

COMMUNITY-BASED CRIME REDUCTION BULLETIN

March 2020

HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE SITES

Albuquerque CBCR

A recent [article](#) in the Albuquerque Journal showcases Prosecutor Theresa Romero, an Albuquerque CBCR practitioner, who was assigned to be a community prosecutor in the International District, as part of the District Attorney's (DA) CBCR pilot program. This position is the first of its kind in Albuquerque, and if the model is successful the DA's office will look to fund community prosecutors for other neighborhoods. Romero stated, "What I do is engage with community members and make them part of the decision-making process. I hear from them about what they perceive as the big issues here, what they perceive as quality-of-life and crime problems in their own neighborhoods, and brainstorm with them about what solutions would be appropriate to address those things." For increased accessibility, Prosecutor Romero opened a new office in Albuquerque Police Department's Southeast Area Command substation, where she will have open office hours every week. She further stated, "I want to be part of the solution in whatever way I can, and I think that this program has given our office a different way of doing things. It's not traditional, it's new, it's creative; and I have a lot of hope that it's going to work." For the full article, click [here](#).

Kensington CBCR

At a recent CBCR Leadership team meeting, twenty-four attendees viewed the documentary *Walk In My Shoes*. Produced by Teya Sepinuck, and Altovise Love-Craighead, the film includes four Philadelphia police officers and three community members, and "explores societal wounds and shares the performers' stories and visions of the future." Verdell Johnson, an Inspector with the Philadelphia Police Department, stated the performance "addresses some of the hard topics that are facing our society currently in police and community relations. Showing the personal side of the law enforcement officers' lives and how they balance the stressors of their job and home life, along with giving the citizens' perspective on their dealings with law enforcement officers; the movie/play gave a holistic approach to this. I endorse this movie for law enforcement and citizens as it helps with bridging the gap." The documentary will be shown throughout the implementation phase of the project, as part of an effort to engage law enforcement and youth dialogues.



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Cincinnati CBCR

On March 4, 2020 the PIVOT Squad, which supports the East Price Hill CBCR site, collaborated with another neighborhood stakeholder, West Price Hill, at the City's focused 90-day Neighborhood Enhancement Program kickoff.

The kickoff began with a performance from members of the Elder High School Steel Drum Band.

City Manager Patrick Duhaney and Vice-Mayor Christopher Smitherman then gave opening remarks, showing strong support for the community of Price Hill by the city government.

This was followed by an announcement from Richard Flynn, the Chairman of the Board for Warsaw Federal (a local banking institution). Warsaw Federal has over 125 years of commitment to the communities, businesses, and citizens of Cincinnati's West Side.

Price Hill Will Executive Director Rachel Hastings shared with the community plans for economic revitalization of a block of vacant buildings located along the Glenway Avenue Corridor. This effort will combine these properties into a business that will house a brewery and family-friendly restaurant. This will help stimulate economic growth, provide jobs, and enhance a much-needed community and family gathering space.

Also present at the event were the following community stakeholders:

- West Price Hill Community Council President, Laura Hamilton, who discussed current activities and events happening within the community.
- Denise Driehaus, Hamilton County Commissioner, and Katherine Keough-Jurs, Director of the Department of City Planning, who announced and described the upcoming Census that will take place on April 1. They stressed the importance of getting everyone accounted for to take advantage of all the possible funding opportunities.

Other partners from neighborhood social agencies, city departments, financial investors, and community councils were in attendance as well to celebrate this commitment to enhancing the West Price Hill Neighborhood.



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IN THE NEWS

[Ahead of DNC, Milwaukee police rules on how to deal with mass crowds, protests go to oversight board](#)

(CBCR Site) Before the 2020 Democratic National Convention, a civilian oversight board reviewed Milwaukee Police Department's Standard Operating Procedure 910. This procedure lays out policies related to "dealing with civil unrest, mass demonstrations, and large crowds." Since this event was due to attract 50,000 visitors, police wanted to ensure they were prepared.

[America's Mental Health Crisis Hidden Behind Bars](#)

Elizabeth Hancq, Director of Research at the Treatment Advocacy Center, is among the advocates expressing concern about the role that correctional facilities play in treating people who have a mental illness. Hancq stated, "Local jails and prisons have become the de facto mental health institutions." Hancq added, "It's really a humanitarian crisis that if you suffer from a severe mental illness in this country, you almost need to commit a crime in order to get into the system."

[Baltimore County Council approves private security camera registry aimed at giving police more crime footage](#)

(CBCR Site) By a unanimous decision, the Baltimore City Council voted to "create a voluntary private security camera registry for property owners who have devices pointed toward a public right-of-way." Property owners will be encouraged to register all security cameras, whether or not they capture public space. This will give police a map of camera coverage to be used after a crime occurs. In return for registering their cameras, property owners will not have to pay alarm permitting fees for new system installations or pay expenses related to updating current alarm systems. Additionally, participants will receive one "false alarm" waiver, saving them the \$500 cost.

[Focus on Environmental Crime Prevention Pays Off for Upstate Police Force](#)

Palmento Pride, an organization in South Carolina, has launched a new initiative. They are now holding trainings on crime prevention through environmental design (CPTED) for law enforcement and other interested parties. The class focuses on how psychology relates to one's visual environment. Lieutenant Christopher Harrington from the Clemson University Police Department reported how environmental crime prevention efforts lead to a decrease in calls for service and reported crime.

[Mayor, Houston PD, announces new measures to fight violent crime spike](#)

Houston, Texas Mayor Sylvester Turner "announced new efforts... to crack down on an uptick in violent crime, including an overtime allocation of \$1.5 million to get more officers on the street and an effort to enlist private money toward an \$8.5 million investment in new technology, including cameras and analytics equipment." Turner "expects the combination of those two initiatives to help quell the increase," which Chief Art Acevedo said mirrors a nationwide trend.

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Neighborhood Policing Program Evolving in La Crosse

A change in La Crosse, Wisconsin's community policing program is allowing more police to serve as neighborhood resource officers. New to the role are Officers Whitney Hughes and Nick Raddant. Previously assigned to patrol, the two officers were able to see the impact of previous neighborhood resource officers who "[made] people feel more comfortable talking to officers and coming to them with concerns, complaints or anything else they want to talk about." In 2020, two more neighborhood resource officers will be added, and officers will be rotated through the position in 6-year increments to support positive relationships with the community. Police Chief Shawn Kudron stated, "[this] dedicated policing style has been such a good thing for understanding the needs of our community and meeting those needs."

Ohio's Facial-Recognition Database to Get \$21.4 Million Update, AG Dave Yost says

A task force focused on Ohio's facial-recognition system produced recommendations, including limiting the use of such technology to officials in the state's Bureau of Criminal Investigation (BCI), and allowing federal agencies to request photo searches from BCI. Soon after the task force released its recommendations, Attorney General Dave Yost announced the state will spend \$21.4 million to revamp its facial recognition software. This is meant to support the identification of suspects and missing persons.

Town uses Canadian program model to reduce crime

City officials in Worcester, Massachusetts, launched a new group called the Hub, based on a Canadian model out of Saskatchewan. The aim is to reduce crime by holding weekly meetings with social service and medical providers who can connect at-risk residents with appropriate services. Meetings will include representatives from the police, fire department, the City's Quality of Life Task Force, and other service organizations.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Become a BJA Application Peer Reviewer

BJA is now accepting applications from experts in the criminal justice field to peer review funding applications. Selected candidates will be responsible for reviewing 5-15 applications over a two-week period. Interested parties should email BJAreviewer@ojp.usdoj.gov with a subject line reading "Peer Reviewer Candidate Resume" and an attached resume/curriculum vitae. For more information, please contact BJA. Their contact information is linked [here](#).

Community Policing Development (CPD) Program

Application Due Date: March 31, 2020

A new funding opportunity is available to assist law enforcement agencies in developing and evaluating community policing strategies, building knowledge around promising practices, and supporting innovative solutions for developing safer communities.

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Research and Evaluation of Victims of Crime, Fiscal Year 2020

Application Due Date: March 31, 2020

Through this solicitation, NIJ is looking to support two main areas:

1. "Evaluations of programs that provide services for victims of crime
2. Research on the financial costs of victimization."

2020 AARP Community Challenge

Application Due Date: April 1, 2020

This program awards small grants for "quick-action" projects to promote community livability for people of all ages. Project topics include improving "housing, transportation, public space, technology ("smart cities"), civic engagement, and more." Eligibility is restricted to nonprofits and government groups. Other applicants will be considered on an individual basis.

OJJDP FY 2020 Opioid Affected Youth Initiative

Application Due Date: April 20, 2020

This grant supports the implementation of programs and initiatives "that identify, respond to, treat, and support children, youth, and families impacted by the opioid epidemic." Eligible applicants include states, local communities, nonprofits, tribal jurisdictions, for-profit groups, and higher education institutions.

OJJDP FY 2020 Delinquency Prevention Program

Application Due Date: April 21, 2020

This grant supports the implementation of evidence-based strategies that provide a continuum of delinquency prevention programs for at-risk or delinquent youth. Eligible applicants include federally recognized tribes, and states. State awardees are required to give subgrants to local governments to follow through on program objectives.

OJJDP FY 2020 Strategies to Support Children Exposed to Violence, FY 2020 Competitive Solicitation

Application Due Date: April 27, 2020

This funding opportunity supports the development of support services for children exposed to violence. Grantees will develop and implement violence reduction strategies for violent juveniles. Program development will "be based on currently available resources... and gaps in services."

FY 2020 Innovations in Community-Based Crime Reduction Program

Application Due Date: June 11, 2020

This program promotes the integration of community-based crime reduction and law enforcement strategies. Applicants should consider DOJ priorities, including "gun violence, [dismantling] gang activity, and [strengthening] local capacity to combat drug abuse." Applicants should consider target areas where crime is disproportionately concentrated. This multifaceted approach addresses root causes to promote long-term change.

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UPCOMING EVENTS

[2020 Forum on Criminal justice](#)

Date: October 25-28, 2020

Presented by the International Community Corrections Association (ICCA) and the National Criminal Justice Association (NCJA), this forum will highlight initiatives, practices, and research for criminal justice practitioners. Workshops will highlight strategies and programs that address crime, DOJ resources, and research related to priority issues.

UPCOMING WEBINARS

[Community Coordinated Responses: The Key to Getting Your Communities Onboard](#)

Date: March 31, 2020; 1:00 p.m. – 2:00 p.m. EST

Local communities can support and expand the effectiveness of law enforcement, but it can be difficult to elicit community involvement in law enforcement efforts. This webinar hosted by Chris Jones, a training specialist with the University of Tennessee Law Enforcement Innovation Center, will help participants:

- “Learn about community coordinated programs that have been effective
- Learn different tactics to gain community involvement
- Know the importance of good community relations and how it applies to law enforcement practice”

Click [here](#) to register.

[Fostering Partnerships and Collaborations across the Sequential Intercept Model \(SIM\)](#)

Date: April 30, 2020 2:30-4:00 p.m. EST

During this webinar participants will learn how to foster collaboration across the intercept points to strengthen services for people who have mental illness or a substance use disorder. This webinar is presented by the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration. To register, click [here](#).

ONLINE LEARNING

[BJA Grant Application Education Series: The Federal Funding Process: What Applicants Should Consider](#)

This webinar will address considerations for BJA grant applicants. The agenda will include an overview of BJA and OJP, a discussion of the funding process, the peer review process and scoring, how to read a BJA solicitation, key application steps, and a pre-recorded question and answer section.

[Research Partnerships in CBCR](#)

LISC and BJA teamed up with researchers from the Byrne Criminal Justice Innovation Program grantee site in Omaha to discuss the nature of the program’s research partnerships, including lessons learned from CBCR sites around the country. Highlights include tips for picking the right researcher, defining roles and protocols for engaging the community, and forecasting the amount of time required for real collaboration.

[Strategic Communications for Public Safety Initiatives](#)

This webinar presents tips from communications consulting firm Mershon and McDonald, LLC, to help Community-Based Crime Reduction (CBCR) sites and others develop a communications plan that includes

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building a public profile, developing useful messages, and using media to help change the narrative in neighborhoods with disproportionate levels of crime and social disorder.



The CBCR Model

Across the nation, CBCR sites connect diverse stakeholders—including residents, researcher partners, law enforcement, and service providers—to identify crime drivers and promote strategies that reduce crime, increase collective efficacy, and build trust between communities and police.

Data and Evidence Driven: To improve the use of data and research to problem solve and guide program strategy.

Community Engagement: To increase community and resident engagement in shaping and sustaining crime prevention and revitalization efforts.

Place-based Strategy: To target where crime is concentrated and enhance the impact of crime control efforts with locally driven neighborhood revitalization strategies.

Builds Partnerships and Enhance Trust: To build capacity to promote sustainable collaborations that tackle problems from multiple angles.

***Do you have something you would like featured in the
Community-Based Crime Reduction Bulletin?***

Share information, resources, and news across all the Community-Based Crime Reduction sites by emailing Zac Onufrychuk at onufrychuk@theiacp.org.

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