



## Meeting Notes – Partnerships, Programs, Stakeholder, and Community Engagement

Meeting convened by Andrew Woods And Karl Jacobsen October 24, 2022 3pm- 4pm

**Attendees:** Andrew Woods (Executive Director, Hartford Communities that Care, Inc.), Karl Jacobsen (Chief, New Haven Police Department), Dr. Pina Violano (Director of Community Engagement, Quinnipiac U.), Colleen Violette (DPH; administrative support), Jacquelyn Santiago (Chief Executive Officer, COMPASS Youth Collaborative), Deborah Davis (Mothers United Against Violence).

**Not in attendance:** Leonard Jahad, Ebony Epps, Dawn Spearman, Harold Dimbo, DCF Designee, SDE (John Frassinelli & James Mandracchia).

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1. Welcome and Introductions
2. Review of Subcommittee Charge
  - Strengthen partnerships among the community, state and federal agencies involved in community violence prevention and intervention

This is ongoing, continue to have them at the table and keep them at the table. Address in the report we need more strategic participation from other departments. How can they get other college on board and get engaged in the work.

- Determine community-level needs by engaging with communities impacted by gun violence

Andrew and Karl have identified some folk to include.

- Novel programs and expansion of programs

Review the report submitted to the legislator last session. Some of what we are looking to pull together is already in this report. Especially the novel programs and expansion of program.

Think about additional thoughts or programs missed last time.

Karl met with clergy to connect with other program in the areas. This connection was left off the last report, so very important to have it included in the upcoming report. Also, still a need for the violent interrupter/outreach groups.

Adding in Voca grant for the hospitals that added in mental health services. Also looking into Shaun Reeves program to add into report. And any other programs that we missed in the last report.

Looking into new programs such as trading guns for jobs instead of cash. NAACP has a million jobs program this could be incorporated into.

Setting focus groups what do we want to learn from them? What was missed last time, what was missed with young people, fresher look or dynamics that were changed. Critical we get the youth voice, also educators in the schools who are dealing with this, after school programs connected to these kids, New Haven the Q House councilors.

The driver of violence in the community are too enmeshed with the violence but could connect with the interrupters who are working with them to get their perspective based on their interactions.

What information do we want from police departments, other than the data that already exists? PAL program with the police departments- New Haven just starting to bring it back but it is too new now. Engage with PAL program in Waterbury. What recipe works getting this program up and running.

Karl looking to set up a community meeting- Clergy group and who they invite and workers from the Q house. Karl also has a clergy academy that they have been running and have over 70 members trained. These members respond to a violent event, follow up and canvas the neighborhood after the event with police.

Deborah has heard of mothers taking their child to a police station asking for help and have received very negative reaction- how can we make a comfortable outlet for a parent to ask for help? This could be a good opportunity for the SRO, but not sure how each police department would handle this. We could discuss more with our police and community members.

How far do we want to go with community violence? Brought up at the larger commission meeting. We as a subcommittee should also discuss this and understand how far we want to go into community violence. Should we tier these strategies ex. keeping teen safe vs. responding to violence in the community. Could also use the term putting into buckets for it does not come across that something is placed as more important than the other. Funding really needed for the drivers or victims of violence in the way we are looking to focus. Looking to focus our efforts so we are not "boiling the ocean" and bringing the larger commission in on these conversations.

We can invite folks to submit testimony by November 21st or we can plan to attend public meetings they plan to convene.

Jackie asked what questions or structure is Karl planning for his focus group, he doesn't have a set question but ask for help and if he has a list of questions he will also share.

Is it worth connecting with Survivor of homicide- they have a set meeting with them once a month, Karl doesn't think this is a good group they are more focused on what happened to their loved one and not the contributing factor of community violence?

### 3. Approaches to Completing Our Work

Plan to host a statewide convening to invite 100s of people to call in and testify, if timing doesn't allow continue this into next year. Collaboratively identify groups or stakeholders to provide their thoughts or ideas, channel it to Colleen to flag and let the subcommittee know.

### 4. Report to Commission on Next Steps

Next Commission meeting November 3<sup>rd</sup>, subcommittee reports due November 29<sup>th</sup>, Commission will present draft report to the entire commission December 7<sup>th</sup>.

### 5. Subcommittee Meeting Schedule

November 10<sup>th</sup> at 1pm