Challenge
In 2016, Salt Lake County faced dual, interrelated crises in the areas of recidivism and homelessness. Approximately 74 percent of high-risk offenders returned to the criminal justice system within 4 years of release.

Innovation
Pay for Success (PFS) is designed to holistically address community needs. The goal was to reduce the number of arrests and days incarcerated by 32.5 percent and move 80 percent of program participants to permanent housing.

Overview
PFS is a funding partnership between government, service providers, investors, foundations, and independent evaluators. Together, they help expand funding for service providers with the goal of ensuring government funding is directed toward programs that succeed in measurably improving the lives of people most in need. The project’s outcomes measures are: a reduction in the number of days incarcerated and the number of arrests over 4 years, improvement in employment wages, and treatment engagement in hours.

Partners
Salt Lake County, private donors, lenders, local and international banks, private foundations, the Nonprofit Finance Fund, service providers, and consultants.

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