"Changing the Odds"

"Peace is a daily, a weekly, a monthly process, gradually changing opinions, slowly eroding old barriers, quietly building new structures. And, however un-dramatic the pursuit of peace, that pursuit must go on."
EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Office of Neighborhood Safety (ONS) is a non-law enforcement department within city government. The primary goal of the ONS is to dramatically reduce gun violence and associated homicides, achieving sustained reductions over time by creating and providing attention intensive engagement and support structures that are designed to improve the social and emotional health and wellness of those it serves. The ONS provides and coordinates targeted intervention services for those identified as active firearm offenders who have avoided sustained criminal consequences. The ONS works with between 150-200 young men each year who are at highest risk for being involved in gun violence.

The ONS facilitates several strategies to achieve its goals and objectives with those believed to be active firearm offenders (or potential victims). For example, in 2012 the ONS helped the city reduce summertime firearm related homicides by 76% and firearm assaults by 16% employing its Summertime Gun Violence Interruption Initiative (“SG7”).

In Richmond, most gun related homicides are retaliatory in nature and many gun related homicides result from some sort of altercation. In 2011, the City of Richmond experienced 26 homicides citywide. Seventeen (17) of these twenty-six (26) occurred between the months of June and August of that year. It is widely speculated and was commonly communicated that most shootings during this period and many of the resulting homicides recorded were a product of ongoing conflicts/feuds and/or retaliatory acts between warring factions in North and Central Richmond.

In response to this challenge, the ONS intensified its street outreach presence, increased ONS street outreach assets, and worked to stimulate a heightened level of community engagement in North Richmond in an effort to reduce conflicts that produce or fuel increased gun violence between North and Central Richmond crews. In addition to engaging the community and the high risk individuals, ONS Neighborhood Change Agents literally posted themselves at the corners of the only five entrances and exits of North Richmond. Often this resulted in identifying Central Richmond crews coming into to North Richmond and convincing them to turn around and leave the area.

At the conclusion of the SG7 initiative on August 31, 2012, four (4) firearm related homicides and twenty-seven (27) firearm assaults had occurred during the summer months citywide. NOT ONE FIREARM RELATED HOMICIDE OCCURRED IN NORTH RICHMOND DURING SUMMER 2012!!!
Below please find a summary of ONS Outcomes for 2012.

2012 STREET OUTREACH OUTCOMES

- 2,422 outreach contacts were facilitated by Neighborhood Change Agents;
- 212 individuals who are at high risk of being involved in gun violence provided services;
- 206 formerly incarcerated individuals with firearm convictions were provided support;
- 200 individuals provided attention intensive support & mentoring;
- 154 service referrals were facilitated by Neighborhood Change Agents;
- 39 individuals who are at high risk of being involved in gun violence participated in life skills training facilitated by Neighborhood Change Agents;

2012 FELLOWSHIP OUTCOMES (Two 18-month program cohorts)

Of the 43 total Fellows:

- 41 are Alive;
- 34 have no new gun charges since becoming a Fellow;
- 32 have no gun violence related arrests since becoming Fellow;
- 37 have no gun related injuries or hospitalization since becoming a Fellow;
- 12 have obtained jobs;
- 9 are currently studying for their GED;
- 6 have become valid licensed drivers;
- 5 have achieved safer housing objectives;
- 5 have made spiritual commitments;
- 3 have enrolled in College;
- 2 have obtained Health Insurance;
- 2 have obtained their GED;
- 2 have achieved vocational certificates;
- 1 has graduated from High School;

The Office of Neighborhood Safety through grant funds subsidized 28 employment opportunities for those participating in the Fellowship. This partnership included the City of Richmond's Employment and Training and Recreation Departments and the Richmond Police Activities League (RPAL).

Richmond Firearm Activity - Pre & Post Peacemaker Fellowship

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>YEAR</th>
<th>HOMICIDES</th>
<th>FIREARM ASSAULTS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2007</td>
<td>47</td>
<td>242</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2008</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>150</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2009</td>
<td>45</td>
<td>170</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pre Fellowship – Totals</td>
<td>120 (+54)</td>
<td>562 (+248)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2010</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>118</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2011</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>114</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2012</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>82</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Post Fellowship - Totals</td>
<td>66 (-45%)</td>
<td>314 (-44%)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

2012 RICHMOND BEYOND VIOLENCE INITIATIVE OUTCOMES

➤ 100% signed consents were obtained in 2012 by JMH Social Workers;
➤ 100% signed consents were obtained in 2012 by ONS Interventionists;
➤ 56% of program participants remain engaged at 6 months;
➤ 100% program participants remain alive after 6 months;
➤ 100% program participants have not been involved in a criminal incident at 6 months.

LIFE SKILLS COMMUNITY TRAINING OUTCOMES

In 2012, fifty-one (51) individuals representing city staff, community advocates and clergy participated. This training opportunity also supports community and clergy capacity building related to their involvement and leadership in Richmond’s CEASEFIRE/LIFELINES FOR HEALING Initiative.

CALIFORNIA GANG REDUCTION, INTERVENTION AND PREVENTION [CALGRIP III] OUTCOMES

- 943 program participants received gang prevention services;
- 488 program participants received gang intervention services;
- 180 program participants received education services;
• 51 program participants demonstrated academic improvement/advancement;

• 63 program participants demonstrated increased participation in school and school-related activities;

• 51 program participants were placed in employment, education or training programs;

• 48 program participants entered an apprenticeship program;

• 10 program participants attained a high school diploma/GED;

• 17 program participants retained or returned to secondary school for at least 2 semesters.

**2012 RESOURCE & CAPACITY DEVELOPMENT OUTCOMES - $1,047,671.00 in grants secured**

• CALIFORNIA GANG REDUCTION, INTERVENTION AND PREVENTION [CalGRIIP V] - AWARDED

• OFFICE OF JUVENILE JUSTICE AND DELINQUENCY PREVENTION (OJJDP) 2012 MENTORING ENHANCEMENT DEMONSTRATION PROGRAM

• SUBSTANCE ABUSE & MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES ADMINISTRATION (SAMHSA) – MENTAL HEALTH EXPANSION GRANT (URBAN TRAILS RICHMOND)

• THE CALIFORNIA ENDOWMENT – OPERATION PEACEMAKER FELLOWSHIP

*In 2012 all ONS staff became Certified Anger Management Facilitators and will begin to facilitate anger management classes with those it serves.*