



# ADULT REDEPLOY ILLINOIS

## Cook County - Adult Redeploy Illinois (HOPE Program)

**Goals and ARI background:** *ARI provides financial incentives to local jurisdictions that design evidence-based programs 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 2011; First enrollment: February 2012

**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 offenders with a history of non-compliance at probation 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:** Level of Service Inventory-Revised (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:** In recent years (2012-2014), Cook County committed an annual average of 6,819 ARI-eligible (non-violent, probationable) individuals to the Illinois Department of Corrections (IDOC). The Cook County HOPE ARI program target population consists of non-violent probation violators who would otherwise be committed to IDOC and offenders with a history of non-compliance on probation. Through evidence-based interventions, Cook County pledges to reduce IDOC commitments from this target population by 25%, or by a minimum of 120 individuals a year.

**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.

### 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, 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. Evidence-based cognitive behavioral groups are offered through a local provider.

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. Potential participants are identified through a triggering infraction/probation violation, screening at 402 conferences or central bond court.
2. Probation staff identifies probationer as a potential ARI participant (moderate to high LSI-R score).
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:** Local substance abuse treatment providers; WestCare Adult Redeploy Illinois