



Cincinnati Initiative to Reduce Violence (CIRV): Summary Statistics

October 15, 2009

Prepared by:

University of Cincinnati Policing Institute

Director: Robin S. Engel, Ph.D.

All information gathered for this report was obtained from the following organizations: Cincinnati Police Department, Cincinnati Works, Cincinnati Human Relations Commission, and Police-Community Partnering Center. For additional information about the contents of this report, contact Dr. Robin S. Engel, Associate Professor, School of Criminal Justice, University of Cincinnati, PO Box 210389, Cincinnati, OH 45221, robin.engel@uc.edu. For additional information about the Cincinnati Initiative to Reduce Violence, contact Mr. S. Gregory Baker, Executive Director CIRV, Executive Manager of Community Relations, Cincinnati Police Department, 310 Ezzard Charles Drive, Cincinnati, OH 45214, greg.baker@cincinnati-oh.gov

CIRV Overview

To combat increases in gun violence, the Cincinnati Initiative to Reduce Violence (CIRV) was created in April 2007. The CIRV is a multi-agency collaborative effort designed to significantly reduce gun violence by focusing resources on the violent group/gangs responsible for nearly 75% of the city's homicides. Loosely modeled after the Boston Gun Project from the 1990s, the CIRV is a focused deterrence approach that partners over 15 law enforcement and social service agencies. A major component of this initiative is "pulling levers," a strategy to directly and accurately communicate new consequences for violence to at-risk gang members. After 24 months, assessments of the effort indicate significant reductions in gun-violence, record number of offenders requesting social services, and improved community-relations. The CIRV approach has won national and international awards, and is serving as a model for violence reduction initiatives in other Ohio cities and communities around the world.

Homicide and Gun Violence Trends

- 24 months pre/post initiative engagement comparisons (Oct 05 – Sept 07, compared to Oct 07 – Sept 09)
- Group / Gang Member Involved (GMI) Homicides:
 - Oct 05 – Sept 07: 108 GMI homicides
 - Oct 07 – Sept 09: 69 GMI homicides
 - 36.1% reduction in GMI homicides in 24-month post CIRV period
- Total homicides:
 - Oct 05 – Sept 07: 160 homicides
 - Oct 07 – Sept 09: 134 homicides
 - 16.3% reduction in all homicides in 24-month post CIRV period
- Total fatal and non-fatal shootings
 - Oct 05 – Sept 07: 838 shootings
 - Oct 07 – Sept 09: 757shootings
 - 9.7% reduction in firearm shootings in 24-month post CIRV period

CIRV Law Enforcement Team

- Members of 13 violent groups/gangs have been targeted by law enforcement team
- 203 violent group members have been arrested for various felony and misdemeanor charges
 - *Mad-ville* Gang (Sept 09): 6 criminal groups
 - 30 individuals charged with 110 felonies
 - 19 guns recovered

- *Taliband* Gang (Nov 2008):
 - 95-count indictment, 71 arrests
 - Largest state gang prosecution in Hamilton County
- 77 violent group members contacted during Law Enforcement Team “Home-visits”
- Current law enforcement operations are ongoing for other violent groups/gangs

CIRV Services Team

- Since July 2007, over 430 individuals have contacted Street Advocates for assistance
 - 390 completed assessment process at Cincinnati Works
 - 173 completed job readiness training program
 - 115 obtained 1st job
 - 61 currently employed
- Beginning September 2009, CIRV services are available at Talbert House for those individuals assessed as “high risk” for violence. In conjunction with the Street Advocates, Talbert House will provide a case manager to assess violence prone individuals, develop life change plans for those individuals and provide behavioral change services.

CIRV Community Engagement Team

- Joined forces with Community Police Partnering Center in January 2009
- Conducting asset inventories in communities with high levels of violence to best mobilize existing resources
- Engaging communities in anti-violence, pro-social messaging through community events and activities

CIRV Call-in sessions (offender notification meetings)

- Over 425 probationers/parolees have attended at least one of 17 offender notification meetings across 9 days
 - Identified individuals on probation / parole attend the meeting as a condition of their supervision
 - 23% of identified violent group members that have attended at least one call-in
- 46 current violent groups identified
 - 41 (89.1%) of 46 current violent groups that had at least one member in attendance in at least one call-in session
- New community-based voluntary call-in sessions
 - First session in Aug 09 had over 40 attendees
 - Direct discussions with those affected by and perpetrating violence in selected communities
 - Additional voluntary call-ins planned for November 09

CIRV Violence Interruption / Conflict Mediation

- Street Advocates mediate disputes among feuding group members / individuals engaged in gun violence
- From Jan 08 – July 09, CHRC Street Advocates reported successful mediation in 38 potentially violent incidents

CIRV Awards

- 2009 International Association of Chiefs of Police (IACP) / *West Excellence in Criminal Investigations Award*
- 2008 International Association of Chiefs of Police (IACP) / *Motorola Webber Seavey Excellence in Law Enforcement Award*
- 2008 National Criminal Justice Association *Outstanding Criminal Justice Program Award*