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**National Institute
of Law Enforcement
and Criminal
Justice**

LEAA/U.S. Department of Justice

**TECHNOLOGY
TRANSFER**

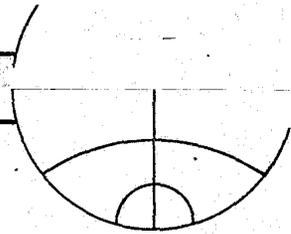
Defensible space? Family crisis intervention? Neighborhood team policing? Community-based corrections?

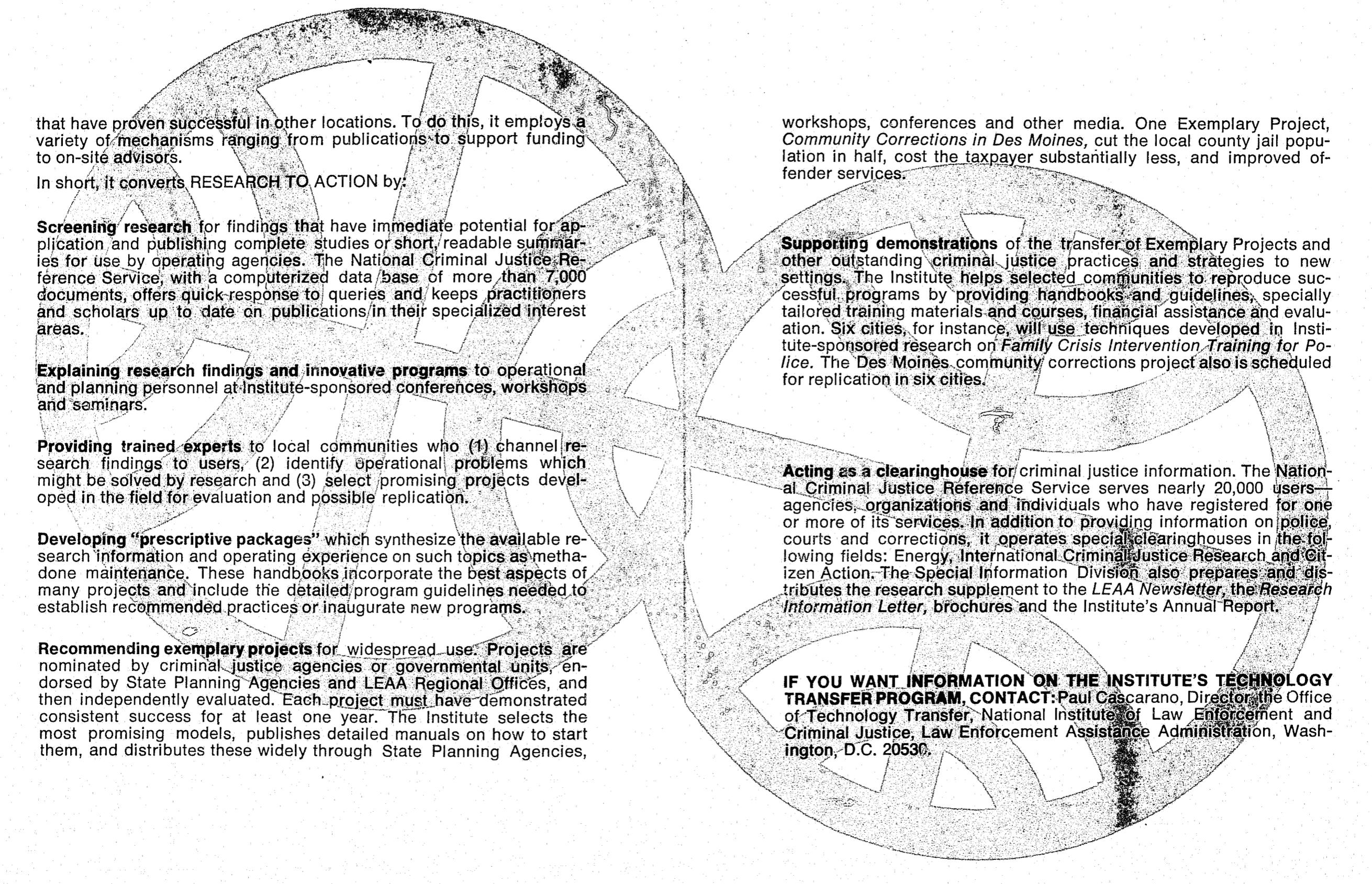
Which of these new methods for fighting crime can your state or community use? How do you get started? What have other communities learned from using them?

Helping answer these and similar questions for criminal justice practitioners is one of the main tasks of the *Office of Technology Transfer* of the National Institute of Law Enforcement and Criminal Justice. The Institute is the research center of the Law Enforcement Assistance Administration. It sponsors and conducts studies, experiments and investigations designed to find more efficient and effective ways of fighting crime and promoting justice.

The Office of Technology Transfer brings research findings to practitioners in a usable form and encourages communities to adopt projects

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that have proven successful in other locations. To do this, it employs a variety of mechanisms ranging from publications to support funding to on-site advisors.

In short, it converts RESEARCH TO ACTION by:

Screening research for findings that have immediate potential for application and publishing complete studies or short, readable summaries for use by operating agencies. The National Criminal Justice Reference Service, with a computerized data base of more than 7,000 documents, offers quick-response to queries and keeps practitioners and scholars up to date on publications in their specialized interest areas.

Explaining research findings and innovative programs to operational and planning personnel at Institute-sponsored conferences, workshops and seminars.

Providing trained experts to local communities who (1) channel research findings to users, (2) identify operational problems which might be solved by research and (3) select promising projects developed in the field for evaluation and possible replication.

Developing "prescriptive packages" which synthesize the available research information and operating experience on such topics as methadone maintenance. These handbooks incorporate the best aspects of many projects and include the detailed program guidelines needed to establish recommended practices or inaugurate new programs.

Recommending exemplary projects for widespread use. Projects are nominated by criminal justice agencies or governmental units, endorsed by State Planning Agencies and LEAA Regional Offices, and then independently evaluated. Each project must have demonstrated consistent success for at least one year. The Institute selects the most promising models, publishes detailed manuals on how to start them, and distributes these widely through State Planning Agencies,

workshops, conferences and other media. One Exemplary Project, *Community Corrections in Des Moines*, cut the local county jail population in half, cost the taxpayer substantially less, and improved offender services.

Supporting demonstrations of the transfer of Exemplary Projects and other outstanding criminal justice practices and strategies to new settings. The Institute helps selected communities to reproduce successful programs by providing handbooks and guidelines, specially tailored training materials and courses, financial assistance and evaluation. Six cities, for instance, will use techniques developed in Institute-sponsored research on *Family Crisis Intervention Training for Police*. The Des Moines community corrections project also is scheduled for replication in six cities.

Acting as a clearinghouse for criminal justice information. The National Criminal Justice Reference Service serves nearly 20,000 users—agencies, organizations and individuals who have registered for one or more of its services. In addition to providing information on police, courts and corrections, it operates special clearinghouses in the following fields: Energy, International Criminal Justice Research and Citizen Action. The Special Information Division also prepares and distributes the research supplement to the *LEAA Newsletter*, the *Research Information Letter*, brochures and the Institute's Annual Report.

IF YOU WANT INFORMATION ON THE INSTITUTE'S TECHNOLOGY TRANSFER PROGRAM, CONTACT: Paul Cascarano, Director, the Office of Technology Transfer, National Institute of Law Enforcement and Criminal Justice, Law Enforcement Assistance Administration, Washington, D.C. 20530.



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Too often, important research findings gather dust on library shelves and fail to find their way into practice. Through the Office of Technology Transfer, the National Institute is working to reverse this trend and focus attention on outstanding programs and practices. Our goal is to transfer promising new approaches to communities across the country. This is one of the ways in which the Institute helps to achieve the overall LEAA goal of reducing crime.—Gerald M. Caplan, Director.

The National Institute of Law Enforcement and Criminal Justice is the research center of the Law Enforcement Assistance Administration.

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