LaSalle County - Adult Redeploy Illinois

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 2013; First enrollment: April 2014

Program model: Intensive probation supervision with services

Need for ARI in LaSalle County: LaSalle County lacks criminal justice diversion options, including problem-solving courts. Local substance abuse treatment programs do not specifically target individuals involved in the criminal justice system. The Adult Redeploy Illinois program provides an alternative to incarceration and comprehensive substance abuse services for the offender population.

Evidence-based/promising practices in use: Level of Service Inventory-Revised (LSI-R) assessment, intensive probation supervision with services, probation caseload standards, incentives, swift and graduated sanctions, cognitive behavioral therapy, *Moral Reconation Therapy* (MRT), motivational interviewing.

Target population and reduction goal: In recent years (2012-2014), LaSalle County committed an annual average of 215 ARI-eligible (non-violent, probationable) individuals to the Illinois Department of Corrections (IDOC). LaSalle County's target population consists of individuals convicted of non-violent, probationable, Class 3 and 4 felonies facing sentencing to the Illinois Department of Corrections (IDOC). Through evidence-based interventions, LaSalle County pledges to reduce IDOC commitments from this target population by 25%, or by approximately 34 individuals a year.

Overview of jurisdiction: LaSalle County includes more than 1,100 square miles of mostly rural land, and the majority of the population over 18 years of age are white (96.8%). Nearly 9% of the residents in LaSalle County are veterans, much higher than the state average of 6%. The county seat, Ottawa, is the most populous city in the county. Census data indicate 11% of the population lives below the poverty line. LaSalle County lacks specialized health clinics for the uninsured or housing assistance outside of Section 8 vouchers. Homelessness is a problem, particularly during the warm months when the limited area shelters close. Area emergency rooms are often the primary provider of health care.

Program model:

LaSalle County's intensive probation supervision with services program consists of two full-time probation officers with the ability to work non-traditional hours, and partnering providers for substance abuse treatment and employment programming. During the referral process, the probation department completes probation intake and the Level of Service Inventory-Revised (LSI-R) assessment. The assessment results guide the service plan, which may include an immediate referral to substance abuse treatment, behavioral health services, educational or employment services. ARI Probation Officers focus on overcoming barriers such as transportation, engaging family and positive peers, structuring time, and pro-social recreation. ARI Officers will be trained in motivational interviewing and cognitive-behavioral interventions. A period of ARI probation will run for an estimated 18 to 24 months, and early completions will return to regular probation.

Pathways into program:

- 1. Offender is identified due to triggering infraction.
- 2. A criminal court judge (felony court) determines if offender is appropriate for ARI based on an Illinois Pre-screening Instrument (IPI) assessment from the probation department.
- 3. If referred, ARI Probation Officer completes probation intake and LSI-R assessment.
- 4. If eligible, probationer's case is transferred to one of two felony judges taking ARI cases.
- 5. Warning hearing occurs and probationer begins program participation.

Key partners:

Program agency and fiscal agent: Thirteenth Judicial Circuit Probation and Court Services

Key partners/stakeholders: Thirteenth Judicial Circuit Probation and Court Services; LaSalle County Probation Department; LaSalle County State's Attorney's Office; Treatment Alternatives for Safe Communities (TASC); treatment providers; employment services provider; local community college

Collaborating social service/treatment providers: North Central Behavioral Health Systems, Inc.; Business Employment Skills Team (BEST)