



Needle Exchange

Seattle - King County

*Treatment Voucher
Program*

IDU in King Co., WA

- 15,000 - 20,000 IDU
- 70% Heroin primary drug
- HIV prevalence low & stable (2-4%)
- Few new HIV infections per year (2 per 1,000)
- 65% show markers for prior HBV infection
- HCV prevalence: 75%
- 59% white, 26% black, 5% Latino, 5% Native American, 5% multi-racial

Seattle-King Co NEP started 1989

- Prevent new blood-borne infections
- ↓ negative consequences of drug use
- Remove used syringes from circulation & insure safe disposal
- **Facilitate entry into drug tx.**

Seattle-King Co. NEP Services

- 7 locations, open 7 days/wk, 52 weeks/yr
- Storefront & van-based
- **NO REGISTRATION REQUIRED**
- 1-for-1 exchange
- Clean Supplies
- Medical clinic (~1,000 visits/yr)
 - Disease screening: HIV, hep AB&C, syphilis, TB
 - Vaccinations: hep A&B, tetanus, flu
 - Wound & abscess care (75% of visits)
- Case Management (svc brokerage & counseling)
- Education: veincare, OD prevention, HR strategies
- **Vouchers for drug treatment**

VIVAT

1551



Seattle - King County
Department of Public Health
Meat Exchange Program



IT'S HEPATITIS DAY

1P Public Health
LIVING & LEARNING TOGETHER
HEALTH & WELLNESS

Informational materials including brochures and a large poster with various icons and text.

Supplies for the booth, including boxes of water bottles and other materials.



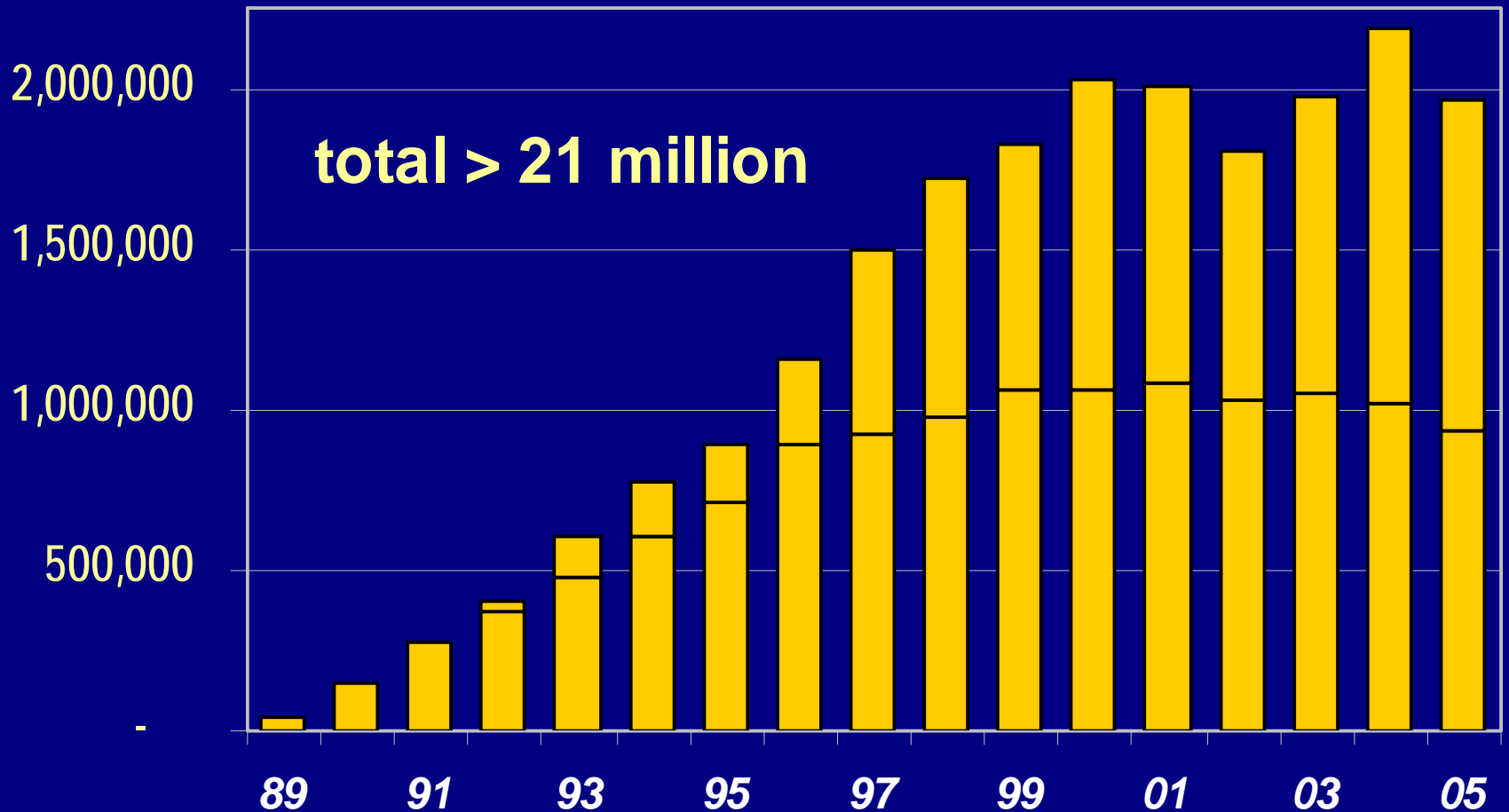


03103

Public Health
Public Health
THE PEOPLE WE SERVE



Syringes exchanged 1989-2005



> 50,000 encounters per year

Methadone Voucher Program

- Started 1990 (United Way)
- Funders
 - City of Seattle
 - King County
 - WA AIDS Omnibus
 - Ryan White Title I
 - WA State DASA
 - [Medicaid]
- Treatment Partners
 - Therapeutic Health Services (2 clinics)
 - Evergreen Treatment Services (3 clinics)
 - Jail Health Services (2 sites)
 - Courtesy Dosing
 - Licensure expected Summer 2006

Methadone Voucher Program

- Advocacy / Policy Partners
 - King Co. Bar Association
 - Seattle City Council
 - King County Board of Health
 - Drug Court
 - Seattle Dept. of Human Resources
 - King County Dept. of Community & Human Services
 - WA State DSHS / DASA
 - Key State legislators

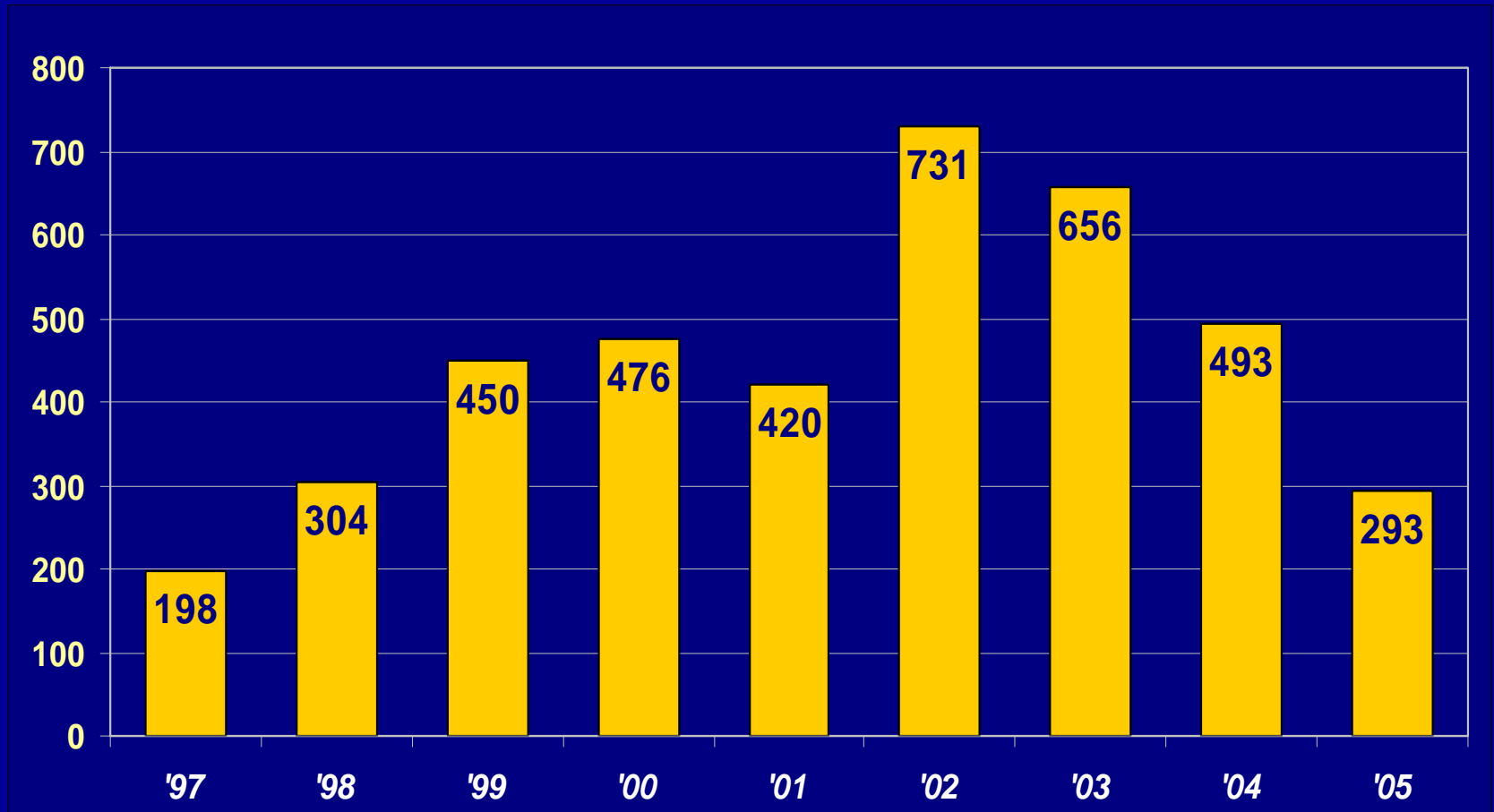
Methadone Voucher Program

- Objective: stabilize opiate dependent NEP customers on methadone
 - “bridge” funding
 - Interim / emergency funding
 - Long-term support
 - Up to 2 years full coverage
 - Up to 2 years half coverage

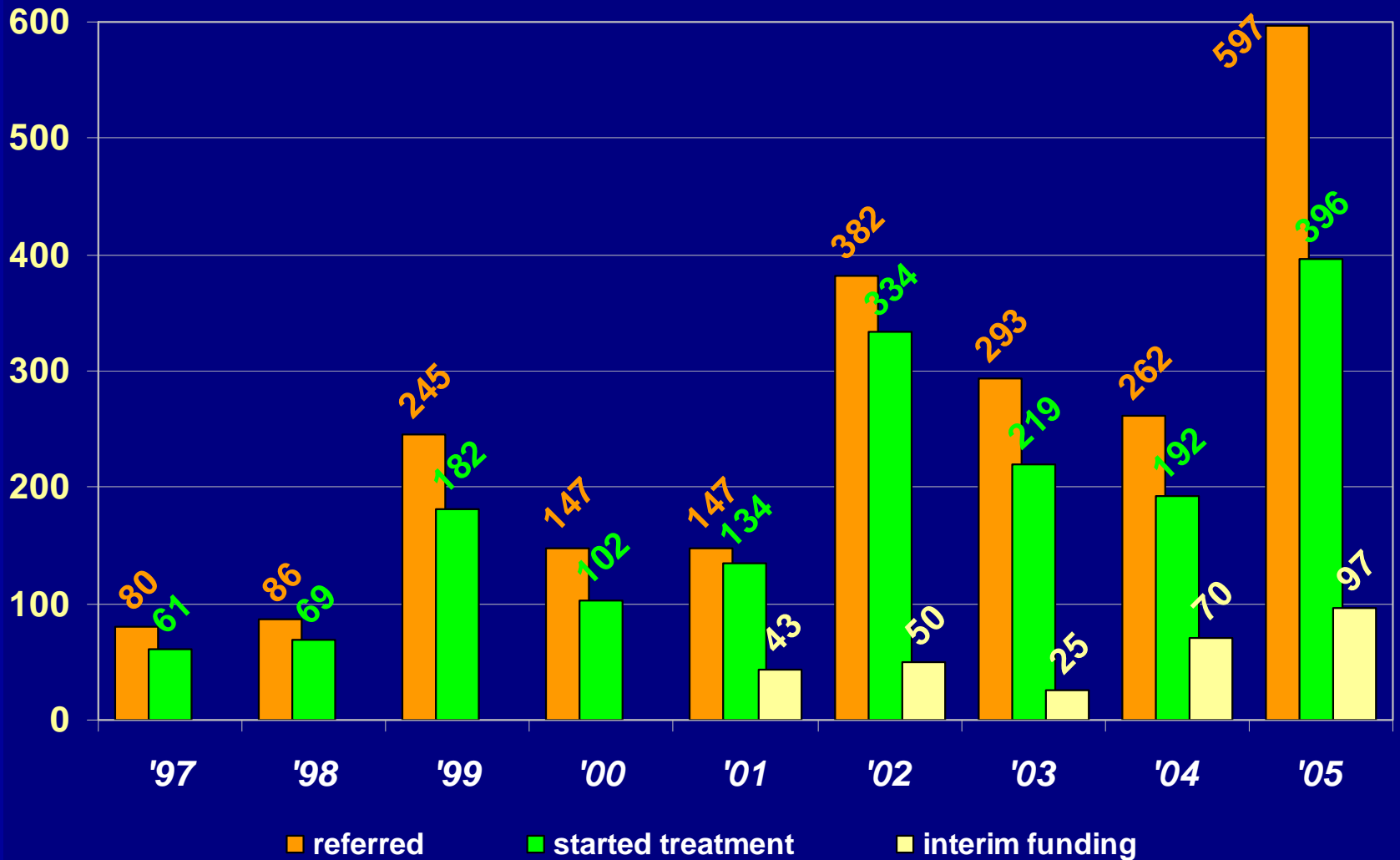
How it works

- NEP **Case Management** is KEY
- Centralized waiting list
- Waitlist registration includes:
 - Client treatment preferences / options
 - Eligibilities
 - Detailed contact info.
 - Shooting partners / significant others
- Assistance / advocacy to enroll in WA State Basic Health Plan, **Medicaid**, etc.

Methadone Wait List: # of people on list at end of year



Treatment Referrals & Placements



Voucher Recipients

- 44% homeless & 19% unstably housed
- 90% report hx. of incarceration
- 51% incarcerated within last year

Methadone Treatment Reduces Medicaid Costs

Average Cost Per Person Per Month

WA State Department of Social & Health Services

June 2004

If Untreated **\$2,020**

Monthly Medicaid Cost For Opiate Addicts Who Do Not Enter Treatment

n = 1,065

NET OFFSET

\$765

Per Person Per Month

If Treated **\$1,255**

Methadone Tx. Cost **\$219**

Monthly Medicaid Cost For Opiate Addicts Treated With Methadone

(Excludes methadone treatment costs)

\$1,036

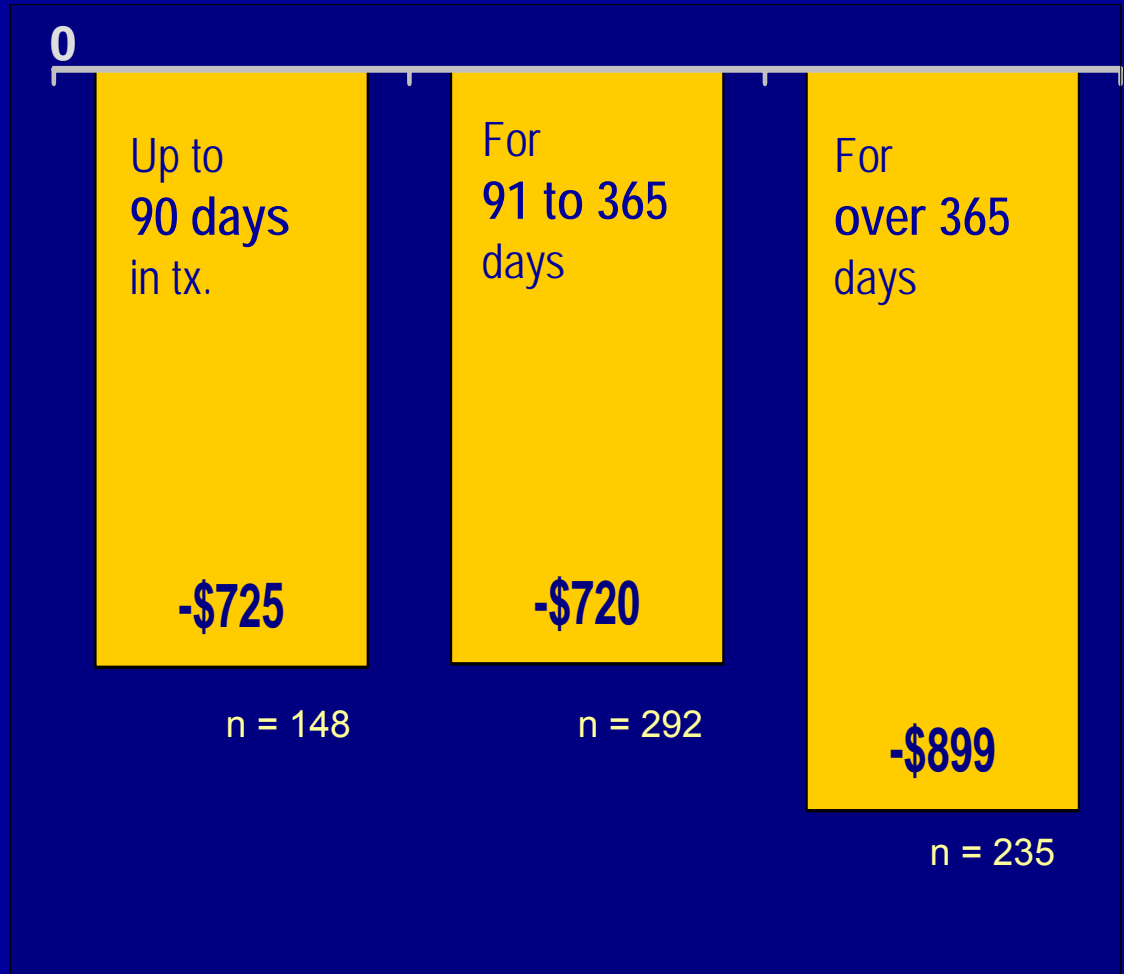
n = 675

Longer Stays in Methadone Tx. Lead To Greater Cost Offsets

Average Per Person
Per Month

WA State
Department of Social &
Health Services

June 2004

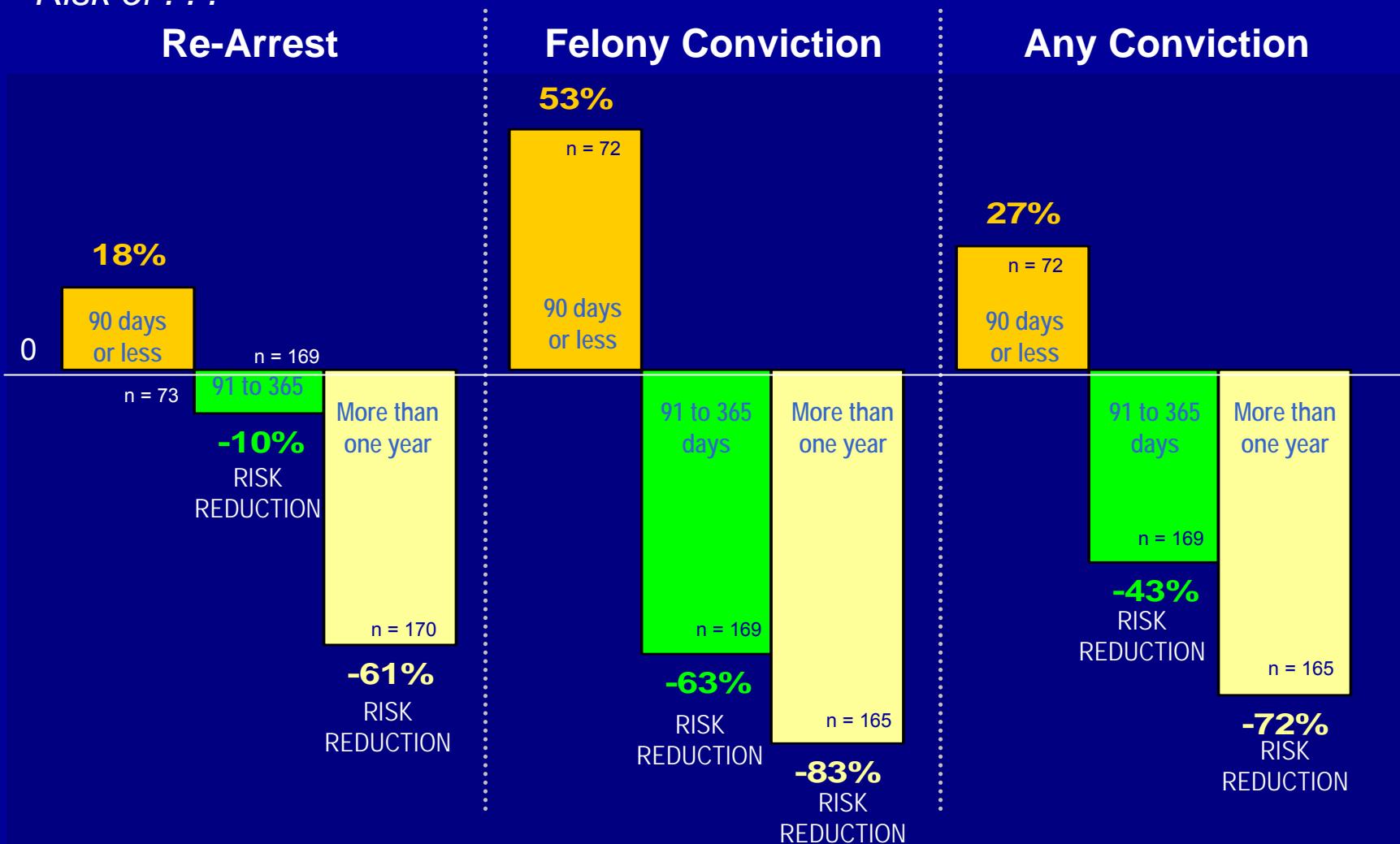


Criminal Justice Outcomes

Improve with Longer Stays in Methadone Tx.

Risk relative to untreated clients with opiate addiction

Risk of . . .



Challenges

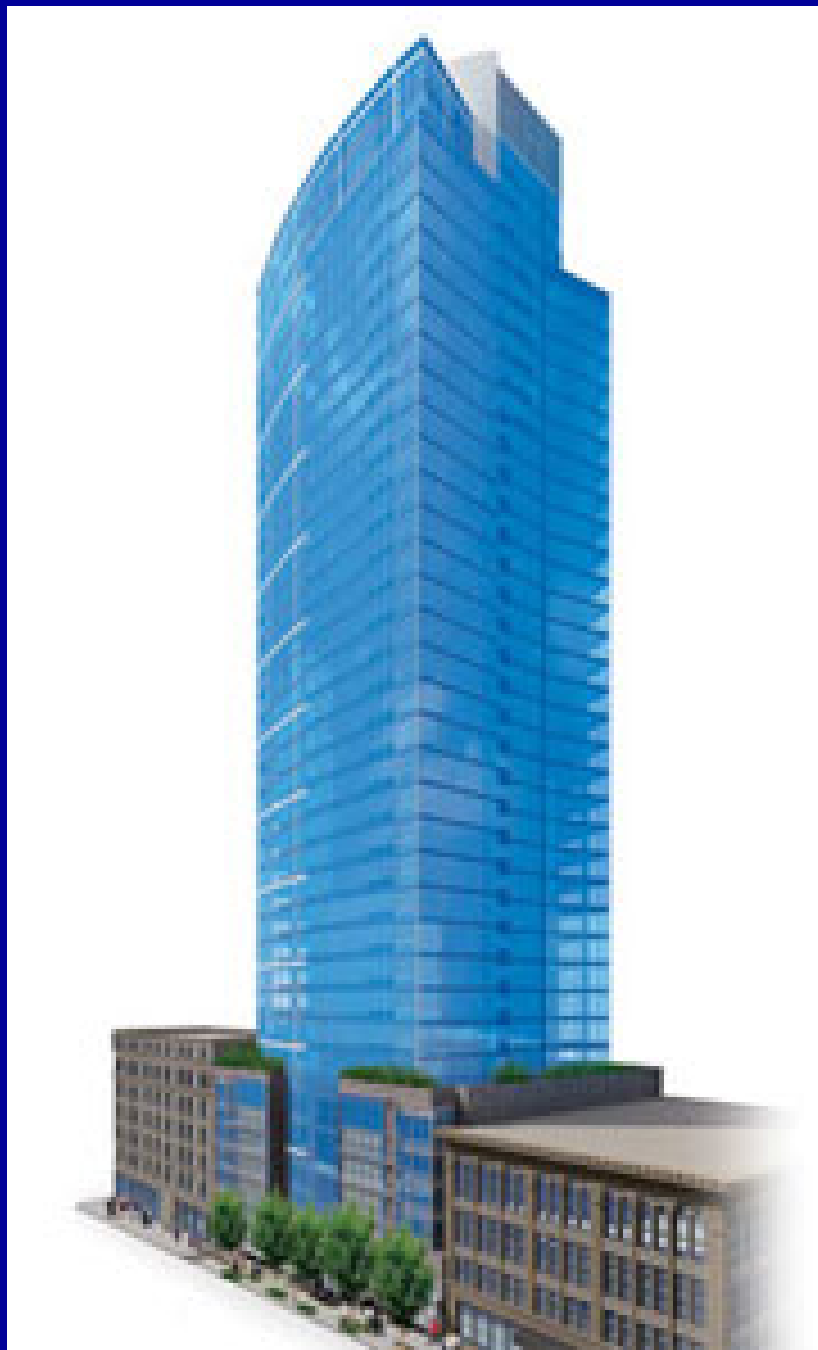
- Funding: **\$2.5 million** needed
 - Waitlist up to 400 as of end of April 2006
 - Case Management maxed out
- Jail Methadone licensure
- Relocation

>70% of King Co. residents
“support” NEP

NO STOPS
6-9AM
3-6PM
EXCEPT BUS STOPPING
2-6AM
SUN, TUE, THUR
TOW-AWAY
ZONE
194-7511

HOLY GHOST





Needle Exchange & Voucher Access to Methadone Treatment

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<http://www.metrokc.gov/health/apu/menuhr.htm>