

## **TASK FORCE ON SAFETY AND CRIME REDUCTION**

### **SUBCOMMITTEE ON EDUCATION AND YOUTH DEVELOPMENT**

#### **STATUS REPORT**

The following are some of the recurring themes that have arisen in the meetings to date:

1. Given the fact this matter has been at the forefront of civic concern for so long, where is the comprehensive strategic plan for addressing and eliminating or curtailing violent crime?
  - (a) Where is the strategic plan regarding intervention and prevention with all its various facets, i.e., juvenile justice, community engagement, positive youth development, mentoring, education, etc.?
  - (b) Without an overarching plan, which necessarily includes the role of public safety and police protection as it interfaces with prevention and intervention efforts, how can a plan be of maximum effectiveness and most cost effective?
2. Looking at the City's past engagement through the Jacksonville Children's Commission and the Jacksonville Journey, how can the necessary level of funding be secured to make programs effective and how can funding be guaranteed year to year so as to permit maximum effectiveness and maintain gains that are made?
3. Although funding of present programs for education and youth may be important and necessary (e.g., summer camps, out-of-school programs, etc.), there needs to be a substantial fund for new and innovative programs to supplement and augment those that have previously been determined to be of significant value.
4. There needs to be a new "open minded" approach to expenditure of funds based upon established prerequisites for services and qualitative metrics related to crime prevention which is applied to all "prevention and intervention" programs funded by the City of Jacksonville.
5. There needs to be asset mapping for all of the subcommittee areas of the Task Force which includes organizations that may not have previously received funding and are not on the "radar screen" of the City at present.

6. We need to get out into the neighborhoods and schools most effected by the violent crime problem and talk to the people in those communities about their concerns, ideas and recommendations.
7. Since there is a significant overlap of information and ideas being engaged by the various subcommittees, at a relatively early time there needs to be a workshop where the subcommittees can come together and share information to assist in identifying consensus recommendations and future steps.