recklessness
- Lack of remorse or guilt
- Difficulty forming stable relationships

Antisocial Attitudes & Thinking Patterns

A person's belief, values and thought patterns that justify or rationalize antisocial behavior:

- Negative attitudes toward authority
- Rationalize rule-breaking
- Tolerance for deviance
- Lack of empathy

Criminogenic Thinking Errors



Mollification

Blaming others or justifying one's actions to avoid responsibility

"The police always targets me"

"I had to take care of my child"

Entitlement

One believes personal wants/needs to be obtained with little effort

"I deserve it"

"If they don't give it to me, I'll just take it"

Criminogenic Thinking Errors



Cut Off

Giving up without even trying

“%*\$! it”

“It never worked in the past, so why try?”

Sentimentality

Performing actions with the expectation of receiving gifts or recognition

“What’s in it for me?”

“I’ll do it if I get this”

Criminogenic Thinking Errors



Power Orientation

One assumes a need to control others and life circumstances

"Put down – *received or perceived harm*"

"No one gets away with treating me like that"

Cognitive Indolence

Engaging in lazy or superficial thinking

"What's in it for me?"

"Whatever is the easiest"

Addressing Criminogenic Thinking Errors



Core Correctional Practices

- Skill set to improve relationship skills, rapport
- Motivational enhancement strategies
- Behavioral problem-solving approaches

- Strategic Training Interventions for Community Supervision (*STICS*)
- Effective Practices in Community Supervision (*EPICS*)
- Staff Training Aimed at Reducing Rearrest (*STARR*)
- Carey Guides
- Proactive Community Supervision (*PCS*)

All Rise E-Learning Center

Core Correctional Practices

- 10 modules
- Self-paced
- Free

<https://allrise.org/trainings/online-courses/>



Addressing Criminogenic Thinking Errors



Cognitive-behavioral therapy (CBT)

- Cognitive restructuring
 - Social skills training
 - Problem-solving
 - Relapse prevention
- Aggression Replacement Therapy
 - Decision Points
 - Reasoning & Rehabilitation
 - Thinking for a Change
 - Moral Reconation Therapy

Why CCP and CBT?

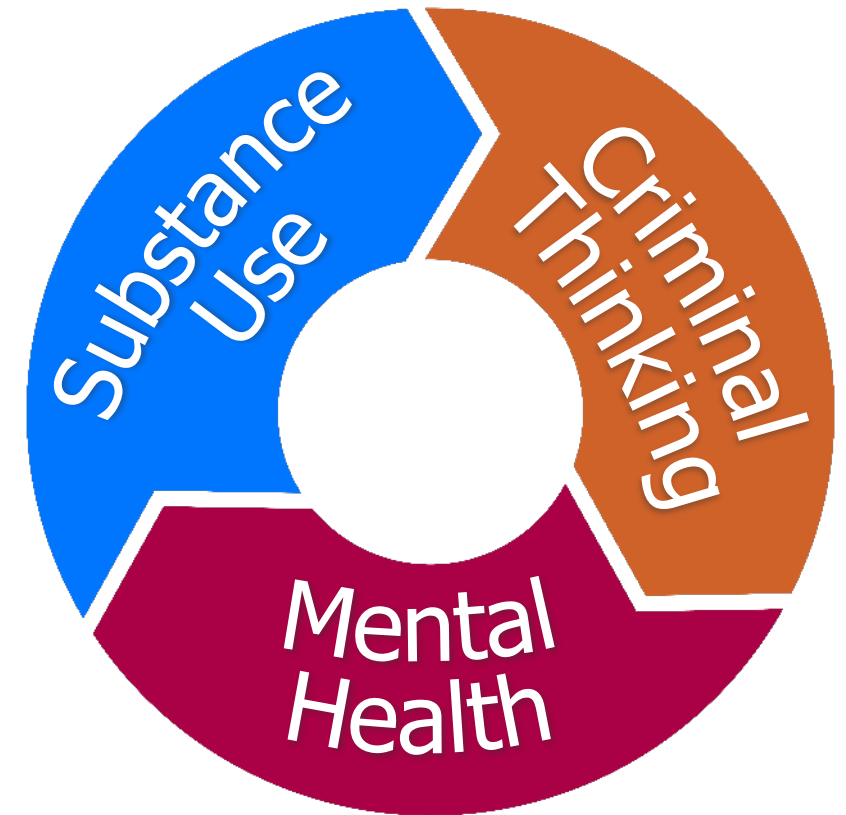


Decades of research have shown that interactions between probation officers and justice-involved individuals that are anchored in *communication, active listening, cognitive behavioral techniques, problem solving, goal setting*, and high-quality *skill building* produce better outcomes than traditional compliance-based probation practices (*APPA, 2024; Bonta & Andrews, 2024; Lutze & van Wormer, 2024; Toronjo & Taxman, 2017*).

But Treatment Provides CBT?



- Focus is different
- Community supervision trained on addressing criminogenic needs and changing high-risk behaviors
- Need to treat the whole person



Next Steps



- Inventory what you have and what you need
- Team discusses how criminogenic thinking is being addressed in the program - what is missing?
- Look at your data
- Make a plan to address the program's needs

Ask the Expert



<https://allrise.org/trainings/ask-the-expert/>

Office Hours

Scheduled times with experts on various key topics

Submit a Question

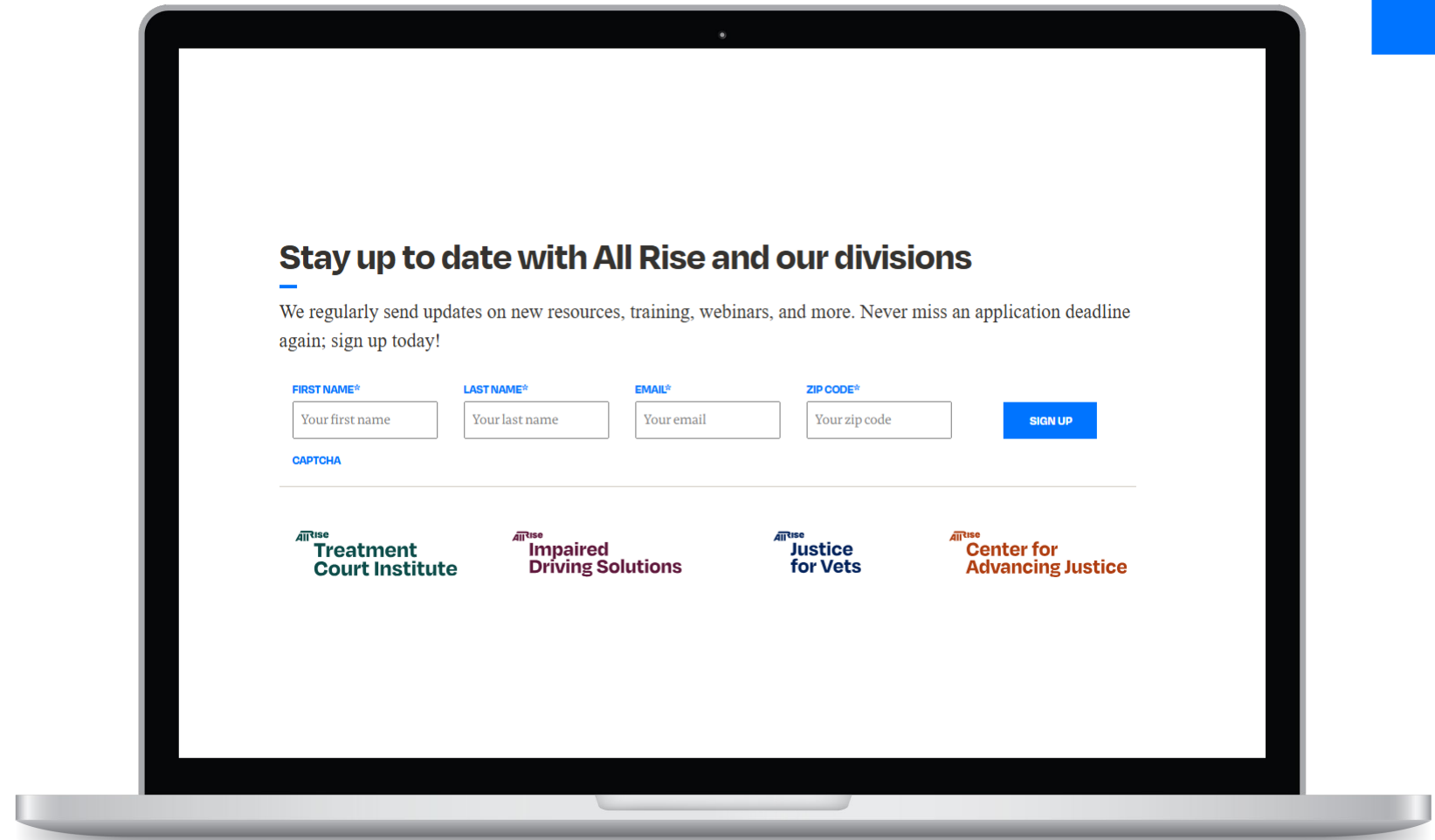
Submit a question to the All Rise team

Schedule a Consultation

Schedule a consultation with the All Rise team

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SIGN UP

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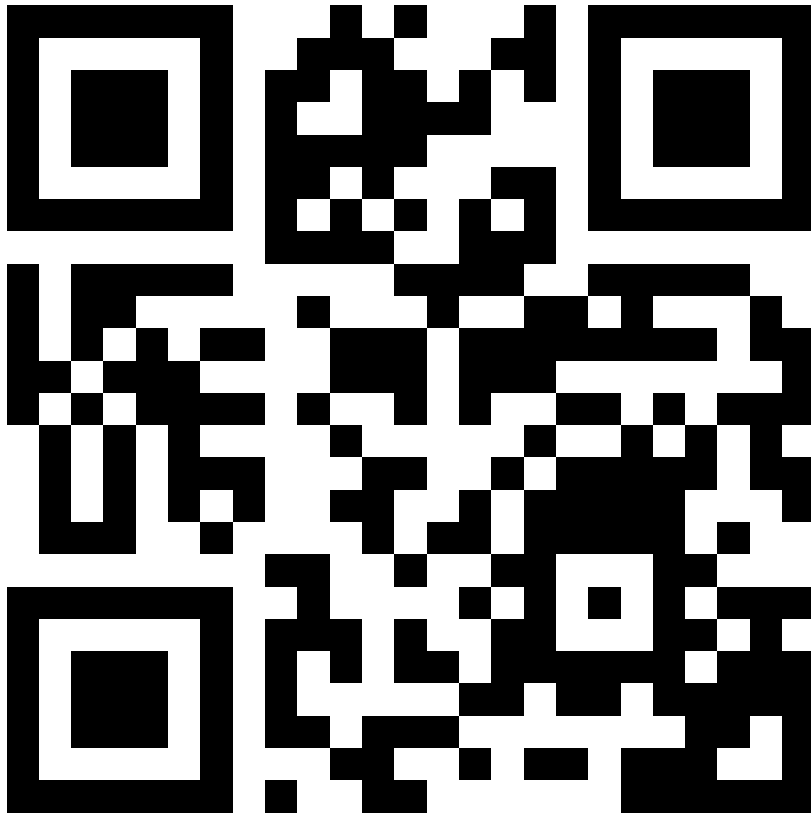
 **Treatment Court Institute**

 **Impaired Driving Solutions**

 **Justice for Vets**

 **Center for Advancing Justice**

Evaluations



1. On your compatible phone or tablet, open the built-in camera app.
2. Point the camera at the QR code.
3. Tap the banner that appears on your phone or tablet.
4. Follow the instructions on the screen to complete the evaluation.
5. After completion, you will be provided with a certificate that can be saved and printed.



Thank
You

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