



# ADULT REDEPLOY ILLINOIS

## Sangamon 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:** July 2013; First enrollment: July 2013

**Program model:** Enhanced and expanded drug court

**Need for ARI in Sangamon County:** The Sangamon County Drug Court has been in operation since 2010. Sangamon County first received a federal drug court grant for court planning in 2009 followed by a federal drug court implementation grant that expired on September 30, 2013. ARI funding was provided to maintain and expand the Sangamon County Drug Court including the continuation of evidence-based programming and principles and an increase of court capacity from 25 to 45 individuals. Prior to expanding by incorporating a second probation officer and additional treatment funds, demand for Drug Court exceeded capacity.

**Evidence-based/promising practices in use:** Level of Service Inventory-Revised (LSI-R) assessment, Texas Christian University (TCU) assessment, Risk and Need Triage assessment tool (RANT), matrix model of substance abuse treatment, cognitive-behavioral therapy, motivational interviewing, *Thinking for a Change*, *Moral Reconciliation Therapy (MRT)*, sanctions and incentives, transitional housing, work therapy, drug court

**Target population and reduction goal:** In recent years (2012-2014), Sangamon County committed an annual average of 183 ARI-eligible (non-violent, probationable) individuals to the Illinois Department of Corrections (IDOC). Sangamon County's target population consists of Class 3 and 4 felony non-violent drug court-eligible offenders that fall within the overall program-eligible target population. Through evidence-based interventions, Sangamon County pledges to reduce IDOC commitments from this target population by 25%, or by approximately 31 individuals a year.

**Overview of jurisdiction:** Located in central Illinois, Sangamon County is home to the state capital of Springfield. The County covers approximately 858 square miles and has an estimated population of 199,217. With a population of approximately 118,000 and surrounded by several "bedroom" communities, the City of Springfield is the only large metropolitan area in the County. Sangamon County has proportionately more high school and college graduates than Illinois overall, which may result from the primary employer of the State of Illinois government which draws more degreed professionals to the area. As of January 2013, Sangamon County's unemployment rate was 9%, similar to the State of Illinois' unemployment rate of 8.9%, and the County's poverty level is at 13%, also similar to the State of Illinois' poverty level of 13.8%.

### **Program model:**

Sangamon County implements a drug court program consisting of three phases and graduation. The phases incrementally increase expectations for participant sobriety, educational goals, and financial independence while incrementally decreasing supervision and monitoring through court and probation officer contact and drug testing. Components of the three phases may include outpatient substance abuse treatment, self-support meetings, completion of the *Thinking for a Change* cognitive-behavioral group, avoiding sanctions, public service activity, and aftercare.

### **Pathways into program:**

1. State's Attorney Office and Public Defender's Office review arrest, police or case filing report, and confer with drug court team law enforcement representative if necessary.
2. Referral discussed at drug court staffing and tracked by drug court coordinator. If team and offender agree to participation, the offender is referred to Court Services for a comprehensive substance abuse screening through Treatment Alternatives for Safe Communities (TASC) and a drug court eligibility screening (criminal history check, LSI-R assessment, Risk and Needs Triage Tool [RANT]). If not accepted, the offender is referred back to State's Attorney's Office for general case processing.
3. Drug court team reviews assessment results and determines acceptance. If not accepted, the offender is referred back to State's Attorney's Office for general case processing.
4. During the initial screening process, eligible participants meet with TASC for an evaluation and placement into recommended treatment level with a contractual substance abuse treatment provider. In addition to treatment needs, offenders are assessed for other areas of need such as education, financial assistance, and job skills training through the LSI-R.

### **Key partners:**

**Program agency and fiscal agent:** Sangamon County Court Services Department

**Key partners/stakeholders:** Drug Court Judge; Sangamon County State's Attorney's Office; Sangamon County Public Defender's Office; Defense Bar; Adult Services, Sangamon County Court Services Department; TASC; substance abuse treatment providers; mental health treatment provider, local community service agencies

**Collaborating social service/treatment providers:** Catholic Charities; Family Guidance Center; Fifth Street Renaissance; Gateway; Helping Hands of Springfield; Illinois Employment & Training Center; Mental Health Centers of Central Illinois; TASC; Tower of Refugee; Salvation Army