Georgia Department of Corrections’ HIV Pre-Release Planning Program

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GEORGIA “at a glance”

- 8th most populated state
- 5th largest prison population. (2007)
- Over 19,000 inmates released each year.
- 1 in 15 Georgia adults is under correctional supervision.* (#1)

*(2009)
“Let’s Look at the Numbers…”

- **Racial Disparities in Prison**
  - Black Incarcerated: 33,283
  - Hispanic Incarcerated: 2,319
  - White Incarcerated: 17,993
  - Others (Asian, Native Am. Etc.): 202

- *TOTAL as of April 2012*: 53,807
HIV/AIDS in Prison System

- HIV Testing in Prisons
  - Intake (Mandatory)
  - Exist (Mandatory)
  - When Deemed Medically Necessary
  - Upon Request and Disclosure of Risk Factor

- All HAART Meds are on Formulary

- Parole mandates disclosure to HoH
Let’s Look at the Numbers …HIV/AIDS Among GDC Inmates in 2012 by GENDER

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Gender</th>
<th>HIV In Prison</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Male</td>
<td>843</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Female</td>
<td>92</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Transgender</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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TOTAL # HIV in Prison = 935
HIV Racial Disparities in Prison

- Known as of April 2013
  - Black HIV+ 722
  - Hispanic HIV+ 21
  - White HIV+ 156
  - Other HIV+ (Asian, NA, etc.) 0
  - TOTAL HIV 899

- UNKNOWN STATUS - NONE
HIV/AIDS and GDC cont.

- Approx. 80% of HIV+ Inmates are on HAART (Highly Active Antiretroviral Therapy)
  - Current as of August 2012 = 745

- GDC does not segregate by disease in prisons system

- Medication regime under medical supervision of prison medical director and/or Dr. Ganapathy (UHS/MCG)
HIV-Positive Inmates Released from GDC

- Approximately 19,500* inmates released from prison every year

- Approximately 300* are HIV+
  Estimated that 50% will return to the metro-Atlanta area

- The other 50% will go to other large cities like Macon and Augusta and also to more rural areas

- INMATES ARE BEING RELEASED TO AREAS ALL OVER GEORGIA AND TO OTHER STATES.

*as of 04-2009
Figure 25. Number of Prisoner Releases by Georgia County, 2002

Sources: Offender Tracking Information System (OTIS), Georgia Department of Corrections, provided by Office of Planning and Analysis, GDC. Address level data provided by the Georgia Board of Pardons and Paroles

Note: Total releases to GA = 15,227; 434 (or 2.9%) are not shown on the map because of incomplete addresses.
Pre-Release Planning Program for HIV+ Inmates

- Coordinator currently works with inmates in the following institutions.
  - Baldwin SP
  - Dooly SP
  - Central SP
  - Hancock SP
  - Washington SP
  - Pulaski SP (W)
  - Burris CTC
  - Hays SP
  - Johnson SP
  - Dodge SP
  - Arrendale SP (W)
  - GDCP
  - Walker SP
  - Wilcox SP
  - Phillips SP

- These are fifteen institutions out of 40 (+3) run by the Dept. of Corrections in Georgia.
Expansion of PRPP via CAPUS

- Assistant Pre-Release Coordinator
  - Michelle Downey

- Goal of becoming active in statewide FACILITIES

- Training and workshops to medical and counseling staff in all institutional settings (Facilities, Detention Centers, TC, etc.)

- More community (state, CBO, ASO) connections and support and partnerships
Facility Expansion of PRPP

- Institutions to be ADDED to Program
  - GSP
  - Coastal SP
  - Calhoun SP
  - Rogers SP
  - Smith SP
  - Telfair SP
  - ASMP (medical facility)
  - Valdosta SP
Mandatory (or should be) Discharge Needs for HIV Offenders

- HIV Community Discharge Form
  - Medical REFERRAL to local RW Provider
- Western Blot
- Most recent labs
  - Any indicating CD4 below 400
- Current medication list
- Immunization Record
- AT LEAST a two week supply of HIV meds
PRPP Linkage Goals

- Medical APPOINTMENT with a funded clinic
- Copy of medical records to clinic and client
- Case Management linkage appointment with CBO/ASO or RW CM
- Food Stamp assistance
- Housing Assistance
- Clothing Assistance
- Social Security linkage and pre-release linkage
- ADAP and PAP Assistance pre/post release
- Mental Health Linkage
- Extensive Health Education and Risk Reduction
- ANYTHING ELSE NEEDED!
BARRIERS AND ISSUES
Offender Releases

- **HOUSING**
  - Crime
    - Sex Offender Laws/Arson
  - Legal Regulations (Section 8 Housing)
  - Deposits

- **Medical Requirements**
  - Medication – HIV and other (Diabetes, HTN, Hepatitis, etc.)

- **Familial and Relationship Support**
  - Lost Support
  - Family History of “the prison norm”

- **Income Disparities**
  - SSI/SSDI Delays
  - Employability

- **Educational Disparities**
BARRIERS and ISSUES
Offender Release cont.

- Parole and Probation Restrictions
  - Electronic Monitoring
  - Direct from Prison
  - Tentative release date - “holding a bed”
  - Detainers

- Substance Abuse History
- Mental Health Issues
- Transportation
- Food and Clothing Needs
- Time and Technology Vacuum
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