



# SAMHSA-HRSA CENTER for INTEGRATED HEALTH SOLUTIONS

## REACH - Risk Education for At-Risk Communities on HIV/AIDS

University of Colorado, Denver  
Addiction, Research and Treatment  
Services (ARTS)



# ARTS is dedicated to improving lives through prevention, education and treatment

- The Addiction Research and Treatment Services (ARTS) is the clinical program of the Division of Substance Dependence, Department of Psychiatry at the University of Colorado School of Medicine. ARTS has provided residential and outpatient empirically supported substance abuse treatment services in Colorado for over 33 years, with an emphasis on psychosocial and pharmacological treatments for adolescents, women, men, families and those involved in the criminal justice system. ARTS is on the cutting edge of scientific research, medical education and clinical care for the purpose of reducing death and dying from addictive disorders.
- It is the mission of the Addiction Research and Treatment Services to save lives and improve the quality of life for persons struggling with substance abuse and dependence, through the application of empirically supported treatments.



# Project REACH Partners

## Sisters of Color United for Education (SOCUE)

Widely recognized for their expertise in providing and delivering culturally grounded, relevant programming to hard-to-reach, at-risk populations and experience in adapting evidence-based programming for use with a Latino population.

## Harm Reduction Action Center (HRAC)

Promotes public health by ensuring that people who inject drugs are educated and equipped with the tools to reduce the spread of communicable diseases such as HIV and Hepatitis C and to eliminate the proliferation of fatal overdoses.

## Advocates For Recovery (AFR)

An organization dedicated to continue changing the conversation from addiction to recovery and delivering nationally recognized curriculum for recovery peer coach training.

## Servicios de la Raza

An integral part of the Latino community in Metro Denver and a primary service for many human services agencies and institutions in the Metro Denver region as they encounter Latino clientele.



# Recruitment

- Criminal Justice
  - Colorado Department of Corrections
  - Treatment courts
- Outreach
- Community and project partners
- Integration of inner agency medication assisted treatment



# Project REACH Services

- Evidence-based substance abuse groups
- Individual sessions
- Medication assisted treatment
- Psychiatric care
- Coordination of medical care
- Peer educator services
- Culturally specific education and support groups
- Risk reduction groups
- Peer groups
- Transportation assistance
- Abstinence monitoring
- Incentives for participation
- Infectious disease testing
- Hepatitis A & B vaccination



# Retention

- Safe and welcoming environment
  - “Treatment on an equal basis with others, free from discrimination because of race, religion, sex, age, ethnicity, disability, sexual orientation and gender expression”
- Diverse staff
- Location
- Treatment accessibility
- Evidence-based practices
- Support services
- Coordination of care



# Challenges

- Unmet basic life needs of the patient
- Fear of infectious disease testing
- Perception of treatment