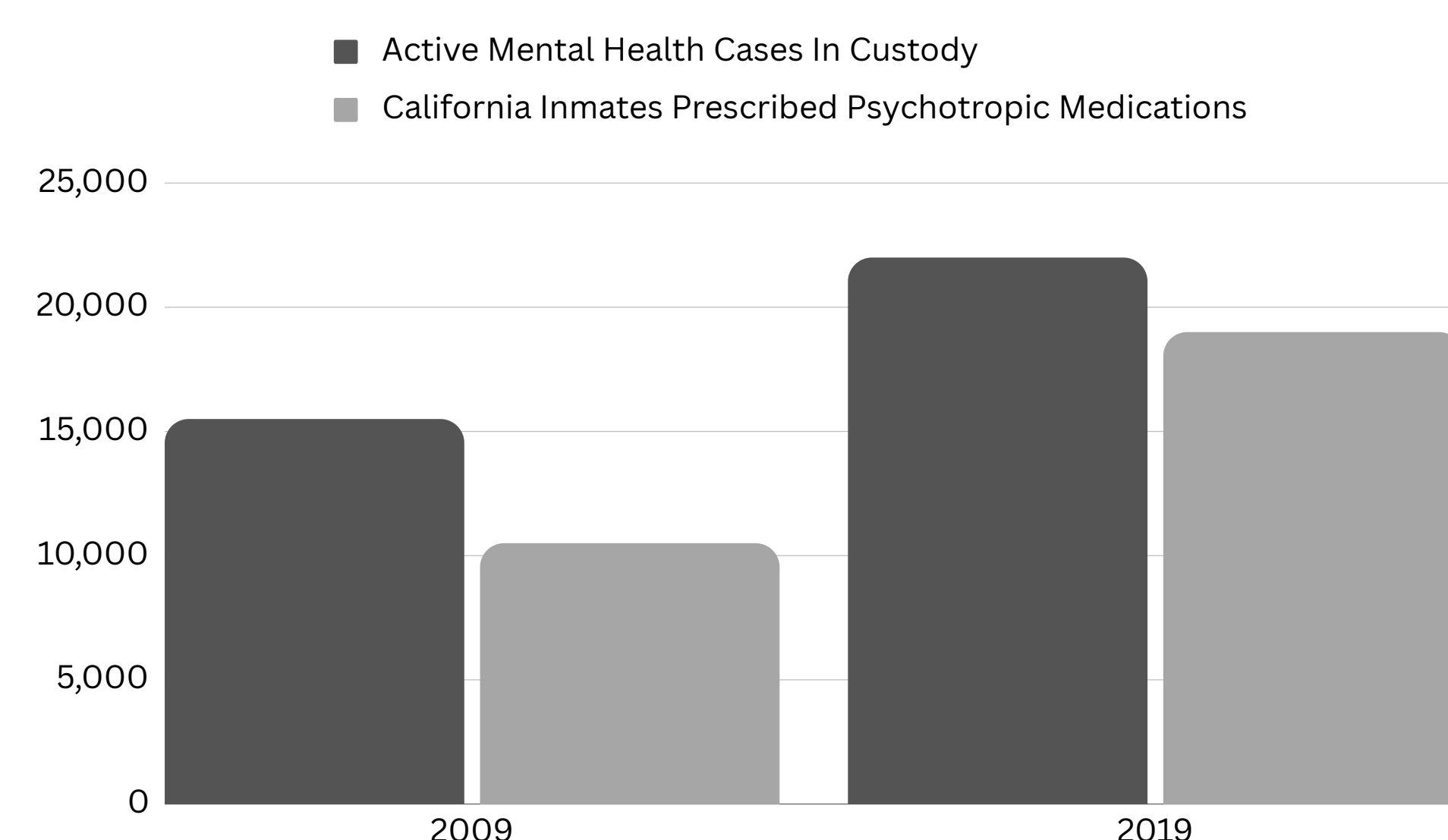


# Mental Health - Medication Compliance in Corrections

## Mental Health of Inmates

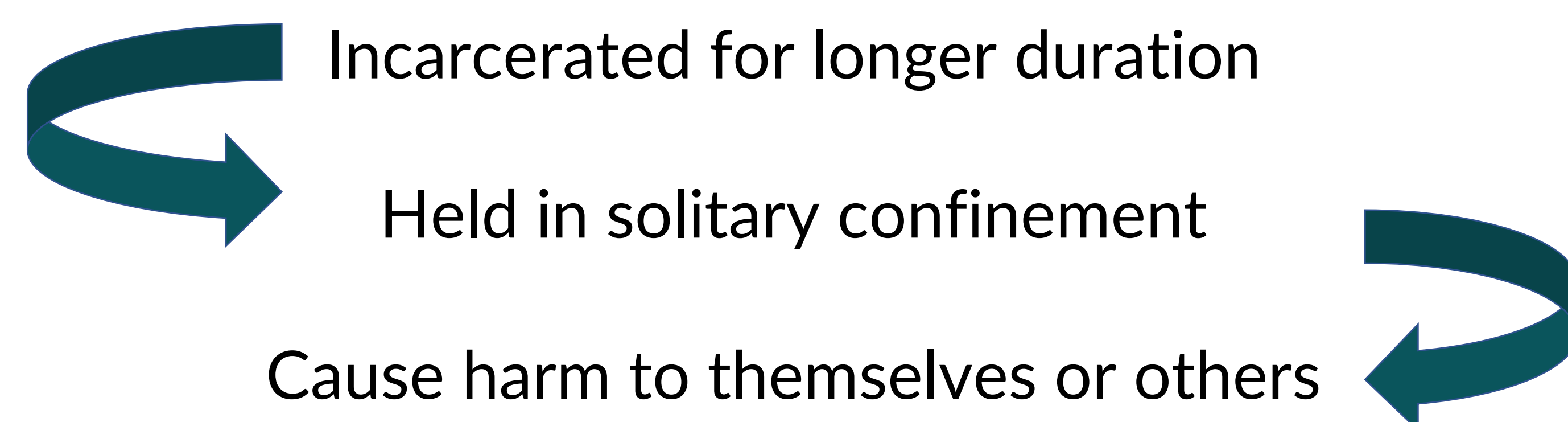
From 2009 to 2019 there has been a 63% rise in the number of active mental health cases within California jails.

Of the 72,000 incarcerated inmates in 2019, approximately 19,000 are receiving psychotropic medications. This is an increase of 81% from 2009.



## Importance of Issue

Those with mental illness in the jail system are more likely to be:



## Framework

QI model utilized for this project is the Iowa Model of Evidence Based Practice.

This framework utilizes feedback loops in order to provide guidance in decision making.

Feedback loops from this project include inmate self journaling, medication follow up process, and education deemed most helpful. Feedback to be provided through staff and inmate survey.

## Increasing Medication Adherence

Increasing adherence to mental health medications during incarceration could help to decrease the duration of incarceration as well as decrease return incarcerations.

**SMART GOAL:** Over the next three months, mental health medication compliance in correctional health will improve by 25% as measured by the medication administration records. This improvement will come through patient journaling, increased staff follow up, patient education, and motivational interventions.

## Interventions

Inmate medication journaling with incentives for participation.

Staff led educational sessions, both in group and individual setting.

Medical staff follow up all medication refusals to inquire about refusal and provide patient specific education.



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## Key Players

Patients – San Joaquin County inmates with a current prescription for mental health medications.

Medical Staff – Correctional Health Care medical staff will monitor medication administration and be directly involved in education, patient follow up, and connection to outside resources.

Community – A partnership with Behavioral Health Services and local pharmacies will help prevent delay in filling prescriptions.

## Evaluation

Outcome Evaluation: Medication Administration Records will be reviewed after each month for compliance with mental health medications.

Process Evaluation: Patients will journal medication adherence experience as well as noting any side effects and how they are feeling so medication can be adjusted appropriately.

Outcome Evaluation: Track the number of inmates that have maintained medication compliance with rate of return incarceration.

## References

Jail mental health jps report february 2020 [PDF]. (2021). [https://www.cdcr.ca.gov/ccjbh/wp-content/uploads/sites/172/2020/02/Jail\\_MentalHealth\\_JPSReport\\_02-03-2020.pdf](https://www.cdcr.ca.gov/ccjbh/wp-content/uploads/sites/172/2020/02/Jail_MentalHealth_JPSReport_02-03-2020.pdf)

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Deng, M., Zhai, S., Ouyang, X., Liu, Z., & Ross, B. (2022). Factors influencing medication adherence among patients with severe mental disorders from the perspective of mental health professionals. *BMC Psychiatry*, 22(1). <https://doi.org/10.1186/s12888-021-03681-6>