

# Returning Home Ohio

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The Source for  
Housing Solutions



# History of RHO-Identifying Need

- **2002--Halfway House study**
- **2004--implementation of transitional housing for low risk/low need offenders**
- **Still a small, but obvious gap**
- **2006--began putting wheels in motion to add permanent supportive housing to the mix**

# History of RHO--Launching

- **ODRC Director very supportive, but had conditions**
  - PSH project must be studied from the onset
    - To determine impact on recidivism
    - To determine cost effectiveness
  - Must be approached from the beginning as a joint effort
    - Other state agencies
    - Communities

# History of RHO—Reality Sets In

- **We know the appropriate offenders are out there, but where are they?**
  - Identifying the target population
  - Communicating with the target population
  - Developing a (working) referral process
  - Engaging prison staff

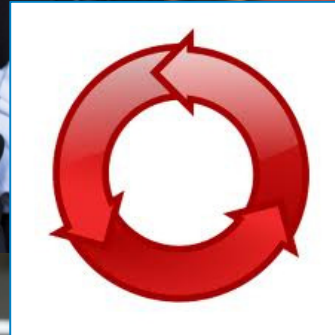
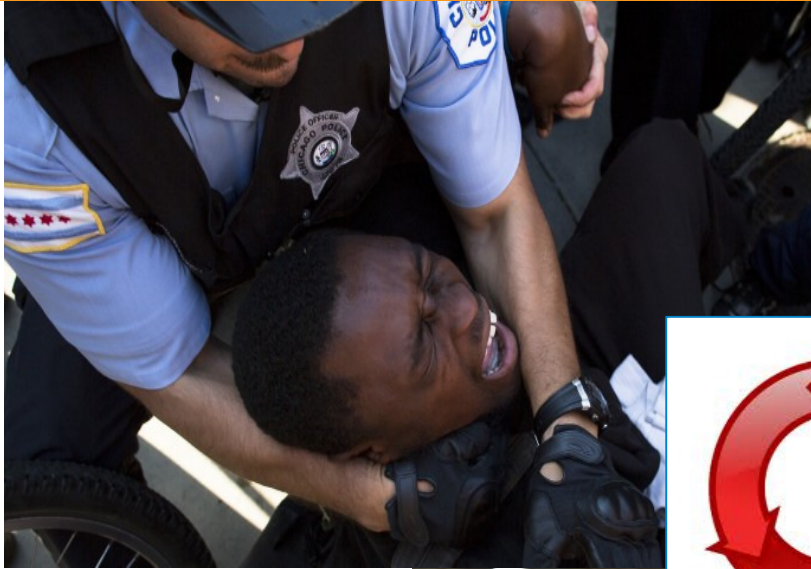
# History of RHO—Working out the Kinks

- **Communicating with the target population—again**
- **Working with providers**
  - Doing in-reach into prison
  - Facilitating getting from prison to PSH
  - Working with just-released offenders
  - Adding Evidence-Based Practices
- **Collecting a control group for the study**
- **Quarterly meetings to enhance information flow and keep everyone engaged**

# Returning Home Ohio - Roles



# Goal – Reduce Revolving Door



# PSH helps

- Chronically homeless
- Frequent users/multiple barriers - cycle through institutional and emergency systems and are at risk of long-term homelessness.
- Those being discharged from institutions and systems of care
- Without housing, cannot access and make effective use of treatment and supportive services.

## Returning Home Ohio target population

- Severe and persistent mental illness
  - Co-occurring disorders
- HIV
- 120 days post release



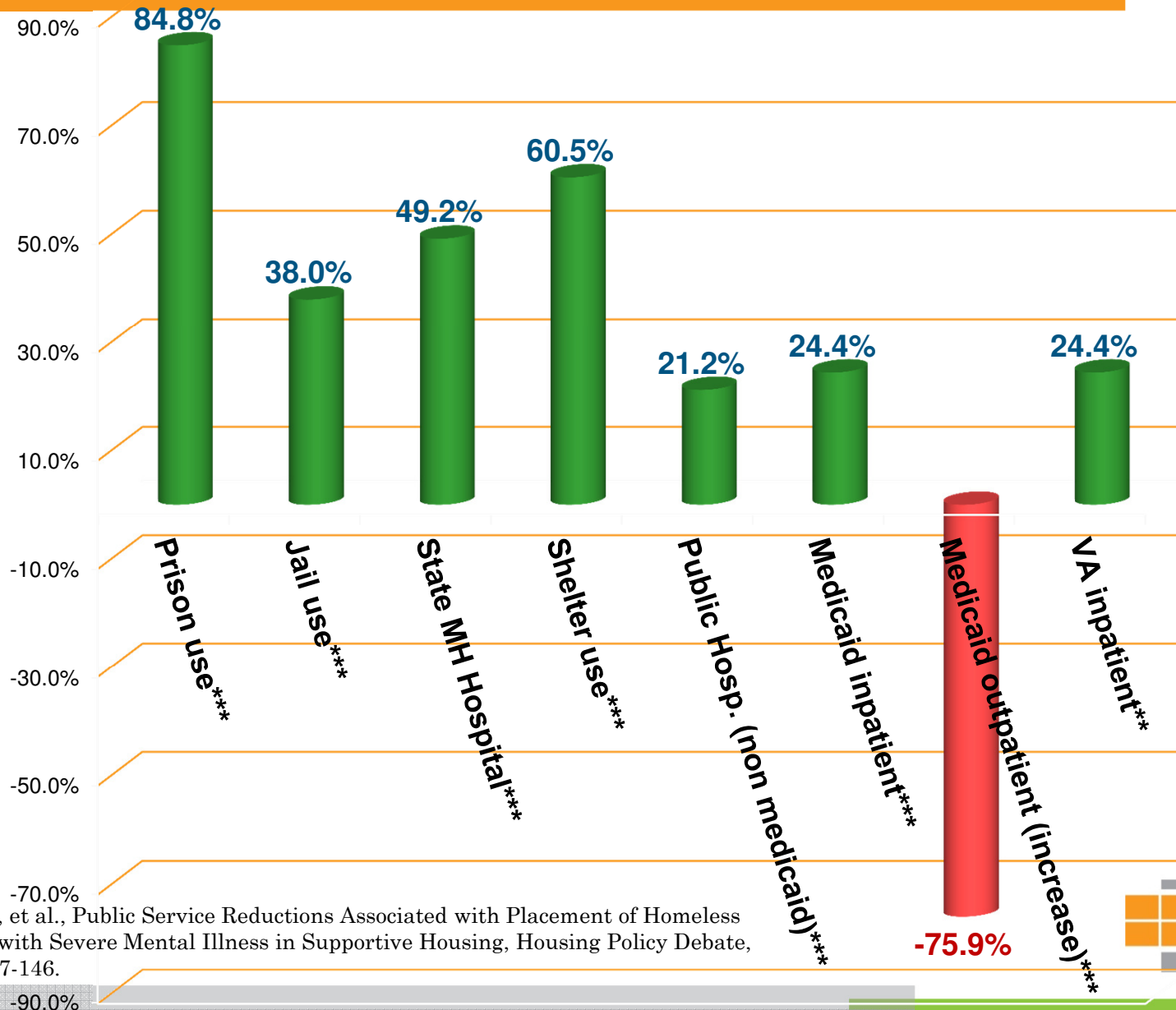


# RHO Providers

- **Columbus**
  - Amethyst, Inc.
  - YMCA of Central Ohio
  - Faith Mission
- **Cleveland**
  - EDEN, Inc./Frontline Services
- **Cincinnati**
  - Talbert House
  - Volunteers of America Greater Ohio
- **Akron**
  - Community Support Services
- **Dayton**
  - Miami Valley Housing Opportunities/Places, Inc.



# Reductions in incarceration, shelter, & service days



Culhane, et al., Public Service Reductions Associated with Placement of Homeless Persons with Severe Mental Illness in Supportive Housing, Housing Policy Debate, 13(1): 107-146.

# Sample Characteristics

	Treatment N=121	Comparison N=118
Male (percent)	76.9	78.8
Age at Release (years)	41.6	42.4
Percent White***	40.5	60.2
Time Served in Prison (in days)	907.4	1289.7
Number of Previous Incarcerations	1.8	1.6
Homeless at Arrest (percent)	23.1	14.9
Primary or Secondary Disability Is Mental Health Illness (percent)	62.8	65.4
Primary or Secondary Disability Is Alcohol/Drug Abuse (percent)***	31.4	20.6
Security Level^**	2.61	2.43
Risk Level at Release#	1.18	1.18
Any Postrelease Supervision (percent)	50.4	53.0

Source: Urban Institute analysis of data from ODRC.

^ Security level ranges from 1 to 5, where 1 is the lowest security level and level 5 is the highest. # Risk level ranges from negative 1 (basic risk) to 8 (intensive risk), which is ODRC's classification of an inmates risk of reincarceration

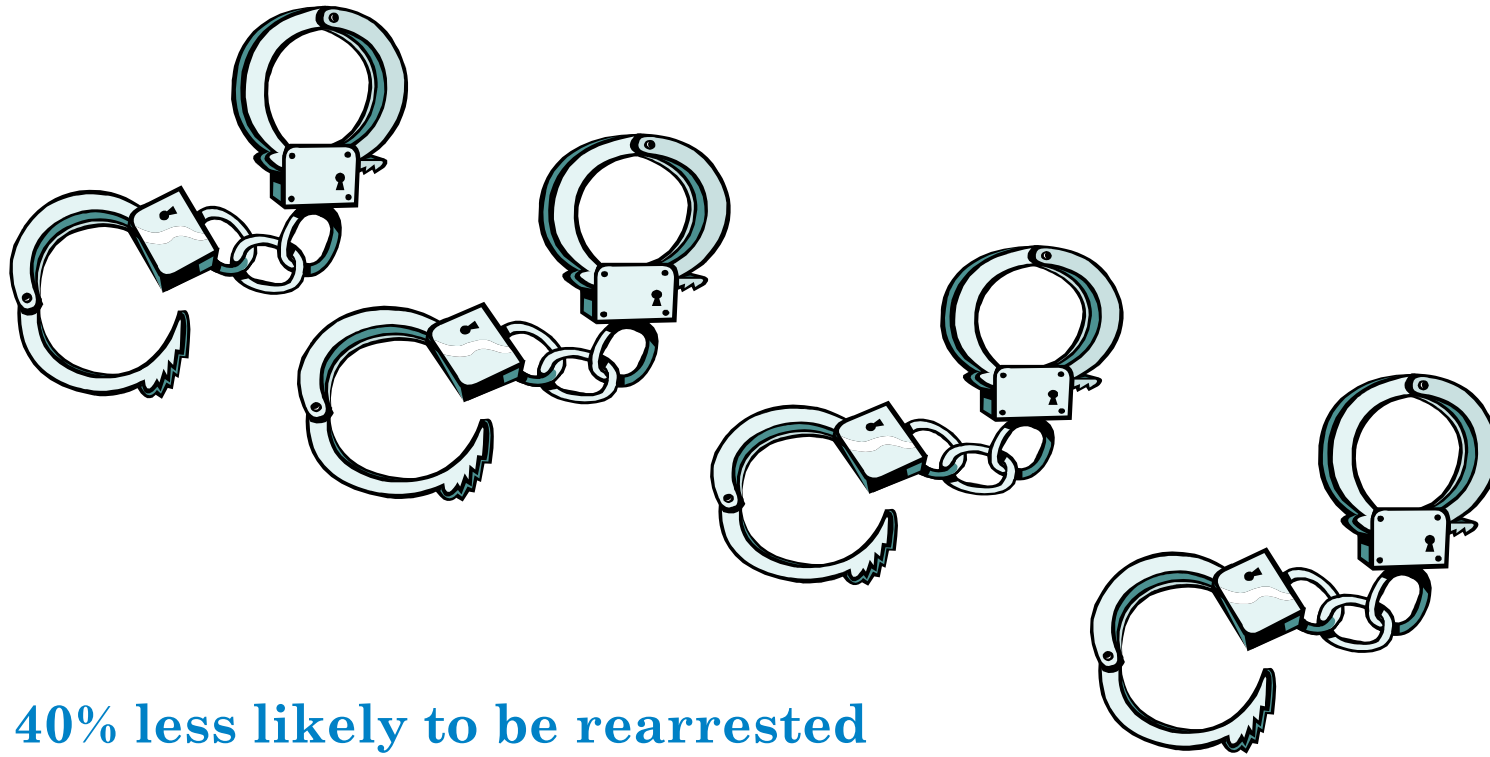
Note: Independent sample t-test tests whether the difference in the means of the treatment group and the comparison group is significantly different from zero. Significance testing: \*p<0.10; \*\*p<0.05; \*\*\*p < 0.01

# Returning Home Ohio Research Results in English



**60% less likely to recidivate back to prison**

# Returning Home Ohio Research Results in English



**40% less likely to be rearrested**  
**2 & 1/2 times less likely to be rearrested for**  
**a misdemeanor**

# What do the findings show about length of time to rearrest?



**Length of time to rearrest is significantly longer for those in RHO**

# Returning Home Ohio Research Results

Rx

**290%**  
more likely to  
receive  
outpatient  
services

**41%**  
more likely  
to receive at  
least one  
service



# Returning Home Ohio Research Results





# Returning Home Ohio Research Results



# Current Outcomes

- **Housing Stability**
- **Successful Housing**
- **Voluntary Services Utilization**
- **Increase in Public Benefits**
- **Income**
- **Employment**
- **Meaningful Activities**

# Next Steps for DRC/CSH

- **Expand research by 2015**
- **Expand project to serve prison or jail diversion**
- **Expand to rural areas of the state**