

Safety and Crime Reduction Administrator Report Summary February 26, 2021

Community Engagement

To reduce crime in the community, the Commission is assisting other organizations with identifying ways to empower the community for the *Justina Pilot*. In a collaborative effort with JSO, DCPS, community residents, apartment complex managers, and a faith-based organization, a grass root intervention and prevention Pilot in the Justina Arlington area has been implemented to help residents regain ownership and stability of their neighborhoods. The common goals are to:

- Have an adequate mechanism (*email distribution list*) in place for the purpose of sharing information
- Strengthen community stakeholder relationships
- Foster positive relationships with community residents
- Ultimately prevent and reduce crime creating a safer community

A strategy is also being put into place to begin connecting and providing services to residents. The plan will include one-on-one conversations, listening to individuals lived experiences, as well as allowing them to inform providers with what they need to improve their lives.

JSO is in continuous contact with apartment managers to help implement and encourage residents to help reduce crime prevention, as well as take back ownership of their community.

Mentoring

The work of the Commission is being moved forward through the KHA subcommittee utilizing effective strategies regarding funding allotted for mentoring programs. The Commission has worked with KHA over the last month to decide which programs may be best situated to meet the needs of the community in areas such as cultural diversity in choosing mentors, effective mentorship/coaching training, case management, relationship building, and trust in the community. The subcommittee is in the final stages of deciding how and for what purpose funding will be appropriated. Discussions have included the following:

Full-Service School Support

Efficacy Study of Current Mentoring Programs

Peer to Peer Mentoring for Teens

- Community service for both parties
- Build on existing programs

Mentoring for Teens Transitioning out of Live-In Facilities

- Helping families prepare for teens to come home
- Individual mentoring/coaching to help teens prepare for life

Career and College Education for Youth Touched by the Juvenile Justice System

- Continue existing FSCJ programs
- Funding for students to remove post-secondary barriers regarding attendance
- Expand existing programs by adding a case manager to triage other concerns

Assistance with Current Trauma Response Efforts

- Training for community members
- PSA or outreach materials

Mental Health

Vicki Waytowich (Chair - Mental Health Subcommittee) was made aware of a bill being process through City Council that will fund a Mental Health Campaign. Additional information will soon follow.

Workforce Training

In the area of increasing employment (with improved living wages), job skills training, financial aid, technology resources and business partnerships, the Commission has partnered with Florida State College of Jacksonville and Workforce Industrial Training to implement Operation Boost Phase One. The program will provide employment skills, certifications, advising, application waivers, and networking opportunities for underserved populations which will help to reduce crime and recidivism in the community.

The bill was approved at a recent City Council meeting.

Education/Youth Development/Teen Violence

The Safety and Crime Reduction Administrator has participated in several JSO Gang Unit Notifications along with the JSO Program Manager, and the Director of Northwest Behavioral Health Services. The Customs Notifications offer hope, resources, employment opportunities, jobs skills training and family planning to individuals involved in a gang or engaging in criminal activity. The unit also offers its services to individuals who have not committed a felony but may be on a path of criminal activity. However, it is up to each individual to contact the JSO Program Manager to demonstrate good will and/or commitment to changing his/her life. The JSO Program Manager, as well as the JSO Gang Unit believes that if they can reach one person, it is one more life saved, and changed for the betterment of all those involved, thus reducing crime in the surrounding communities.

Crime Statistics – Murders in Duval County for past 10 years (2010 – 2018 via FDLE/2019 to present JSO)

Year	Murders
2010	81
2011	76
2012	94
2013	93
2014	96
2015	97
2016	106
2017	112
2018	112
2019	131
2020	140
As of January 2021,	17

Note: As of February 20, 2021, there have been 20 murders in Jacksonville, FL as compared to 17 murders on February 20, 2020.

Commissioner SWOT (Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities and Threats) Analysis

Chairman Griffin suggested that a SWOT analysis be forwarded to each Commissioner to capture a current framework of the Commissions strengths, weaknesses, opportunities, and Threats. The SWOT analysis will help shed light on what we do well, where we need to improve, and how to immediately take action and move forward.

Great feedback has been received from the Commissioners – Thank You!