



# ADULT REDEPLOY ILLINOIS

## Cook County - Adult Redeploy Illinois

**Goals and ARI background:** *ARI provides financial incentives to local jurisdictions that design evidence-based services to supervise and treat non-violent offenders in the community instead of sending them to state prisons. ARI is based on the premise that local jurisdictions can reduce crime and the costs of the criminal justice system by understanding and addressing the reasons why people commit crimes. Results expected with ARI include reduced prison overcrowding, lowered cost to taxpayers, and an end to the expensive and vicious cycle of crime and incarceration.*

**Start date:** October 1, 2011; First enrollment: February 2012

**Grant amount:** \$847,246 in SFY14 (includes \$92,604 in supplemental funding)

**Program model:** Probation violator caseload, modeled after Hawaii’s Opportunity Probation with Enforcement (HOPE) program

**Need for ARI in Cook County:** Cook County jail annual admissions have exceeded 75,000 per year since 1991. Since 2000 at least half of all individuals convicted of felonies and sentenced to prison from Cook County were convicted of the least serious felony crimes. This ARI program aims to divert non-violent probation violators from the Illinois Department of Corrections (IDOC), providing increased supervision and services to improve compliance with probation conditions and to promote positive behavioral changes.

**Evidence-based/promising practices in use:** LSI-R assessment, intensive probation supervision with services, cognitive behavioral therapy, *Thinking for a Change*, swift sanctions and incentives, trauma-based treatment, *Seeking Safety*, HOPE program

**Target population and reduction goals:** A random sample of probation cases that terminated between January 31, 2013 and August 1, 2013, indicated that 8% of terminations meet the following criteria: sentenced to standard probation for a non-violent, felony offense; classified as medium risk or higher risk; and revoked and sentenced to the IDOC. Planners determined the average number of probation terminations per month over a recent 18 month period as 1,058, equivalent to 12,696 terminations per year. Not all terminations result in an IDOC commitment, but many terminations reflect violations placing a person at risk of an IDOC commitment. Planners estimated that 1,016 (8% of 12,696) annual cases would meet the criteria listed above. Since the ARI program’s inception, 51% of cases meeting the criteria and identified as potential ARI candidates have been accepted after review of the individual’s criminal history. Based on this, the target population is calculated by taking 51% of 1,016, which is 518, results in a 25% reduction goal of 130 cases.

**Overview of jurisdiction:** The second most populous county in the United States, Cook County has a population of more than 5.2 million people and a geographic territory of 949 square miles. The county consists of more than 130 municipalities and Chicago, which accounts for 54% of the county population. The Cook County criminal justice system is one of the largest in the country and includes more than 100 municipal police departments. In 2009, more than 219,000 misdemeanor cases and more than 30,000 felony cases were filed in the Circuit Court of Cook County.

Cook County Characteristics	Total
Population (2012)	5,231,351
Adults (ages 18 and over)	76% of population
Unemployment rate (2013)	10%
Percent of population below poverty line (2012)	16%
Percent of population with high school diploma (2012)	84%
Percent of population with a bachelor’s degree or higher (2012)	34%
Adult felony probation caseload (2011)	18,046
Court imposed sentences to felony probation (2011)	9,066
IDOC commitments (excluding technical parole violators, 2012)	11,092
Average daily jail population (2009)	10,192 (2008 capacity: 9,052)

## **Program model:**

Cook County's ARI program is modified from Hawaii's highly successful HOPE program, incorporating swift, consistent, and predictable graduated sanctions for every detectable probation violation. Upon screening for assignment to the program after a probation infraction, supervision is transferred to the ARI judge and a brief warning hearing occurs to educate the probationer on program requirements which include making all court and probation appointments, taking and passing all required drug tests and complying with treatment requirements. Four ARI probation officers carry caseloads smaller than standard probation, allowing for more frequent contact and facilitation of weekly evidence-based cognitive behavioral groups, *Thinking for a Change* for men and *Moving On* for women.

Cognitive-behavioral and trauma group treatment is provided for both men and women at a local service provider. Funding is also available to provide participants substance abuse treatment, and the program frequently uses other community-based services such as education and GED programming. Random drug testing is administered to participants who are charged with drug-related crimes or who have substance abuse issues, gradually reducing frequency with clean tests. Positive drug tests or admissions to substance use result in immediate detention and a same-day court appearance. A non-appearance for court or a drug test results in a probation violation request filing. The Cook County Sheriff's Department provides expedited warrant service for failures to appear in court.

## **Pathways into program:**

1. Triggering infraction/probation violation.
2. Probation staff identifies probationer as a potential ARI participant.
3. ARI assistant state's attorney screens probationer for eligibility.
4. If eligible, the probationer's case is transferred to ARI judge.
5. Warning hearing occurs and probationer begins program participation.

## **Key partners:**

**Program agency and fiscal agent:** Cook County Justice Advisory Council

**Key partners/stakeholders:** ARI Judge, Circuit Court of Cook County; Cook County State's Attorney's Office; Circuit Court of Cook County Adult Probation Department; Cook County Law Office of the Public Defender; Cook County Justice Advisory Council; Cook County Sheriff's Department; treatment provider

**Collaborating social service/treatment providers:** Cornell Abraxas Group; Deer Rehabilitation Services; Gateway Foundation; Healthcare Alternative Systems; Henry's Sober Living House; Loretto Hospital; McDermott Center (Haymarket); A Safe Haven Foundation; South East Alcohol and Drug Abuse Center; Sentinel Offender Services; Universal Family Connections; The Women's Treatment Center; Accu-Lab Medical Testing; WestCare Adult Redeploy Illinois