

COMMUNITY INITIATIVE TO REDUCE GUN VIOLENCE

Dayton, Trotwood
& Montgomery County



Addressing Violence

- ✦ Criminal gun violence, regardless of frequency or intensity creates fear in citizens and creates a perception of chaos.
- ✦ There is no level of illegal gun violence that is acceptable in this community.
- ✦ In response, the City of Dayton in partnership with the City of Trotwood and Montgomery County have created the Community Initiative to Reduce Gun Violence (CIRGV)



Community Initiative To Reduce Gun Violence

- ✦ The CIRGV is a targeted deterrence strategy modeled after the 1990's *Boston Gun Project*.
- ✦ This community-based strategy focuses on “reclaiming” those who have become involved in a violent lifestyle.
- ✦ Locally, it follows a statewide strategy piloted through the 2007 *Cincinnati Initiative to Reduce Gun Violence* program which significantly reduced the number of group-involved homicides.



Group Violence

- ✦ Is generated by small active street groups that are responsible for the most serious street violence
- ✦ Tears communities apart
- ✦ Involves:
 - ✦ High-risk chronic offenders
 - ✦ Historic disputes
 - ✦ Personal altercations, not business



Intervention Strategy

- ✦ Direct, sustained engagement with street groups
- ✦ Face-to-face
- ✦ Explicit focus on violence
- ✦ Three key components:
 1. Consequences
 2. Moral Voice
 3. Assistance



Communication with Groups

- ✦ Face-to-Face
- ✦ Probation/Parole Forum
- ✦ “Representatives” of Violent Groups
- ✦ Unified Stance
- ✦ Careful, Accurate Enforcement Message



Component 1: Consequences

- ✦ Group accountability for homicide: group dynamic, group sanction
- ✦ Realistic, enforceable consequences
- ✦ Create reversal of pro-violence peer pressure
- ✦ Offer an option for an “Honorable Exit”



Component 2: Moral Voice

- ✦ Respected local figures
 - “Gun violence is wrong.”
 - “Gun violence will not be tolerated.”
 - “The community will support Law Enforcement taking all necessary legal means to stop the shooting & the killing.”
- ✦ Clear, direct, community stand against violence



Component 3: Assistance

- ✦ Needs Assessed
- ✦ Life Plans Developed
- ✦ Mentoring
- ✦ Education / Employment Opportunities
- ✦ Connect to Community Resources



Timeline

February & March 2008

Attend Cincinnati Call-In Session
Meet with Potential Partners

April & May 2008

Participate in Training
Secure Partners
Conduct Homicide Review
Gather Intelligence
Convene Stakeholders

June & July 2008

Intelligence Analysis
Recruit Team Owners & Membership
Develop Data Management Systems



Timeline

August 2008

Secure Funding Commitments
Communicate Message to Community
Identify Service Delivery Providers
Identify Call-In Participants

September & October 2008

Communicate Message to Target Population
Prepare for First Call-In Session
Identify Community Speakers for Call-In

November & December 2008

Recruit, Hire & Train Services Staff
Continue to Define Service Delivery Components
First Call-In Session
Street Outreach Workers In Place



Timeline

January & February 2009

Participant Engagement & Violence Interruption
Intelligence Analysis
Develop Community Involvement Strategy
Prepare for Second Call-In Session

March & April 2009

Street Outreach & Violence Interruption
Assist CIRGV Clients Seeking Help
Implement Community Involvement Strategy
Second Call-In Sessions

May & June 2009

Focused Community Outreach & Involvement
Town Hall Meeting / Focus Group Meetings
Street Outreach & Violence Interruption
YouthWorks Summer Jobs for CIRGV Participants

July & August 2009

Services / Outreach / Violence Interruption
Intelligence Analysis
Prepare for Next Call-In Sessions



Community Initiative To Reduce Gun Violence

City of Dayton
Montgomery County
City of Trotwood
Local Health Systems
Courts

Governing Board

Role: Overall Responsibility;
Key in Breaking Down Barriers

City of Dayton Police
Montgomery County Sheriff's Office
City of Trotwood Police
Community Groups
Strategy Team Co-Owners

Strategy/ Implementation Team

Role: Develop/ Deploy strategy; Identify Resources; Monitor Results; Facilitate Key Decisions

Strategy Teams

Role: Develop and Execute the Specific Action Plan for individual Strategy.

Strategy 1
Enforcement
Team

City of Dayton Police
Montgomery County Sheriff's Office
Trotwood Police
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Alcohol Tobacco & Fire Arms
U.S. Marshal Service

Strategy 2
Services
Team

Omega CDC
Dayton Urban League
Wesley Community Center
Other HS Organizations

Strategy 3
Community
Team

Community Leaders
Dr. Walker
Bishop Mark McGuire

Strategy 4
System
Team

Wright State University

Twenty-five Things YOU Can Do

1. Speak out against gun violence in your community.
2. Build relationships.
3. Stay informed of community issues.
4. Partner with others already working on issues important to you.
5. Join or help start a watch organization for your neighborhood.
6. Meet your neighbors and recruit them for the watch group.
7. Find neighbors who are sick or disabled and regularly check on their welfare.
8. Mentor a young person.
9. Become active in your neighborhood in planning how to make it safer
10. Learn which police officers normally work in your area. Meet them, support them, invite them to organization meetings and social events so that the whole neighborhood gets comfortable with each other.
11. Get neighborhood school teachers and administrators to be part of your watch group.
12. Get neighborhood business owners to join your neighborhood watch group.



Twenty-five Things YOU Can Do, Continued

13. Take litter walk. Pick up trash along your block.
14. Plan a community clean-up.
15. Plan a Health Fair.
16. Plant a community garden.
17. Join your Priority Board.
18. Clean up a vacant lot.
19. Volunteer in a neighborhood school.
20. Pray for Peace.
21. Partner with the faith community to provide support for youth.
22. Contribute time and resources to organizations working for peace in your community.
23. Observe what is normal in your community and call the police when things aren't right.
24. Learn what kind of information is helpful when reporting suspicious activity.
25. Take a turn walking neighborhood children to school or waiting for the bus.

