

The background of the slide features a large, faint, circular seal of the State of Indiana. The seal contains the text "THE STATE OF INDIANA" at the top and "1816" at the bottom. In the center of the seal is a landscape with a rising sun, a plow, and a sheaf of wheat, symbolizing agriculture and industry.

Adult Strategy Update

Justice Involved Work

Stacy Townsley, Ph.D., Associate Commissioner for Adult Strategy

Davyd Hall, Director for Adult Strategy Engagement

Indiana Commission for Higher Education

September 12, 2024

NAVIGATING EDUCATION FOR JUSTICE-INVOLVED



- ▶ HOPE goal: top 10 state for postsecondary attainment among justice-involved by 2030
- ▶ Stakeholder conversations throughout 2023
- ▶ Strategic focus on emerging stakeholder forums for implementation support
- ▶ New director for engagement role hired March 2024 (Davyd Hall) spearheading work

NATIONAL SNAPSHOT OF JUSTICE-INVOLVED

- ▶ **Definition:** An individual or group of people who have had contact with the justice system, including courts, jails, prisons, probation, or drug courts, whether currently or previously involved.
- ▶ **Some Statistics**
 - Nearly **2 million Americans** currently incarcerated and **80 million Americans** with a criminal record (one-third of American population)
 - Incarcerated individuals' pre-incarceration income is **54% less** than non-incarcerated individuals
 - Just **over 50%** of previously incarcerated people have a high school diploma or equivalency
 - From 2016 to 2021, **over 28,000** incarcerated students received help enrolling in Second Chance Pell programs, and **more than 9,000** of those students earned a postsecondary credential

BENEFITS OF EDUCATION

▶ Lowered Recidivism Rates

- Individuals enrolled in education programs are **48% less likely** to be reincarcerated

▶ Increased Employability

- Rates of employment post-release **increase by 12%** for participants of education programs

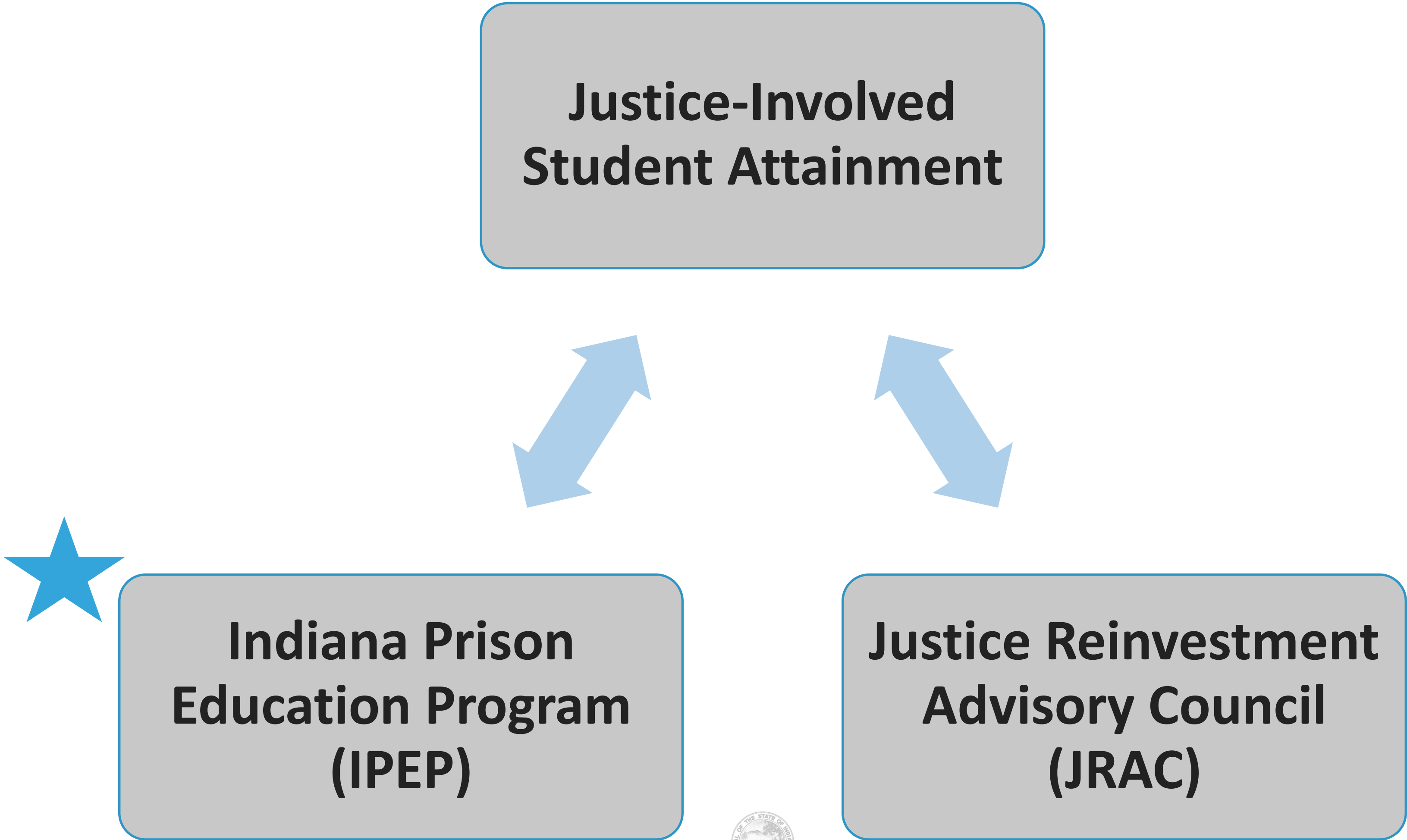
▶ Shift in Prison/Jail Culture

- Participating in these education opportunities shifts behaviors and reduces conduct infractions, positively impacting personal and community development

▶ Increased Social Mobility and Stability for Families



JUSTICE-INVOLVED COMMUNITIES OF PRACTICE



PELL ELIGIBILITY REINSTATEMENT

- ▶ Effective July 1, 2023, Pell Grant funding eligibility expanded to eligible students enrolled in prison education programs (PEPs)
 - Builds upon Second Chance Pell Experiment started in 2015, in which three private Indiana institutions (Holy Cross College, Indiana Tech, and Indiana Wesleyan University) participated
- ▶ The U.S. Department of Education has now shifted the responsibility of PEP administration to states; the Indiana Department of Correction (IDOC) oversees Indiana's PEP effort
- ▶ CHE - IDOC signed an MOU in spring 2023 to create a stakeholder consortium (community of practice) guiding future IPEP implementation



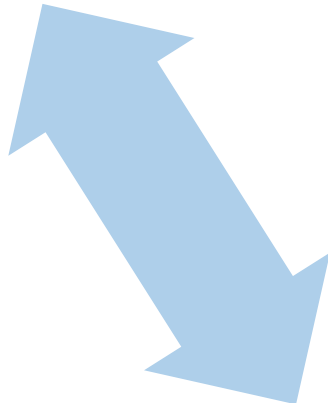
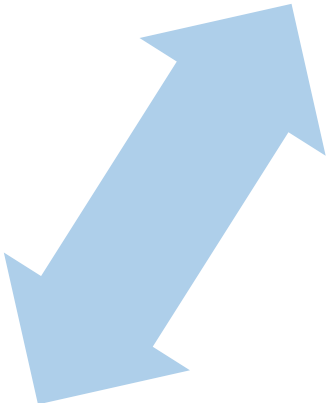
INDIANA PRISON EDUCATION PROGRAM (IPEP)

- ▶ IDOC thus far has approved **Six (6) IPEP** programs:
 - Holy Cross College (Associate of Arts & Bachelor of Arts)
 - Indiana Wesleyan University (Business Practices Certificate)
 - Indiana Tech (Business Certificate)
 - Ivy Tech Community College (High School Equivalency and Various Certifications per Facility)
 - Marian University/University of Notre Dame (Associate of Liberal Arts & Bachelor of Liberal Arts)
- ▶ CHE and IDOC led the first-time convening of IPEP stakeholders in July 2024
- ▶ IPEP community of practice focused on assisting the development and operation of high-quality prison education programs, in addition to:
 - Enhancing re-entry experiences
 - Strengthening IPEP operation, expectations, and support



JUSTICE-INVOLVED COMMUNITIES OF PRACTICE

**Justice-Involved
Student Attainment**



**Indiana Prison
Education Program
(IPEP)**

**Justice Reinvestment
Advisory Council
(JRAC)**



JUSTICE REINVESTMENT ADVISORY COUNCIL (JRAC)

- ▶ As a function of the Indiana Office of Court Services (IOCS), the Justice Reinvestment Advisory Council (JRAC) is responsible for:
 - Reviewing policies
 - Promoting collaboration on state and county levels
 - Forwarding evidence-based practices and best practices in community-based alternatives
 - Exploring recidivism reduction strategies
- ▶ State JRAC hosts regular forums to inform and highlight the work of county-level JRACs and convene state agencies to explore opportunities to strengthen impact
- ▶ CHE involvement as of summer 2024



CHE RECOMMENDATION

Social Determinants of Health



- ▶ As an informative framework to improve health determinant outcomes, the Social Determinants of Health (SDOH) can be adopted and directed toward holistic support for justice-involved individuals, with CHE being a primary driver of the Education Access and Quality

EDUCATION ATTAINMENT TEMPLATE

On-Ramp 1

- High School Equivalency Diploma

On-Ramp 2

- Training & Certifications
- Next Level Jobs Training

On-Ramp 3

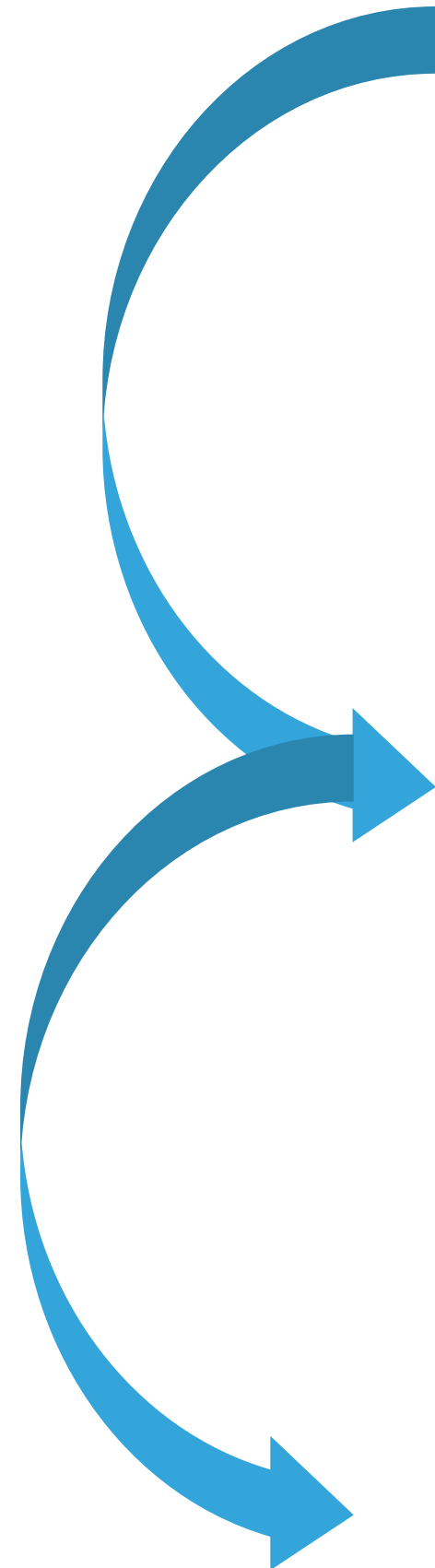
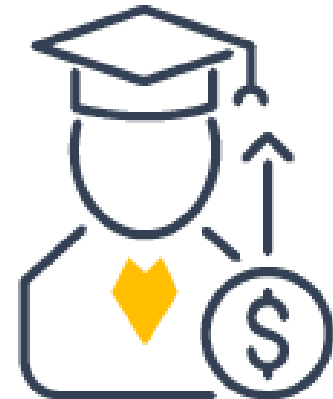
- Associates Degree/Certificate/Certification
- Ivy Tech Community College
- Vincennes University

On-Ramp 4

- Bachelors Degree

On-Ramp 5

- Employment



NEXT STEPS

- ▶ IDOC Pre-Release Simulation – September
- ▶ IPEP Convening – September
- ▶ Informative Documents - October
- ▶ JRAC Presentation and Piloting - November



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DAVYD HALL

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INDIANA COMMISSION *for*
HIGHER EDUCATION