



PHILADELPHIA POLICE DEPARTMENT VIOLENT CRIME RESPONSE STRATEGY #PPDVCR

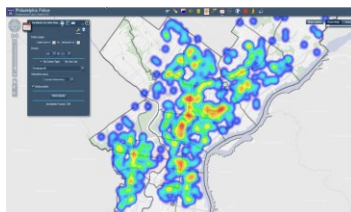
The Philadelphia Police Department recognizes that there is no singular remedy for the prevalence of gun violence on our streets. Accordingly, the Department employs a comprehensive approach to combating gun violence, known as “#PPDVCR” (Philadelphia Police Department Violent Crime Response). Although not an exhaustive list, the following is a summary of the multi-tiered strategies and initiatives associated with #PPDVCR.

Operations



Operational strategies and initiatives are the Department’s most direct methods for addressing gun violence. They include:

Hot-Spot Patrol



“Hot-Spot” patrol involves a comprehensive, multi-pronged attack on violent crime, particularly gun violence, which targets four districts (22nd, 24th, 25th, & 39th Districts), along with the attendant violence-plagued corners and prolific offenders. The strategy promotes community engagement, information gathering and analysis, a shooting response protocol, tactical deployment, warrant service, partnerships with federal agencies, social media monitoring, and identification of nuisance establishments.



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This is accomplished through the collaboration of internal resources, including District Patrol, along with the Narcotics, K-9, Counter Terrorism, SWAT, Civil Affairs, Highway Patrol, Mounted and Traffic Units.

Foot Patrol

Officers graduating from the Police Academy are immediately assigned to foot patrol in crime-dense areas within the city. The officers' presence serves more than one purpose. Officers on foot help deter criminal activity while providing a level of accessibility and positive community engagement that is difficult to achieve when patrolling by vehicle. Ultimately foot patrol officers help residents feel more comfortable approaching officers and providing information regarding criminal activity and quality-of-life issues.

Bicycle Patrol

Philadelphia's success with bicycle deployment in recent years demonstrates the value of this method of patrolling. Officers assigned to bicycle patrol perform the dual function of providing neighborhood-based community policing, while also contributing to tactical strategies for preventing and responding to violent crime. Bicycle patrol is particularly impactful, in that it maintains the level of officer presence and accessibility afforded by foot patrol, while providing enhanced navigability and span of coverage.

Gun Violence Reduction Task Force



In January 2018, the Gun Violence Reduction Task Force (GVRTF) was created. The GVRTF is an investigative entity, charged with investigating, tracking, arresting, and assisting in the prosecution of the most prolific firearms offenders.



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Focused Deterrence

Focused Deterrence involves the robust collection of agencies that work collaboratively to identify and target people who have demonstrated a proclivity toward violent crime (examples include members of violent groups, gangs, drug trafficking organizations, etc.). Those who qualify are offered support-oriented resources as an alternative to incarceration. Cooperating agencies include the Police Department, District Attorney’s Office, Sheriff’s Department, 1st Judicial District, and Family Court.

Narcotics Bureau Three-Day Initiatives

Led by the Narcotics Bureau (in conjunction with various other internal and external entities), the PPD regularly executes three-day anti-violence initiatives. These initiatives include investigations, bench and arrest warrant service, debriefings, and saturation patrol.

Youth Violence Reduction Program

The Youth Violence Reduction Program (YVRP) is a collaborative effort involving the Police Department, Juvenile Probation, and other partners, created to reduce violent crime committed by juveniles, by monitoring and enforcing terms of probation. The YVRP also initiates warrant service for juveniles who fail to comply with terms of probation or fail to appear at court hearings.

PPD / Federal Agency Task Forces



We are privileged to operate collaboratively with a variety of law enforcement partners. In fact, complements of Philadelphia Police Officers are detailed to various federal law enforcement agencies, including the FBI, DEA, ATFE, and US Marshal Service.

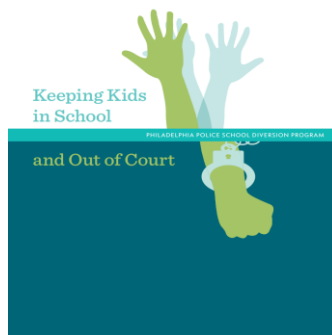


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These partnerships are invaluable to our effort to combat crime, as many investigations result in cases which are ultimately adopted and prosecuted federally.

School Diversion



The School Diversion Program (SDP) has helped create a paradigm shift in the “zero tolerance” policy that often served as an entry point to a “school to prison pipeline.” School Diversion has created a pathway to identify and treat underlying problems that cause young people to commit acts of delinquency in school. As part of the program, Department of Human Services (DHS) social workers routinely visit students’ families to discuss supportive options.

DHS is part of a multi-system collaborative partnership that includes representatives from Behavioral Health, the District Attorney, Public Defenders, Family Court, the School District and other stakeholders that work with the child and the child’s family. The partners work to create pathways to success, rather than expulsion and incarceration. With the introduction of the SDP, we have witnessed a consistent reduction in student arrests, and an increase in services provided to them.



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Technology



In both direct and indirect manners, the use of technology has been essential in anticipating, responding to, and investigating crime and criminal activity. The #PPDVCR employs a myriad of technology-based strategies, including the following:

Intelligence Bureau



In March 2017, the Police Department instituted the Intelligence Bureau, which is now the repository and distribution point for information gathering, vetting, and analysis. The Intelligence Bureau, which includes the Real Time Crime Center, is also essential in equipping officers and investigators in the field with “real time” conditions, as field personnel respond to, and investigate, reports of crime.

For example, in various areas of the city, the Police Department now utilizes “**Gunshot Detection**” computer-aided audio technology to assist in locating the point of origin for gunshots that have been fired. This information is often relayed to field officers prior to receiving the first 911 call.



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Below is a description of several of the components of the Intelligence Bureau:

Delaware Valley Intelligence Center (DVIC)

The DVIC is a Fusion Center linking local, state & federal resources through information and intelligence sharing, and designed to strengthen public safety against threats, crimes and hazards. The DVIC is also an information analysis and dissemination center, wherein the PPD Real Time Crime Center (RTCC) is able to monitor activity in real time. The RTCC also monitors a gunshot detection system, and triggers the dispatch of officers to investigate suspected gunshots seconds after they are detected. Additionally, the DVIC operates with a clear commitment to the respect and protection of citizen privacy rights, civil rights and civil liberties.

SMART Policing

The SMART Policing (**S**trategic **M**apping & **A**nalysis, **R**esource deployment and **T**actics) initiative involves the use of evidence based, data driven, collaborative minded strategies to combat crime and increase safety. SMART Policing includes innovative approaches to professional development for department members, and is fueled by expanding community and business partnerships.

SafeCam:



The SafeCam program is one of PPD's contemporary crime prevention and investigative tools. The program demonstrates the effectiveness of the partnerships between the Department and the community. Participation in the program not only helps deter crime, but assists the Department in our overarching crime prevention and response strategy.



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The SafeCam program encourages private citizens and businesses to register their existing video surveillance systems with the Police Department. While no live monitoring is used, the SafeCam program is an invaluable asset to investigative personnel, in that it alerts investigators to the locations of privately-owned surveillance cameras, which may have captured criminal activity, crimes in-progress, or post-commission flight.

Forensic Science

The application of forensic science is indispensable in investigating violent crime. Forensic science initiatives include:

Philly Fast Brass



Philly Fast Brass is a comprehensive program that collects, analyzes, and investigates all evidence from gun-related crimes, in a manner that avails timely and actionable intelligence for investigators. The Philadelphia Police Department, in collaboration with the Philadelphia Field Division, Bureau of Alcohol Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives (ATFE), shares resources collaboratively to support the success of this program. This comprehensive approach includes a robust evidence collection policy, efficient forensic science, effective use of ATFE's forensic and digital tracking systems (*NIBIN* and *eTrace*), establishment of a crime gun intelligence center to develop leads, and full involvement of assigned investigative staff. Through the dedication of officers, analysts, special agents, forensic scientists, and detectives, the Philly Fast Brass program has become a powerful tool in investigating and preventing gun-related crime.



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National Integrated Ballistic Identification Network



The Philadelphia National Integrated Ballistic Identification Network (NIBIN) program is an interagency collaboration focused on the timely collection, management and analysis of ballistic evidence, to identify shooters, disrupt criminal activity and prevent further violence. The primary purpose of the NIBIN Program is to assist in identifying armed violent offenders for investigation and prosecution. Additional outcomes include the identification of firearms sources, effective resource allocations, providing accurate crime data relating to firearms violence, increasing case closure rates, promoting public safety, and prevention of violent crime.

Digital and Social Media Platforms

The Police Department utilizes a variety of social media platforms to disseminate and elicit information regarding crime, criminal offenders, and general safety precepts.



Our social media platforms include Facebook, Twitter, YouTube, and Instagram.



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Community Engagement



The Philadelphia Police Department's community engagement initiatives coalesce with the overall #PPDVCR strategy. Officers, supervisors and commanders routinely initiate, facilitate, and/or participate in outreach vehicles. These vehicles include, but are not limited to, the following:

Children & Youth Engagement

The #PPDVCR strategy involves engaging young people on a perpetual basis. Youth-oriented engagement initiatives include:

Police Athletic League



The Philadelphia Police Athletic League (PAL) epitomizes community policing. PAL programs help reduce crime in our neighborhoods, promote positive character development, and improve educational outcomes for Philadelphia's children.



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Each of our centers provides a safe place and a positive environment for “kids to be kids,” while also introducing young people to a multitude of free activities and experiences to which they might not otherwise have access. While learning how to play chess or table tennis, preparing for an exam, or competing in academic or athletic competitions, the relationships forged between Philadelphia children and the Philadelphia Police are not only special, but are essential to the future success of our city.

Philly PAL currently has 21 centers in operation, three of which were added in 2017. Certain targeted centers have extended hours during summer months on Fridays and open on Saturdays. The number of young people who are steered toward peaceful approaches to conflict, rather than violent solutions, because of lifelong mentoring relationships that are created and nurtured in PAL, is virtually immeasurable.

Police Explorer Program



The Police Explorer program is available to teenagers and young adults, ages 14 to 20. The program is designed to introduce those who are interested in law enforcement careers to aspects law enforcement via classroom sessions, field trips and hands-on training. Currently, there are nearly 250 cadets in the program. Approximately, 150 cadets receive training in Northeast Philadelphia at Tactical Headquarters, while the remaining cadets train at divisional satellite locations throughout the city.



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Bigs in Blue



Commissioner Ross is the National Police Spokesperson for “Bigs in Blue,” a Big Brothers-Big Sisters mentoring program. Students are matched with officers for ongoing mentoring during bi-weekly lunch-period meetings at the student’s school. This relationship has the potential to strengthen the student’s circle of support from a variety of positive adults. It also offers police officers an opportunity to extend their commitment to do help people and bolster public safety on a very personal level. Bigs in Blue breaks down barriers by creating bridges between officers and young people in various communities; and making personal connections between police and community we serve.

Drug Abuse Resistance Education



The Drug Abuse Resistance Education (DARE) program is a ten-week curriculum taught to 5th and 6th graders. The program also provides educational sessions to parents and school faculty.



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Gang Resistance Education and Training Program

The Gang Resistance Education and Training Program (GREAT) is a thirteen-week program administered to 6th, 7th and 8th graders. GREAT provides life skills, which discourage delinquent behavior and violence, while encouraging conflict-resolution and problem-solving alternatives. GREAT was expanded into the Police Districts in 2015. This has allowed a broader outreach effort. Police Officers are trained for eight days, and are provided a lesson plan for additional guidance. Community Relations Unit Officers teach this course during summer months at recreational camps.

Community Health Enrichment Empowerment Resource Services



The Community Health Enrichment Empowerment Resource Services (CHEERS) program uses information, games, testimonials and role-playing to give 8 to 17-year-olds a variety of tools needed to make well-informed, potentially life-saving decisions, when faced with situations that could negatively impact their lives. CHEERS is held simultaneously at eight locations during four Saturdays each Spring.



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Community Relations/Victim Services Officers in Patrol Districts

In addition to the programs described above, within each Patrol District, a complement of officers is specifically dedicated to community relations activities and initiatives:

- Community Relations Officer
- Crime Prevention Officer
- Victim Assistance Officer



While the officers assigned to these positions have dedicated responsibilities, they often work in tandem in the furtherance of our overarching goals. Their collective responsibilities include, but are not limited to:

Planning and coordinating police-community recreational and educational programs and events (e.g., “Movie Nights,” “Coffee with a Cop,” “Hoops Against Bullying,” “Cops Helping Kids,” etc.);





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Participation in various safety-oriented initiatives (e.g., “Senior Safety Week,” “Gun Buy-Backs,” etc.);



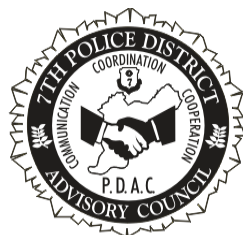
Establishing and maintaining contact with crime victims for the purposes of obtaining additional information which may assist in the investigation, and helping ensure that the victims will continue to cooperate through the prosecution phase;

Distribution of crime prevention fliers; and posting of safety recommendations via social media platforms;

Attendance at Town Hall, Town Watch, PSA, and other neighborhood/community group meetings;

Serving as liaisons to external public and private sector agencies and entities.

Police Chaplains and Police District Advisory Councils:



Partners in Prevention



The Police District Advisory Council and Police Chaplains are auxiliary organizations that work alongside the Police Department through their association with each numbered patrol district.



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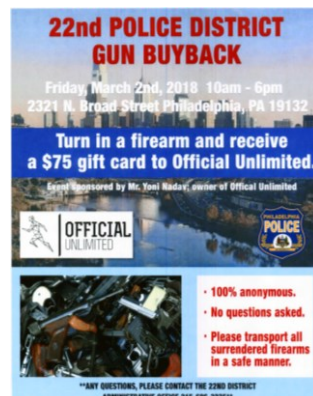
These groups assist in nearly all of the community engagement programs (and many of the crime prevention initiatives) implemented by the twenty-one patrol captains, including, gun buy-backs, prayer walks, community days, and movie nights. They also often provide a calming presence during protests and demonstrations.

TWIS, PANN, & PCHR



PPD also partners with Town Watch Integrated Services (TWIS), Philadelphia Anti-Drug / Anti-Violence Network (PANN), and the Philadelphia Commission on Human Relations (PCHR) in addressing neighborhood conflicts which may escalate to violence.

Gun Buy-Back Programs



The PPD receives and disposes of weapons submitted by citizens through various gun buyback. These programs help reduce the number of guns that may be illegally or accidentally used to wound or kill people across the city. The programs are often organized by community organizations and elected officials, and fueled by cash and gift cards (contributed by local businesses), to be exchanged for guns that are submitted.



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Southwest Police Division Community Engagement Initiatives

In 2018, several unique and innovative community engagement initiatives were introduced in Southwest Police Division:

Blades, Fades, & Engage



Commanders and officers in the Southwest Police Division facilitate monthly conversations with community members at “Philly Cuts” barbershop in West Philadelphia. These robust conversations cover topics ranging from gun violence to social justice and police-community partnerships. This initiative is designed to enhance understanding by all involved.





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Turning a New Corner

TURNING A NEW CORNER

SOUTHWEST POLICE DIVISION
COMMUNITY RELATIONS OFFICE
THE NATIONAL BLACK POLICE
ASSOCIATION CREATES
PHILADELPHIA CORNER
LOCAL EMPLOYERS
& WORKFORCE
DEVELOPERS

WILL BE CONDUCTING
JOB INTERVIEWS ON
WEST/SOUTHWEST
PHILADELPHIA'S
MOST HEAVILY
POPULATED
CORNERS

DATE:
FRIDAY
SEPTEMBER 7, 2018
4PM - 10PM

LOCATION:
VARIOUS CORNERS
IN THE 12TH, 14TH,
18TH & 19TH
DISTRICTS

CONTACT:
P/O SEMAR
COMMUNITY RELATIONS OFFICER
8 215-486-1140 (EXT 200) OR
GREGORY.SEMAR@PHILA.PD.GOV

OUR GOALS TO
BRING EMPLOYMENT
OPPORTUNITIES TO
RETURNING CITIZENS,
INDIVIDUALS SEEKING
A 2ND CHANCE AND
THOSE LOOKING TO
"TURN A NEW
CORNER"

COMMUNITY PARTNERS:
NBN WORKS
JEVS
JEWELRY SERVICES

The PPD is among several public and private sector stakeholders who participate in the “Turning a New Corner” initiative. Turning a New Corner is a monthly program that transforms heavily populated street corners into job interview sites. The Department facilitates these street corner visits by transporting local employers and work force developers to the interview sites. The goal is to match companies seeking employees with people in underserved communities who are seeking jobs. Currently, Southwest Police Division leads this effort to build bridges and underscore our concern for the lives and wellbeing of the people we serve. During the inaugural two months of the program, approximately forty community members have secured and maintained employment.





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