Meeting Objectives

- Share information about Cook County’s criminal justice reform efforts and its involvement in the SJC
- Provide an opportunity to gather feedback on priority strategies
- Explore other areas for reform related to the SJC goals
System Partners

- Cook County Circuit Court
- Justice Advisory Council
- Cook County Sheriff’s Office
- Cook County State’s Attorney
- Cook County Public Defender
- Chicago Police Department
- Clerk of the Cook County Circuit Court
- Cook County Health and Hospitals System
System Reform: Seven Core Decision Points

1. Arrest
2. Charge
3. Assignment of counsel
4. Pretrial release
5. Case processing
6. Disposition/sentencing
7. Post-conviction/supervision
Identifying the Problems
Cook County Data

- Average length of Stay: ~68 days
- Jail population: 8,201
- Racial Disparities: 73% Black, 11% White, 16% Hispanic
Safety and Justice Challenge
An initiative to reduce over-incarceration by changing the way America thinks about and uses jails
Why the Safety and Justice Challenge?

ADMISSIONS

There are nearly 12 million jail admissions annually—equivalent to the populations of New York City and Los Angeles combined, and almost 19 times the annual admissions to state and federal prisons.

Local jails
11,700,000

State & federal prisons
631,000
Why?

CONVICTIONS

Nationally, three out of five people in jail are legally presumed innocent, awaiting trial or resolution through plea negotiations. In Cook County about 90 percent of jail inmates are awaiting trial.
Nationally, African Americans are jailed at almost 4x the rate of white Americans. In Cook County, 3 out of 4 jail detainees are African Americans.
Timeline of Safety and Justice Challenge

- Data collection
- Planning
- Proposal Development

Phase 2: May 2016...
- Core and partner site awards
- Implementation begins
- Partner sites refine proposals (June 2017)
Building Solutions & Outcomes
Cook County SJC Strategies

- Court Reminder System
- Comprehensive Bond Review
- Emerging Adult Data Collection/Analysis
- Point of Arrest Diversion
- Enhanced Pretrial/Probation
- Improving Behavioral Health Services/Linkages for Justice Involved Persons
- Implicit Bias Training
- Community Engagement
Automated Court Reminder

- **Summary**: Cook County and the Circuit Court will implement an Automated Court Reminder System to notify defendants of date, time, and location of court appearances.
- **Expected outcome**: Projected 40% reduction in failures to appear due to court reminder
Comprehensive Bond Review

- **Summary:** The Comprehensive Bond Review (CBR) Pilot is made up of two separate strategies:
  - 1) a First Look review of misdemeanors cases for which I Bonds may be agreed upon; and
  - 2) a Second Look review which includes scheduled bond review hearings for individuals detained on low D-bonds.

- **Expected outcome:** Estimated jail population reductions of 1.9% for First Look and 2.8% for Second Look
Point of Arrest Diversion

- **Summary:** explore the feasibility of pre-booking diversion for low level offenses and/or persons with behavioral health needs.
- **Expected outcome:** TBD
Improving Behavioral Health Services/Linkages

- **Summary:** The strategy has two primary goals: 1) work with Cook County Health and Hospitals System (CCHHS) to train frontline criminal justice staff to improve services for justice involved persons; and 2) develop linkages between CCHHS care coordinators and justice involved persons.

- **Expected outcome:** Increased health care coverage of justice involved populations.
Breakout Session
Discussion Questions

▪ What is your main take away from what you’ve heard today?
▪ How would you improve these strategies/what’s missing?
▪ What else do you want to know?
Wrap up and Next Steps

▪ Evaluation
▪ Summary Report
▪ Additional community conversations
▪ For more information:
  ▪ Website: http://www.cookcountycourt.org/HOME/SJC.aspx
  ▪ Email: sj.challenge@cookcountyil.gov

THANK YOU!!!