

# 2023 ANNUAL CANNABIS REPORT

Illinois Department of Human Services



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**Secretary Grace B. Hou** – Illinois Department of Human Services

**Director Laura Garcia** – Division of Substance Use Prevention and Recovery

**Director David Albert** – Division of Mental Health

**Deputy Director Stephanie Frank** – Division of Substance Use Prevention and Recovery

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The Cannabis Regulation Tax Act provides IDHS with an exciting opportunity to help rebuild communities that have been devastated by the war on drugs and structural racism. – Secretary Grace B. Hou

# SUMMARY

The Illinois Department of Human Services (IDHS) Division of Substance Use Prevention and Recovery (SUPR) and the Division of Mental Health (DMH) support a comprehensive care system for substance use and mental health disorders where treatment and recovery services incorporate harm reduction, recovery, and resiliency strategies for Illinoisans. This comprehensive approach that includes robust prevention, treatment, and recovery services is supported in part by the funds generated by the Cannabis Regulation Tax Act legislation (CRTA). These funds are utilized to do the important work of rebuilding communities that have been devastated by budget cuts, the war on drugs, structural racism, violence, and economic despair.

The CRTA allocates 20% of the funds to address mental health and substance use disorders, including **treatment, education, and prevention**, and 2% of the funds to be used for a **public education campaign** and **data collection and analysis** to address the impact of legalizing recreational marijuana.

To determine our best approach, IDHS is utilizing an equity lens that includes:

- **Recognizing** communities have been disproportionately affected by structural racism, stigma, and systems of oppression.
- **Listening** to communities, using their definitions of justice and fairness, and involving them in the decision making.
- **Building** on the strength of communities by utilizing their social and cultural capital to redress health and social inequities.

IDHS operates under the following guiding principles to direct our work and planning:

- **Address** racial and social equity.
- **Prioritize** those communities and individuals disproportionately impacted by the war on drugs.
- **Catalyze** innovation and fuel transformation.
- **Align** with the intent of the law.
- **Advance** the right to quality behavioral health care for all residents.

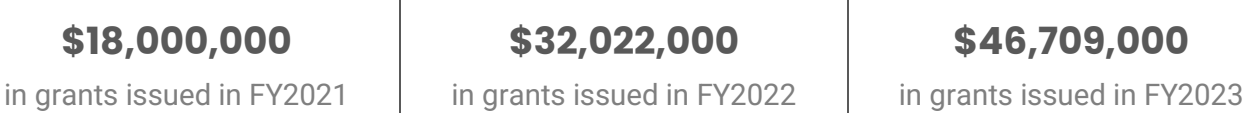
Under the CRTA initiatives, IDHS supports system expansion in seven program areas:

- **Community Investment** - Provide resources to community-based organizations to offer critical behavioral health services.
- **Community Wellness** - Provide resources to increase overall community health and wellness.
- **Criminal Legal Deflection** - Develop programs and recovery supports to deflect people from the criminal legal system.
- **Workforce Development** - Provide people with lived experience with career pathways and develop a more diverse behavioral health workforce.
- **Healthy Recovery** - Expand pathways to individualized recovery and wellness.
- **Prevention and Public Education** - Allocate resources to promote early intervention and preventive measures, aiming to reduce the need for more intensive levels of care.
- **Evaluation and Data Collection** - Provide evaluation and data analysis on our programs to validate their success and learn from the challenges.

# KEY DATA POINTS

## Grants Issued for Community Investment

Under the CRTA, IDHS receives 20% of all adult-use cannabis tax revenues annually, “to be used to address substance use and prevention and mental health concerns, including treatment, education, and prevention to address the negative impacts of substance use and mental health issues, including concentrated poverty, violence, and the historical overuse of criminal legal responses in certain communities, on the individual, family, and community, including federal, State, and local governments, health care institutions and providers, and correctional facilities.” Find information about the community service providers who have received grants funded by adult- use cannabis tax revenue below.



IDHS renewed or issued new grants to over 100 organizations during FY23 for a total of \$46,709,000. IDHS continues to be committed to rebuilding the infrastructure for comprehensive services for Illinois residents. By launching the essential projects listed below and expanding projects started in FY23, IDHS is already on target to allocate more funds in FY24.

Organizations that have received CRTA funding in FY 2023 are reported below:

Grant Recipient	Funded Program	Grant Amount
ADVOCATE NORTHSIDE	MH Grant - Crisis Care System	\$ 190,318.00
ALEXIAN BROS CTR FOR MNTL HLTH	MH Grant - Crisis Care System	\$ 58,254.00
ALLEN METROPOLITAN CME CHURCH	FCS - Faith Based Employment & Train	\$ 210,000.00
ARROWLEAF	MH Grant - Crisis Care System	\$ 91,439.00
ARUKAH INSTITUTE OF HEALING	MH Grant - Crisis Care System	\$ 57,637.00
ASSOCIATION FOR INDIVIDUAL DEV	MH Grant - Crisis Care System	\$ 177,347.00
BLACKMEN UNITED FOUNDATION	FCS - Faith Based Employment & Train	\$ 285,000.00
BOARD OF TTEES COMM COLL DIST	MH Grant - Certified Recovery Support	\$ 812,749.00
BOBBY E WRIGHT CCMHC	MH Grant - Crisis Care System	\$ 92,699.00
BOND COUNTY	MH Grant - Crisis Care System	\$ 19,808.00
BRIDGEWAY INC	MH Grant - Crisis Care System	\$ 70,141.00
CARELON BEHAVIORAL HEALTH INC	MH Grant - Operations	\$ 456,000.00
CENTERSTONE OF ILLINOIS INC	MH Grant - Crisis Care System	\$ 143,102.00

CHESTNUT HEALTH SYSTEMS INC	MH Grant - Crisis Care System	\$ 97,985.00
CHICAGO BOARD OF EDUCATION	SUPR - Highest Risk Youth CPS	\$ 8,100,000.00
CHICAGO JOBS COUNCIL	FCS - Employment Dev Svcs	\$ 250,000.00
CHICAGO RECOVERING COMMUNITY	SUPR - Southside Heroin TF	\$ 350,000.00
COLES CO MENTAL HLTH ASSN INC	MH Grant - Crisis Care System	\$ 73,706.00
COMMUNITY CNSLNG CTRS CHICAGO	MH Grant - Crisis Care System	\$ 114,484.00
COMMUNITY COLLEGE DIST 502	MH Grant - Certified Recovery Support	\$ 658,273.00
COMMUNITY RESOURCE CENTER INC	MH Grant - Crisis Care System	\$ 65,541.00
COMPREHENSIVE BEHAVIORAL HLTH	MH Grant - Crisis Care System	\$ 108,124.00
COMWELL	MH Grant - Crisis Care System	\$ 82,544.00
CORNERSTONE SERVICES	SUPR - Housing	\$ 12,324.00
COUNTY OF DUPAGE DEPARTMENT	MH Grant - Crisis Care System	\$ 278,536.00
COUNTY OF LAWRENCE HEALTH DEPT	MH Grant - Crisis Care System	\$ 55,074.00
COUNTY OF MONTGOMERY	MH Grant - Crisis Care System	\$ 33,242.00
CROSSPOINT HUMAN SERVICES	MH Grant - Crisis Care System	\$ 66,468.00
DEKALB BEHAVIORAL HEALTH FNDTN	MH Grant - Crisis Care System	\$ 58,475.00
ECKER CTR FOR BEHAVIORAL HLTH	MH Grant - Crisis Care System	\$ 105,520.00
EGYPTIAN PUBLIC & MENTAL	MH Grant - Crisis Care System	\$ 57,138.00
ELGIN COMMUNITY COLLEGE	MH Grant - Certified Recovery Support	\$ 614,477.00
EMERGENT DEVICES INC	SUPR - Access to Narcan	\$ 4,582,816.00
EMERGENT DEVICES INC	SUPR - Access to Narcan	\$ 1,000,000.00
FAMILY SERVICE ASSOCIATION OF	MH Grant - Crisis Care System	\$ 102,779.00
GOVERNORS STATE UNIVERSITY	MH Grant - Certified Recovery Support	\$ 764,066.00
GRAND PRAIRIE SERVICES	MH Grant - Crisis Care System	\$ 89,270.00
GREAT TRUE VINE M B CHURCH	FCS - Faith Based Employment & Train	\$ 315,000.00
HABILITATIVE SYSTEMS INC	MH Grant - Crisis Care System	\$ 96,347.00
HEALTHCARE ALTRNTV SYSTS INC	SUPR - Housing	\$ 12,256.00
HEARTLAND COMMUNITY COLLEGE 54	MH Grant - Certified Recovery Support	\$ 710,000.00
HELEN WHEELER CENTER FOR	MH Grant - Crisis Care System	\$ 59,393.00
HELPING OUR PEOPLE EXCEL	FCS - Faith Based Employment & Train	\$ 605,000.00
HERITAGE BHVRL HEALTH CTR INC	MH Grant - Crisis Care System	\$ 192,600.00
HERITAGE BHVRL HEALTH CTR INC	SUPR - Housing	\$ 24,388.00

HICKS WRIGHT CORPORATION	FCS - Faith Based Employment & Train	\$	150,000.00
HOUSING FORWARD	SUPR - Housing	\$	9,617.00
HOYLETON YOUTH & FAMILY SRVS	MH Grant - Crisis Care System	\$	61,025.00
HUMAN RESOURCES DEV INST INC	MH Grant - Crisis Care System	\$	225,441.00
HUMAN SERVICE CENTER	MH Grant - Crisis Care System	\$	121,816.00
HUMAN SUPPORT SERVICES	MH Grant - Crisis Care System	\$	19,395.00
I AM ABLE CENTER FOR FAMILY	MH Grant - Crisis Care System	\$	127,863.00
ILLINOIS ALCOHOL & OTHER DRUG	SUPR - BH Workforce Exp CADC Success	\$	367,287.00
ILLINOIS ASSOCIATION OF	FCS - Employment Dev Svcs	\$	1,000,000.00
ILLINOIS BOARD OF HIGHER EDUC	MH Grant - BH Workforce Ed Center	\$	4,436,653.00
ILLINOIS CRIMINAL JUSTICE	SUPR - ISP Deflection Project	\$	750,000.00
ILLINOIS INST OF TECHNOLOGY	MH Grant - Certified Recovery Support	\$	952,029.00
ILLINOIS STUDENT ASSSTNCE COMM	MH Grant - BH Loan Repayment	\$	5,000,000.00
INSTITUTE FOR HUMAN RESOURCES	MH Grant - Crisis Care System	\$	18,499.00
IROQUOIS MENTAL HEALTH CENTER	MH Grant - Crisis Care System	\$	43,274.00
JEFFERSON COUNTY COMPREHENSIVE	MH Grant - Crisis Care System	\$	35,183.00
KENNETH YOUNG CENTER	MH Grant - Crisis Care System	\$	122,815.00
KIRBY REHABILITATION INC	MH Grant - Crisis Care System	\$	137,364.00
LADDER UP	FCS - Employment Dev Svcs	\$	250,000.00
LAKE COUNTY	MH Grant - Crisis Care System	\$	192,207.00
LEYDEN FAMILY SVCS & M H CTR	MH Grant - Crisis Care System	\$	108,813.00
LIGHTS OF ZION BIBLE CHURCH	FCS - Faith Based Employment & Train	\$	325,000.00
LOCUST STREET RESOURCE CENTER	MH Grant - Crisis Care System	\$	76,145.00
LORETTO HOSPITAL	MH Grant - Crisis Care System	\$	51,429.00
LUTHERAN SOCIAL SERVICES OF IL	MH Grant - Crisis Care System	\$	59,694.00
MASSAC COUNTY MENTAL HEALTH	MH Grant - Crisis Care System	\$	22,729.00
MCLEAN COUNTY CTR HUMAN SRV IN	MH Grant - Crisis Care System	\$	54,683.00
MENTAL HEALTH CTRS OF CNTRL IL	MH Grant - Crisis Care System	\$	192,695.00
METROPOLITAN FAMILY SERVICES	MH Grant - Crisis Care System	\$	179,723.00
MOUNT SINAI HOSP MEDICAL CTR	MH Grant - Crisis Care System	\$	119,462.00
NATIONAL YOUTH ADVOCATE PROG	MH Grant - Crisis Care System	\$	150,158.00
NORTH CENTRAL BEHAVIORAL	MH Grant - Crisis Care System	\$	84,269.00

NORTHERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY	MH Grant - Certified Recovery Support	\$ 1,046,666.00
ONE HOPE UNITED	MH Grant - Crisis Care System	\$ 186,934.00
PERRY CNTY COUNSELING CTR INC	MH Grant - Crisis Care System	\$ 22,079.00
PERSONAL ASSISTANCE TELEPHONE	MH Grant - Suicide Prevention Lifeline	\$ 9,455,427.00
PILLARS COMMUNITY HEALTH	MH Grant - Crisis Care System	\$ 85,773.00
PILSEN-LITTLE VILLAGE COMMUNITY	MH Grant - Crisis Care System	\$ 105,598.00
PRESENCE BEHAVIORAL HEALTH	MH Grant - Crisis Care System	\$ 69,261.00
PREVENTION FIRST INC	SUPR - Workforce Training	\$ 1,000,464.00
PREVENTION PARTNERSHIP INC	SUPR - West Side Heroin/Opioid TF	\$ 650,000.00
RINCON FAMILY SERVICES	MH Grant - Crisis Care System	\$ 64,856.00
RINCON FAMILY SERVICES	MH Grant - Certified Recovery Support	\$ 930,512.00
ROBERT YOUNG CENTER FOR	MH Grant - Crisis Care System	\$ 192,006.00
ROSECRANCE INCORPORATED	MH Grant - Crisis Care System	\$ 266,834.00
SINNISSIPPI CENTERS INC	MH Grant - Crisis Care System	\$ 96,251.00
SOUTHERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY	MH Grant - Certified Recovery Support	\$ 1,156,508.00
SOUTHERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY	MH Grant - Certified Recovery Support	\$ 571,592.00
SOUTHERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY	SUPR - Medication Assisted Stipend	\$ 615,000.00
TASC INC	SUPR - Housing	\$ 25,513.00
TASC INC	SUPR - ISP Deflection Project	\$ 2,975,500.00
TAZWOOD MENTAL HEALTH CTR INC	MH Grant - Crisis Care System	\$ 97,742.00
THE ENDELEO INSTITUTE INC	FCS - Faith Based Employment & Train	\$ 515,157.00
THE THRESHOLDS	MH Grant - Crisis Care System	\$ 245,576.00
THRIVE COUNSELING CENTER	MH Grant - Crisis Care System	\$ 21,570.00
TRANSITIONS OF WESTERN IL INC	MH Grant - Crisis Care System	\$ 57,789.00
TRILOGY INC	MH Grant - Crisis Care System	\$ 159,452.00
TRINITY SERVICES INC	MH Grant - Crisis Care System	\$ 167,717.00
TURNING PT BHVRL HLTH CARE CTR	MH Grant - Crisis Care System	\$ 97,839.00
UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS	SUPR - Evaluation & Public Awareness	\$ 1,138,387.00
UNIVERSITY OF ST FRANCIS	MH Grant - Certified Recovery Support	\$ 960,503.00
WILL COUNTY	MH Grant - Crisis Care System	\$ 137,942.00
ADVOCATE NORTHSIDE	MH Grant - Crisis Care System	\$ 190,318.00

## Provider Spotlight: Illinois Warm Line

**\$456,000**  
awarded in funding

**33,124**  
total calls

The DMH Warm Line provides phone-based wellness and recovery support for anyone in Illinois. The Line is staffed by people who identify as individuals in recovery and therefore provides a unique blend of self-directed, empowering support with education that includes resource materials and contacts. The line is open 8 am-8 pm, Mon-Sat, excluding holidays. 35% of total calls occurred during evening and weekend hours. The average monthly call volume is 2,760 with a total of 33,124 for FY23.

## Public Education

**\$3,700,000**  
spent on public education in FY2023

**86,087,042 Impressions**  
**6,832,705 Engagements**  
individuals reached in FY2023

Under the CRTA, IDHS receives 2% annually of the adult use cannabis tax revenue, to be used for: “(i) developing and administering a scientifically and medically accurate public education campaign educating youth and adults about the health and safety risks of alcohol, tobacco, illegal drug use (including prescription drugs), and cannabis, including use by pregnant women; and (ii) data collection and analysis of the public health impacts of legalizing the recreational use of cannabis.”

IDHS/SUPR, working through Prevention First and their subrecipient, Rescue, launched a public awareness and education campaign in December 2019. Upon the enactment of the Cannabis Regulation and Tax Act, IDHS/SUPR took measures to ensure the dissemination of information to both the general and targeted populations of Illinois. This encompassed details about the law, permissible and prohibited activities, as well as messages concerning cannabis usage. IDHS focused its approach on developing and presenting information in a nonjudgmental and science-based manner. Materials have been translated into Spanish and other languages will be considered going forward. The campaign’s four (4) statewide audiences included:

- General Population – to provide basic information to adults 21+ that are currently or considering using cannabis
- Parents/Mentors to address potential questions and a possible increase in use by youth
- Pregnant/Breastfeeding moms to provide information on the potential health effects
- Youth under age 18 to support prevention and abstinence

### FY23 Public Awareness Campaign Performance Measures

Three key performance indicators (KPIs): Message Delivery, Exploratory Engagement, and Active Engagement were collected for each message packet released.



- Message Delivery is measured by impressions and indicates the priority audience’s exposure to the message.
- Exploratory Engagement is measured by video/GIF completions, audio completions, reactions/likes, clicks, and web sessions. This indicates the audience is consuming the content.
- Active Engagement is measured by comments, shares, page follows, digital experience (quiz) starts, etc. which indicate the audience is interacting with and amplifying content.

For each message packet, the percentage of contributing platforms to each KPI total and the campaign cost per video or audio completion rate compared with the platform benchmark for completion was collected, results are found below.

### UNFADED – FY23

Unfaded is a youth-targeted campaign focused on supporting goal-oriented behaviors among teens. The program provides messages developed through youth-oriented channels and identifiable subjects, developed through an encompassing frame of no use of any substance that can hinder a person's goals. The Unfaded new content package, “Owe It,” was developed for teens, aged 13-18, who are at high-risk of substance use. Teens know using substances is harmful, but they aren’t thinking about it in the moment. Content from “Owe It” uses relevant, motivational messaging to remind teens that using substances as a teen can hold them back from making progress towards their future goals. Message Packets created and released from July 2022 to June 2023 results:

	Evergreen	MP4: All Part of the Come Up	MP5: Lemme Show You How
	1/3/23 – 3/9/23	3/13/23-5/5/23	5/8/23-6/30/23
<b>MESSAGE DELIVERY</b> Impressions % of total (Cost per Video Completion/ benchmark)  OOH – Out of Home (specifically school posters/materials)	<b>3,366,169</b> 100% YouTube	<b>48,805,639</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 21% OOH</li> <li>• 52% Instagram (\$0.50/\$1.06)</li> <li>• 10% Snapchat (\$0.07/\$0.13)</li> <li>• 8% TikTok (\$0.07/\$0.08)</li> <li>• 10% Spotify (\$0.01/\$0.01)</li> </ul>	<b>28,210,758</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 51% Instagram</li> <li>• 19% Snapchat (\$0.10/\$0.13)</li> <li>• 18% TikTok (\$0.07/\$0.08)</li> <li>• 10% YouTube (\$0.05/\$0.03)</li> <li>• 2% Pandora (\$0.02/\$0.02)</li> </ul>

<b>EXPLORATORY ENGAGEMENT</b> <i>Video/Audio Completions, Clicks, Reactions, Saves, Web Sessions</i> % of total (Cost per Video Completion/benchmark)	<b>1,994,974</b> 100% YouTube	<b>4,980,131</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 2% Instagram (\$0.50/\$1.06)</li> <li>• 6% Snapchat (\$0.07/\$0.13)</li> <li>• 1% TikTok (\$0.07/\$0.08)</li> <li>• 89% Spotify (\$0.01/\$0.01)</li> <li>• 2% Website</li> </ul>	<b>1,715,693</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 3% Instagram</li> <li>• 16% Snapchat (\$0.10/\$0.13)</li> <li>• 19% TikTok (\$0.07/\$0.08)</li> <li>• 23% YouTube (\$0.05/\$0.03)</li> <li>• 34% Pandora (\$0.02/\$0.02)</li> <li>• 5% Website</li> </ul>
<b>ACTIVE ENGAGEMENT</b> <i>Shares, Comments, New Page Likes/Followers</i>		<b>377</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 38% Instagram</li> <li>• 18% TikTok</li> <li>• 45% Website</li> </ul>	<b>911</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 24% Instagram</li> <li>• 33% TikTok</li> <li>• 42% Website</li> </ul>

**LET’S TALK CANNABIS – FY23**

The program developed materials for distribution at cannabis dispensaries and conducted research with Illinois county health departments and local prevention providers to identify gaps in education. Ongoing work, launched in May 2022, included two message packets that were released for the Let’s Talk Cannabis-IL (LTCI) and Unfaded campaigns. For LTCI, the “Strong Connection” theme targets pregnant or breastfeeding women aged 18-35 in Illinois who currently or have previously used non-medical cannabis. The content seeks to increase the perception of risk among pregnant and breastfeeding audiences. The "Strong Connection" initiative aims to clearly demonstrate to mothers the potential risks that cannabis poses to the special bond they share with their babies. This is accomplished by providing them with unbiased and well-balanced information, ultimately encouraging them to consider refraining from cannabis use for the time being. Message Packets created and released from July 2022 to June 2023 results:

	<b>MP8: The Weed Baking Show</b>	<b>MP9: Decisions, Decisions</b>	<b>MP10: Safe Storage</b>
	<b>3/8/23-4/30/23</b>	<b>5/8/23 – 6/30/23</b>	<b>6/3/23 – 6/30/23</b>
	<b>Audience: Marijuana users 21+</b>	<b>Audience: Marijuana users who are pregnant or breast-feeding</b>	<b>Audience: Parents/ Caregivers of children &lt;11 y/o</b>

<b>MESSAGE DELIVERY</b> <i>Impressions</i> % of total (Cost per Video Completion/benchmark)  OOH – Out of Home (specifically ob/gyn clinics)	<b>12,825,191</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 38% Meta</li> <li>• 40% YouTube</li> <li>• 38% Spotify</li> </ul>	<b>6,287,201</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 46% Meta (\$0.03/\$0.08)</li> <li>• 37% YouTube (\$0.02/\$0.03)</li> <li>• 2% Search</li> <li>• 16% OOH</li> </ul>	<b>18,826,288</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 14% Meta (\$0.05/\$0.08)</li> <li>• 28% YouTube (\$0.03/\$0.03)</li> <li>• 21% Digital Video (\$0.03/\$0.03)</li> <li>• 38% Reddit (\$6.96/\$7.50)</li> </ul>
<b>EXPLORATORY ENGAGEMENT</b> <i>Video/Audio Completions, Clicks, Reactions, Saves, Web Sessions</i> (Cost per Video or Audio Completion/benchmark)	<b>8,991,673</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 22% Meta (\$0.04/\$0.08)</li> <li>• 36% YouTube (\$0.02/\$0.03)</li> <li>• 53% Spotify (\$0.01/\$0.01)</li> </ul>	<b>2,081,940</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 31% Meta (\$0.03/\$0.08)</li> <li>• 67% YouTube (\$0.02/\$0.03)</li> <li>• 1% Search</li> </ul>	<b>6,120,769</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 11% Meta (\$0.05/\$0.08)</li> <li>• 23% YouTube (\$0.03/\$0.03)</li> <li>• 63% Digital Video (\$0.03/\$0.03)</li> <li>• 3% Reddit (\$6.96/\$7.50)</li> </ul>
<b>ACTIVE ENGAGEMENT</b> <i>Shares, Comments, New Page Likes/Followers, PDF Downloads</i>	<b>1,228</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 40% Meta</li> <li>• 60% Website</li> </ul>	<b>957</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 38% Meta</li> <li>• 62% Website</li> </ul>	<b>468</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 98% Meta</li> <li>• 2% Website</li> </ul>

## Evaluation and Analysis

IDHS in conjunction with the University of Illinois – Chicago (UIC), evaluates the 13 currently funded programs to understand how well they achieve their goals and determine what works and what could be improved. Most CRTA-funded programs have been assigned to one or more principal (PI) or co-principal investigators on the UIC evaluation team. Most funded programs have fully operational evaluation structures, however newer programs may still be in the planning/proposal stage. Programs that are further along in development are also further along in terms of having a firm evaluation plan underway. Each month, the PI/Co-PI provide updates on the status of implementation and corresponding evaluation progress. This brief report summarizes the most recent evaluation summaries that were provided in July 2023.

The program to expand Naloxone distribution (Access Narcan) is operational and capturing data via a web-based portal. The PI is extracting data from the portal and conducting qualitative interviews with stakeholders around key data points. Goals of the project to be evaluated include: naloxone is available widely at the community level; increase the use of naloxone by bystanders; reduce or curtail overdoses related to areas where there is community level saturation.

The Behavioral Health Corp workforce development program includes the Certified Recovery Support Specialist (CRSS) Success Program and the AmeriCorps Recovery Corps Program. The CRSS Success Program provides grant funding for 11 post-secondary educational institutions, each of which serves between 15 – 120 students per year. The program is on track to exceed its original goal of 500 students, with an anticipated 800 students completing the program by the end of FY24. The evaluators have been attending monthly learning collaborative meetings and have begun interviewing and surveying staff at program sites. Plans are underway for focus groups with students, instructors, and intern site supervisors.

The Suicide Prevention-Lifeline and Services includes funding for the hotline and crisis care programs. PATH, Inc. operates the primary call center for 85 Illinois counties and operates as the back-up statewide. PATH Also operates the statewide text and chat coverage for the 988 Suicide and Crisis Lifeline. PATH has answered 85,221 calls in the first ten months of the fiscal year with an average answer rate of 83% (calls not answered by PATH are routed to a National Backup Center). Less than 1% of calls to PATH through 988 required a transfer to 911 for emergency rescue. 2.6% of calls to PATH through 988 resulted in a transfer to a mobile crisis response team provider.

The Crisis Care Continuum Program funds community agencies across the state to provide face-to-face crisis response including Mobile Crisis Response Team (MCRT) services. 64 agencies have been funded and have developed MCRTs. MCRT evaluators have developed the metrics and corresponding data definitions and began tracking data July 1 to submit their first reports at the end of the first quarter of FY24. During the first three quarters of FY23, the agencies reported a total of 125,395 crisis interventions by their staff.

The Permanent Supportive Housing (PSH) program evaluation is underway, and evaluators have collected ten months of data from the six PSH grantees. IDHS is confirming next steps to work with the National Opinion Research Center (NORC) to administer the Housing First Fidelity Index and end-of-the-year reflection report.

The Cannabis Education Prevention program noted above (“Let’s Talk Cannabis”) now has a subcontract in place with NORC at the University of Chicago to assist with data collection and evaluation. Campaign materials have been shared with NORC and the team has begun to finalize their formative evaluation plan.

The Mobile Treatment Units program is underway and developing strategies to get a social determinants of health screener up and running. The team is working to understand data processes and how they can be linked to the program objectives and goals.

Both the Medication Assisted Recovery Provider Support program and Racial Equity Training program have ended, and the final evaluation reports are being developed.

# FUNDING USAGE

## Summary

In FY 2023, IDHS awarded over \$46 million in grants for the seven program areas. During FY20, IDHS organizations spent 6.4% of funds allocated for programming due to the impact of the pandemic on service provision. In FY23, IDHS organizations spent 78% of funds allocated leaving the balances listed below. IDHS has developed an allocation plan for the next four years that capitalizes on projected available revenues. IDHS and the behavioral health field are committed to continually increasing the capacity and quality of services to Illinois communities.

**\$64,571,000**

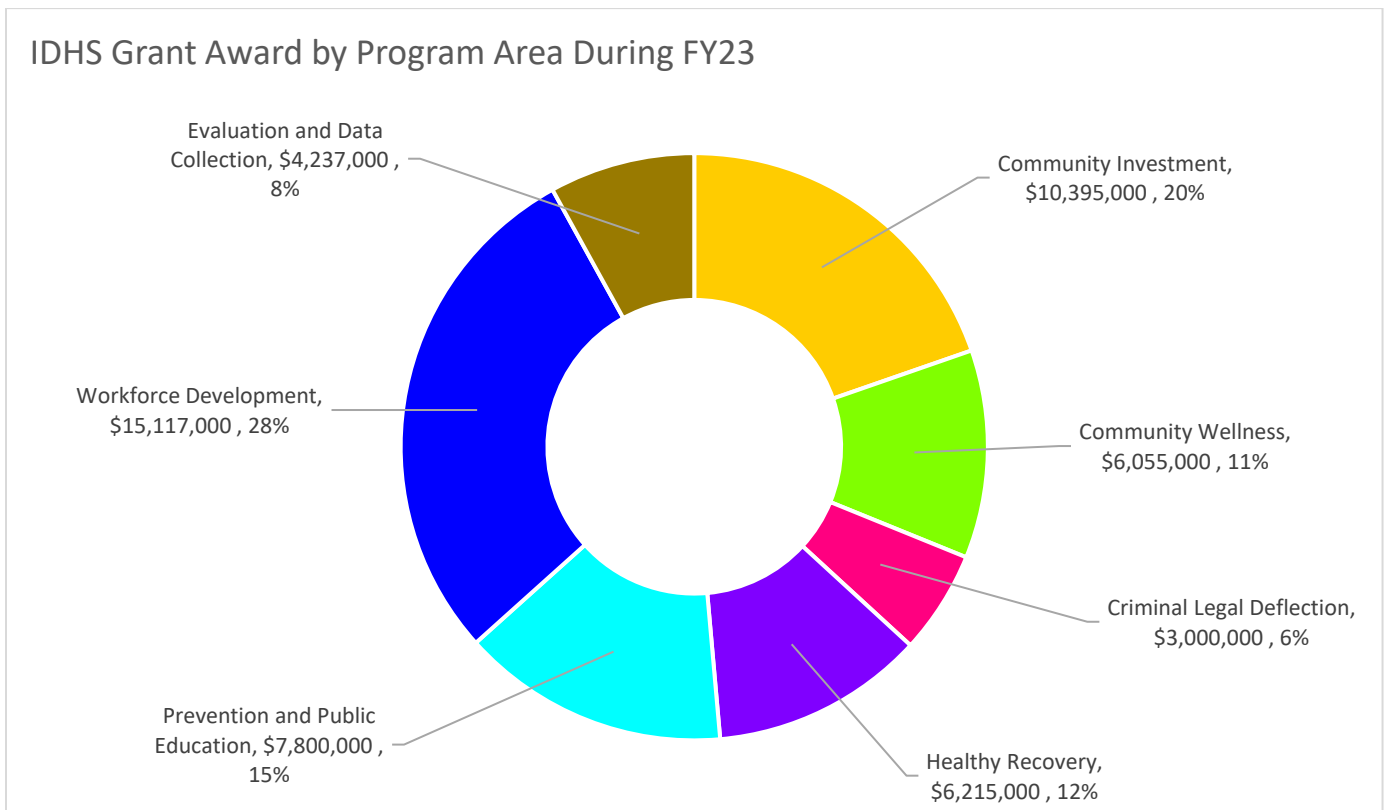
0509 appropriation balance as of June 30, 2023

**\$6,284,000**

0368 appropriation balance as of June 30, 2023

## FY2023 Grants Awarded

The chart below shows the breakdown of the \$52 million that IDHS awarded during FY2023 by program area.



# LEGISLATION, UPDATES, AND INITIATIVES

## Summary of FY2023 Legislation

Legislation passed this year which impacts cannabis funded projects.

1. **SB0057 Higher Ed-Loan Repayment Awards:** Amends the Community Behavioral Health Care Professional Loan Repayment Program Act. Seeks to enhance the behavioral health workforce by providing specified loan repayment amounts for psychiatrists, advanced practice registered nurses, physician assistants, psychologists who hold a doctoral degree, licensed clinical social workers, licensed clinical professional counselors, licensed marriage and family therapists, substance use professionals, certified alcohol and drug counselors, and certified recovery support specialists. Provides that no less than 30% of the funding for grants each fiscal year shall be reserved for awards to minority applicants of African American or Black, Hispanic or Latinx, Asian, or Native American origin. Effective July 1, 2024.
2. **HB3819 Local Deflection Programs:** Amends the Community-Law Enforcement and Other First Responder Partnership for Deflection and Substance Use Disorder Treatment Act. Changes the Act name to the Community Partnership for Deflection and Substance Use Disorder Treatment Act. Provides that "deflection programs" may include an officer intervention during routine activities, such as patrol or response to a service call during which a referral to treatment, to services, or to a case manager is made in lieu of arrest. Effective: January 1, 2024.

## Summary of FY2023 Updates

IDHS is grateful for the opportunities that the CRTA funds have provided to expand the mental health and substance use disorder support infrastructure for all of Illinois' residents. IDHS is committed to continuing to be good stewards of the CRTA funds to ensure that all residents have equitable access to services that support harm reduction, recovery, and resiliency strategies. As IDHS looks to the new fiscal year 2024, the expansion of current programs and the addition of new strategies promises to continue to broaden the reach of human services and to further the goal of creating a more equitable and socially just Illinois.

# FY2024 GOALS

## Summary

### IDHS FY2024 Goals

1. Ensure all programmatic decisions are made with a social equity lens.
2. Continue to leverage the expertise of DMH and SUPR.
3. Ensure projects are in alignment with the One IDHS Strategy.

### IDHS FY2024 Essential Projects

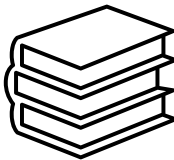
1. **988 Place to Go - Living Room Model** - DMH's vision is to create a comprehensive and integrated crisis network that provides a systematic approach to responding to crises through "somewhere to call, someone to respond, and somewhere to go." CRTA this year supported the "somewhere to call" through supporting the expansion of the 988 Lifeline and the "someone to respond" by supporting Crisis mobile teams. In FY24, CRTA will support the "somewhere to go" through the expansion of the Living Room Model across the state.
2. **CADC Success** - The CADC Workforce Expansion program aims to address the behavioral health workforce crisis by increasing the number of Certified Alcohol and Drug Counselors (CADC) entering and being retained in the workforce in Illinois. The program provides tuition payments, internship stipends, payment for credential and testing fees, workforce promotion and training, and other wrap-around supports for individuals seeking to obtain a CADC credential who commit to working in substance use services in IL for 2 years.
3. **Mental Health First Aid** - This project provides funding to train the substance use disorder treatment and mental health treatment fields on Mental Health First Aid (MHFA). Prevention First is the organization responsible for scheduling trainings for SUPR and DMH's licensed treatment providers.

### IDHS FY2024 Metrics



**9000**

Living Room  
guests



**600**

supported  
CADC  
candidates



**300**

individuals  
trained