



GRO Community

Mission

Molding boys and healing broken men.

Vision

Boys become self-sufficient men, and broken men become change agents within their communities.

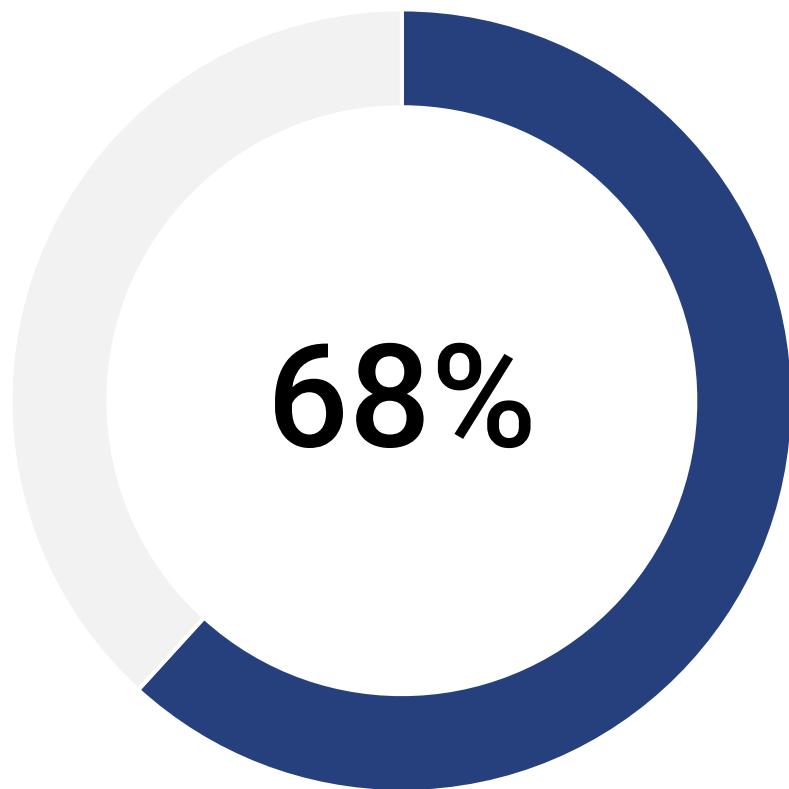
Priorities

- ✓ Decreasing gun violence within communities of color.
- ✓ Provide high-quality mental health services.
- ✓ Equipping boys and men in high-risk communities with wrap-around services.
- ✓ Creating change with a self-sufficient model and restoring men of color in the family, community and society

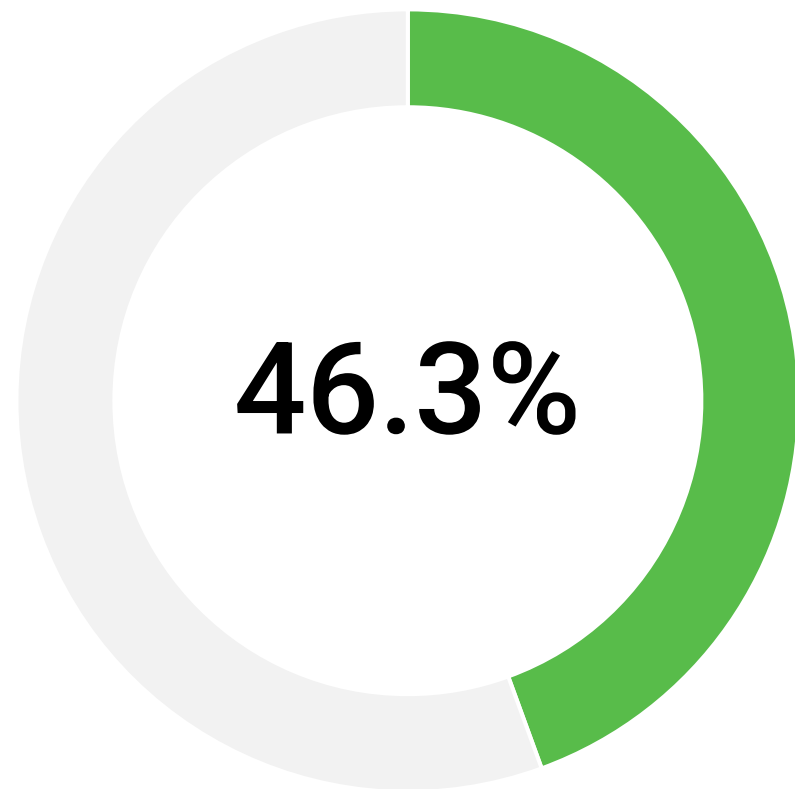
Gun Diversion Program

Recidivism Rate Federal Data

Firearm Offenders



Non-Firearm Offenders



Racial Disparities

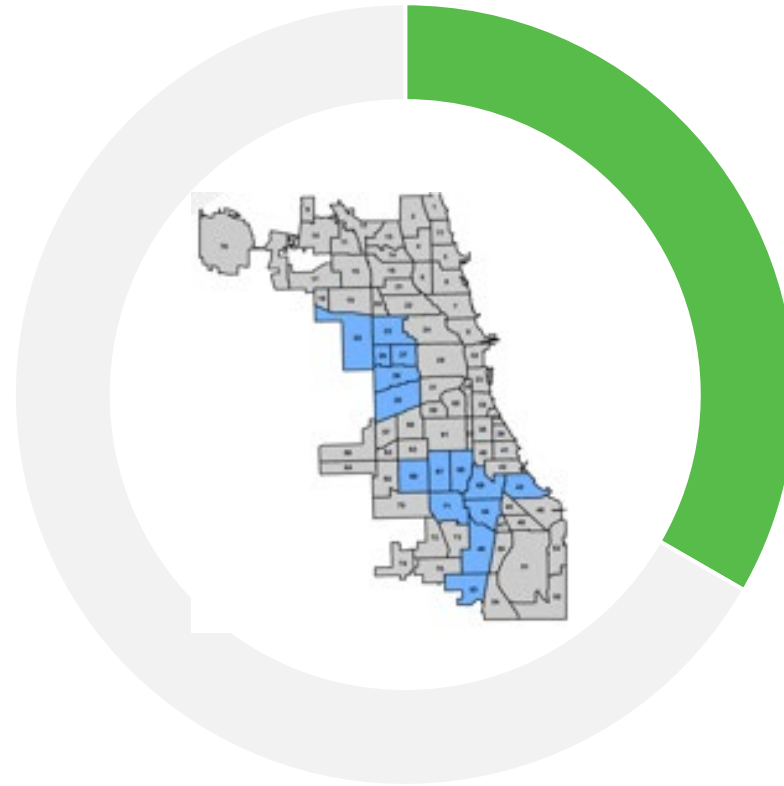
A New Form of Mass Incarceration

African American Men represent **74%** of Unlawful Use of Weapon (UUW) Class Four Felony cases in Illinois.



UW Charges among Chicago Communities

11 communities in Chicago represent a third of UW cases in the state of Illinois.



33%



Prosecutor Led Gun Diversion Program

- 1 Referred by States Attorney
- 2 Intake/Screening
- 3 Mental Health Assessment
- 4 Risk Assessment
- 5 Case Planning
- 5 Treatment

Overview



Intake/
Screening

Ohio Risk
Assessment

Mental
Health
Assessment

Expectations

Assigned to
group and
Counselor

Graduation



Case Planning/Treatment



Low Risk

- Group Counseling –two days a week
- Individual Counseling bi-Weekly
- Case Management

Moderate-High Risk

- Group Counseling –three times a week
- Individual Counseling Weekly
- Case Management

Group Counseling

GRO uses the **Choose 24:7** Cognitive Behavioral Therapy (CBT) curriculum.

A

Emphasis on maladaptive thoughts associated with possessing fire arm illegally.

Cognitive
Behavioral
Interventions

B

Action oriented utilizing role playing.

C

Emphasis on risky thinking and minimizing risky situations.



Descriptive Statistics

73

Total Size of Participants in first cohort

71

African American Participants

27

Mean Age

African American
Participants



97%

Descriptive Statistics

68

High School Diploma

31

Some College

36

Employed at time of arrest

High School
Graduate



93%

Some
College



42%

Employed at
time of arrest



49%

Risk, Need, Responsivity

Ohio Risk Assessment

47

Low Risk

20

Moderate Risk

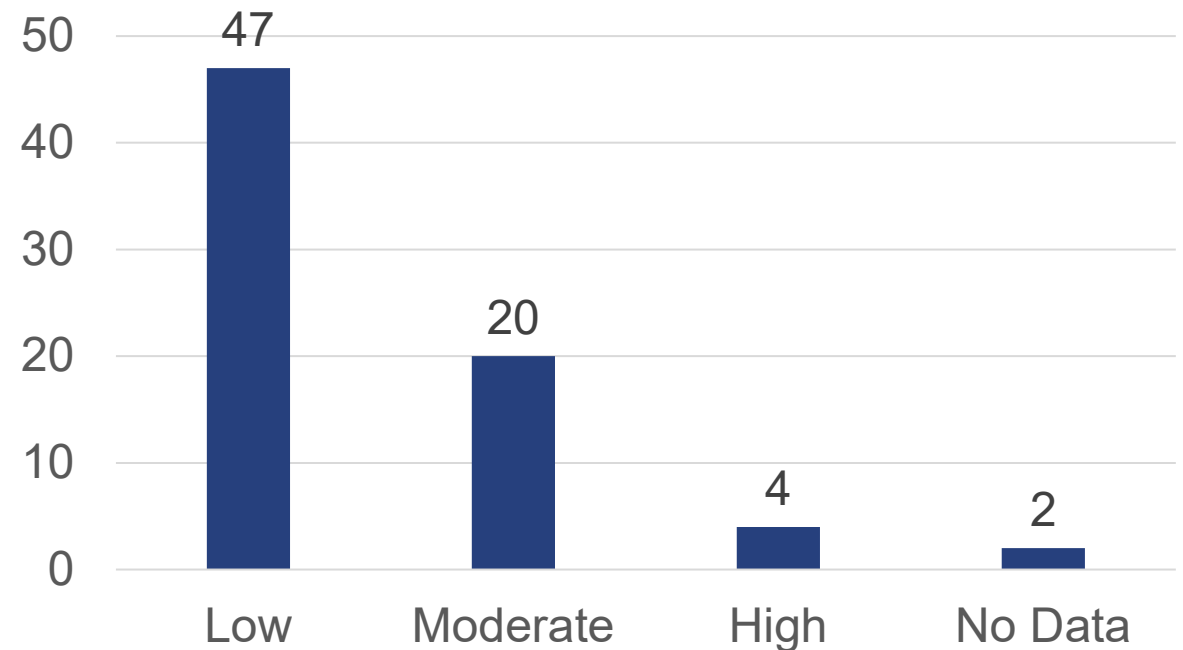
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High Risk

2

Did not complete risk
assessment

Participant Risk Level



Participant Results

73

Total Size of Participants in first cohort

63

Participants Completed

10

Participants Dropped

Completed



86%

Dropped



14%

Qualitative Research

N=30

1

Theme: Reason For Carrying
Sub-Theme: Protection

Patrick; 30; Working in Retail.

“I got shot before. And it kind of gave me a little anxiety, a little PTSD. You know what I'm saying? I just didn't want that to happen again. Rather safe then sorry.”

2

Theme: Reason For Carrying
Sub-Theme: Legal Cynicism

Rodney; 28; Logistics.

“One time I got robbed. Somebody put the gun out on me like, almost a block away from my house. I was walking, from my house to the bus stop. I called the police and they told me they not coming out.”

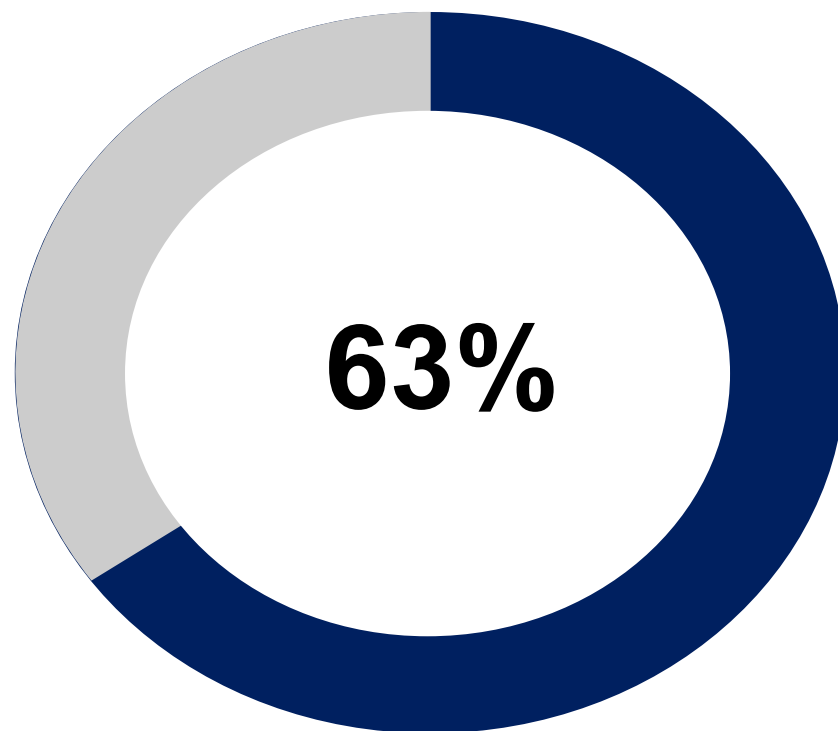
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Theme: Conceal & Carry

Felix; 24; Manufacturing

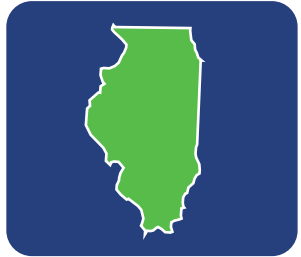
“Honestly, I didn't really understand the law and I didn't research it. So, I thought that you can have your gun with you as long as you have your FOID Card on you. I didn't really understand the process.”

Participants with FOLD



Participants with a Firearm Owners Identification Card (FOLD) at time of arrest.

Next Steps



First Time
Weapon Offender
Program.



Expand
programming in
new jurisdictions.



Simulated virtual
reality scenarios
to enhance skill
acquisition.



Increase enrollment
of moderate and
high-risk offenders



Enhance data
collection of
participants.

Research Strategy

1

Quasi-experiment

Utilizing a quasi-experimental design to inform and enhance program development.

2

Randomized Control Trial

Once the program design is complete, begin evaluating the feasibility of a randomized controlled trial (RCT) model.

3

Qualitative

Exploratory analysis of participants and contributing factors to improve program design.

4

Latent Curve Modeling

Utilizing data to develop a risk assessment tool for predicting individuals more likely to recidivate for gun offenses.