RIGHT TO COUNSEL (RTC) NATIONAL CAMPAIGN: THEORY OF CHANGE

Assumptions:
1. RTC National Campaign Vision: A fair and equitable criminal justice system requires representation by skilled defense counsel with adequate resources at every stage of the criminal process.
2. Everyone has the constitutional right to an attorney.
3. The 6th Amendment right to counsel ensures equality and equity.
4. Public defense services are delivered within the framework of ABA’s Ten Principles.

Existing External Conditions:
1. A lack of awareness exists about a) what the right to counsel means and b) that it isn’t being upheld
2. Public defense is often left out of the criminal justice reform conversation.
3. Public defenders often operate with little and too few resources to provide effective counsel.
4. There is a lack of consistency across the delivery of public defense nationwide.

NOTE: The RTC National Campaign mission impacts each step.