Madison Dane County Violence Prevention Coalition

Accomplishments & Quarterly Meeting Outcomes

Highlights of the Past Year

June 2021
- Madison Dane County Violence Prevention Coalition reconvened
- The Coalition identified priorities of the Roadmap to Reducing Violence

July - Dec 2021
- Coalition work groups organized
- Workgroups developed action plans and identified objectives, strategies, and activities to be funded through the RFP
- 2nd Coalition meeting held in October

Feb - April 2022
- Q1 Coalition meeting – highlight work group action plans
- Service Provision Survey (SPS) began
- Introduced RFP process and priorities

May 2022
- RFP released
- Violence prevention and intervention funded programs expected to begin August 1, 2022

June 2, 2022 Q2 Coalition Meeting

Speaker Highlights

Welcome and Introduction

Gloria Reyes – Executive Director and CEO of Briarpatch Youth Services

Gloria stressed the need for an upstream approach to violence prevention, with a strong focus on our young people. She shared the value of a public health approach to violence prevention. This approach emphasizes data and collaboration to develop policies and programs to help ensure a better future for all those who live in our community.

VP Talks Session 1

Karen Menendez Coller – Executive Director of Centro Hispano & Linda Ketchum, Executive Director of Just Dane

Karen and Linda discussed their collaboration and the importance of trust between agencies. They shared how their organizations are able to support one another to optimize funding. They also discussed the importance of recognizing each agency's unique approach to services, and how they coordinate and communicate to best meet the needs of the community and their agencies. The session ended with an open discussion on funding and meeting the requirements of complicated RFP processes.

VP Talks Session 2

Ron Chance, Community Programs Manager at Dane County Human Services

Ron shared the history and current work of the Community Restorative Courts. He mentioned an interest among trained volunteer peacemakers who want to help their communities. He also spoke of the need for more effective communication from agencies to better help people. Ron also led a group discussion about increasing staff diversity to improve collaboration with communities and other government agencies.

Next Steps

Action Plan for Roadmap & Coalition

Attendees did an exercise to develop recommendations for implementation of the Roadmap Goals and Strategies. Coalition members and the work groups will develop action plans and next steps for the following recommendations.

1. **Build Capacity for Community Leaders & Organizers** (Roadmap Goal 3: Foster Strong Neighborhoods)
   Build on current relationships, work on increasing trust, and always look to identify and include new leaders from within organizations and communities. Build leadership for community members by providing technical support and training opportunities. Hold community meetings generated by residents; possibly fund neighborhood navigators. Generate sustainable funding for these efforts.

2. **Build Capacity to Meet Basic Needs** (Roadmap Goal 3: Foster Strong Neighborhoods)
   Fund community resource navigator positions. The navigators would:
   - use their expertise and a detailed internal-facing version of the resource/service directory to help community members navigate existing resources in the community
   - connect residents to services that address their needs
   - provide warm handoffs to service providers and help advocate for the residents.

3. **Strengthen Neighborhood Centers as Resources for Families** (Roadmap Goal 3: Foster Strong Neighborhoods
   Create community-driven approaches to neighborhood centers in areas in most need of services and activities; support and build capacity of the centers through collaboration, coordination and funding. Neighborhood centers should be inclusive and diverse with a range of activities, including open gym or pop-up activities; collaborate with nearby and existing services to create space for partnerships (look at nearby orgs or faith-based structures).

4. **Build Capacity for Youth Leaders** (Roadmap Goal 2: Support Community for Children, Youth, and Families)
   Partner with and provide a space for existing organizations/programs that engage/uplift/empower youth, even if not directly engaged in "VP." Goal is to meet youth where they're at, identify youth who could be leaders, and engage other youth.

5. **Community of Practice** (Roadmap Goal 5: Strengthen Community Capacity, Collaboration, and Coordination of Violence Prevention Efforts)
   The MDCVPC creates an informal community of practice (CoP) to build trust, share information, and improve collaboration. The CoP must include all staff of each organization, not just Directors and Program Managers.

6. **Strengthen Referral Systems and Coordination** (Roadmap Goal 4: Intervention and Healing)
   Strengthen current collaborations and referrals between Coalition members and find new ways to create relationships and coordination. Bolster overall collaboration within the Coalition to create a web of supportive services for violence prevention.

Action Plan for Data

- Create data snapshots with service provider partners to identify how violence can be addressed
- Create a violence surveillance system with data collected from law enforcement, hospitals, death certificates, and other service providers throughout Dane County and present visuals of data trends on our website
- Monitor violent crime trends, review "hot spots", and identify specific areas or populations with higher rates of violence
- Provide recommendations and implement programming to reduce violent crimes in areas identified

Next Coalition Meeting: September 8, 2022

- Highlight service providers and programs that were funded through the Violence Prevention RFP
- Action Planning and Networking