

COUNTY OF MILWAUKEE
INTEROFFICE COMMUNICATION

DATE: June 14, 2016

TO: Supervisor Péggy West, Chair, Finance and Audit Committee

FROM: Michael Hafemann, Superintendent, Milwaukee County House of Correction

SUBJECT: Informational Report Related to Planning Process Created By 2016 Budget Amendment 1A063

REQUEST

There is no request at this time; this report is for informational purposes only.

BACKGROUND

Budget amendment 1A063, by Supervisor Supreme Moore Omokunde, requested that the House of Correction develop a plan in conjunction with Milwaukee Innercity Congregations Allied for Hope's (MICAH) 53206 Initiative to implement programming within the disparately impacted zip codes to help prevent incarceration.

In an attempt to address the proposed amendment, the House of Correction has partnered with Milwaukee Innercity Congregations Allied for Hope on a series of planning meetings around the creation of an implementation plan that would aim to lower youth incarceration rates and adult recidivism. The planning process is ongoing. Tentative concepts are listed below.

Safe Zones Initiative

The allocation of \$37,500 to fund a Safe Zone Initiative in the Amani Neighborhood (East - 20th Street, West - 27th Street, North - Keefe Avenue, South - Center Street). This collaboration would work with churches in and near the Amani neighborhood to further promote a violence free neighborhood.

The Safe Zones initiative is modeled after the Cure Violence/Interrupters approach, which began in Chicago in 2010. That model utilizes "violence interrupters" to identify potentially violent situations and intervene using conflict resolution tactics and mediation. Cure Violence proposes eradicating violence "by promoting a public health and science-based perspective," which views violence as an epidemic.

The Cure Violence Model is a public health approach to violence prevention that understands violence as a learned behavior that can be prevented using disease control methods.

A NIJ/Northwestern University evaluation showed statistically significant results across all seven communities in Chicago, reductions in shootings and killings of 41% to 73%, reductions in shooting hot spots of up to 40%, and the elimination of retaliation killings in 5 of 8 communities.

Workforce Development Initiative

Milwaukee County would identify individuals receiving County services, including those currently incarcerated, and who are in need of job skills and provide them with job experience, training, and skill development through the renovation and rehabilitation of properties. The goals of this program would be to improve workforce development outcomes for program participants and reduce recidivism rates for program participants. Additional planning is required for this initiative.

Youth Afterschool Programming

This project would fund after school programming that focuses on community development, social responsibility, community organizing, and service learning and projects for youth in between the ages of 13 - 18. Goals of this programming include reducing youth incarceration, promoting healthy lifestyles, promoting alternatives to violence, implementing restorative practices in youth communities, enhancing youth workforce development, and increasing access to postsecondary educational opportunities. Additional planning is required for this initiative.

RECOMMENDATION

There is no recommendation at this time; this report is for informational purposes only.



Michael Hafemann
House of Correction

cc: Chris Abele, County Executive
Sup. Theodore Lipscomb, County Board Chair
Finance and Audit Committee Members
Raisa Koltun, Chief of Staff, Office of the County Executive
Kelly Bablitch, Chief of Staff, County Board of Supervisors
Steve Cady, Research & Policy Director
Shanin Brown, Committee Coordinator