

**Task Force to Reduce Gun Violence
Working Group Breakout Minutes
Monday, September 23, 2019
6:30-8:30 pm
Community Solutions Center
2328 Melrose Ave NW, Roanoke**

Attendance:

Troy Gusler
Joshua Johnson
Jamaal Jackson
Kathy Cohen
Kat Pascal
Natasha Saunders
Mary Ward
Tim Harvey
Anthony West
Mark Hamill
Shakira Williams
Joe Cobb

Several guests were in attendance.

Street team – No Update

Re-entry program – Kathy

Update on Programs through Roanoke city jail

Has asked for information from sheriff

- – said 8% (need re-cap on this data point)

Questions:

What are the programs that are happening in jail?

How many are taking advantage of programs?

How much did he think are needed with re-entry programs?

Need programs for juveniles as well and want answers to same questions for this population.

Rapid Response – Shakira

Partnerships with hospitals and police department are needed

To have advocates present onsite immediately

Need to be able to share resources

Witness protection

Housing issues

Peer mediation

Reduce retaliation

Aftercare – partnership with Fed-Up; have them be a part of Rapid Response

Josh will check on status of grant

Will do rapid response with or without

Hospital may be best place to reach families or survivors

Identify gaps

Training across disciplines identifying signs of trauma and survivor responses

- Model – CURE Model

Public health model

Violence reduction programs use this

A lot of cities have identified this model

We want to be there be notified and walk families through steps

FED Up has a contact that can be used as well

Would require HIPAA Trainings

Joe update – from meeting with Carilion Chief Medical Officer and Chief of Police

- Discussed rapid response

- Talked about how they are notified in connection with RPD

- What to anticipate of who is coming to hospital and what to be aware of

- Training to do with employees – how to talk with families and survivors

- Discussed protocol

- Once someone leaves parameter of care there is a disconnect with follow up

- This can also be a prevention team depending on how this is set up

Community Engagement and Education – Joe

Model program for families to talk about reducing violence in homes and communities

Potential Partners: PTA, RCPS, Central Council, CIA faith based, Children's Trust

Work with school social workers, DSS, Black Father Family, BBBS, Imagine Me, Pretty Humble, Renaissance and Elle Academy (Mentoring Groups) Bring reps together from these groups and discuss model

Gun Safety Lock Programs

Current programs:

RPD Locked on Gun Safety Program

Locked Gun Saves Lives – RCPS

- Lock, Pledge
- Educated families
- Parent and child oriented

Carillion – 300 locks

BRBH – Blue Ridge Behavioral Health

Emphasize how we can work with families and adults
focus on reducing violence through non-violence

Peer mediation program that used to be prevalent in schools that was about training peers to resolve conflict through mediation
Grass-root effort

PSA and Marketing campaigns

Looking at a couple of models

Safer Neighborhoods

Bridging the Gap (Troy) December 12 6-8 pm

Neighborhood representation

Community representation

Youth Groups

Faith-Based Group Representation

Have high school choirs perform

Share information – hear from leadership

Walk from MLK Bridge to Salem Ave. City Xmas Tree

End in Higher Education Center with sponsored food

Secure donations for FEDUP

Create a pledge that would be linked to the campaign the greater group creates

Housing Authority and HUD representation should be members of this working group

Present to larger group on housing concerns and issues

Job readiness programs

Family relocation

Safety

Policy of law/safety

RCPS Kindergarten book-reading project to instill positive character early on in youth