

# Group Violence Intervention

Presented by Deputy Chief Neil Noakes

# Background

- Group Violence Intervention (GVI) programs in major U.S. cities have reduced crime
- GVI focuses on offering incentives and alternatives to criminal activity
- GVI relies on strong partnership networks with government agencies, neighborhoods, business community and organizations

# Advance Peace

- Advance Peace is dedicated to ending cyclical and retaliatory gun violence in American urban neighborhoods by investing in the development, health, and wellbeing of those at the center of this crisis.



## ADVANCE PEACE SEVEN PROGRAM ELEMENTS



# Advance Peace -The Program

- Intensely focused program to stop shootings in the most dangerous communities.
- Voluntary. No Fellow is forced or required to be there.
- Mentor-led intervention to:
  - stabilize the lives of the Fellows
  - incentivize them to stop shooting
  - move toward productive citizenship

# Advance Peace -The Impact

- With a population of approximately 105,000, Richmond, CA averaged about 48 murders annually. By comparison, Fort Worth has a population of 850,000 and had 59 murders in 2018.
- After implementing AP's practices, the city of Richmond, CA, saw a 66% drop in gun violence within seven years.
  - In part due to improved police practices & other anti-violence programs
- Cost of the program is \$600,000 annually with a five-year commitment, for a total of \$3 million.



## PROGRAM

- Violence is a health issue! Stand Up S.A. is a program designed to prevent violence by treating the issue like an infectious disease.

## OUTREACH WORKERS

- “Credible messengers” hired & trained to develop relationships and trust within the community in order to “interrupt” violence.



## FOCUS

Stand Up S.A. will focus on:

- interrupting transmission
- changing behaviors
- changing community norms



Identification  
and  
detection



Interruption,  
intervention &  
risk reduction



Change  
behaviors  
and norms



- Outreach Workers will identify and detect:
  - potential shooting events
  - individuals and groups at highest risk of involvement in a shooting or killing
- Once identified, they will:
  - intervene in crises
  - mediate conflicts between individuals and/or groups
  - foster behavior change by providing information & skills and connecting clients to social services

# FWPD Program - Goals

- Reduce gun violence
- Provide path for willing gang members to exit criminal lifestyle
- Provide meaningful prevention, intervention and rehabilitation
- Accurately measure impact and outcomes
- Strengthen relationship between FWPD/CFW & affected communities
- Establish quality initiative that is fiscally responsible and sustainable



# FWPD Program - Strategies

- Leverage local resources and other programs
  - Operation Progress
  - Hope Farm
  - FWPD Gang Intervention
  - Faith leaders
  - Community leaders
  - Government and corporate resources
- Connect people with needs to people with resources
- Support economic development and long-term revitalization

# FWPD Program – Recommendations

- Continue research and solicit additional input while moving forward
- Travel to San Antonio, TX and Richmond, CA to:
  - Learn about programs firsthand
  - Meet program participants & leaders, community members & law enforcement
- Trip participants:
  - Councilmember Gray
  - FWPD representatives (1-3)
  - Community representatives (1-3)
- Partner with academic institution for data collection and analysis

# Thank you

