



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

Quarterly Progress Update: 2019 In Review

January 22, 2020

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 highlights regarding our progress since the Roadmap was launched as well as some upcoming initiatives in 2020.

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

2019 ACCOMPLISHMENTS:

Created more safe spaces and connected more youth and young adults to educational opportunities.

- **Expanded the number of crisis workers and hours of operation for the Community Crisis Intervention Program**, so more teams are available in communities impacted by gun violence Thursday through Sunday (6PM to 4AM) and now Monday through Friday (12PM to 8PM).
- **Hosted 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 workforce opportunities. Movie nights were 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 also participated. In total:
 - 20 movies were screened in Pinpoint areas
 - 845 attended these movie nights
- **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."
- **Created a developmental basketball program** focused on engaging teens and young adults at a high risk of violence during the summer of 2019. The program was implemented at four Philadelphia Parks & Recreation (PPR) sites:
 - Cibotti (77th and Elmwood)
 - James Finnegan (69th and Grovers)
 - McVeigh (400 W Ontario) and Rivera (5th and Allegheny)

Note: The facility supervisors at each site recruited coaches from the community and engaged youth at a high risk of gun violence to participate. PPR partnered with the Positive Coaching Alliance (PCA) to provide Sports-based Youth Development (SBYD) training for the coaches, supervisors and Philadelphia Police officers local to the center. The total number of youth served in the program totaled 54 across the four sites. The overall response to the program from staff, youth participants, coaches and the community was positive.

- **The Philadelphia School District’s Re-engagement Center referred 897 residents aged 16-34 to educational options**, including those in School District’s Opportunity Network, GED, and adult programs. Residents referred include individuals living in or near Pinpoint areas (since July 1, 2019 through December 13, 2019). Referrals broken down by age:

Age	# of Referrals
16 and 17	362
18 and 19	313
20 and 21	78
22-34	144

Goal 2: Strong Community Engagement & Partnerships

2019 ACCOMPLISHMENTS:

Invested in more grassroots organizations and efforts to engage and support youth and young adults and neighborhoods most impacted by gun violence.

- **As of December 2019, nearly \$2 million has been awarded to grassroots efforts to stem gun violence**, as a result of the two rounds of funding provided by the Targeted Community Investment Grant Program. Projects have 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.

Goal 3: Coordinated City Services & Planning

2019 ACCOMPLISHMENTS:

Increased the level of coordination among City agencies and departments involved in reducing and preventing gun violence in Philadelphia.

- **Established an executive-level implementation team** in the Office of the Managing Director for the Roadmap to Safer Communities, co-chaired by the Deputy Managing Director for Criminal Justice and Public Safety and Philadelphia Police Commissioner. This team includes senior leadership from the Office of the Managing Director, Philadelphia Police Department, 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 monthly.

- **Formed 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 Department. The team also includes the Department of Public Health, Department of Behavioral Health and Intellectual disAbility Services, Philadelphia Department of Prisons, Licenses and Inspections, 311, Streets Department, Parks and Recreation, Office of Workforce Development and Adult Education, Office of Community Empowerment and Opportunity, Philadelphia Works, Town Watch Integrated Services, Office of Violence Prevention, Office of Criminal Justice (OCJ), Office of Reentry Partnerships and the Department of Human services.

UPCOMING IN 2020

- **The Department of Public Health will convene the first meeting of the Firearm Homicide and Non-fatal Injury Review Team**, which was authorized by the Board of Health. A wide range of city and non-governmental agencies are invited to participate on the team which studies shootings and gun related homicides in order to identify possible strategies for future interventions.

Goal 4: Safer & Healthier Neighborhoods

2019 ACCOMPLISHMENTS:

Reduced blight in neighborhoods impacted by gun violence and enhanced efforts to provide more resources to residents exposed to violence.

- **Worked to improve environmental conditions** in neighborhoods with the highest risk of gun violence. Since the beginning of 2019, as a part of the Roadmap to Safer Communities, License and Inspections (L&I) and Community Life Improvement Program (CLIP) have:
 - **cleaned and sealed 297 properties**
 - **demolished 115 buildings**
 - **completed 8,823 graffiti removals**
 - **cleaned 1,203 lots**
 - **maintained 4 lots**
 - **painted 224 Tommy Door treatments**

Note: **L&I hired 6 young adults from the impacted areas for temporary employment as abatement workers.** These employees can transition into full time permanent City of Philadelphia positions upon successful completion of a probation period. **CLIP has hired 7 young adults for lot cleaning for a total of 13 persons hired from the impacted areas.**

- **Established a Rapid Response Team** comprised of key representatives from the City with the ability to direct needed services and supports to assist victims, witnesses and others in the community impacted by a violent incident (a shooting or homicide) that the Managing Director and Police Commissioner determines requires a unified crisis response.

UPCOMING IN 2020

- **L&I received additional funding of \$833,952 in a mid-year transfer ordinance to staff and equip two additional Clean and Seal Crews.** An additional 12 young adults from the impacted areas can be hired to fill 12 of the new positions.
- **CLIP received additional funding of \$380,000 for additional staff** of 10 workers and 2 crew chiefs.
- **Launching Group Violence Intervention (GVI) in West Philadelphia.** The City is currently working with the District Attorney’s Office and other partners on a plan to formally relaunch a focused deterrence effort known as “Group Violence Intervention.” This is a crime reduction strategy focused on repeat violent offenders. GVI has its roots in Boston’s Ceasefire initiative which was credited for sharp reductions in violent crime.

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.