

SEATTLE YOUTH COMMISSION 2010

YOUTH VIOLENCE PREVENTION



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Overview



- Issue
 - Youth Violence
- Back-story
 - Research
 - Interviews
- Solution
 - Active partnership proposal

What is the Issue?



- Youth Violence
 - 5,686 youth nationally from ages 10-24 were murdered in 2005.
- How to deal with prevention rather than intervention
 - Seattle youth programs are not focused on prevention
 - Programs appear to be focused on intervention

Background

- Causes of youth violence begin primarily in the household
 - ▣ Lack of financial stability
 - ▣ History of gang involvement
 - ▣ Lack of parental involvement
 - ▣ Low emotional connection between parents and child
 - ▣ A poorly functioning family
 - ▣ Lack of support from:
 - Parents
 - Teachers
 - Mentors
 - Peers

Research



- **Youth Voices**

- **Youth Input**

- **Interviews**

Primary Question : Is there anything that should be added or fixed regarding the Youth Violence Prevention Initiative?

"...We also would like to be able to provide services and support to families of the youth we serve. It is challenging to work with youth without the capacity to address some of the issues they are dealing with at home."

- Mariko Lockhart

"...Parks could jumpstart a citywide impact in creating broader 'Beloved Communities' focusing on youth placed-at-risk, strengthening families and developing a more seamless approach in programs. "

- Sue Goodwin, Jeron Gates, & Nicole Franklin

Active Prevention Proposal

'Increase Male Involvement'

- **Young Father's Coalition**
 - Young father's between the age of 15 – 25
 - Father figures
 - Held at community centers
 - Meetings held every other week
 - Food/refreshments
 - Volunteer discussion leader
- **Why Young Father's?**
 - End the cycle of violence
 - Help create good role models for children
 - Men tend to be more violent

Young Father's Coalition

- Violence Prevention Goal
 - Create
 - Serve
 - End
- Recommended steps for implementation
 - Partner with organizations with core values to supporting fathers and families to create a volunteer base.
 - Work closely with Seattle Parks and Recreation
 - Formalize program as part of Seattle YVPI

Budget

- Seattle's Youth Violence Prevention Initiative is allotted \$3,936,719. \$730,031 are currently unspent.
- Reallocate \$25,000 per year from YVPI to fund the Young Father's Coalition.
- \$25,000 covers the following costs:
 - ▣ Venue (cost would be reduced if held in a Seattle Parks Community Center)
 - ▣ Young Father's Coalition Discussion leader/mentor (Volunteer)
 - ▣ Young Father's Coalition Coordinator (Paid)
 - ▣ Outreach/Promotion materials – Multiple languages
 - ▣ Food/Refreshments/Celebrations