

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 1 Progress Update**

May 7, 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 Roadmap was released.

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

- Increased the number of available subsidized job training, employment opportunities, and work readiness programs through fourteen providers for youth and young adults at risk of violence with a \$2.1 million investment of Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) Youth Development funds available through the Philadelphia Works.
- Expanding the Youth Violence Reduction Partnership (YVRP) and the Community Crisis Intervention Program (CCIP) to more districts to connect and engage more youth, young adults and their families impacted by violence to assist them with accessing needed services and supports.
  - **YVRP is now available in twelve police districts up from six** (includes: 12<sup>th</sup>, 19<sup>th</sup>, 22<sup>nd</sup>, 24<sup>th</sup>, 25<sup>th</sup> and 39<sup>th</sup>; now expanded to: 1<sup>st</sup>, 14<sup>th</sup>, 16<sup>th</sup>, 17<sup>th</sup> 18<sup>th</sup> and 35<sup>th</sup>).
  - CCIP will be available in the 15<sup>th</sup> Police District in Northeast in addition to Northwest, North, East, Southwest and South Philadelphia starting in June. Six team members will be available during the expanded hours of 4PM to 12AM Tuesday through Saturday.
- Working to increase summer job recruitment for this year's WorkReady programs in areas where youth and young adults are at high risk of gun violence and where recruitment in previous years has been low, as well as beginning summer work experiences two weeks early.
  - 60 young people at risk of gun violence were invited to participate in a Tuesday night WorkReady Summer Enrollment Session at the Philadelphia Anti-Drug/Anti-Violence Network on April 30. This work was led by the Office of Workforce Development (OWD) in partnership with Philadelphia Works, Philadelphia Youth Network, SERVE Philadelphia VISTAs, PA CareerLink, the Office of Violence Prevention and PAAN.
  - PA CareerLink created 1-833-750-JOBS (5627) in partnership with OWD and Philadelphia Works to provide information for training, career exploration and work experience programs for youth and young adults.

- Supporting the School District of Philadelphia as it launches a new multi-media engagement campaign to raise awareness of options to receive a high school diploma.
  - New Never2Late2 Graduate! campaign to raise awareness citywide that Philadelphians of any age can come back to the School District to receive their high school diploma. Adult evening and Educational Options (EOP) programs granting a traditional high school diploma are available for Philadelphians age 17 and above at no cost to students. Available online at: https://twitter.com/PhillyREC440.
  - The Re-engagement Center has refreshed its social media outreach and is participating in a pilot youth ambassador program in partnership with Project U-Turn to use youth voice to get the word out about the School District's Opportunity Network and program options. The School District offers accelerated, dual enrollment and adult evening options for students seeking to re-engage with high school.
  - **During Summer 2019, there will be expanded community outreach efforts** by the Reengagement Center's mobile team and community partners at planned community events, specifically with coverage in Pinpoint areas.
  - The Re-engagement Center at 440 North Broad Street is open year-round, Monday to Friday 9am to 3pm, offering credit reviews, Opportunity Network program referrals and consultations for re-engagement. In calendar year 2018, the Re-engagement Center had 3521 in-person visitors - the goal of these new engagement efforts is to increase the number of individuals served in 2019 by 10 percent.

## Goal 2: Coordinated City Services & Planning

- **Established an executive-level implementation team** in the Office of the Managing Director for the Roadmap to Safer Communities, co-chaired by Deputy Managing Director for Criminal Justice and Public Safety Vanessa Garrett Harley and Philadelphia Police Commissioner Richard Ross.
  - This team includes senior leadership from the Office of the Managing Director (MDO), Philadelphia Police, Public Health, Behavioral Health and Intellectual disAbility Services, Prisons, Human Services, Licenses and Inspections, Parks and Recreation, School District of Philadelphia, the Office of Workforce Development, the Mayor's Office of Community Empowerment and Opportunity, the Office of Violence Prevention and Philadelphia Works. This team meets biweekly.
- **Created smaller action teams** to quickly move on achieving the objectives in the Roadmap focused on education, workforce, community-based services, communications, neighborhood revitalization and environmental factors, and data and evaluation. These teams meet at least biweekly.
- **Hiring new staff** for several key positions, including intelligence analysts (Police), injury prevention team (Public Health), and leadership for the Office of Reentry Services (MDO).

### **Goal 3: Strong Community Engagement & Partnerships**

• Launched the Targeted Community Investment Grant Program to support more local efforts to prevent and reduce gun violence in communities; currently evaluating applications for the first round of grant awards ranging from \$500 to \$20,000. Over 400 applications from residents and community groups submitted for consideration.

#### **Goal 4: Safer & Healthier Neighborhoods**

- Collecting and analyzing more data to drive decision making within an interagency operational planning framework and developing specific interventions in neighborhoods experiencing high rates of gun violence, as part of the Philadelphia Police Department's Violent Crime Reduction Strategy "Operation Pinpoint." Arrest for firearms up 25.2 percent as of April 26, 2019 compared to the same period last year. Gun confiscations have increased 20 percent.
- Improving environmental conditions by cleaning, greening and maintenance of vacant lots in neighborhoods with the highest risk of gun violence. Since February 23, 2019, **125 properties** have been cleaned and sealed in the Pinpoint areas.
- Expanding the number of crew teams for the Community Life Improvement Program (CLIP), using the TANF funds available through the Philadelphia Works Youth Initiatives, to provide onthe-job training for young adults and to help with addressing quality of life issues in communities. CLIP will employ 16 Crew Members and 4 Crew Chiefs who will be trained on the proper techniques to remove graffiti vandalism and learn the operation of a variety of landscaping equipment as well as how to properly install fencing around vacant lots.

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 <u>OVPinfo@phila.gov</u>.