



*Every Philadelphian will be safe from gun violence in their communities, with full access to opportunities to create their path to a fulfilling life.*

## The Philadelphia Roadmap to Safer Communities

### Quarter 2 Progress Update

October 2, 2019

The Philadelphia Roadmap to Safer Communities is a five-year (2019-2024), comprehensive action plan that was released by Mayor Kenney on January 17, 2019. The plan includes short-term and long-term action items that cover four main goals. Listed below are some of the key highlights regarding our progress since the first quarterly update was provided in May.

#### Goal 1: Connected & Thriving Youth, Young Adults, & Families

- **Expanded the weekend hours of operation at 12 recreation centers in areas of the city experiencing high rates of gun violence** and identified as serving a Pinpoint area as part of the Philadelphia Police Department's Violent Crime Reduction Strategy "Operation Pinpoint."
- **Increasing crisis teams from 7 to 22 teams for the Community Crisis Intervention Program (CCIP)**, so more teams are available in communities impacted by gun violence Thursday through Sunday from 6PM to 4AM and available Monday through Friday from 12PM to 8PM. A social worker, employment specialist and three area case managers will also be added to CCIP to further support individuals needing assistance.
- **Allocated an additional \$1 million for the Summer WorkReady programming** managed by the Department of Human Services that includes specific slots for justice-involved youth.
- **Hosting a series of free outdoor movie nights at recreation centers to create safe spaces and help community members impacted by gun violence connect to City resources**, including current and upcoming workforce opportunities. Movie nights are sponsored by Philadelphia Parks & Recreation, the Philadelphia Police Department, the Department of Human Services, and the Office of Violence Prevention. Other City agencies and departments are also participating.
- **Developing a transitional jobs program to help older youth and young adults at a high risk of gun violence** connect to more sustainable employment opportunities that offer a living wage. The Office of Workforce Development is leading the planning for this program in partnership with Philadelphia Works and several other City agencies.

- **Piloting the installment of employment specialists (PA CareerLink® staff) in select Pinpoint areas** to assist with connecting individuals at a high risk of gun violence to workforce opportunities. Philadelphia Works is leading this work.

## Goal 2: Strong Community Engagement & Partnerships

- **Awarded over \$700,000 to grassroots efforts to stem gun violence as part of the Targeted Community Investment Grant Program.** Projects included creating safe spaces, trade learning, offering grief support, mentorships, outreach, and hosting community engagement events such as resource fairs, sporting events and neighborhood clean ups.
- **Launched the second round of the Targeted Community Investment Grant Program** to support more local efforts to prevent and reduce gun violence in communities; currently accepting applications for the grant awards ranging from \$500 to \$20,000. The application is available online at <https://bit.ly/2ot9bPq>. If you do not have computer access, please call the OVP at **215-686-0789** for assistance.
- **OVP hosted two Peace Week events:**
  - **Emerging Young Leaders Awards:** Honored five emerging leaders under 25 years old who have dedicated their time in supporting and developing anti-violence initiatives to promote peace in their community.
  - **Peace Week Career Panel:** Introduced students to the various career paths available within the Department of Public Safety and the City of Philadelphia while encouraging graduation and matriculation into higher education.
- The Department of Public Health worked with Parks and Recreation and community partners to distribute materials from the **You Shoot Now What communications campaign**.
- **Increased the number of Town Watch Integrated Services (TWIS) groups across the city.** Enhanced recruitment efforts continue, if you're interested in forming a town watch group or participating in a group in your neighborhood, please contact Executive Director of TWIS, Anthony Murphy at 215-686-1459.

## Goal 3: Coordinated City Services & Planning

- **Established a weekly tactical group** for the Roadmap to Safer Communities to strategically align City resources with identified needs in the Pinpoint areas. This team is led by the Public Safety Cabinet of the Managing Director's Office and the Philadelphia Police and includes the Department of Public Health, Department of Behavioral Health and Intellectual disAbility Services (DBH), OVP, Philadelphia Department of Prisons (PDP), Licenses and Inspections, 311, Streets Department, Parks and Recreation, Office of Workforce Development and Adult Education, Office of Community Empowerment and Opportunity (CEO), Philadelphia Works, Town Watch Integrated Services (TWIS), Office of Criminal Justice (OCJ), Office of Reentry Partnerships (ORP) and the Department of Human services (DHS). This team meets with the

goal of bringing together Police and other City resources in order to coordinate efforts and provide the services that are most needed in each of the Pinpoint areas.

- **Hired new staff** for key positions including: Police intelligence analysts; the PDPH injury prevention project manager and an epidemiologist that will work at the police intelligence center; and leadership for the new Office of Reentry Partnerships.
- The Department of Public Health launched an injury prevention program in July 2019 and are convening the **Firearm Homicide and Injury Review Team**, pending authorization by the Board of Health on October 10<sup>th</sup>. A wide range of city and non-governmental agencies are invited to participate on the team which will study shootings and gun related homicides in order to identify possible strategies for future interventions.

#### Goal 4: Safer & Healthier Neighborhoods

- **Worked to improve environmental conditions** in neighborhoods with the highest risk of gun violence. Since the beginning of the year, as a part of the Roadmap to Safer Communities, License and Inspection (L&I) and Community Life Improvement Program (CLIP) have:
  - **cleaned and sealed 206 properties;**
  - **demolished 115 buildings;**
  - **completed 6,992 graffiti removals; and**
  - **cleaned 1,597 lots.**
- **Expanding the number of crew teams** for CLIP to provide employment for 16 young adults at a high risk of gun violence and working with the Youth Violence Reduction Partnership (YVRP) to recruit participants. CLIP crews remove graffiti, clean vacant lots, and help coordinate neighborhood cleanups.

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**For more information regarding the Philadelphia Roadmap to Safer Communities and to learn how you can get involved in this work**, please contact the City of Philadelphia's Office of Violence Prevention at 215-686-0789 or via email at [OVPinfo@phila.gov](mailto:OVPinfo@phila.gov).