



# **CORRECTIONS, REENTRY AND PUBLIC HEALTH: PARTNERSHIPS FOR HIV CARE AND PREVENTION**

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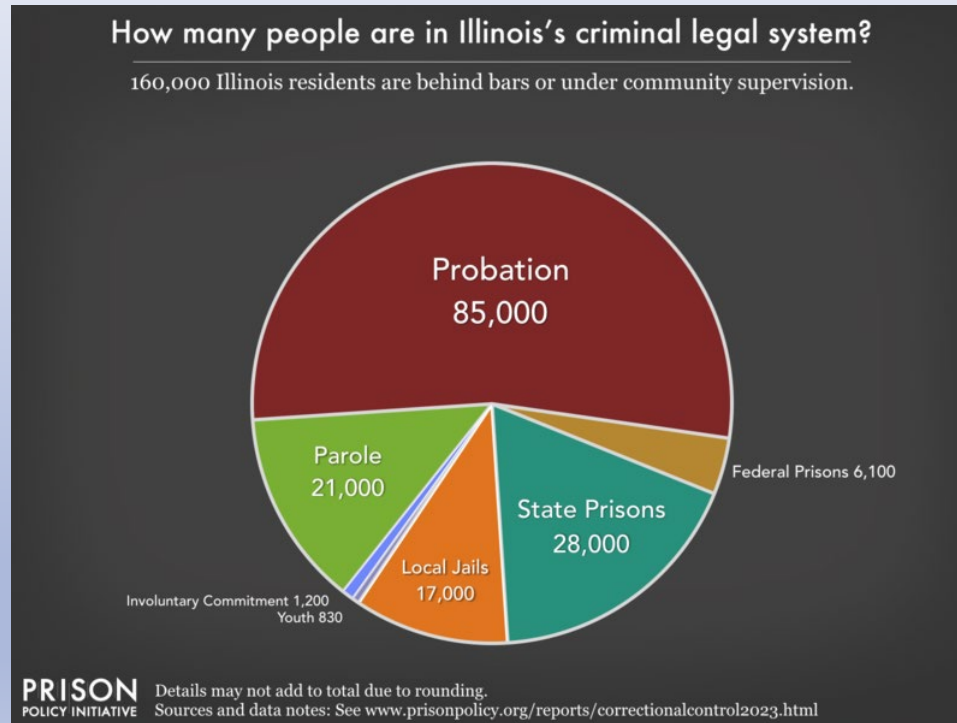
# Outline

- **Background**
- **Inside the walls:**
  - **County Jails**
    - County Jail Act and Survey County Jails
    - Ryan White Part B Policy on Incarcerated Individuals
    - Community Re-entry Support Project
  - **Department of Corrections (DOC)**
    - Peer education
    - Opt-out testing
    - Partner notification
    - Rapid testing
    - Telemedicine
    - Linkage to care
    - Re-entry and DOC training
- **Outside the walls:**
  - **Summit of Hope** (returning citizens, parole and probation)

# Background

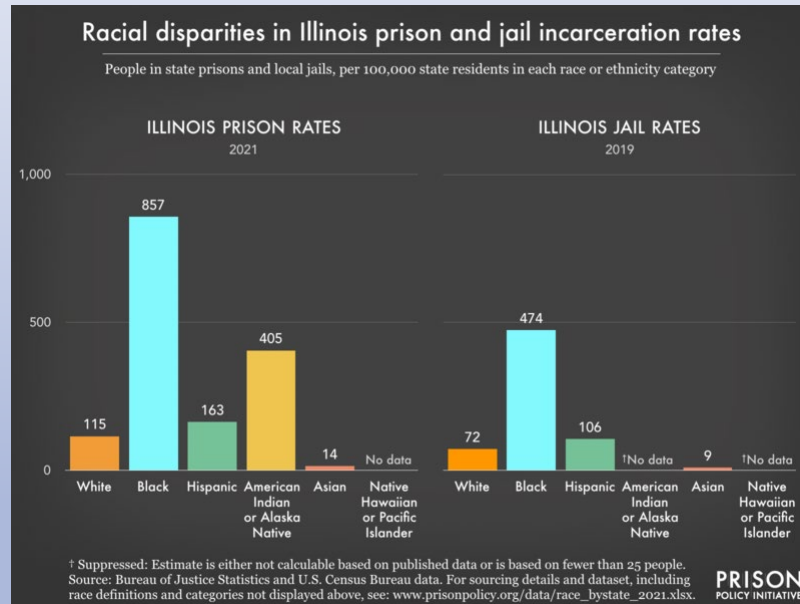
- With 35,863 total cases of HIV/AIDS as of December 2022, Illinois has the 7<sup>th</sup> largest number of persons with diagnosed HIV infection in the nation
- U.S. Department of Justice estimates 2% of state incarcerated individuals nationwide are HIV+
- IDPH and IDOC data show 1.3% of IDOC's population is HIV+, while .05% of Illinois' total population is HIV+
- Since the initiation of opt-out testing in November of 2012, IDOC reports approximately 70% of incarcerated individuals are receiving HIV tests

# Illinois Criminal Justice Population

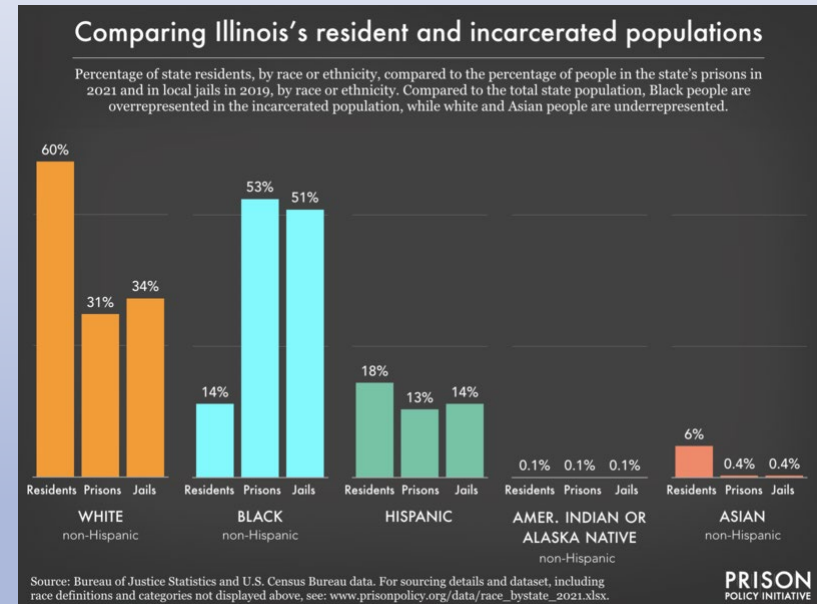


*Prisonpolicy.org*

# Illinois Criminal Justice Population 2

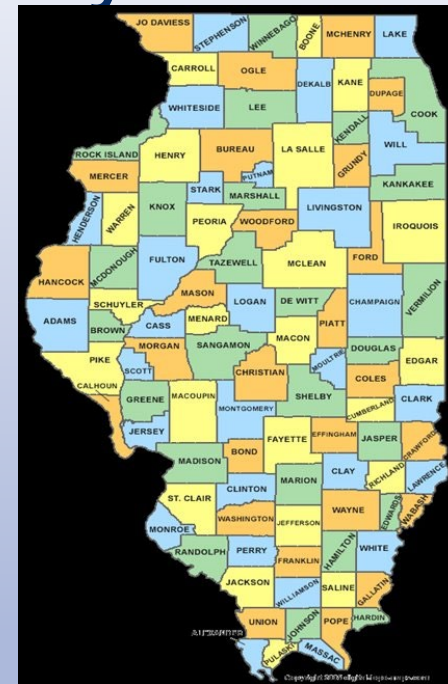


[Prisonpolicy.org](http://Prisonpolicy.org)



# Inside the Walls: Illinois County Jails


- There are 103 county jails throughout the State of Illinois with a total of 22,385 beds
  - 10,192 of those beds are in Cook County
  - 12,193 are spread throughout the remaining counties

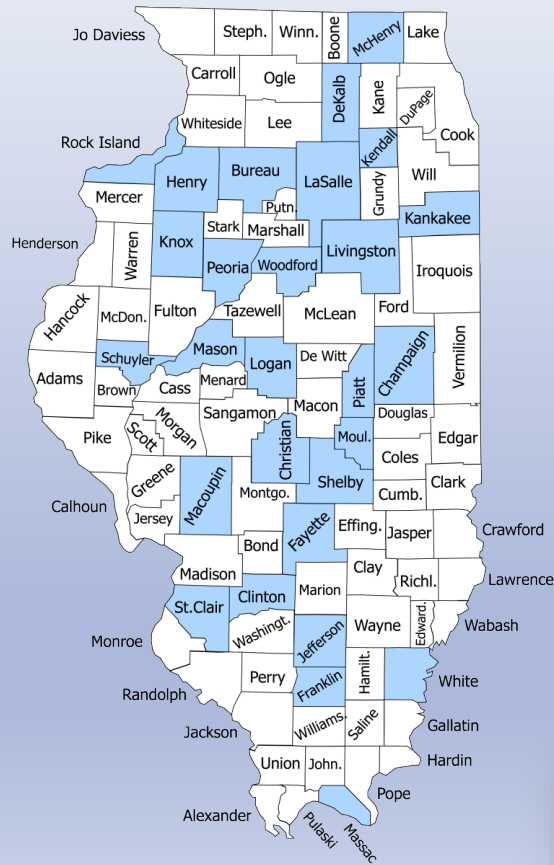


# County Jail Act and Survey County Jails

ILLINOIS  
COUNTIES  
REPRESENTED:

• 30

 Counties  
representing  
survey  
respondents



# Ryan White Part B Services for County Jail Inmates

- HIV+ individuals who are detained in county jails within the State of Illinois are eligible for the AIDS Drug Assistance Program if the facility within which they are being held:
  - **Is unable to provide the medications covered by the ADAP formulary**
  - **Will allow IDPH's dispensing pharmacy to mail medications directly to the jail**
  - **Will assist them with requesting refills**

According to HAB PCN 18-02 "The Use of Ryan White HIV/AIDS Program Funds for Core Medical Services and Support Services for People Living with HIV Who Are Incarcerated and Justice Involved," HRSA RWHAP recipients and subrecipients may provide HRSA RWHAP core medical services and support services to PWH incarcerated in other correctional systems including those under community supervision on a short-term and/or transitional basis.

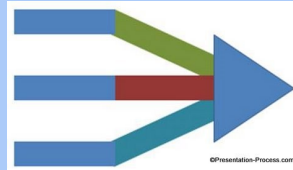


# Intensive Case Management

- Based on the assessment of risk and need.
- Comprehensive, ongoing, and dynamic.
- Includes professional partners in a joint effort.
- Targets interventions to offenders' individual needs.
- Results in a case plan that serves as a roadmap for success.
- Engages offenders in the process of change.
- Work with offenders to meet parole & probation mandates to stay in care.
- Communicate with offenders 4 to 6 times a month.

# Community Reentry Project

- **Cermak Health Services of Cook County** - prevention education, counseling, testing, and referrals
- **Transforming Reentry Services** - distribution of discharge planning packets, family support groups, and assistance in obtaining identification
- **Public Health Institute of Metropolitan Chicago** – discharge planning trainings, Illinois Reentry Conferences, and statewide meetings around incarceration and public health



- Improves the health outcomes for people with and at highest risk for HIV who are re-entering Illinois communities
- Supports increased HIV testing in county jails throughout Illinois and the Illinois Department of Corrections system (IDOC)
- Reduces HIV transmission in Illinois communities through education, testing, and suppressed viral loads
- Reduces recidivism - the rate for participants in CRP is only 23% compared to 50% as reported by IDOC

# Illinois Department of Corrections (IDOC)

- IDOC operates 26 adult correctional centers, in addition to boot camps, work camps, and adult transition centers
- IDOC is responsible for approximately 29,600 adult incarcerated individuals and 18,000 parolees (individuals in reentry)
- In 2012, a law was passed allowing IDOC to conduct opt-out HIV testing
- According to the law (730 ILCS 5/3-8-2), upon arrival at a reception and classification center or assigned institution, each offender shall be given information about HIV/AIDS and be tested for HIV, unless they opt out
  - Consent or refusal will be documented in the incarcerated individual's medical file
  - Signs are to be posted, in English and Spanish, informing incarcerated individuals they will be tested unless they refuse



# Peer Education

- The IDPH has inter-office agreement for the Department of Correction to have 3 full-time contractual HIV Prevention Specialists to 3 full-time state staff, which makes it a sustainable program in IDOC: the Project Data Coordinator and 2 HIV Prevention Specialists.
- Initially in 1993, they started with 5 peer educators. Currently, there are 145 certified inmate peer educators statewide. (56 are women)
- Our core curriculum is based on an adapted version of the “Reach-One Teach-One Prison Peer Health Education Training Program.”
- Offenders are generally recruited by various staff, i.e. counselors, medical staff, or even Certified Peers themselves.



# Partner Notification with the Illinois Department of Corrections

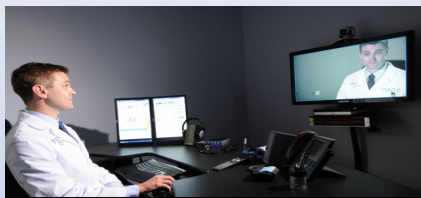
- Policy Number: PS071913 Partner notification of Correctional Centers Offenders; Notification of sex and needle sharing partners to Correctional Center Offenders.
  - The purpose of this policy is to implement partner services procedures which establish a process: (1) for confidentially notifying offenders in the Illinois Department of Corrections facilities of their exposure to a Sexually Transmitted Infection (STI), which includes syphilis, gonorrhea, chlamydia, chancroid or HIV/AIDs, by a sexual contact or a needle sharing partner and (2) to offer testing and/or treatment for these offenders. Additionally, this policy establishes a process: (1) for confidentially notifying individuals outside of the corrections system of their exposure to offenders diagnosed with a STI and (2) referring these individuals for counseling, testing, treatment and prevention services.

# Development of Innovative HIV Policies and Programs

- **Innovative HIV policies and programs developed because of the partnership between IDPH and IDOC**
  - Rapid testing for Illinois Department of Corrections
  - IDPH HIV/AIDS Section noticed that, even though IDOC was conducting opt-out upon intake to correction, they were conducting opt-in upon release from their facilities
  - The IDOC does a blood draw when testing for HIV and sometimes the individual has already been released from IDOC
  - IDPH HIV/AIDS Section gave IDOC rapid testing kits (Clearview)

# Telemedicine

The UIC Telemedicine unit works with Illinois Department of Public Health to provide correction case managers to newly released inmates to continue link to care, tracking, and mandate service.



**ID Physician**



**ID Pharmacist**



**Case Manager**



**Patient & Nurse in Prison Infirmary**

# Preparing for Release

- Correctional healthcare staff and UIC telemedicine staff work to ensure HIV+ incarcerated individuals have all the necessary documentation to initiate care upon release
  - Proof of diagnosis
  - List of medications and doctor's notes
  - Recent lab work
  - Referral packet
- 30 days worth of medication is provided (IDOC policy)
- ADAP application (can also be used for work release)
- An IDOC referral tracking tool helps to track incarcerated individuals throughout discharge and linkage to care
- In 2015, linkage to care for individuals released from IDOC was **17%**. In 2021, it increased to **80%**



# Ryan White Part B Policy to Help IDOC and Work Release

- Ryan White Part B Standard Operating Procedure Incarcerated Individuals:
  - Applicants who are currently incarcerated in a county jail or IDOC work release within the State of Illinois qualify for services if they meet the following criteria:
    - The facility they are being held in:
      1. Is unable to provide medications that are part of the medication assistance formulary.
      2. Will allow for the department's contract dispensing pharmacy to mail their medication directly to the county jail or work release center.
      3. Will assist them with requesting medication refills.

# Transitional Tracking 2023

- Approximately 122 HIV+ individuals were released
- 96 made medical appointments
- 5 were revoked
- 3 were taken to immigration
- 18 have had no contact

# Linkage to Care and Discharge Planning

- Program staff works with HIV discharge planners at each correctional center.
- Together with correctional health care staff, the specialist ensures that linkage to care of HIV+ offenders are conducted efficiently.
- Offenders are being referred to Care Connect and established and creditable community-based organizations (CBOs).
- An IDOC tracking referral tool helps to track offenders throughout the discharge process.
- Thirty days of medication upon discharge (now a policy)
- Correction ADAP applications
- ADAP provide medication for individuals in work release (now a policy)

# Creating Positive Public Health Outcomes

- The National HIV Strategic Plan 2021 – 2026 promotes a people-centered approach, grounded in principles of human rights and health equity. It will contribute to a significant decline in new HIV infections and HIV-related deaths, while also improving the health and well-being of all people living with HIV.
- The strategy reflects President Biden's commitment to re-energize and strengthen a whole-of-society response to the epidemic while supporting people with HIV and reducing HIV-associated morbidity and mortality.



## A Summit of Hope

### Summit of Hope Goals

- To increase public safety by reduced recidivism
- To provide 'whole person' wrap-around services in a one-stop convenient location that is both beneficial for the Individuals in Reentry and the various community agencies
- To provide HIV testing, education, and linkage to care
- A crime-free, productive life for the recently released translates into a safer community for everyone
- [Summit of Hope Resource Page](#)

***A Summit of Hope*** is designed to provide a 'one stop' environment for the local parolees (Individuals in Reentry) to obtain the necessary skills to move past barriers which may be preventing her/him from leading a successful life.

# Services

- State IDs / driver's licenses
- Job referrals
- GED registrations
- Enrollment in community college / vocational education programs
- Housing assistance
- Health care referrals / insurance navigation
- Harm-reduction treatment linkage
- Voting registration
- Child support services
- Social Security card



- Dental / primary care
- HIV / Hepatitis C Virus (HCV) / Sexually Transmitted Disease (STI) testing
- Health screening
- Blood pressure checks
- Vaccinations
- Haircuts
- Clothing distribution
- Veterans' services
- Mental health linkage
- Narcan distribution

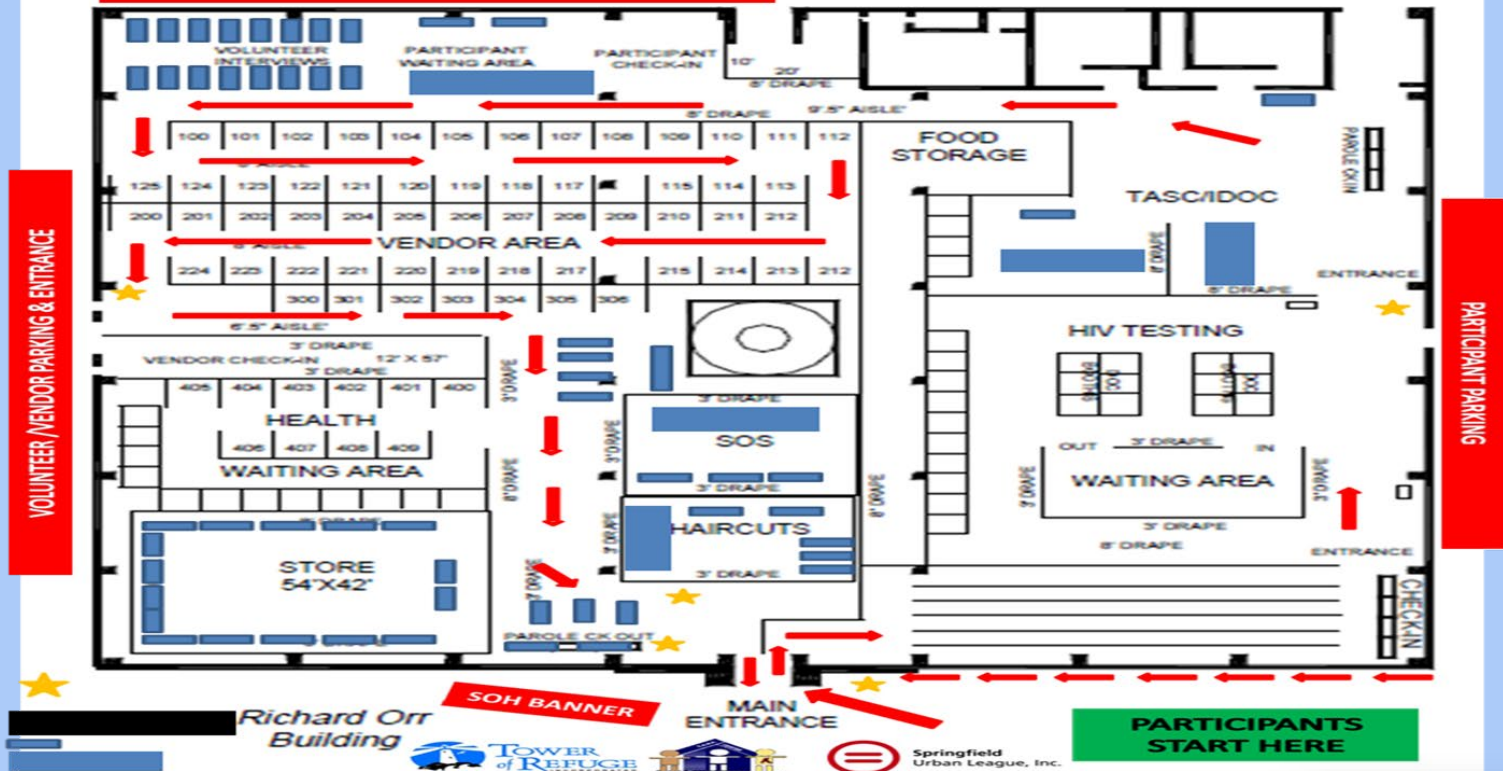




# SUMMIT OF HOPE 2014

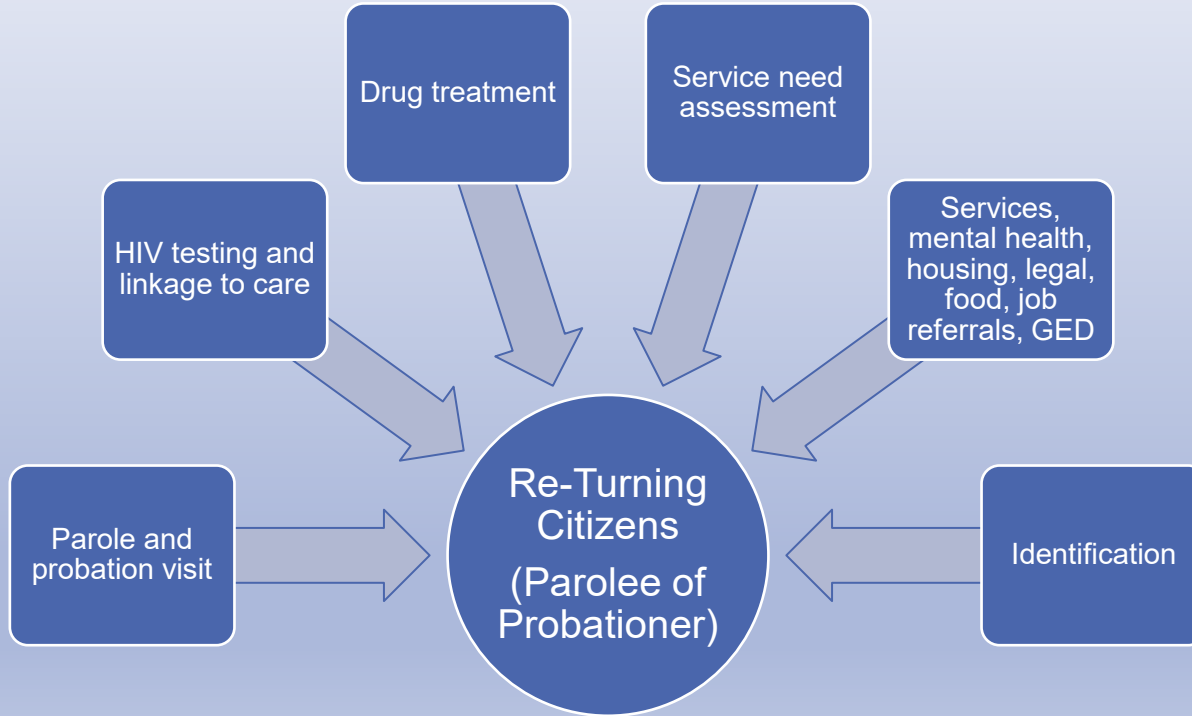


## ★ SSOH COMMITTEE & GUEST PARKING



ILLINOIS DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH  
**IDPH**  
PROTECTING HEALTH, IMPROVING LIVES

# Summit of HOPE Project Ryan White Part B





# Summit of Hope HIV/HCV Testing

Summit of Hope Event Years	# Events Held	# Participates	# HIV Test Done	# Self Reported +	# of Preliminary	# of HCV Done	# of Hep C +
2010	12	1620	851	0	0	0	0
2011	14	3497	1474	0	2	0	0
2012	15	5706	2213	4	4	96	3
2013	15	4642	2069	6	5	514	23
2014	15	4040	1592	4	4	158	18
2015	16	2432	1427	8	8	625	29
2016	7	2596	1308	9	7	642	30
2017	9	3266	1776	4	6	1009	66
2018	8	2988	1680	6	4	969	33
2019	9	1687	1081	8	2	736	38
(Events were done virtually)2020	3	248	Provide information on where to get tested	Provide information on where to get tested	Provide information on where to get tested	Provide information on where to get tested	Provide information on where to get tested
(Events were done virtually)2021	1	46	Provide information on where to get tested	Provide information on where to get tested	Provide information on where to get tested	Provide information on where to get tested	Provide information on where to get tested
2022	4	432	129	6	0	109	4
Total	128	33200	15600	55	42	4858	244

# Summit of Hope Impact

- 97 individuals have been linked to HIV care since 2022 (including self-reported)
- 244 individuals have been linked to HCV care
- More than 33,000 individuals were provided with risk assessments, HIV testing information, and condoms
- The SOH is cost-effective to IL taxpayers, costing less than .01% of an annual incarceration amount. The event cost per parolee is equivalent to 12 hours of incarceration (\$35)
- The SOH continues to strive to enhance other re-entry programming, such as mentoring and support groups
- The SOH not only impacts the parolee, but the spouse, the family unit, and the community as a whole
- The parole agent-parolee relationship has changed to more of service, rather than policing
- Stigma is addressed at the event, so some who refused testing in prison, choose to be tested at the event
- Created Summit of Hope for women only (which includes transwomen).
- Recidivism rate dropped 12.4%

# Creating Positive Public Health Outcomes

- Access to testing and treatment
- Education and awareness
- Stigma reduction
- Integrated healthcare services
- Community engagement
- Targeted interventions for key populations
- Policy and advocacy

# How We Fund These Programs

- General state funds
- RWHAP Part B funds
- Rebate funds
- Community partners

# Roadblocks

- Money or funding!!!!
- Stigma-HIV and returning citizens
- Sex offenders
- Employers
- Territorial (CBO, parole and probation)
- IDOC staff changes
- Media
- Lawmakers
- Data
- Mental health
- Condoms and prep inside the walls
- Youth

# Questions / Comments





Falling down is part of life.  
Getting back up is living.

**THANK YOU!**

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