

Illinois Going Home Program

Abstract

The Illinois Department of Corrections (IDOC) requests \$2,000,000 to implement the Illinois Going Home Program. This program will build on existing services provided by IDOC and other government agencies in partnership with the North Lawndale Employment Network, a network of community- and faith-based providers who have been serving returning offenders for three years. This integrated system will provide high intensity reentry services to 200 offenders returning to the North Lawndale community in Chicago and moderate intensity services to offenders returning to the neighboring communities of West Garfield, Austin and West Humboldt Park. Program participants will include youth and young adults with violent tendencies or a high risk of recidivism. Initial steps will be taken to replicate this model in other Chicago communities with high concentrations of ex-offenders.

Key to the success of this program will be utilizing the newly formed Transition Teams, which will include IDOC Parole Officers, Treatment Alternatives for Safe Communities (TASC) Case Managers and North Lawndale Employment Network staff. Transition Teams will have contact with participants before they are released. They will also have access to all relevant information about each participant's incarceration, assessments, and terms of release. Program participants will have access to an established network of services including assessment, case management, cognitive restructuring, a voucher pool for treatment, transitional housing, employment training and placement assistance, and specialized youth services.

The Illinois Criminal Justice Information Authority, the state criminal justice planning agency, will coordinate a quasi-experimental evaluation which will track recidivism rates in three

groups: a) high intensity group – those who will be receiving services funded through this federal program; b) moderate intensity group; and c) “normal” transition group monitored by parole officers.

This program will promote the systematic build-up of state/community reentry systems through ongoing strategic planning and fund development. This will be accomplished by leveraging at least \$948,000 in in-kind contributions from the Illinois Department of Corrections, Illinois Workforce Advantage, the Illinois Criminal Justice Information Authority, the Illinois Department of Employment Security, Treatment Alternatives for Safe Communities, and the North Lawndale Employment Network.

This Illinois Going Home Program grant application reflects Governor George Ryan’s commitment to public safety. This commitment has allowed Illinois to become a leader in re-integrating ex-offenders into the community. Under his administration, Governor Ryan has doubled the number of parole agents from 183 to 366, and helped modernize the way they work so they are able to spend more time on the streets where they are most effective. Futures for Kids, the Governor’s children’s policy agenda, has identified juvenile justice as a major policy initiative, increasing substance abuse treatment services for youth in the Department of Corrections and the community court system, and increasing mental health screening and services for youth being released from the juvenile justice system. Also, in an effort to revitalize the highest need communities, the Governor created the Illinois Workforce Advantage. This place-based initiative targets the Chicago community areas of North Lawndale, Humboldt Park, and Englewood for targeted infusions of state and local resources to improve the overall community.

Introduction

The State of Illinois has undertaken the Going Home grant application as part of Governor George Ryan's commitment to successfully reintegrate ex-offenders into the community. This grant brings together three of the Governor's major policy areas in order to maximize the value of scarce state resources by combining his public safety and criminal justice reforms and initiatives with his Futures for Kids and Illinois Workforce Advantage programs.

Under his administration, Governor Ryan has doubled the number of parole agents on the streets and modernized the way parole agents do their work so they are able to spend more time out where they are most effective. Additionally, former work release centers were transformed into adult transition centers (ATC) to focus on the inmate's successful reintegration into the community. Furthermore, the Governor created a Placement Resource Unit (PRU) within the Department of Corrections, which acts as the statewide coordination center for offenders being released on parole. The PRU offers services and linkages for these offenders in order to strengthen communication between institutional and community-based services.

Futures for Kids, the Governor's children's policy agenda has undertaken juvenile justice as one of its three major policy initiatives. Under the Governor's leadership, Illinois has increased mental health screening and services for youth being released from the juvenile justice system. He has also increased substance abuse treatment services for youth in the Department of Corrections and the community court system.

In an effort to revitalize the distressed communities that are the highest users of state resources, the Governor created the Illinois Workforce Advantage. This place-based initiative targets the community of North Lawndale and five other Illinois Communities for targeted infusions of state and local resources to improve the overall community.

I. Problems to be Addressed

A. The Problems

The United States has no effective method for reintegrating the 630,000 ex-offenders returning to their communities every year. In 2002, the Illinois Department of Corrections (IDOC) will release more than 38,000 offenders. These parolees, most with limited (if any) work experience, low educational attainment, substance abuse problems, no place to live, and other impediments to becoming productive members of society, have few resources to support their reentry into the community. Forty-four percent will return to IDOC within three years. This cycle of incarceration, release, and re-incarceration has to be broken.

In Illinois alone, there are 43,000 adult inmates in state prisons, approximately 31,000 parolees, and nearly 100,000 detained at Cook County Jail each year. In 1978, the Illinois General Assembly passed legislation enacting determinate sentencing, causing the incarceration rate to grow from 96 per 100,000 Illinoisans in 1978 to 371 per 100,000 in 2001. The “get tough” legislation enacted in the late 1980’s and 1990’s and the “truth in sentencing” legislation of the mid 1990’s has put Illinois’ incarceration rate at an all-time high.

IDOC has correspondingly grown from ten institutions in 1978 to 28 in 2002, with another three adult facilities under construction. The cost of incarcerating convicted offenders in Illinois has increased from \$115 million in 1978 to \$1.3 billion in 2001. Without change this expense will continue to grow in the years to come. The Illinois experience, like that of the nation, shows that we cannot build our way out of overcrowding or afford to keep up with the costs of the increasing incarceration rate. We have gotten tough on crime. Now it is time to get smart on crime.

B. Analysis of the Population

The Illinois Going Home Program will principally target currently incarcerated young adult males ages 18 to 24 and juveniles ages 14 to 17 who will return to the North Lawndale community. To participate, offenders must also be determined to have a propensity for violence or be likely to recidivate. There are approximately 525 inmates who may be eligible to participate. In addition, a similar group of ex-offenders returning to other Chicago communities with large numbers of parolees will be connected to existing networks of faith-based organizations and community agencies. Parole data indicates that over 1,000 young adult and juvenile ex-offenders will return to these areas over the next three years.

North Lawndale is targeted for this program because of the high percentage of ex-offenders who return to this community every year. Currently there are 2,732 parolees between the age of 17 and 35 who live in the North Lawndale community. Of these parolees, 2,339 or 86% are males. Although this current population will not participate in the program, it provides a snapshot of the number of parolees concentrated in the North Lawndale community at any given time.

IDOC Juvenile Division operates nine facilities throughout the state. IDOC estimates that of the 1,800 youth in residence, approximately 10 juveniles return to the North Lawndale community each year.

The juveniles served by this grant will be provided with a similar milieu of services that will be provided to young adults. They will be identified upon entry to IDOC where pre-release planning will take place. They will benefit from the expertise of specially trained juvenile case managers from TASC and will have access to up to 120 days of re-entry transitional housing. In order to facilitate their education, juveniles participating in the program will also be linked to the

Chicago Public Schools prior to being released from IDOC. A memorandum of agreement is in the process of being finalized to facilitate this process.

In order to accommodate the approximately 15% of these juveniles who are also wards of the State of Illinois, IDOC will work with the Department of Children and Family Services to coordinate pre-release planning.

Juveniles who find themselves in danger of returning to IDOC due to technical violations will be sent to the Illinois Youth Center in Chicago where they will receive more intensive re-entry planning and case-management prior to being “re-released”.

In order to maximize the impact of this model program, the Illinois Criminal Justice Information Authority has agreed to leverage up to \$700,000 in Juvenile Accountability Incentive Block Grant Funds to expand the North Lawndale model to other community areas in the City of Chicago.

II. Goals and Objectives

The Illinois Going Home Program meets all of the goals and objectives of the Serious and Violent Offender Reentry Initiative, as described below. Activities that will be implemented to meet these objectives are outlined in Attachment B.

Goal 1: Prevent re-offending

Objective 1: Begin the reentry planning process within the correctional setting and initiate contacts with key service providers, law enforcement, and community corrections agencies prior to the offender’s parole.

Performance Indicators:

- A minimum of 400 reentry plans developed during incarceration

- A minimum of two Transition Team meetings will be held with each participants before release. Transition Team will includes representatives of key service providers, law enforcement, and community corrections agencies

Objective 2: Ensure the offender is fully engaged in the planning process and clearly understands expectations and consequences.

Performance Indicators:

- 100% of the participants signing agreement to participate and giving permission for Transition Team to access assessment and treatment information.
- 100% of the agreements will include expectations and consequences outlining what participants must comply with court mandates and terms of parole

Objective 3: Identify needs and provide support and services to promote successful reentry.

Performance Indicators:

- 100% of the participants will be assessed during incarceration using Millon and other tools to determine needed support and services
- 50% of the participants will be assessed immediately before release using Millon and other tools to determine needed support and services
- 100% of the results will be shared with the Transition Team and integrated into parolees reentry plan

Objective 4: Exercise active supervision of the offender, ensuring accountability and/or appropriate graduated sanctions for non-compliance or criminal behavior.

Performance Indicators:

- A minimum of one meeting per month between program participants and Parole Officer will be held.

- Number of technical violators sent to new “halfway back” center to without automatically returning parolee to prison

Goal 2: Enhance public safety

Objective 1: Work with local law enforcement to ensure joint supervision and accountability.

Performance Indicators:

- Quarterly meetings will be held, including joint projects between Parole Officers and the Chicago Police Department, including Operation Windy City Partnership

Objective 2: Provide active ongoing management and supervision designed to hold the offender accountable and protect the public interest.

Performance Indicators:

- The number of meetings between Parole Officers and participants; number will be based on terms of release
- The average case loads of Parole Officers supervising participants will not exceed 50 parolees compared to average case loads of 90 – 150 parolees per Parole Officers with no participants

Objective 3: Utilize technology (electronic monitoring, etc.) to ensure that the offender's location is appropriate and does not pose an undue threat to the community or the victim.

Performance Indicators:

- No more than 20% of the participants will be required to wear electronic monitoring devices

Objective 4: Exercise zero tolerance for new criminal activity.

Performance Indicators:

- 100% of the parole violators who commit new crimes will be returned to prison

Objective 5: Develop and implement reintegration plans with appropriate levels of supervision.

Performance Indicators:

- 100% of the reentry plans developed will be based on need assessments, risk of recidivism, type of crime committed, etc.
- 100% of the reentry plans will be developed and monitored by the Transition Team.

Goal 3: Redeploy and leverage existing community resources by fostering linkages and accessing currently provided services

Objective 1: Use federal funds only to design, build, test, and improve a system that utilizes ongoing resources so reentry programs do not depend on temporary federal funding.

Performance Indicators:

- Documentation maintained on existing services linked to program to form a sustainable system to address the comprehensive needs of ex-offenders
- Documentation maintained on existing funding sources used to provide most services

Objective 2: Use federal funds only to enhance existing state or local resources and provide options not otherwise available or sufficient.

Performance Indicators:

- Document that funds are used only to fill gaps and other sources sought to continue to fill funding gaps after grant period

Objective 3: Increase communities' leveraging and allocation of resources to provide for the sustainability of the reentry initiative.

Performance Indicators:

- Document coordination of existing services to target high-need population and provision of case management, to increase effectiveness of existing services

Objective 4: Enhance partnerships among government agencies and community organizations.

Performance Indicators:

- Document efforts of Government agencies and community organizations working together to implement this program; relationships that develop will promote future partnering. Add at least one new partner each year.

Objective 5: Enhance the availability and quality of reentry services.

Performance Indicators:

- Document coordinating existing services and providing funds to fill service gaps that will enhance reentry services

Goal 4: Assist the offender to avoid crime, engage in pro-social community activities and meet family responsibilities.

Objective 1: Promote productive engagement between the offender and community organizations.

Performance Indicators:

- 75% of the participants will participate in community based programs.

Objective 2: Provide for and expect the offender to be a contributing productive citizen.

Performance Indicators:

- 75% of the ex-offenders will secure employment
- 25% of the participants will receive family reunification assistance when appropriate

Objective 3: Increase involvement between members of offenders support networks and returning offenders.

Performance Indicators:

- At a minimum, 40 program graduates will be temporarily employed by North Lawndale Employment Network's (NLEN) Ex-Offender Employment Services Network (EESN) to act as mentors to new program participants
- 90% of the participants will be connected with the Winners Circle and other peer support groups

Goal 5: Ensure program sustainability

Objective 1: Ensure current community and government resources are utilized and will remain accessible once federal funds are unavailable.

Performance Indicators:

- Document development of long-term ties between IDOC and EESN program which has been in existence for three years

Objective 2: Ensure that broad government and community support exists and that these relationships are enhanced and built.

Performance Indicators:

- Document partnership of government, community and faith-based organizations
- Document membership of Reentry Steering Committee (RSC) membership, including high-level representatives of participating agencies

Objective 3: Ensure that this initiative is viewed as integral to community and public safety.

Performance Indicators:

- Document commitment and support of local law enforcement and civic organizations for RSC

III. Identifying the Target Population

A. Target Populations

The proposed program will principally target 200 currently incarcerated young adult males ages 18 to 24 and 10 juveniles ages 14 to 17 who will return to the North Lawndale community. In addition, participating offenders must have been determined to have a propensity for violence and/or likely to recidivate. Currently, there are approximately 525 inmates from North Lawndale.

This program will also refer parolees for services in three other communities in Chicago with high concentrations of ex-offenders. Those include West Garfield, Austin and West Humboldt Park, however the level of services offered to these parolees will be less intensive than in North Lawndale.

The North Lawndale community, located on the west side of the City of Chicago, is roughly bordered by Interstate 290 on the north, Western Avenue on the east, Cermak/22nd Street on the south and Cicero on the west. Once a middle class community, North Lawndale's population has declined steadily from its 1960 peak of 125,000 residents to roughly 41,768 today, 95% of whom are African American (2000 Census). Now an economically depressed community, North Lawndale has high unemployment (27%) and under-employment (38% of families have annual incomes less than \$10,000, 65.6% less than \$20,000), and low educational attainment (51% of adults over 18 have less than a high school diploma). Single mothers head 60% of North Lawndale families. The North Lawndale Employment Network estimates that over 70% of all North Lawndale men between the ages of 18 and 45 have a criminal record.

North Lawndale straddles two police districts, 10 and 11. The Chicago Police Department reports that in 2000 there were 15,927 arrests in nine of the 12 beats within these two districts.

Five major crime categories made up 75% of all arrests: Narcotics, Battery, Theft, Criminal Damage to Property, and Assault. Violent crimes made up slightly more than one-third (5,566) of all crimes in the area.

B. Plan to Select Offenders to Participate

At least 200 inmates will be selected for the program upon entering IDOC. Selected inmates will be those with violent tendencies and/or a high risk of recidivism, who need a variety of services while incarcerated and upon release, such as substance abuse and mental health counseling, housing, food and clothing, family reunification assistance, basic skills education, pre-employment and job training, job placement, and other services.

Inmates are assessed using the Millon Clinical Multiaxial Inventory III, the GAMA, the TABE test, a vocation assessment instrument, the MMPI (for adolescents), and substance abuse screening and evaluation. (Assessment instruments are described in detail in section 5.D of this proposal.) Offenders' age, address before incarceration, and assessment results will determine eligibility for participation.

Since there is such a high correlation between re-offending and history of substance abuse; the implementation of the continuum of care allows the Department to not only manage the offender appropriately, it also provides for more accountability and supervision thereby decreasing the risk of re-offending. By providing the continuum of care that addresses the multiple problems and challenges offenders face upon re-entry back into the community; the Department anticipates a positive impact upon the levels of re-offending. Addressing the issues of substance abuse, mental health issues, vocational training needs, educational programming, mentorship, spirituality,

cognitive restructuring, anger management, and effective parenting provides offenders with the multi-modality services they require.

In the three moderate intensity (West Humboldt, Austin and West Garfield) communities, ex-offenders will be referred to the Chicago Project for Violence Prevention for moderate intensity reentry assistance. This will include: 1) pre-notification from IDOC to the community transition coordinator, 2) joint transition planning between a team of community providers and IDOC for reentry, and 3) assistance in drawing on existing community resources to acquire and sustain housing and employment. Offenders not selected for the program will have the same access to services while incarcerated as those who do participate.

IV. Organizational Capacity

A. Lead Agency

The **Illinois Department of Corrections (IDOC)** is the lead agency for the proposed Illinois Going Home Program. A Reentry Steering Committee (RSC) will be established to oversee the Program. The Ex-Offender Employability Task Force, a sub-committee of the Workforce Investment Board, will be involved in monitoring this program to ensure it can be replicated across the State of Illinois. In addition, the North Lawndale Employment Network, a network of community- and faith-based organizations already serving significant numbers of ex-offenders, will lead the community-based service provision.

As the lead agency, IDOC will coordinate, manage, and provide oversight for the proposed program in conjunction with participating state, local, and community agencies and the RSC.

The IDOC operates from a \$1.3 billion annual budget, which includes incarceration of both adults and juveniles. The mission of IDOC is “to protect the public from criminal offenders through a system of incarceration and supervision which securely segregates offenders from society, assures offenders of their constitutional rights and maintains programs to enhance the success of offenders’ reentry into society.” Currently, there are 43,000 adults and 1,800 juveniles incarcerated within the IDOC’s adult institutions and juvenile youth centers. The IDOC is also responsible for over 31,000 adult and 1,500 juvenile parolees. The agency staffing is comprised of over 16,500 state employees and maintains its own school district (School District #428).

IDOC has long been involved in coordinating programs with multiple agencies and communities. IDOC has worked in conjunction with the Illinois Criminal Justice Information Authority, the Department of Human Services, the Office of Alcoholism and Substance Abuse, the Department of Education, the Department of Mental Health, the Department of Public Aid, the Department of Public Housing, the Department of Children and Family Services. Examples of coordinated programs include the multi-agency, multi-service program at Southwestern Illinois Correctional Center. This program focuses on providing intense substance abuse treatment services to identified offenders not only while they are incarcerated, but also as they parole out into the community through federal grant funds. Multiple agencies including the Office of Alcoholism and Substance Abuse (OASA), Treatment Alternatives to Safe Communities (TASC), Cornell Interventions, and the Illinois Criminal Justice Information Authority (ICJIA), and numerous community based substance abuse treatment providers have all come together on this project to extend the continuum of care out to the community for addicted criminal justice offenders. This is just one example of IDOC’s expertise in coordinating programs for offenders with multiple agencies.

B. Local Readiness/Local Decision Makers

The Chicago Mayor's Office of Workforce Development (MOWD) supports the proposed program, will provide an advisor to sit on the RSC, and will assist the Transition Teams in the program's employment-related activities. The **Chicago Police Department** will assist the program through its community-policing program. District Commanders will communicate frequently with IDOC parole staff. Existing joint operational programs (i.e., Operation Windy City), demonstrate this working relationship. The **Chicago Department of Human Services** brings expansive knowledge and expertise of the many social barriers that ex-offenders face, such as mental illness, criminal history, and substance abuse.

North Lawndale Employment Network (NLEN) is a community-driven partnership organization comprised of community- and faith-based organizations, service providers, training organizations, economic development agencies, and businesses. Its primary goal is to improve the employment status of North Lawndale residents. NLEN developed the Ex-Offender Employment Service Network (EESN), a partnership approach to service delivery using the unique expertise of local organizations that offer support services, training, and placement opportunities to ex-offenders in North Lawndale and surrounding communities. In the three years since it began, the EESN has served more than 400 returning offenders.

Formed in 1995, the **Chicago Project for Violence Prevention CPVP)** is a citywide and regional effort to reduce violence in the Chicago area. In its fifth year of a 15-year effort, this project establishes coalitions of outreach workers, clergy, and service providers in neighborhoods with concentrations of gun violence to deter violence before it occurs and offer alternatives to youth at risk of committing violence. As part of the Illinois Going Home Program, the CPVP will

be notified of offenders returning to these communities and connect them with the network of local services. The CPVP will also begin to establish an anti-violence program in North Lawndale. The CPVP will hire a Violence Prevention Coordinator and Community Reentry Liaisons to work with IDOC to offer assistance to ex-offenders returning to the Chicago communities of West Garfield, Austin, and West Humboldt Park. This will constitute the “moderate intensity” assistance that will be provided to former inmates during the three-year duration of the project.

TASC (Treatment Alternatives for Safe Communities) will be a major partner in the Illinois Going Home Program, mainly providing case management services. TASC is a 26-year-old nonprofit organization that specializes in behavioral health recovery management services. Active in criminal justice, juvenile justice, child welfare and other public service systems, TASC provides direct services, designs model programs, and builds collaborative networks between public systems and community-based human service providers. Through a specialized system of clinical case management, TASC initiates and motivates positive behavior change and long-term recovery for individuals in Illinois’ criminal justice, corrections, juvenile justice, child welfare, and public aid systems. TASC served 32,000 clients in SFY 2001.

The **Safer Foundation** will provide job placement services to select Illinois Going Home Program participants. Safer is the premier service provider for the offender community (youth and adult) in the Midwest, serving approximately 4,300 clients annually. Since its inception in 1970, it has addressed a full array of employment and social adjustment needs of an exclusively offender clientele. Safer provides a variety of direct, outcome-based services to former offenders, including job placement assistance, education, pre-employment training, and supportive services. Safer placed more than 1,200 former offenders in jobs last year. Over three years, Safer clients

recidivate at a rate less than half that for Illinois parolees in general. They have partnered with IDOC for over 20 years.

The North Lawndale Work Group on Balanced and Restorative Justice (BARJ) will work with juvenile ex-offenders to help them restore relations with their community. BARJ formed in May 2000 to design a community-wide collaborative to address juvenile justice, and has more than 40 partners, including the Chicago Police Department, Chicago Public Schools, Cook County Juvenile Court, Illinois State Attorney's Office, Good City Foundation, Cook County Probation Department, Hartgrove Hospital, Gateway, Sinai Community Institute, Youth Net, YMCA, and Urban Options.

The **Chicago Public Schools (CPS)** Region 7 Office serves the educational needs of returning offenders primarily between the ages of 14 and 18. IDOC will notify CPS of returning youth offenders and work with CPS toward developing appropriate reentry plans. The Illinois Going Home Program will also work with the CPS to obtain outside funding for a CPS Reentry Specialist position.

There are many other community partners integral to the success of this project. For descriptions of the **Gateway Foundation, Institute for Clinical Social Work, Deere (Re)habilitation, Inc., Family Focus, Westside Ministers Coalition, Chicago Christian Industrial League, STRIVE Chicago, United Baptist Church, Good Samaritan Hope House of Chicago**, and others, refer to Attachment A, the Resources List.

The program will also work to add the Chicago Housing Authority and the Illinois Housing Development Authority as key partners in the first months.

A separate evaluation of the network of providers serving ex-offenders returning to North Lawndale is being designed by the **University of Illinois - Chicago Great Cities Institute** and **Community Development Associates** and is funded by IWA.

IDOC covers the responsibilities of a **chief judge**, a **local community corrections agency**, and a **local parole agency**.

C. State Readiness/State Decision Makers

The Illinois Department of Corrections (IDOC) will be the lead agency for the Illinois Going Home Program, and is responsible for incarceration of both adult and juvenile offenders. The **State Board of Education** funds IDOC's School District #428, which serves incarcerated offenders. The Illinois Prisoner Review Board (Parole Board) will work with IDOC and the Parole Officers who supervise participants. Due to the location of the proposed program in the inner city of Chicago, participation by the **State Police** is not necessary.

The **Office of the Governor** will assist IDOC as the lead agency by leveraging the power of the office as convener. The Governor's policy advisors on criminal justice and public safety, and the Directors of the Illinois Workforce Advantage (IWA) and Futures for Kids have been instrumental in developing this grant and will continue their involvement during implementation. IWA funds North Lawndale's EESN and has leveraged additional program funding.

The **Illinois Department of Human Services (IDHS)** is the state agency responsible for the overall administration and policy development for substance abuse and mental health. The Office of Alcoholism and Substance Abuse (OASA) is responsible for the coordination, funding and licensing of the state's alcohol and substance abuse programs. Likewise, the Office of Mental Health (OMH) is responsible for overseeing and certifying the state mental health facilities and

community-based programs. All of the substance abuse programs used during this program will be licensed and operational for a minimum of two years. Licensed mental health professionals will provide all mental health related services.

The **Illinois Workforce Investment Board (IWIB)** will participate on the RSC, including members of the WIB's Ex-Offender Employability Task Force. These members have assisted in the development and design of the model program. The service delivery system will use the knowledge and experience of the members in addressing offender and employer workforce issues. The Task Force will also closely monitor the program for replication across the state.

The **Illinois Department of Employment Security (IDES)** is dedicating four Employment Security Service Representatives to act as liaisons to Illinois Employment and Training Center (IETC) services. This will include participation in job development and placement teams. Staff members will participate in the reentry teams prior to the inmates release which includes face to face meetings prior to release. The Illinois Department of Employment Securities executive will also be a member of the Steering Committee and the Executive Committee of the Going Home Program.

The **Illinois Criminal Justice Information Authority (CJIA)**, which administers the federal Anti-Drug Abuse Act (ADAA) funds on behalf of the state, will provide \$350,000 in evaluation funding and assist in data collection design and in developing a request for proposals to identify an evaluator. In addition, CJIA hopes to contribute up to \$700,000 to support additional services for reentering juveniles.

Many local **faith and community-based organizations** are program partners. They are described in the previous section (IV.B) and in Attachment A, the Resources List.

Additional information on participating decision-makers is included in Attachments A and B.

V. Project Design and Management

The activities table, which provides a summary of Illinois Going Home Program Activities is included in Attachment B: Cross System Protocols.

A. Authority, Coordination and Project Management

The Illinois Department of Corrections (IDOC) will be the Lead Agency as described in Section IV. IDOC will employ a Project Director to coordinate the project in cooperation with the Reentry Steering Committee (RSC), which will be composed of representatives from participating state agencies and community organizations. RSC membership will be built on the existing Ex-Offender Employability Committee of the Illinois Workforce Investment Board (formerly know as the Governor's Ex-Offender Employability Task Force) which was instrumental in the design and the development of the Illinois Going Home Program. The Chair of the Committee will also be a member of the Steering Committee and a permanent member of the Executive Committee. The Executive Committee will advise the Project Director and staff. The Project Director will report to the RSC Executive Committee at least monthly. RSC members will be selected from the identified agencies below:

Reentry Steering Committee

Illinois Department of Corrections	City Colleges of Chicago
Mayor's Office of Workforce Development	Chicagoland Chamber of Commerce
Illinois Workforce Investment Board	Chicago Civic Committee
Chicago Workforce Investment Board	Chicago Department of Housing
Illinois Department of Human Services	Chicago Housing Authority
Chicago Police Department	Service Providers - Safer and TASC
Chicago Department of Human Services	Chicago Project on Violence Prevention
Chicago Public Schools	Rehabilitated ex-offender
Honorable Danny K. Davis, Congressman	Mayor's Office of Domestic Violence
IDOC District 1 (Parole Agency)	North Lawndale Employment Network
Illinois Department of Public Aid	Westside Minister Coalition
Local Judicial Member	Steans Family Foundation
Cook County States Attorney	Woods Foundation
North Lawndale Business Local Dev. Corp.	Illinois Department of Employment Security

B. Service Delivery System

The Illinois Going Home Program is an integrated, interdisciplinary, multi-system approach that uses sound planning, effective partnerships with the agencies, offender and support resources to build a seamless system of care to ensure an effective reentry. Key to this seamless delivery of services and supervision is the Transition Team. These teams follow the program participant beginning in Phase One through Phase Three, and have access to all pertinent information about the participant, ensuring they can connect each participant with the full range of services identified as needs during each Phase. The success of this project lies in the partners' ability to seamlessly integrate state and local multi-agency expertise.

A host of services are provided while an inmate is in Phase 1. Those inmates who are closer to release are a higher priority to participate in institutional programming. All institutions provide: educational programs including ABE/GED and access to vocational programs; substance abuse programming including screening, assessment, education and treatment, and out patient counseling; the addiction recovery management service addresses these agency program components; anger management which address the both the onset of violence as well as violence

interruption; parenting and child development; the Department of corrections is partnering with community support systems in providing assistance to offenders as they re-enter into the community

In addition, the proposed delivery system for Phases II & III will be built on the North Lawndale Employment Network's Ex-Offender Employment Service Network, an established network that has been serving ex-offenders for over three years. See Figure 2 for a diagram of EESN services.

In partnership with the Ex Offender Employability Committee, the Illinois Department of Employment Security, C.A.R.R.E. and the Safer Foundation have been working on a subcommittee to develop a brochure that is directed at potential employers that will outline the benefits of hiring an ex-offender. The brochure will also offer information that will be of assistance to the ex-offender. It will inform both an employer and ex-offender where to go for federal bonding, and other information regarding tax credits.

C. Transition Team

A key component of the proposed system is the development of interdisciplinary Transition Teams to assist inmates in planning for their transition to the community, to connect ex-offenders with needed services, and to provide support through all three phases of reentry. While an inmate is in Phase 1 of the program his respective Field Service Representative (an employee of a given correctional center/prison), is charged with developing, in conjunction with the inmate his/her reentry plan. This is an existing process within the Illinois Department of Corrections. Each offender participates in the development of his or her re-entry plan with the transition team and the Institutional Field Service Representative. Upon completion, a parole document is generated and the inmate is required to sign it as part of the normal IDOC parole process. While an inmate is in Phase 1 of the program his respective Field Service Representative (an employee of a given correctional center/prison), is charged with developing, in conjunction with the inmate his/her reentry plan. This is an existing process within the Illinois Department of Corrections. Each offender participates in the development of his or her re-entry plan with the transition team and the Institutional Field Service Representative. Upon completion, a parole document is generated and the inmate is required to sign it as part of the normal IDOC parole process. Each Transition Team will include a case manager (TASC employee, preferably with a social work background, and expertise in substance abuse and mental health screening), the parolee's parole officer, and a representative of the North Lawndale Employment Network, which will coordinate all the community- and faith-based services, along with providing referrals to government agencies.

Although the core team will always be in place, other members will vary depending on the specific needs of the inmate/parolee and will also change as the parolee completes his reentry

goals. Other team members may include: a Placement Resource Unit representative from IDOC, a youth case manager, a (IDOC) School District #428 representative, a substance abuse service provider, IDES, City Colleges, a faith-based representative, etc. Transition Team responsibilities are outlined in the beginning of this section.

D. System of Offender Assessment

Phase I – Upon entering IDOC, all inmates are received at an IDOC Reception and Classification Center and undergo a battery of tests. Primary instruments include the Millon Clinical Multiaxial Inventory III (MCMI), the GAMA, the TABE test, a vocation assessment instrument, the MMPI (for adolescents), and substance abuse screening and evaluation. The MMPI is the Minnesota Multiphasic Personality Inventory – Adolescent test. It assesses psychopathology and helps identify personal, social, and behavioral problems and identifies problem areas and appropriates treatment strategies for adolescents between 14 – 18 years. It is primarily administered in settings like hospitals, schools, or correctional facilities. MMPI-A is normed for an adolescent population and scales address problems that are more likely displayed by adolescents including eating disorders, family problems and chemical dependency.

The MCMI is an adult personality test that evaluates emotional, behavioral and interpersonal difficulties including 14 personality disorders and 10 clinical syndromes. It is used to assess Axis I disorders, identifying personality characteristics underlying present symptoms, and guide treatment decisions, and was designed using correction norms to provide information correctional psychologists need to work with offenders. The instrument reviews Reaction to Authority, Potential for Violence, Escape Risk, Impulsivity Proneness, Sexual Predation/Victimization, Disposition to Malingering, Response to Crowding/Isolation, Suicidal Tendencies, and

Amenability to Treatment/Rehabilitation. The MCMI has been validated through the Colorado Department of Corrections over a five-year period using a correctional population, and through test court cases.

The GAMA (General Ability Measure for Adults) is a non-verbal, self-administered intelligence test designed to be linguistically and culturally fair for use with people from diverse cultural, language, and educational backgrounds. It is correlated with other intelligence measures and maintains high validity and reliability.

Phase II – The Transition Team will assess participants in the following four areas: 1) Security and Supervision, 2) Substance Abuse and Mental Health, 3) Living Skills and Support Services, and 4) Pre-Employment and Employment Skills. Assessment results will help the team to work with the offender to develop a new reentry plan. Inmates with skills and work experience will be less likely to recidivate. As is the case with all other aspects of an inmate's history, these factors will be taken into consideration but will not be the determining factor.

1) Security and Supervision –At the time of parole, each offender is reviewed and placed in a parole supervision level that determines his supervision and reporting obligation. IDOC reviews each offender at least every 12 months to determine his security level classification. All offenders are released on Level I or II based on their committing offense. After successful completion of the initial 90 days in Level I or Level II, all inmates will automatically be reduced to level III unless the parole supervisor determines otherwise. Releasee's shall remain in level III until discharge unless increased supervision is warranted. A releasee's level may be increased at any time, in the parole agent's discretion, more supervision is warranted. As offenders move through this program, a level system will be in place to monitor not only their compliance with the

program, but also to assess their continuing risk and security classification. As offenders move through this program, they will start at the highest level of supervision, and, upon successful progression through the program (with no negative adjustments, no increase in security level, no other indications of a need for a re-adjustment to a higher supervision level), the offender will be continually assessed and placed in the most appropriate level of supervision. It is anticipated that if the offender is program responsive and meets all behavioral and legal requirements set forth by this program, he/she will be moved through the most intensive level of supervision to the least intensive level of supervision- which would correspond with the gradual release from parole.

2) Substance Abuse and Mental Health Assessment – The Transition Team will determine the participant’s substance abuse treatment needs upon release, based on prior institutional assessments and substance abuse treatments. The TASC case manager of each Transition Team will employ an enhanced version of the Addiction Severity Index. All inmates will be tested utilizing the ASI. Additional mental health assessment tools may be used to make appropriate referrals to community mental health agencies.

3) Living Skills and Support Services Assessment – The team will assess the offender’s access to and plan for locating safe, affordable housing, access to health care and identification of any specialized health needs (including appropriate linkages to Medicaid services), approach to reunification with family members, including re-establishing relationships with adults and children (including working with the Department of Public Aid to manage child support obligations), and other needs.

4) Pre-Employment and Employment Skills Assessment – The North Lawndale Employment Network will use the Work Readiness Index to assess each participant’s readiness to get and keep a job. This tool assesses knowledge and attitudes about the workplace. It

measures: 1) basic work habits and behaviors, 2) work attitudes and values, 3) interpersonal relationship skills, and 4) personal and environmental coping skills. Based on the results of this assessment and a review of education and work history, the team members will help the participant fashion a concrete set of employment-related goals and objectives to be included in his reentry plan. Additionally, The IDES staff will assist the ex-offenders to match appropriate jobs to their skills, needs and interest. They will help cultivate diverse entry-level job opportunities to match the skills of the clients through IDES' skill match. Furthermore, the Ex-Offender Employability Committee has been working with the Illinois Department of Professional Regulations regarding occupational bans. These occupations are being reviewed to see if waivers can be requested and to further ensure that if they can not be waived that inmates are not steered into those careers. Moreover, the committee has been working with the Illinois Legislature to promote the creation of "Certificates of Rehabilitation" and of "Good Conduct." The legislation lays out guidelines for eligibility and allows that the earning of such certificates will result in the lifting of occupational bans and the banning of discrimination in hiring based on a certificate holder's criminal record. This legislation recently passed out of a Senate Committee unanimously.

E. System for Offender Reentry Plan

An initial reentry plan is completed by the IDOC Reception and Classification Center if the inmate is within two years of release. Otherwise the IDOC institutional Field Services Representative prepares a reentry plan with the inmate at least one year prior to release.

At least six months prior to the offender's release, the Transition Team will begin working with him to prepare a reentry plan to implement upon release. Beginning with needs identified

and goals attained from the initial reentry plan, combined with the results of the more recent comprehensive assessments described above, each plan will establish individualized goals in the areas of security and supervision (including compliance with terms of parole, avoidance of criminal behavior and triggers, and restorative justice planning), substance abuse and mental health counseling (including drug testing, substance abuse treatment, and mental health services), employment needs (including appropriate education, job skills development, employment goals), and living skills and support services (including housing, health care, appropriate after care programs, family support, etc.). Activities identified in the reentry plan will move an offender incrementally toward attainment of goals. The case manager will monitor progress and will ensure that the team is providing or linking the offender to the appropriate resources. Plans will be reviewed and updated during regularly scheduled meetings with the offender.

F. Continuum of Supervision

IDOC Parole Agents will provide security and supervision by ensuring compliance with parole board orders. In addition, the Dixmoor Resource Center offers a unique component to the Illinois Going Home Program during Phase III. For the first time in Illinois, IDOC has the flexibility to temporarily detain a parolee without violating his parole and returning him to prison. This component of the program will allow the IDOC to hold a parolee for three to seven days in a “halfway back” facility for technical violations of parole. During this time, the Transition Team, along with the Placement Resource Unit Liaison and the staff at the Resource Center will reassess the parolee and review his reentry plan. If the seriousness of the parole violation does not warrant return to prison, options for keeping him in the program and returned to the community will be reviewed. The parolee’s conditions of parole may be adjusted, he may need further community

assistance than was identified in his reentry plan, or he may need to be assigned to electronic detention.

Juveniles in technical violation will be sent to the Illinois Youth Center in Chicago where they will receive more intensive reentry planning and case management prior to being “re-released.”

G. Continuity of Services

The overall program design is summarized in the Activities Table in Attachment B. Two key components of the proposed program design ensure continuity of services: 1) individualized case management for each participant through all three program phases and 2) participation of the North Lawndale Employment Network (NLEN), an existing network of community- and faith-based providers of services to ex-offenders.

Case managers, as part of the Transition Team, will have access to all relevant information about the participant’s assessment results, activities while incarcerated, and release mandates. The case managers will also provide additional evaluations, assist in devising reentry plans, and help the program participant access needed services and comply with his terms of release. Case managers will also keep the entire Transition Team briefed about the progress of program participants and will meet with team members when changes to a participant’s reentry plan are needed. Similarly, all Transition Team members will keep the case managers apprised of any offender issues or changes in status.

Existing funded providers will provide most of the program services. These will be coordinated through NLEN’s EESN, an existing program that serves ex-offenders in the North Lawndale community. The EESN assists ex-offenders in their efforts to transition back into their families and communities and to obtain long-term gainful employment by providing extensive

needs assessments, a referral network, pre-employment training that emphasizes “cognitive restructuring,” peer group and mentoring support, and placement and follow-up services.

The Illinois Going Home Program is designed around a comprehensive approach to address the inmates needs. The model that has been identified in the application has components that address community services and mentoring. The budget also includes a stipend for approximately 47 inmates who will be graduates of the program and will be mentors to the participating inmates. This not only helps the program participants as they move through the program. All of the key stake holders in the Illinois Going Home Program encourage participation in peer support groups – such as the Winners Circle facilitated by TASC and the aforementioned program component of the North Lawndale Model, Ex-Offender Employment Services Network (EESN), that encourages graduates to return and to be paid to mentor new participants. Cognitive restructuring is Phase 2 of the EESN model which was designed specifically to help ex-offenders adjust their attitudes and habits to enable them to reenter their community. Anger Management and Right Thinking are two modules that all inmates will receive and other modules include “Workin’ It Out” and “Gear Up!”. Faith-based community groups provide continual assistance to participants. The Union Baptist Church is part of the North Lawndale Network and the Westside Ministers Coalition will be represented on the Re-entry Steering Committee. The Chicago Project for Violence Prevention is also composed of primarily of faith based organizations representing all denominations. A faith- based representative will be part each transition team.

Furthermore, ex-offenders moving through NLEN’s EESN model will begin the process of community service & restitution. As an offender begins to get back on their feet (financially, physically, emotionally, and psychologically) plans for making restitution and providing

community service will begin. An offender will need to be actively employed and stable in the program prior to this occurring. An evaluation and review of the offender's progress in the program will monitor and help identify once an offender is ready to make the move to paying restitution and/or providing community service. TASC also has community restitution as part of their program components.

Although EESN's ultimate goal is to help ex-offenders become employed, the program recognizes that needs for housing, food, clothing, and access to substance abuse treatment, family reintegration services, and counseling often overwhelm their ability to follow through on commitments essential to stabilizing their situations. To better connect ex-offenders to community resources and prepare them for the transitions they will have to make, program participants will have access to the following services. Project partners who will provide these services also follow. Providers are described in detail in section IV of this proposal and in Attachment A, the Resources List.

Task/Service	Provider(s)	Grant Funds
Phase I		
Offender assessments	IDOC Reception and Classification Centers IDOC Field Services Representatives	
Design Reentry Plan	IDOC Reception and Classification Centers, IDOC Field Services Representatives, DCFS (for wards of the state)	
Education and Counseling Services	IDOC, School District # 428	
Phase II		
Pre-Release Contact	Transition Team – IDOC, TASC, NLEN	√
Continued Supervision Upon Release	IDOC Parole Officers	
Case Management	TASC (including specialized juvenile case managers)	√
Assessments	TASC, NLEN	
Redesign Reentry Plan	TASC, NLEN	
Transitional Housing	Good Samaritan Hope House, Chicago Christian Industrial League (CCIL), St. Leonard's House	√
Emergency Food	United Baptist Church (State Food Depository)	√
Clothing and Furniture	The Sharing Connection	√
Mental Health and Domestic Violence Counseling	Institute for Clinical Social Work	√
Substance Abuse Services	Gateway, CCIL Cathedral Shelter, McDarmott Center, etc.	√
Health Screenings and Care	Department of Public Health, Mount Sinai Hospital, Black AIDS Network Association (North Lawndale-based)	
Basic Skills and GED	Malcolm X Westside Learning Center, Westside Technical Institute	
Address Learning Disabilities	IAM Cares	
Non-Custodial Parenting Classes/ Family Reunification	IDPA, IDHS, STRIVE Chicago	
Job preparation (pre-employment skills, attitudes, work ethic)	NLEN 4 modules, Deere (Re)habilitative Services, Family Focus	√
ID card assistance	F.A.I.T.H.	
Landscaping and construction job training	Chicago Christian Industrial League	√
Janitorial job training	Lawndale Christian Development Corporation	
Warehousing job training	Midway Moving and Storage	
Hospitality job training	Aramark	
Job search assistance	Neighborhood Technology Resource Center, Family Focus, Sinai Community Center	

Task/Service	Provider(s)	Grant Funds
Job placements	Safer, IETCs, NLEN, Greater Westtown, West Side Health Authority	√
Individual Development Accounts	NLEN and Sterns Foundation and the IDA save-up collaborative	√
Assist employers who are willing to hire (bonding, tax incentives)	IDES, NLEN, North Lawndale Business Local Development Corporation	
Provide transportation assistance	NLEN	√
Mentoring	United Baptist Church, Lawndale Community Church, Outreach Ministry	
Spiritual Guidance	United Baptist Church	
Phase III		
Community/Victim Restitution	BARJ (youth)	√
Ex-Offender Support networks	TASC, NLEN, Fillmore Christian Church, Chase House	√
Aftercare programs (including 12 step and peer mentoring)	Institute for Clinical Social Work, Winners Circle (TASC), NLEN	
Family Reunification Plans	NLEN, TASC, Institute for Clinical Social Work	
Faith-Based Connections	United Baptist Church, Westside Ministers Coalition (100 plus churches)	
Violence Prevention Program	Cease-Fire Chicago	√
Data Tracking	NLEN, IDOC, IDHS	
Program Evaluation	CJIA, Community Development Associates, possible federal site	
Build Capacity of System	RSC	
Develop Program System in Other Communities	Chicago Project for Violence Prevention, Community Transition Coordinators, Existing local service providers, NLEN	

The juveniles served by this grant will benefit from the expertise of TASC's specially trained juvenile case managers and will have access to up to 120 days of transitional housing. Juveniles participating in the program will also be linked to the Chicago Public Schools prior to release.

H. Definite Terms and Conditions

Upon release the inmate will have a clearly defined reentry plan, reviewed by the releasing institutional Field Services Representative and the inmate's Transition Team. The reentry authority for Illinois is the Prisoner Review Board. The Prisoner Review Board sets the conditions of Parole for all inmates. The conditions of parole are called Board Orders. The offender's reentry plan will include a comprehensive plan that outlines the continuing service needs the offender will experience as they leave the facility and move out into the community. The reentry plan will include specific referrals for continuing substance abuse services, any mental health, vocational training, educational, and community support needs. The reentry plan will also identify the agencies responsible for providing aforementioned services, the parole agent and case manager assigned to the case, and the initial supervision level of the participating offender.

Regularly scheduled case management meetings will be held with all Transition Team members and the parolee. The frequency of the contact will be determined by level of risk assigned to the inmate upon release as will the type and frequency of services required by the inmate. The Parole Officer has the ability, in conjunction with the Dixmoor Resource Center, to add additional conditions to the parolee's Board Orders and release the parolee back to the community or return him to prison. incentives including the access to expanded services, decreases in supervision level, and other tangible incentives will be utilized to maintain and reinforce positive behaviors and programming participation. Participants will also receive increased support services over that of non-participating parolees. All of the assessments, reassessments, and decisions at the Resource Center will be in conjunction with the parolee's Transition Team.

I. Plans for Program Sustainability

The proposed program is sustainable beyond the grant period primarily because it builds a partnership among organizations that already serve ex-offenders and are funded through other sources. Grant funds will be used to coordinate existing services and fill funding gaps to provide a seamless delivery system. The Illinois Going Home Program will assist additional communities, specifically West Garfield, Austin and West Humboldt Park, in organizing a similar reentry system using their existing local resources.

The extensive partnerships developed to implement this program and the involvement of the Governor's Illinois Workforce Advantage is unprecedented in the State of Illinois. As at the federal level, multiple state agencies, local government, and community-based organizations have united to achieve a common goal. The RSC, comprised of key government and community leaders, are committed to replicating the proposed program beyond the North Lawndale target area and to sustain it beyond the three years of grant funding.

Community Transition Coordinators will begin coordinating services in other communities and NLEN and other partners will provide training and assist in organizing these communities. The RSC will pursue additional funding opportunities through federal, state, and private funding sources to fund program components, assist in expanding the program into other communities, and sustain the program system beyond the grant period. In addition, the RSC will apply lessons learned and adjust system accordingly and to inform public policy.

J. Staff Resources

Funding is requested to fund the following new program positions: a Project Director, Administrative Assistant, NLEN Reentry Coordinator, four Case Managers, a Youth Recidivism and Prevention Coordinator, a Violence Prevention Coordinator, and two Community Transition Coordinators. In addition, staff will include four Parole Agents (existing positions funded by IDOC) and four employment security specialists funded by IDES. Staff will be phased in as required by the number of program participants.

K. Information Sharing / Data Collection

Two Information Management Systems will track data related to program implementation. The IDOC Offender Tracking System tracks inmates' institutional activities, including in and out dates, work assignments, and educational programming. NLEN uses *Client Track* software to track participant demographic data, assessment information, enrolled activities, family contacts, and case notes.

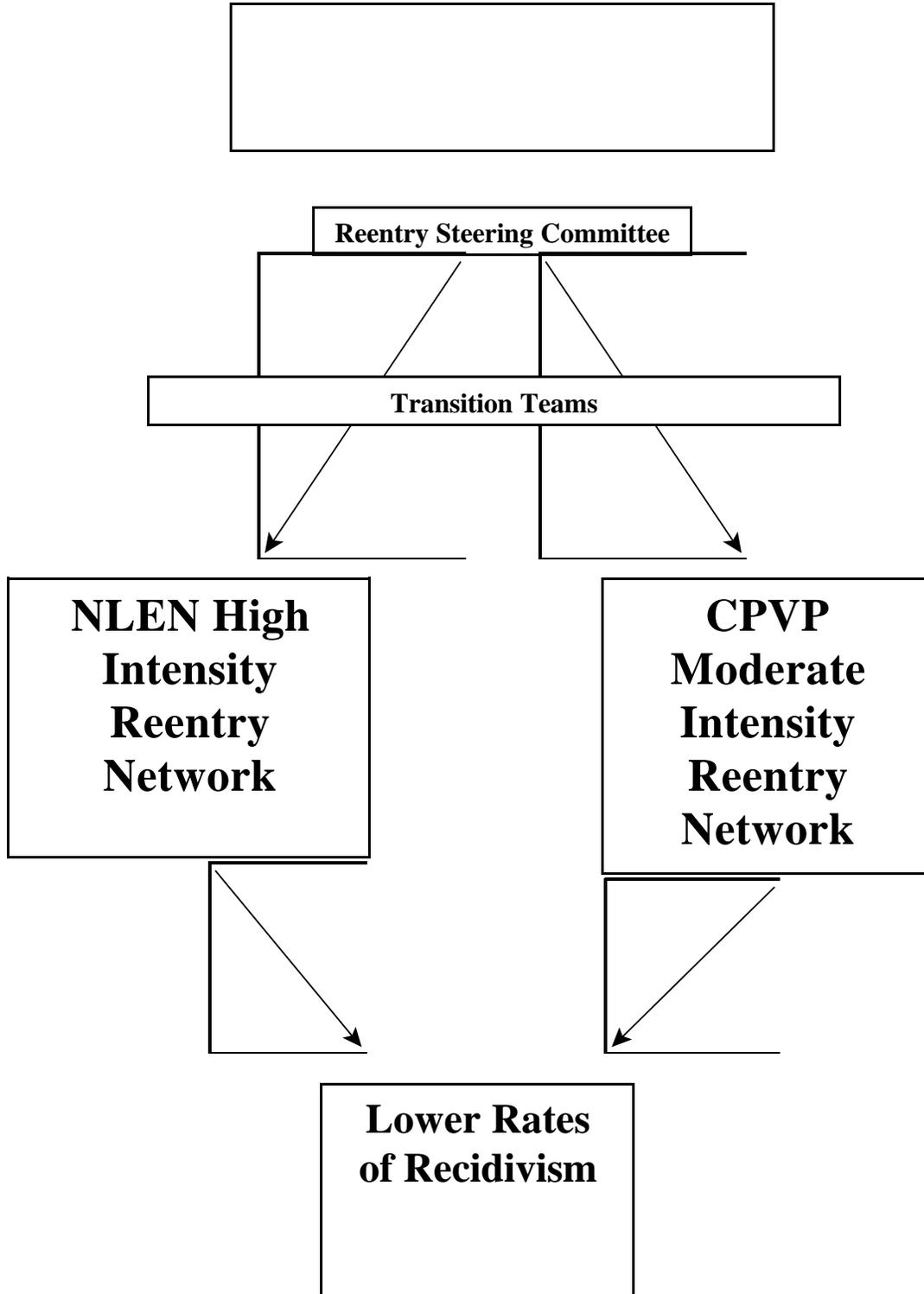
The Criminal Justice Information Authority (CJIA) has committed \$350,000 in federal Anti-Drug Abuse Act funding for an evaluation of the Illinois Going Home Program. CJIA will assist the Program in information system design to appropriately track participants to allow for an evaluation of the Program, and will be responsible for preparing a request for proposals to identify an evaluator.

In addition, the University of Illinois at Chicago Great Cities Institute (GCI), in partnership with Community Development Associates (CDA) has been contracted through a separate funding source to design an evaluation methodology for NLEN's Ex-Offender programming. This evaluation will be used to guide the development of supportive public

policies. The goal is to use the North Lawndale experience to explore key issues of policy and practice in ex-offender employment.

The proposed Illinois Going Home Program will participate in the national evaluation processes if chosen as an evaluation site.

Illinois Going Home Program



Eligibility Requirements:

Ex-offender
Proper Identification (ID, SS, Birth Certificate)
Agree to participate in 100% of all aspects of the modules
Participate in orientation and intake procedures
Attend all meetings, sessions and arrive on time (no more than two absences are allowed).
Submit to random drug drops.

**Figure 1
Ex-Offender Employment Service Network**

Orientation
10:00 – 11:30 a.m. (90 minutes)
Overview of the network of services
Program expectations
Client testimony
Eligibility requirements
Available resources: condoms, etc.

Enrollment & Support Services: Assessments and Referrals
11:30 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. (90 minutes)
Involves: one-on-one substance abuse, mental health and medical assessments (Institute for Clinical Social Work)
Assessments of needs and emergency referrals for housing, food, clothing, substance abuse treatment and identification
Completion of intake and enrollment forms to establish case files

**Module 1
Anger Management and Behavior Modification - Family and one-on-one counseling (15 hours):**
facilitated by the Institute for Clinical Social Work

**Module 2
Right Thinking (20 hours)**
– cognitive-based transitional life skills training: facilitated by Deer (Re)habilitation, Inc.

**Module 3
Workin' It Out (WiO) (20 hours)** – cognitive-based job readiness training: facilitated by certified WiO trainer

**Module 4
Gear Up Workshop (15 hours)** – asset-based interviewing skills and individual career development plans training: Facilitated by Family Focus Lawndale (Includes 10 copies of a professional resume, Work Readiness Index assessment, career assessment, Personal Strategy Plan, TABE test)

Placement Partners
The Safer Foundation
Westside Health Authority
Westside IL Employment & Training Center – Grand Avenue
North Lawndale Employment Network

Independent Job Search
(Resource Room located at Sinai Community Institute)
Internet access
Newspapers
Job coaching
Access to phones, phone books and faxes

Retention & Support Services
Save Up! IDA Program (after 30 days) – 2:1 match
Peer support groups – Winner's Circle – facilitated by TASC
Transportation – 30-day bus passes provided for up to 90 days of non-consecutive employment

Recruitment Sources
Community organizations
Churches
Department of Corrections
Department of Probation and Parole
TASC
Friends and Family
Community newspaper advertisements

Referral Partners
Chicago Christian Industrial League
Good Samaritan Hope House
Haymarket Gateway
IAM Cares
Malcolm X College
Westside Technical Institute
Department of Human Services
Neighborhood Technology Resource Center
Sinai Community Institute
The Sharing Connection
FAITH, Inc.
TASC
Institute for Clinical Social Work
United Baptist Church
Gadshill Childcare Center
Carole Robertson Center for Learning
Family Focus Lawndale

**Program Coordination:
EESN Community Advisory Committee**

Meetings are held every third Wednesday of the month from Noon to 2:00 p.m. This committee provides direction and guidance, sets policies and makes programmatic recommendations. The committee acts as a governing body for the EESN. Some of the committee members include the Alderman's office, TASC, and other community members.

**Program Coordination:
Communication and Records Management Team**

Meetings are held every second Friday of the month to ensure quality performance delivery, review client files, review programmatic issues, and collect all appropriate documentation and update client files
The team consists of all direct service providers, contractors and other key individuals.