COMMUNITY REENTRY PROJECT: PROGRESS TOWARDS THE ILLINOIS HIV/AIDS STRATEGIC PLAN

Prepared for the 2014 Illinois HIV/STI Conference

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Presentation Overview

• Creating the HIV, Corrections and Reentry Section of the *Illinois HIV/AIDS Strategic Plan*
• Progress to Date on the HIV, Corrections and Reentry Section
  • Examples of Successes and Challenges
• Next Steps
Strategic Plan: Background

- 2011: PHIMC worked with CRP and partners statewide to create an HIV, Corrections and Reentry Section
  - Only plan to address corrections and reentry populations
- 2012 – 2014: Section reviewed, refined, updated
  - Information gathering and implementation progress monitored
- 2014: Continue gathering information and monitoring progress
  - Begin planning for next strategic plan.
The following contributed to the development and implementation of the plan:

- **Government**: Governor’s Office, IDPH, IDOC, Cermak Health Services, local health departments
- **Non Government**:
  - 30+ community based HIV and reentry organizations
  - ACA/Medicaid enrollment organizations
  - Representatives from advocacy organizations, Universities and Schools of Medicine, and other stakeholders
Strategic Plan: Goals

- Goals aligned with national HIV/AIDS Strategy goals:
  1. Reduce new HIV infections
  2. Increase access to care and improve health outcomes
  3. Reduce HIV-related disparities and health inequities
  4. Achieve and more coordinated response
  5. Other/Cross cutting issues

- Created strategies and activities for each goal
Strategic Plan: Implementation

• Entire plan reviewed via statewide meetings
  • affirmed priorities
  • Identify additional activities
  • Assess and document progress and identify sources of information; Identify and agree upon modifications
  • Used to guide meeting topics and speakers, and activities to undertake
EXAMPLES OF ACCOMPLISHMENTS AND CHALLENGES BY GOALS
Strategic Plan Accomplishments

- Monitored impact of ACA/Medicaid expansion (preparation, enrollment, post enrollment work)
- Monitored and supported expanded HIV testing in jails and IDOC (and related activities)
  - HIV/jails survey and outreach to Sheriff’s Association
- Expanded CCM beyond Chicago Metro area
- Advocated for access to HIV meds on work release
Strategic Plan: Gaps and Challenges

- Few resources added during Plan’s timeframe
  - Organizations and individuals are stretched
  - Few funding opportunities
- Changing landscape
  - ACA/Medicaid Expansion
  - IDOC prison closures and mergers
  - Cuts in publicly-funded behavioral health services
  - Changing demographics in reentry populations
- Ongoing challenges
  - Housing
  - Transportation
  - Services for sex offenders
  - Cultural competency
Accomplishments for **Goal 1: Reduce New Infections**

- **1.2: Support efforts to expand testing in IDOC facilities**
  - Supported opt-out legislation
  - IDPH working with IDOC to enhance PS
    - Partners had opportunity to review and comment on policy

- **1.3: Work with Sheriffs/county jails to expand access to HIV education and HIV testing**
  - 2012 survey of all jails (to be repeated)
  - 2014 presentation to Sheriff’s Association’s Medical Facility meeting
  - CAPUS
Challenges for **Goal 1: Reduce New HIV Infections**

- **1.4:** Provide access to harm reduction materials to inmates and detainees
  - Partners have reviewed programs in jails in other states and will share information with CCJ

- **1.5:** Expand the harm reduction discharge packet to inmates and detainees statewide.
  - Tried with CAPUS but to date only Peoria County is the only one who coordinates this activity
  - No work yet with IDOC
Accomplishments for **Goal 2: Increase Access to Care and Improve Health**

- **2.2:** Identify and discuss ways to build on UIC’s HIV telemedicine program's success
  - Creation of 1-800 cards
  - Can now offer incentives, transportation vouchers, and linkage to Corrections Case Management
- **2.5:** Release individuals with more HIV meds to bridge the time it takes to enroll in ADAP
  - IDOC reinforced 30-day policy for HIV meds
  - ADAP allowed enrollment to begin pre-release
Challenges for **Goal 2: Increase Access to Care and Improve Health cont.**

- **2.1: Work with HIV CARE Connect to enhance corrections and reentry specific information on the website**
  - Have had preliminary discussions
- **2.3 Expand SOHs….for sex offenders**
  - Need to meet with supervisors of sex offenders to discuss supervision issues & how to provide these services
Challenges for **Goal 2: Increase Access to Care and Improve Health cont.**

- 2.4: Expand the use of a tool a discharge planning tool by correctional facilities (like the one created by the CORE Center)
  - Community based medical providers want more complete forms
  - Non-medical community providers not getting information from corrections or community med providers
  - IDOC not finding out what happens to individuals in the community
    - need to educate community providers about the form and the importance of sharing information on missed appointments
Challenges for **Goal 2: Increase Access to Care and Improve Health** cont.

- **2.6:** Identify ways to ensure individuals have access to health care while on Work Release
  - IDPH worked with HRSA to allow ADAP to provide HIV meds

- **2.8:** Expand access to HIV care and linkage to services upon release from jails
  - CAPUS expanded HIV testing in 14 jails
  - CCM expanded to 3 more counties: Jackson, Sangamon and Will
Challenges for Goal 2: Increase Access to Care and Improve Health cont.

2.11: Increase access to substance abuse treatment services

- Statewide lack of services, esp. residential
- Publically funded services completely eliminated in some parts of the state
- This issue goes beyond health insurance
Accomplishments for **Goal 3: Reduce HIV-related Disparities and Health Inequities**

- **3.1:** Provide cultural competency training within correctional facilities, including security staff, with a focus on LGBT populations
  - MATEC updated IDOC’s HIV education for new staff training on which included a slide to discuss stigma
  - DJJ they has implemented an LGBT policy on discrimination for staff and inmates.
- Many of the other goals and their activities impact this goal (e.g., CAPUS, HIV meds on work release, increased access to health insurance, ACA and Medicaid Expansion)
Challenges for **Goal 3: Reduce HIV-related Disparities and Health Inequities**

- **3.1:** Provide cultural competency training within correctional facilities, including security staff, with a focus on LGBT populations
  - Some accomplishments but additional work needs to be done
    - Training needs to include security staff
    - Need to work with correctional facilities to identify additional training opportunities
- **3.2:** Conduct social marketing campaigns and education to reduce HIV stigma, including normalizing testing
  - Lack resources to do this work and support the campaign
Challenges for **Goal 3: Reduce HIV-related Disparities and Health Inequities** cont.

• **3.3:** Conduct gender specific programming that addresses domestic violence, lifelong abuse, and assault to reduce both HIV transmission and recidivism
  • Need to identify what currently exists, best practices and opportunities
  • A policy now exists for HIV Case Managers on addressing domestic violence

• **3.4:** Support and increase Family Reunification activities
  • Lack resources and funding opportunities
Accomplishments for **Goal 4: Achieving a More Coordinated Response**

- **4.1:** Support meetings and activities that bring corrections and reentry service providers together
  - Quarterly statewide meeting
  - This preconference session

- **4.3:** Improve the coordination and integration of existing and new reentry activities
  - IDOC released an RFP for this
  - Identify and participate in reentry group meeting across state
  - Resource directory
Challenges for **Goal 4: Achieving a More Coordinated Response**

- 4.2: Provide statewide training for FAITH based organizations on corrections and reentry populations and HIV
  - Need to identify what is currently happening, gaps and opportunities for collaboration
Accomplishments for **Goal 5: Other/Cross-Cutting Issues**

- 5.2: Improve access to and the use of data for reentry services
  - Improved HIV data from IDOC and jails with opt-out testing
  - Working with SPAC to gather data for analysis
Challenges for Goal 5: Other/Cross Cutting Issues

• 5.1: Identify ways to make anger management classes more affordable, especially for those who have it as a stipulation
  • Few affordable resources, especially downstate
  • Individual programs working to make it available to their clients
  • Need to compile list of resources and barriers

• 5.3: Assess if individuals' needs are being met in IDOC and identifying the reasons for recidivism among HIV-positive individuals
  • Not clear how to gather this information
Challenges for **Goal 5: Other/Cross Cutting Issues cont.**

- **5.5:** Identify additional transitional housing, permanent housing, SROs and assisted living facilities
  - Lack of affordable housing options
  - Additional barriers for reentry populations

- **5.6:** Develop programs & policies to help parents make legal plans for their children while incarcerated & help resolve custody when a parent re-enters
  - form a work group with IDOC and DCFS to look at permanency/temporary custody issues
  - Begin a pilot program
Next Steps

• Create a final report in 2016
• Continue work on outstanding activities for current plan
• Develop a communication plan
• Planning for next strategic plan
• Continue and expand efforts to engage non-Chicago metro area stakeholders
  • Convene in-person statewide meeting or conference
  • Continue to monitor impact of ACA/Medicaid expansion on reentry populations
• Thoughts on potential financial and other resources that can support this work
• What would you like to see?
Discussion on Current Strategic Plan

• Feedback on current Plan
  • Process
  • Goals and activities
  • Other

• Reminder of current goals
  1. Reduce new HIV infections
  2. Increase access to care and improve health outcomes
  3. Reduce HIV-related disparities and health inequities
  4. Achieve and more coordinated response
  5. Other/Cross cutting issues.
Discussion on Next Strategic Plan

• Brainstorm for next Plan