

# Redeploy Illinois: Maximizing A Good Investment

## **Background**

The General Assembly created Redeploy Illinois to give financial support to counties providing comprehensive services to delinquent youth in their home counties. The four current Redeploy Illinois pilot sites have proven the program can reduce prison costs and prevent young offenders from falling into futures dominated by criminal behavior and long, costly prison terms.

## **Current Sites and Success Stories**

**Since starting in mid-2004, preliminary projections suggest the four pilot sites will reduce commitments to the state by about 33 percent in the first year, resulting in a potential cost savings of \$6 million on youth incarceration over three years, with a net savings of approximately \$3 million to the state. The four sites are the 2nd Judicial District (includes 12 counties in Southeastern Illinois), Macon County, Peoria County, and St. Clair County.**

- The per capita cost to incarcerate one juvenile in the Department of Corrections is \$70,827. While the four pilot sites are providing different types of services to meet their population needs, the range of costs to serve youth in the Redeploy pilot sites is approximately \$4,000 - \$6,000 per youth annually for services.
- “It is clear that this program has the potential to save the State of Illinois significant dollars that would otherwise be spent on incarcerating non-violent juvenile offenders. If the lower recidivism rates typically associated with community-based treatment are realized, the Redeploy Illinois program will have saved the State money, reduced the number of crime victims, and created safer communities.” (Source: January DHS report to the General Assembly)
- Redeploy Illinois is one of five models for other states looking for ways to reduce inefficient and ineffective juvenile justice systems, according to a recent study conducted by the national Juvenile Policy Institute.

## **Support Senate Bill 1145**

**SB 1145 gives flexibility to the Redeploy Illinois Oversight Board in determining the required reduction in commitments of non-violent offenders to the Department of Juvenile Justice.** Current statute requires each pilot site to reduce its juvenile commitments of non-violent offenders to the Department of Juvenile Justice by 25 percent in one year. Although the four existing pilot sites will achieve that goal, another 25 percent reduction for the second and succeeding years is an unreasonable requirement, and the Oversight Board should be able to take that into consideration. This change also allows those counties who have been successful in reducing juvenile commitments by at least 25 percent through other measures to apply as a Redeploy pilot site.

## **Possibilities to Expand the Success of Redeploy Illinois**

**Redeploy Illinois received \$1.5 million in the FY 2006 DHS appropriation. The Governor’s FY 2007 budget requests the same amount and would not permit expansion of Redeploy Illinois to other areas of the state.**

**If the FY 2007 Redeploy Illinois appropriation could be increased to a total of \$3 million in FY 2007, the program could be expanded to four additional pilot sites elsewhere in Illinois.**

## **Coalition Supporting the Maximization of Redeploy Illinois Include:**

- Juvenile Justice Initiative
- Chicago Metropolis 2020
- Child Care Association of Illinois
- Fight Crime: Invest in Kids Illinois
- John Howard Association
- Illinois Collaboration on Youth
- Illinois PTA

For additional information on Redeploy Illinois, please contact:  
Mary Reynolds, Juvenile Justice Initiative (217.522.7970) or  
Angela Rudolph, Chicago Metropolis 2020 (312.332.6293)