

Youth Violence Prevention

Managers Advisory Group

Sheryl M.M. Long, Assistant City Manager

Iris Roley, Cincinnati Black United Front, PM

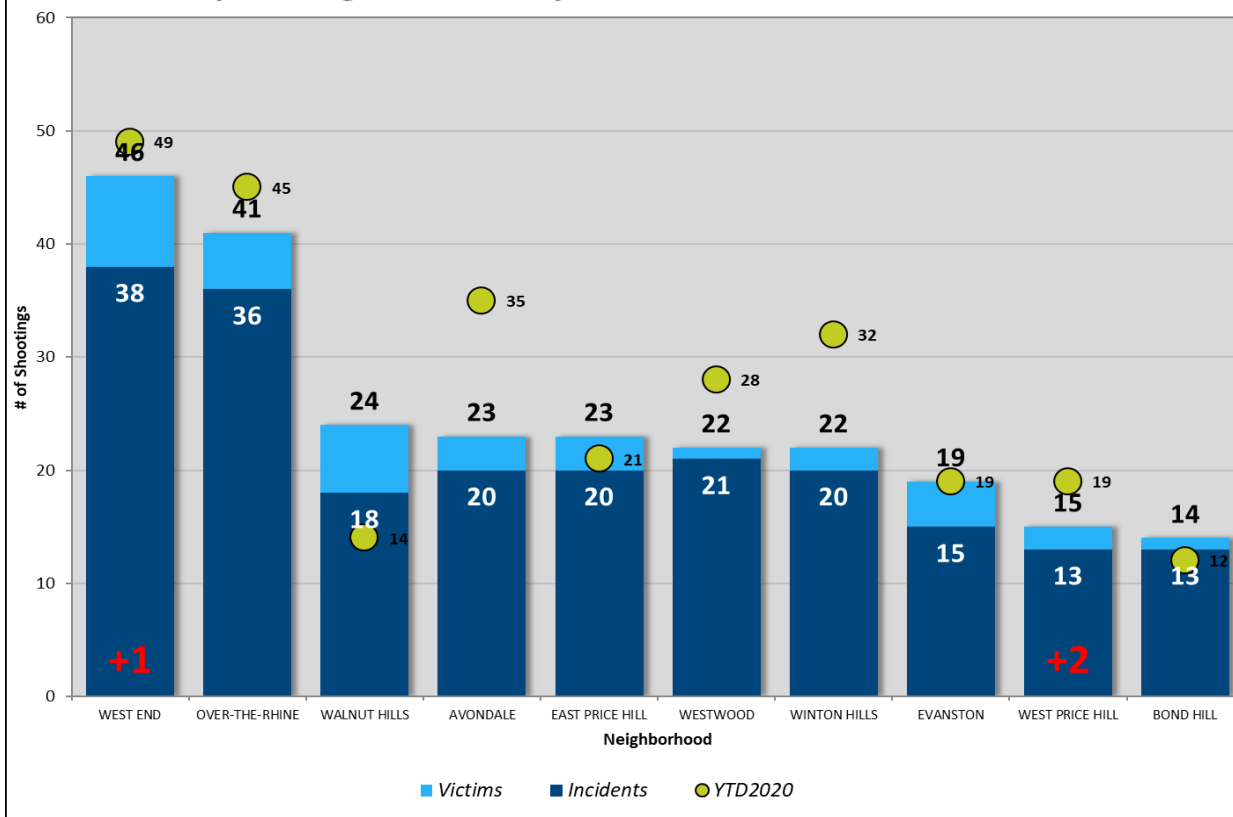
Manager's Advisory Group (MAG) Activated in Service to Youth

- In July 2021, following the mass-shooting incident at Smale Riverfront Park, Mayor John Cranley requested that the City Manager deploy the Manager's Advisory Group (MAG) to engage in a problem-solving project in service to youth in the City of Cincinnati.
- Specifically, the Mayor requested that the MAG focus on identifying strategies to disrupt violence impacting Cincinnati's youth.
- The Collaborative Agreement (CA) provided the foundation and framework for problem solving using SARA.

Manager's Advisory Group (MAG) 2021 Members

- Iris Roley
 - Dan Hils
 - Dorothy Smoot
 - Rickell Howard Smith
 - Elizabeth Bartley
 - Margaret Fox
 - Pastor Jonathan Brown
 - Rachel Hastings
 - Dr. Ebony Ruhland
 - Pastor Ennis Tait
 - Nicole Taylor
 - Tracey Johnson
 - Takiyah Cunningham
- Erica Winstead
 - Jasmine Williams-Holston
 - Aprina Johnson
 - John Young
 - David Booker
 - Paula Boggs Muething
 - Bridget Patton
 - Chief Eliot Isaac
 - Michelle Edwards
 - Gabriel Davis
 - Paul Booth
 - Lt. Elena Comeaux
 - Jason Cooper

Top 10 Neighborhoods by Victim Counts: Year-to-Date 2021



CPD data as of 12/29/21

Manager's Advisory Group (MAG) Training

- MAG members were offered training in Community Problem Oriented Policing (CPOP) training and Scan, Analysis, Response, Assessment (SARA) training facilitated by the University of Cincinnati Research Institute.
- MAG members were surveyed to identify areas of concerns or work focus

Implementing CPOP: The Four Stages of the SARA Model

Scanning: What is the problem? How do we identify problems? Examples: Where are shots being fired, do we have repeat offenders/victims? How big is the problem? How do we prioritize which problems most affect quality of life?

Analysis: Analyze the problem. Take a closer look. Do we need to redefine the problem? Collect the data. How do we respond? Who are the stakeholders? (Community members, local service agencies, victims, commercial establishments, etc.) What time of day does the problem occur? What type of victims are affected?

Response: Respond to the problem. Do not respond until analysis is complete! Use your analysis to tailor your response to the specifics of the problem. What we found is that we could immediately respond, but we still have work to do on long term solutions, we need to gather more data, to talk to more people

Assessment: What impact did the response have? What could have gone better? Sample indicators include: is the problem eliminated/can we eliminate gun violence? Fewer incidents? Less-serious incidents? Is the problem shifted from police consideration to other stakeholders better suited to address it? Are citizens more capable of solving the problem the next time it arises?

US DOJ COPS Office, 2011. Problem-Solving Tips: A Guide to Reducing Crime and Disorder through Problem Solving Partnerships (2nd ed).
<https://cops.usdoj.gov/RIC/Publications/cops-p019-pub.pdf> p.14-20

Manager's Advisory Group (MAG) Planning Committee

- A small problem-solving group called the Planning Committee was formed to guide the MAG youth violence reduction initiative
- The Planning Committee had 8 participants and was comprised of MAG members, CPD, the City Manager's Office and the Office of Human Relations
- The Planning Committee met weekly to begin the problem-solving process
- What didn't we know?

Planning Committee Members

- Iris Roley, Cincinnati Black United Front, PM
- Rickell Howard Smith, Ex. Director Center for Social Justice
- Ltc. Teresa Theetge, CPD
- Ltc. Lisa Davis, CPD
- Paul Booth, Office of Human Relations
- Kelly Carr, Office of the City Manager
- Virginia Tallent, Office of the City Manger
- Sheryl Long, Assistant City Manager

Planning Committee and MAG Engagement

The Planning Committee reported key findings to the entire MAG on a monthly basis

- Reviewed a significant amount of community level data
- Scan on who needed to be at the table, who (problem solving terms)
- All committee participants pulled from their lane of expertise



Engaging Community Problem Solvers

- Dr. John Eck, UC professor-degner of SARA in the CA
- Police Chief Maris Harold of Boulder, Colorado-former CPD Captain and Developer of PIVOT for CPD.
- Al Gerhardstein attorney CBUF
- Jennifer Williams, Former Director of Out of the Crossfire
- Ebony Ruhland, Professor at UC, SARA Trainer.
- Ozie Davis, Youth worker Avondale, City Wide
- Rufus Johnson, Gun Safety Trainer/CCW/Self Defense Instructor
- Director Daniel Betts, CRC
- Director Jamal Boyd, the Cross Roads Health Center

Engaging Community Problem Solvers Cont.

- Tracy Rawls MSW, LICDC, CEO & CFounder of Exclusive Services Integrated Health Services
- Ex. Director/CEO of UMADAOP Leah Dennis- Ellsworth.
- Ms. Carla Guenthner, Court Administrator, Juvenile Court task force
- Ms. Felicia Frosemond, Task Force Juvenile Courts
- Nat Lett, Youth Advocates Program
- Ms. Dora George Chappell, “Unofficial Juvenile Courts”, Madisonville
- Katie Nze4kwu, Found Village
- Shawn Jeffers, Youth at the Center
- SRO’s, Ms. Tia Person, Mr. Eddie Hawkins, Mr. Anthony Carter
- Gun Unit Task Force, CPD. Eric Vogelpohl

Engaging Community Problem Solvers Cont.

- Matthew Hammer, Captain District 1
- Gun Unit Task Force, CPD. Eric Vogelpohl
- Kari Bloom, Juvenile Court Judge
- Sergeant Casey Kreider from the PIVOT

Top 5 MAG Recommendations

- Supporting and expanding programs in schools that are trauma informed, deepen Social Emotional Learning and provide therapeutic support. (basis for RFP#1)
- Address access to guns and gun safety by exploring legal barriers and having deeper conversations around disrupting access to guns.
- Ensure basic needs are met—food, housing and employment. Reestablish Citizens Committee on Youth or similar entity.
- Invest in a Youth Council so voices can be represented in the community and heard in safe, neutral spaces.
- Explore a program that trains volunteers in beauty shops and barber shops on mental wellness issues and how to communicate with the youth in those spaces. (basis for RFP #2)

Youth Violence Prevention--Request for Proposals

- In response to the significant learnings from the problem-solving project, and the recommendations from the MAG, the administration designed two Request for Proposal (“RFP”) which were released on January 12, 2022
- The RFPs will utilize a total of \$350,000 from the FY22 carryover budget

RFP #1 Mental Health Advocate Training Program

Problem Statement

Youth mental health is a growing concern throughout the Greater Cincinnati area and the City of Cincinnati. The COVID-19 pandemic has contributed to significant additional strain on community based mental health care, and particularly, the ability of youth in our community to access school and other traditional places of care. There is a recognized deficit of trauma-informed care for youth and adults affected by gun violence in the City of Cincinnati.

Vendor Sought

The City is seeking to a lead agency to develop and implement a mental health advocate training program. Such an organization should be a non-profit community based mental health provider with the demonstrated capacity to build a program to recruit and train individual “gatekeepers” in Cincinnati neighborhoods with high incidents of gun-related violence to serve as mental health advocates. The qualified agency must demonstrate an evidence-based, community centered approach to mental health care, appropriate cultural competencies, and a tradition of work in underserved neighborhoods.

RFP #2 Capacity Building and Seed Grants

Problem Statement

Community gun violence historically disproportionately affects specific Cincinnati neighborhoods. The COVID-19 pandemic has exacerbated gun violence trends in Cincinnati. Smaller, place-based organizations are often well positioned to provide violence prevention activities in their neighborhood. These small organizations are closely connected to community members, community resources, community leadership, and often have novel strategies for violence disruption work, but may have limited capacity or funds needed to scale this work.

Vendor Sought

The City is seeking a vendor to serve as lead organization to deploy seed/mini grants to small, neighborhood-based organizations engaged in violence prevention work. In addition to grant-making, the lead organization will provide capacity building services to organizations receiving seed grants in order to enhance and scale their violence prevention work. The goal of this funding opportunity will be to increase the quality and availability of violence prevention resources and activities in Cincinnati neighborhoods most impacted by shooting victimization in 2021.

RFP Milestones

- Proposals are due February 11, 2022
- Contract negotiations are estimated to take place the week of February 28th
- Evaluation committee will have members from
 - The City Manager's Office
 - Cincinnati Health Department
 - Cincinnati Police Department
 - Citizen Complaint Authority
 - MAG--Community Member (advisory capacity)
 - Cincinnati Law Department (advisory capacity)

MAG Youth Violence Reduction Initiatives

The vital work of the MAG will continue under ICM Curp including

- Collaborative youth violence reduction initiatives in service to youth
- Community listening sessions with youth (Found Village & Urban League)
- Providing safe spaces for community partners to be heard
- Youth “MAG”

Thank you for listening. Any questions?

