The UNITY RoadMap: A Framework for Preventing Youth Violence

Monday, September 16th 2-3pm

Audio is streaming through your computer speakers and will begin at 2 PM ET. If you cannot listen through your speakers, call 866-835-7973.
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Type any additional questions or comments into the Q&A box on the left.
The Presenters

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www.ChildrensSafetyNetwork.org
UNITY RoadMap: Essential Elements of Preventing Violence

Benita Tsao
Children’s Safety Network
September 16, 2013

UNITY is funded by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, and in part by The Kresge Foundation
An Assessment of Youth Violence Prevention Activities in USA Cities

www.preventioninstitute.org/unitylinks
www.preventioninstitute.org/unitylinks
Who?

Partnerships

- High-Level Leadership
- Collaboration & Staffing
- Community Engagement
A Coordinated Approach

Minneapolis

Image Credit: City of Minneapolis, Summer 612
What is Prevention?

- Programs, Organizational Practices & Policies
- Communication
- Training & Capacity Building
Transform Zoning Code

ZONING FOR A HEALTHY BALTIMORE
How?
Strategy

- Strategic Plans
- Data & Evaluation
- Funding
For 10 years, Measures Y and BB generate $6 million every year to prevent violence.
UNITY Evaluation

◆ **Partnerships:** Increased collaboration across sectors and with the community

◆ **Prevention:** Nearly 90% of strategic plans reflect health department input

◆ **Strategy:** All UNITY cities either have a strategic plan or are developing one

◆ 85% of cities report using the UNITY RoadMap
Learn More

- Explore the elements online, bit.ly/12AgeQM
- UNITY RoadMap Gauge, bit.ly/1e0ABi9
- UNITY Policy Platform, page 5
- “Advancing State Efforts to Prevent Urban Violence”
Explore UNITY resources at preventioninstitute.org/unitylinks
Sign up for alerts at preventioninstitute.org/alerts

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Connect with us on
SYVPI Background

- Initiative was developed in response to:
  - Shooting deaths of five youth in 2008
  - Persistence of court referrals for violent offenses
  - High rate of middle school suspensions for violence related incidents
- A combined intervention–prevention model
  - City already invests more than $62 million in youth services
  - Social Development Research Group work identified risk characteristics aligned with City intervention
Primary Populations

1. Youth convicted multiple times and either released from state or county supervision or under minimal supervision and considered at continued risk to re-offend

2. Youth arrested for crimes that do not meet the juvenile detention criteria and released back into the community

3. Middle school youth at risk of multiple suspensions or chronic truancy

4. Youth and their associates who are victims of violence and may seek retaliation

5. Gang-involved youth
Seattle Initiative

- A blend of multiple strategies
  - Community organization
  - Strategic law enforcement
  - Provision of social services and employment opportunities
- Annual budget $4.6 million
Seattle Youth Violence Prevention Initiative
Organizational Structure

- Neighborhood Networks
  - Central
  - Southeast
  - Southwest

- SYVPI Director’s Office

- Employment
  - Managed by Seattle Police Department

- School Emphasis Officers

- Community Matching Grants

- Case Management

- Mentoring
  - Managed by City’s Department of Human Services

- Aggression Replacement Training
  - Managed by City’s Department of Parks & Recreation

- Recreational Activities

- Street Outreach
Network Coordination

- Establish neighborhood-based partnerships that support youth violence prevention
- Leverage additional “out-of-network” resources for Initiative youth
- Mobilize Neighborhood Action Teams and community to support SYVPI goals
- Manage community grant and youth development projects
Intake & Referral

• Receive referrals to the Initiative and conduct needs assessment with youth and referring person or agency

• Determine the best services for youth and make the service referral

• Enter all information in SYVPI database

• Monitor ongoing engagement of youth in pro-social activities
Case Management

• Emphasis on serving youth with multiple issues who are not receiving case management services from other sources
• Build one-on-one relationship with youth
• Co-develop individual service plan
• Help youth stay on track
Street Outreach

• Strategic engagement
  • Reach out to youth, build trusting relationships, mediate/de-escalate conflicts, bridge to SYVPI and other resources
  • Advocate for youth and help youth understand that he or she must be accountable for negative behavior

• Critical incident response
  • Respond to major incidents such as shootings
  • Mediate/de-escalate youth in conflicts at strategic areas such as hospitals, courthouse, schools, or hot spots

• Preventing major violent events
School Emphasis Officers

- Conflict resolution & mediation
- GREAT training
- Home visits
- Referrals to Initiative
- Build police-community relations
Other SYVPI services:

- Youth employment & internships
- Mentoring
- Parks Department recreation activities
- Aggression Replacement Training
- Community Matching Grant projects
Current Status

• 1,200+ youth enrolled
• 300+ youth case-managed
• 200+ youth in internships, employment services & community service each year
• 400+ youth participate in recreation programs
• 100+ youth matched with mentors
Youth Arrested by SPD for Violent Offenses by Calendar Year 2008-2012

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>SYVPI Area</th>
<th>Non-SYVPI Area</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2008</td>
<td>362</td>
<td>143</td>
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<td>117</td>
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<tr>
<td>2012</td>
<td>261</td>
<td>103</td>
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</tbody>
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- 28%
- 28%
Evaluation

- Risk assessment screening tool validation with UW School of Medicine

- SYVPI evaluation readiness review with MEF Associates
What Makes These Partnerships Successful?

- Networks and service providers are jointly responsible for youth outcomes
- Intentional collaboration
- Networks leverage community resources
- Shared data among all parties
- Course corrections
For more information:

www.safeyouthseattle.org
Thank you for your participation

Please take a moment to complete our short evaluation

https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/UNITY_webinar091613

Questions or Comments? Contact:

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