

Implementing Project Safe Neighborhoods (PSN) within Public Housing

Issue Description:

Through their PSN efforts, many jurisdictions find that public housing continues to be one of the most difficult environments in which to reduce gun and gang violence. Residents of public housing comprise a diverse population and inhabit a diverse range of property types.

In general these environments tend to consist of high concentrations of individuals facing poverty, transiency, barriers to employment, and a culture of fear, silence, and anti-police sentiments - circumstances that result in higher levels of violent and drug crime and lower levels of lasting, positive community-police relationships.

Despite these barriers to success, programs and agencies throughout the country continue to implement effective responses and strategies to reduce violent crime in public housing.

Recommended Tactics/Strategies for Addressing the Issue:

Successful strategies involve a range of approaches and resources which in part include:

- Use of task forces to focus coordinated and collaborative responses within public housing
- Media outreach strategies
- Involve probation and parole in a coordinated response
- Enhanced prosecution efforts
- Prevention and intervention strategies
- Training
- Engage Public Housing Officials and residents

Available Resources:

For a full list of available resources, contact American University:

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Resources:

- [Academy for Educational Development \(AED\)](#)
- [American Probation and Parole Association \(APPA\)](#)
- [American Prosecutors Research Institute \(APRI\)](#)
- [American University \(AU\)](#)
- [Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms & Explosives \(ATF\)](#)
- [Bureau of Justice Assistance \(BJA\)](#)
- [Council of State Governments \(CSG\)](#)
- [Hobson & Associates](#)
- [Institute for Law and Justice \(ILJ\)](#)
- [Michigan State University \(MSU\)](#)
- [National Crime Prevention Council \(NCPC\)](#)
- [National Gang Center \(NGC\)](#)
- [National Sheriff's Association \(NSA\)](#)
- [National Youth Gang Center \(NYGC\)](#)
- [Regional Information Sharing Systems \(RISS\)](#)

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