

Hillsborough County Violence Prevention Collaborative
Tuesday, August 1, 2013
26th Floor, Conference Room A & B

Leadership Council Members Present

Kevin Beckner, BOCC
Captain David Goodman, City of Tampa
Julianne Holt, Public Defender
Frank Chillura, Temple Terrace
Michael Sinacore, State Attorney's Office
Manuel Menendez, Chief Judge
Donna Lusczynski, HCSO
April Griffin, School Board

Alternates Present

Mike Bridenback, Court Administrator
Cindy Stuart, School Board

Staff Present

Holly East, Commissioner's Legislative Aide
Herb Marlowe, Project Facilitator
Bob Sheehan, Project Manager

Others Present

Lori Hudson, HC Communications Director
Benita Tsao, Prevention Institute (videoconference)
Annie Lyles, Prevention Institute (videoconference)

The meeting was called to order at 2:40 PM. Commissioner Beckner led Pledge of Allegiance, welcomed attendees to the second meeting of the Leadership Council and introduced Michael Sinacore of the State Attorney's Office. Mr. Sinacore was named by the State Attorney as the representative to the Leadership Council to replace Karen Stanley.

The minutes of the June 11, 2013 meeting were approved as written.

Annie Lyles, Program Manager for Prevention Institute, was introduced. She provided an overview of three key success factors:

1. Comprehensive Approach
2. Addressing Risk and Resiliency Factors
3. An Integrated Strategy for Action

The presentation referenced a handout provided to members, and Ms. Lyles asked members to name examples of comprehensive programs with which they are familiar. April Griffin described several school based initiatives and indicated the school system was currently reviewing existing programs for effectiveness. Colonel Lusczynski described intervention programs within the Sheriff's Office. Ms. Lyles thanked them for the contributions.

Ms. Lyles stressed that violence is preventable. She discussed an example of the Oakland Health Department "reconnecting" neighborhoods and cited 40% reductions in street crimes resulting from comprehensive programs.

Risk and resilience factors were discussed. April Griffin recommended a focus on those things that could be controlled. Colonel Lusczynski mentioned prisoners reintegrating into the community and the methods by which they can be helped to avoid a repeat of mistakes. She indicated the Sheriff's Office

has a pilot program in the Nuccio area. Ms. Griffin pointed out similar needs in the area of reintegration of military veterans since Hillsborough County is a military community.

Ms. Lyles suggested a focus on communities with more risk and less resilience. Commissioner Beckner spoke of blighted areas, efforts to create economic development and residential segregation. Ms. Lyles pointed out that some areas have more risks and others more resilience, and that historically, the two groups do not communicate well with one another. She stated the issues being discussed would be the focus of the September 12 meeting.

Ms. Lyles discussed Key # 3 of making plans and strategies, leveraging what works and opening new networks. She stated that violence prevention programs are made sustainable by good data, good commitment, and good collaboration. She has observed that there is an appetite for planning and violence prevention in Hillsborough County.

Commissioner suggested that we have been reactive and his feeling that we need to learn what prevention is and how to implement it. He solicited comments from members. Colonel Lusczynski requested the committee be more specific about what type of violence it will focus on. Captain Goodman suggested several areas of focus: number of homicides, domestic violence, availability of guns to youth and school violence could be focuses. Ms. Griffin spoke of youth and family violence and observed that what happens in homes finds its way into classrooms. Mr. Sinacore to gang violence and cultural development and expressed an interest in any correlation between guns and gang violence. Judge Menendez spoke of the impact of domestic violence cases handled in civil courts and suggested trying interventions that modify behavior. Mayor Chillura recommended that the Council allow the data to frame the Collaborative targets.

Ms. Lyles spoke of the US Attorney General's program that focuses on the effects of children exposed to violence. The program is "Defending Childhood" and might serve as a framework for some of the issues discussed. She said that data analysis and prioritizing risk and resilience factors will lead to a narrower focus. She stated that the 18 indicators (handout) are based on strong science and ease of accessibility.

Facilitator Herb Marlowe reviewed collaborative concepts. Ms. Griffin stated that the current economy already has caused more collaboration. Ms. Holt pointed to the 2005 collaboration effort regarding civil citations. She expressed a frustration about those that did not participate today. Judge Menendez suggested the Collaborative lacked representation by the Federal government, and that it look at military court initiatives currently underway.

Mr. Marlowe referred to the county map. After discussion there was consensus that there should be a geographic focus. Ms. Lyles suggested hot spots could be identified using geographic and population factors. She indicated that Minneapolis developed one geographic target and two county-wide targets, while Santa Clara targeted specific populations and New Orleans targeted unemployment in five neighborhoods, specifically for the aged 16-24 demographic.

Lori Hudson made a presentation on the Collaborative website. Bob Sheehan will collect names from members for formation of a Data Committee. Holly East educated members about Doodle polling.

The next meeting is September 12, 2013 at the Tampa Convention Center.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:35 PM.