

READI CHICAGO

2018 Travelers Aid International
Annual Conference



THE MODEL

- READI Chicago is an initiative seeking to **reduce gun violence in Chicago** through working with those at **highest risk** of becoming perpetrators or victims of gun violence
- The initiative engages men 18 and older in **transitional jobs** and **cognitive behavioral therapy**
- The University of Chicago Urban Labs is studying READI Chicago through a **randomized control trial** to analyze its effectiveness in reducing gun violence in Chicago



Early Results

- As of April 30th, 377 people are in READI
 - 265 (70%) have been engaged by outreach
 - 167 (44%) have started employment
- 90% have lost a family member to gun violence
- 50% live with parents, describe themselves as homeless, or are couch surfing
- 40% are on parole or probation, 20% have pending cases, and 14% are on electronic monitoring
- Cognitive Behavior Therapy is making a difference
- Partner staff development is improving
- Less shooting incidents compared to those who are in READI and not participating in the jobs aspect of the program



CHALLENGES

- 7 partner organizations with 7 different organizational culture
- Real buy-in – new philosophy to an old issue
- Ability to execute – staff
- READI as it relates to Heartland Alliance
- Dealt with beginning challenges of launching the reentry pathway
- Safety

QUESTIONS & DISCUSSION

