Do The Write Thing

UNIVERSITY OF MASSACHUSETTS BOSTON

Chancellor J. Keith Motley, PhD
Do The Write Thing Challenge (DTWT)

- National essay contest on violence prevention
- Sponsored by the National Campaign to Stop Violence (NCSV) Washington, D.C.
  - Initiative of the Kuwaiti America Foundation
- DTWT – Has local chapters in 30 cities across the nation
- 6th, 7th, and 8th grade students
  - National participation
    - 1.6 million students since the inception of the challenge
    - 210,000 students in 2013
- Essays – roughly 500 to 1,000 words in length on a variety of topics
  - How has violence affected my life?
  - What are the causes of violence?
  - What can I do about violence?
- Presents opportunity for dialogue on violence in schools and CBOs
Boston Do The Write Thing Challenge (DTWT)

- Chancellor Keith Motley is chair of the Boston chapter – Committee of 12
- Outreach to public, charter, and private Schools (Partnership with Boston Public Schools’ Superintendent’s Office)
- 1,300 essays submitted in 2013
- Judging essays in Boston
  - Round 1 – Trial court judges across the state
  - Round 2 – MA Appellate Court judges (Boston Ambassadors)
  - Round 3 – MA Supreme Court justices (National Ambassadors)
Recognitions

- **Boston Recognition Ceremony (May)**
  - Hosted by the University of Massachusetts Boston
  - Open to all participants
  - Honored by city officials
  - Reveal Boston and National Ambassadors

- **National Recognition Week**
  - National Recognition Week
  - Hosted by NCSV in D.C.
  - NCSV pays for students, 1 teacher, 1 parent, local chair and coordinator

- **Activities**
  - DTWT Book of Writings inducted into Library of Congress
  - Visit Supreme Court
  - Visit Kuwaiti Embassy
  - Visit with congressional delegation
  - Recognition Ceremony
University Connections

UMass Boston: 100 Students & Faculty

- Outreach to schools and teachers
- Research and deliver information to parents and teachers. Identify the themes of papers to discuss with parents and teachers
- Ambassador programming
- Alumni networking of past student participants
- Support the Boston Recognition Ceremony
- Fundraising
Innovative Features

▸ Helping young people feel empowered
  ▸ Overcoming hopelessness
  ▸ Giving young people a voice
  ▸ Citizenship and belonging

▸ Community access to thoughts of young people
  ▸ Faculty who research this age group
  ▸ CBO’s working with schools can read the essays
Ongoing Challenges

- Increasing access to public schools
- Funding for additional programming
- Ongoing engagement with youth after the essay contest
University Connections

- Overcoming Violence
  - A new ad campaign and curriculum for middle school students

[Image of ad campaign and curriculum for middle school students]
Next Speaker Please
Founder & Executive Director, Gary Slutkin, M.D.
Chicago Shootings and Killings

41% - 73%

Baltimore Killings

-56%

New York City Shootings

-20%

Chicago Shootings and Killings vs Baltimore Killings vs New York City Shootings

CDC
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

Johns Hopkins University

BJA
Bureau of Justice Assistance U.S. Department of Justice

Center for Court Innovation
Credible Messengers
Violence is Contagious…
A Cure Achievable

- Interrupt Transmission
- Identify and change the thinking of highest potential transmitters
- Change Community Norms

Stop violent events before they happen
Reduce number of violent individuals
Create social pressure to stop violence

Reduced Violence
Interrupt Transmission

Change Behavior

Change Norms

DON'T SHOOT.
I want to grow up.
University Program Investment
External Funds Invested in Cure Violence
$113,477,853

Serving Justice
Department of Corrections
State of Illinois
Aug. 2017

MacArthur
The John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation

ICJIA

Robert Wood Johnson Foundation

Robert R. McCormick Foundation

The Chicago Community Trust

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

Cure Violence

Polk Bros Foundation
A foundation for Chicago families
“Cure Violence....the approach that will come to prominence.”  
*The Economist*
Ranked as Top 10 NGO in the World
By Global Journal, 2013
Next Speaker Please

Coalition of Urban Serving Universities

Annual Meeting – Orlando, Florida 2014
PARTNERSHIPS FOR SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITY PUBLIC SAFETY: THE MEMPHIS POLICE JOINT AGENCY MODEL

David Cox
TK Buchanan
Allison N. Eddins
Wendy Santee
Community Revitalization and Public Safety in the U of M District: District-Wide Strategies

Convening/Collaboration Improvements
- U of M Faculty and Staff Engagement
- Collaboration with Community Organizations
- Police Joint Agency (PJA) Partnership
- Data Driven Program Coordination & Assessment

Public Safety Improvements
- Blue CRUSH (Crime Reduction Using Statistical History)
- CPTED (Community Policing Through Environmental Design)
- Mutual Assistance Agreement between Campus Police & Memphis PD
- Problem Properties Collaborative

UDistrictMemphis.com
Community Revitalization and Public Safety in the U of M District: Focused Strategies

Social Improvements

- Building Strong Communication Networks
  - Private Facebook pages for each of the seven (7) neighborhoods
  - Nextdoor.com
  - Neighborhood Association websites
- Community Capacity Building
  - High level of participation in district-wide and neighborhood level planning processes
  - Strengthening Communities Grant Program

Economic Improvements

- University District Overlay
  - Focuses on key businesses corridors in the University District
  - Sets development requirements & planning regulations that are specific to the District
- Area Streetscape Re-design
  - Wider sidewalks
  - Multi-modal street design
  - Enhanced landscape and lighting
- Attracted Mixed-Use Development
Measured Impacts of Programs

**District-Wide**

- 16% to 25% Reduction in Overall Crime Rate, 2013-2014
- 35% Reduction in Problem Properties, 2013-2014
- 45% Increase in Median Home Value, 2000-2012
- 68% Increase in New Business Licenses, 2010-2014
- Over $100 Million in Private Capital Investment, 2007-2014

**Target Neighborhood**

- 24% Reduction in Overall Crime Rate
- 55% Reduction in Problem Properties

**University Metrics**

- Community Engagement opportunities lead to 220+ students serving in City government and Non-Profit leadership roles
- Multiple Articles and Monographs on Partnerships Produced by UofM Faculty
- U of M has been the safest campus in Tennessee for 5 of the past 7 years
Non-Measured Impacts of Programs

- Smart Growth and Urban Design Standards through the Overlay
- Tactical Urbanism Programs – MEMFix & Pedestrian Crosswalks
- Community Gardens in Every Neighborhood by 2015
- Turning a Neglected Cemetery into a Heritage/Public Space

- Active Neighborhood Watch Programs
- PJA Model being Replicated Across the City
- Improved Relationship with University District Residents
On-going Program Features

• It’s All Political: Changes in leadership can change commitment to programs and collaboration
• Sustainable Funding
• Balancing Power Relationships among Stakeholders: neighborhoods, university, city, developers, etc.
• Melding University Footprint with Community Interests

Innovative Program Features

• Using data to build collaborative approach to community decision making and action
• Ready built data system to assess progress and make changes
• Created a broad collaborative infrastructure which added access to resources
• Shifting power relations in Community-University Partnership
University Funds Invested: Their Source & Use

• Personnel
  ▪ Community Safety Liaison
  ▪ Community Redevelopment Liaison

• Student and Faculty Support
  ▪ Graduate Assistants assigned to University District
  ▪ Urban Gardening

• Other University Commitments
  ▪ Community Research
  ▪ Program & Design Assistance

Outside Funds Attracted: Their Source & Use

• University District Overlay
  ▪ $50,000 from Memphis Housing & Community Development
  ▪ Technical Assistance

• Walker Avenue Streetscape
  ▪ $550,000 from Federal TIGER Grant
  ▪ Redesign and construction funding

• Madison-Eckles Cemetery
  ▪ $18,000 from Strengthening Communities Grant
  ▪ Reclamation and landscaping
Other Important Aspects of the Program

- Creation of a Business Improvement District (BID)
  - Organized through the University District Business Alliance
  - Funds managed by University Neighborhood Development Corp.
  - Annual tax revenue could range from $178,000 to $123,000
- Tax Increment Financing (TIF) for a Future Development Project
- Managing Expectations between the University and the Community

$$\text{B.I.D.} + \text{T.I.F.} = \text{Sustainable Funding}$$
Next Speaker Please
Cleveland State University
Playhouse Square District Initiative

- CSU made investment in District by relocating the Dramatic Arts & Dance Departments.
- Mutual aid agreement with the City of Cleveland.
- Expanded jurisdiction for CSUPD police officers to patrol City streets/alleys in District.
- Expanded service area of campus safety officers (students) providing escorts.
Initiative’s Role

Cleveland State University’s presence in the Playhouse Square District has assisted in increasing the energy of the District. This initiative has brought in more businesses, retail, and apartments to the area, which has improved downtown Cleveland.
Measured Impacts of the Initiative

• There were 260 reported crimes in 2009 in the Playhouse Square District.

• Initiative began in 2010 with increased field interviews, patrols, and safety escorts.

• In 2013 only 162 reported crimes (-37%).

• Theft reports -45%, Assaults reports -8%, Vandalism -62%, & Drug Violations -39%.
Non-Measured Impacts of the Initiative

• More people are living in the District.
• More restaurant options are available to patrons attending the 9 different venues.
• The perception of safety has changed and there is less fear of crime.
• Public and private partnerships have been developed and the sharing of information.
Innovative Features of Initiative

Law enforcement and private security collaborations:
Cleveland Division of Police, Cleveland State University Police, and the Greater Cleveland Regional Transit Authority Police share crime trend patterns and suspect information with Playhouse Square District Security.
Ongoing Challenges of Initiative

• In 2014, Cuyahoga County designated two locations for central intake for homeless women/families and the other for men both of which are within walking distance of the District.

• Problems of opportunity thefts, public intoxication, and panhandling.
University Funds Invested

- CSU master leases all space of the Middough Building from an entity related to the Playhouse Square Association.
- CSU occupies ½ of bldg. & subleases space to Middough Inc. and Cleveland Playhouse.
- CSU has expended approx. $4.4 million in rent for FY 2012-2014.
Outside Funds Attracted

• Renovation of Allen Theater, $30 million.
• District Improvements including new archways, signature chandelier, signage & public amenities, $16 million.
• Playhouse Square Hanna Bldg. Annex residential renovation of 100 apartments & ground level retail space, $24 million.
Other Important Aspects of Initiative

- The Playhouse Square District is comprised of building owners/property stakeholders who are supportive of the quality of life, economic vitality, & commerce in the area.

- CSUPD Command Staff attend the Playhouse Square District Development Corporation quarterly meetings.
Other Important Aspects of Initiative

- Playhouse Square has 9 performance venues, which attracts over 1 million guest per year attending over 1,000 events.
- CSU is being recognized nationally by hosting the Kennedy Center American College Theater Festival for Region 2, January 2-6, 2015 at Playhouse Square.
WORLD’S LARGEST OUTDOOR CHANDELIER
PLAYHOUSE SQUARE DISTRICT IN CLEVELAND, OHIO
Next Speaker Please
University of Illinois at Chicago

Police Programs and Initiatives

• In 2011, The University of Illinois at Chicago Police Department formalized several individual community outreach initiatives into a Good Neighbors program.

• As one of the few constants in a rapidly changing environment, the UIC Police Department leveraged available resources and extended programming into the surrounding community.

• As an example, one initiative under this program was designed to support the integration of an area affordable housing development into the surrounding neighborhood.

Role

• University’s role in this initiative was to address law-enforcement related concerns that stood as barriers to neighborhood integration. Specific strategies included hosting the Roosevelt Square Area Security Council, participating in the UIC/CPD Joint Robbery Task Force, and establishing a University Community Policing Initiative in both communities.
Transformative agenda

• The Chicago Housing Authority’s neighborhood transformation plan is designed to integrate “public housing and its leaseholders into the larger social, economic and physical fabric of Chicago.”


• The Barbara Jean Wright’s Courts, is a 272-unit apartment complex within CHA’s redevelopment zone and was privately developed in order to preserve HUD owned affordable family housing, stave off displacement of current residents, and prevent property from being converted to market rate housing.

• The UIC Police Department initiative seeks to assist in reconciling the conflicts between these two programs that may be caused by concerns over actual or perceived levels of safety and criminal activity.
Measured Impact

- Law enforcement improvements included a substantial increase in the perceived safety of non-student residents in the BJWC over the three prior years of the programs existence.

- 2011 - 3% of residents surveyed felt that there was an adequate level of safety and security in their neighborhood.

- 2012 - 2% of residents surveyed believed that there was an adequate level of safety and security in their neighborhood.

- 2013 - 16% of residents surveyed believed that there was an adequate level of safety and security in their neighborhood.

- Area Robberies that occur in the project area have a 45.23% clearance rate by arrest. This is significantly higher than the 22.09% arrest clearance rate for non-affiliated robberies.

- During the 2013 survey 64% of residents surveyed believed that their safety as it relates to being a victim of violent crime had improved over the last 3 years.

- Since the department has become more involved in the Area Security meeting we have seen a 50% increase in Area Security council meeting participation and a 25% increase in BJWC and Roosevelt square participation at local police beat meetings.
Non-measured impacts

• 10 years ago only one student lived in the BJWC, today 20 students reside within the BJWC. We view this as a positive indicator that the perception of the social economic status of the BJWC area is improving. This, we feel, is a direct result of the higher perceived level of safety in the community.

• Law enforcement improvements – The University has extended its patrol, investigations, and community policing efforts to specifically to address the safety concerns of the BJWC non-student community.

• Private Security, Transit Authority, and Housing Authority officials have established lines of communication outside of the committee with university and local police.

• The University Police Department has partnered its Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design Officer with the Area Security Council to examine physical area improvements that will assist in breaking the perception of a public housing “superblock” and help create a more inclusive environment while still addressing security concerns.
Innovative Program Features

- Response beyond patrol
- Quality of Life focused
- University Police Department serving as community anchor
Ongoing Challenges

• Allocation of scarce resources

• Balancing priorities

• Stereotypes and perceptions
University Funds

- Two COPS officers 20% time = $34,653 per year for both combined
- One lieutenant one day per month = $5,248 per year
- Use of conference room = 2 hours = $125
- 12 meetings a year = $1,500
- $34,653 + $5,248 + $1,500 = $41,401 per year

- All funding from State of Illinois
Outside funding

• Currently all of the funding and support comes from within the University, we are hoping to gain funding and support for our survey and research initiatives from other area stakeholders. Some of these stakeholders include

• The Fosco Park community center
• The Pacific Gardens Mission
• Area Faith based organizations
• St. Ignatius High School
• Local area businesses
• University Village Condo Association
Program evolution

• We currently have a Citizen’s Academy under development. This program initiative will attempt to address police-citizen interactions with a goal of increasing awareness of both citizen rights and police procedures.

• We are researching programing offered at another University that assesses the physical security of off-campus, non-university rental properties.

• Beginning this spring, we will be hosting a local business beat meeting to address that populations specific concerns.
Additional Off-Campus Police Initiatives

Going forward, we look to bring our other community focused initiatives under the umbrella of our Good neighbors program these initiatives include:

- Illinois Medical District Security Group
- Pacific Gardens Mission Safety Team
- SCOPE Security Meetings
- Pre-Party Neighborhood outreach missions
- Cook County State’s Attorney Prosecution Steering Committee
- Chicago SPARK Apprenticeship Program
Next Speaker Please
VCU Perception of Safety Surveys

• Designed in response to “perception v. reality” conundrum
  - Collaboration between VCU Police and VCU Survey Evaluation and Research Lab (SERL) within Center for Public Policy
  - Periodically revised and “fine-tuned”
• Launched Spring 2012
  - Administered semi-annually
  - Distributed to faculty, students and staff
• Informs strategic deployment plans and safety enhancement decisions – essential given limited resources
Role within Urban Revitalization Strategy

• Perception of safe environment = key enabler to revitalization efforts
• Targeted allocation of limited university resources
• Community participation and support around safety initiatives
Measured Impacts

• Social/economic improvements
  - Arrival of new retail operations
  - Broad Street Mile initiatives

• Law enforcement improvements
  - 44% reduction - core campus robberies
  - 13% reduction - in jurisdiction robberies

• Convening/collaboration improvements
  - State police car patrols 6 pm – 3 am throughout VCU campuses
Non-measured Impacts

• Social/economic improvements
  - 2015 International Cycling Race
  - Merchants Association mentoring

• Law enforcement improvements
  - Target-hardening effect discouraging criminal activity throughout VCU campuses and surrounding communities

• Convening/collaboration improvements
  - Enhanced coordination with Richmond City Police
Innovative Features

• First such instrument in Commonwealth
  - Based on statistical research principles
  - Periodic revision of survey questions to assess impact of new initiatives

• Level of specificity sought around “unsafe” perceptions
  - Time (day, hour)
  - Location
  - Situation
Ongoing Challenges

• Funding limitations focus efforts to address majority concerns
• Limited ability to control public perception
• Discontinuity between actual crime and perceptions of crime
• Clery Act impacts safety perceptions and police response
VCU Funds Invested (FY 2014)

- VCU
  - Camera system - $2.3M

- VCU Police
  - Surveys - $36K
  - Safety enhancements - $40K

- VCU Facilities Management
  - Campus lighting enhancements - $300K
  - Renovation / construction projects - $70K / $19K annual fees
Outside Funds Attracted

• VCU Health System
  - Camera system - $245K
• Anticipate faculty participation in survey revisions will expand potential to secure external funding
Other Key Program Aspects

- Strategic patrol deployment
  - Enhanced bike patrols
  - Power shift change
- VCU and Broad Street Corridor
  - Relocation of VCU Police HQ
- Safety between 2 campuses
Other Key Program Aspects

• Involve, inform and educate
• Continuous messaging of the importance of safety
• Using evidence to change perceptions
• Survey tool evolution
• New data elements to inform actions
• Reliable, replicable data for state and federal reporting
Next Speaker Please
• Collaboration with Law Enforcement, Law Enforcement Agencies and Community to reduce violent Crime

• Focused Deterrence --- Three-pronged approach

• Embedded and Action Research – UMKC Department of Criminal Justice and Criminology
Comprehensive Revitalization

• Livability
• Leverage Private Investment
• Job Creation
• Promise Zones
• Improved Disparity of Capital
Measured Impacts

Law Enforcement
• 37% Reduction in Homicide Rate

Economic
Financial Benefits – reduction of costs associated with criminal justice system costs and costs to victims of violent crimes
Aggravated Assault: $19,467
Murder: $1,278,424
Non-Measured Impacts

• Collaboration- KCPD, Parole Officers, Prosecutors Office, Public

• Improved Mutual Trust

• Law Enforcement – Realignment and Data Driven Decisions
Innovative Features

• Focused Deterrence Components
• Embedded Research
• Violent Criminal Auditing
• Social Mapping
• Intelligence Gathering
• Call in Meetings
Challenges and Planned Improvements

• Contrary to Old Models of Policing

• Front-Line Officer Buy In

• Ongoing Analysis – County Prosecutor

UMKC

KC NoVA
Kansas City No Violence Alliance
University Investments

• Finance and Administration Rate – 12%
  Indirect and Overhead Costs

• Faculty Time – 20 – 25 %

• $84,142 – Capacity Building, evaluation, intelligence support, implementation training, action research, evaluation, outcome analysis, implementation plan, performance tracking measures
Outside Funds

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE OFFICE OF JUSTICE PROGRAMS Thursday, September, 12, 2013 WWW.OJP.GOV

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE AWARDS $12M TO IMPROVE SAFETY IN DISTRESSED NEIGHBORHOODS

• $375,000 Leveraged to Support NoVa
• $900,000 BCJI Award
Innovation

• Focused Approach and Evidence-Based Strategy
• NoVA Targets
• Violent Crimes Intelligence Squad
Additional Aspects

• Call-in Meetings
• Social Services
• Active Participation of University Researchers