



Public Safety Response Activities

Public Safety Committee
June 21, 2022

Safe Community -- All People Feel Safe and Are Safe



- **Public safety a comprehensive community responsibility**
- **City's strategic plan outlines our objectives:**
 - Develop knowledge and skills across City departments to better prepare for emergencies with a particular focus on our ability to deliver safety services to vulnerable and historically marginalized populations
 - Create a shared understanding with the community regarding timely, equitable and effective safety outcomes and align performance expectations and resource investments accordingly.
 - Enhance partnerships within the community to recover from significant incidents that occur in the City.
- Provide professional community oriented policing services to enhance trust, and ensure the legitimacy of the police department and the safety of every resident, business and visitor.
- Support efforts to ensure all residents have safe, stable and permanent housing.
- **Department-level plans and community partnerships further identify work contributing to safety outcomes:**
 - Police Strategic Plan
 - Office of Oversight and Public Accountability
 - Aspen institute work
 - Cure Violence
 - Safe Alliances for Everyone (SAFE task force)

Major Update Areas – Public Safety Committee



Public Safety Department Operations

- Police Department
- Fire Department/Emergency Management
- Office of Oversight and Public Accountability

Community Partnerships

- Cure Violence
- Safe Alliances for Everyone (SAFE)

Other City Department Operations and Activities

- Safety-related design and improvements
- Certain operational activities directly tied to public safety response

General time-sensitive updates



Specific Police Department Activities:

- Downtown stakeholder coordination
- DICE
- SRT deployment
- Additional mobile camera assets
- Mobile Crisis Response (July 1)

Parks Department Activities:

- Security gates added to 6th Street and Canal parks
- Security Cameras added to six downtown parks (6th, Canal, Fish Ladder, Ah Nab Awen, Heartside, Peckich)
- Roaming night security at downtown parks beginning 6/27/22

- Park Ambassadors (12)
- CPTED recommendations and implementation
- Exploring dedicated maintenance staff
- Summer pools open – 7 days per week
- Day Camps at four City parks – 5 days per week
- Free summer outdoor fitness classes in parks

Other Activities:

- GRow1000 Summer Youth Employment Program started June 20, 2022.
- Enforcement of CPTED Ordinance

June 21, 2022

Public Safety Agenda



Update from the Grand Rapids Police Department

- Major Crime Statistics
- K9 Unit

Update from the Office of Oversight and Public Accountability

- Cure Violence

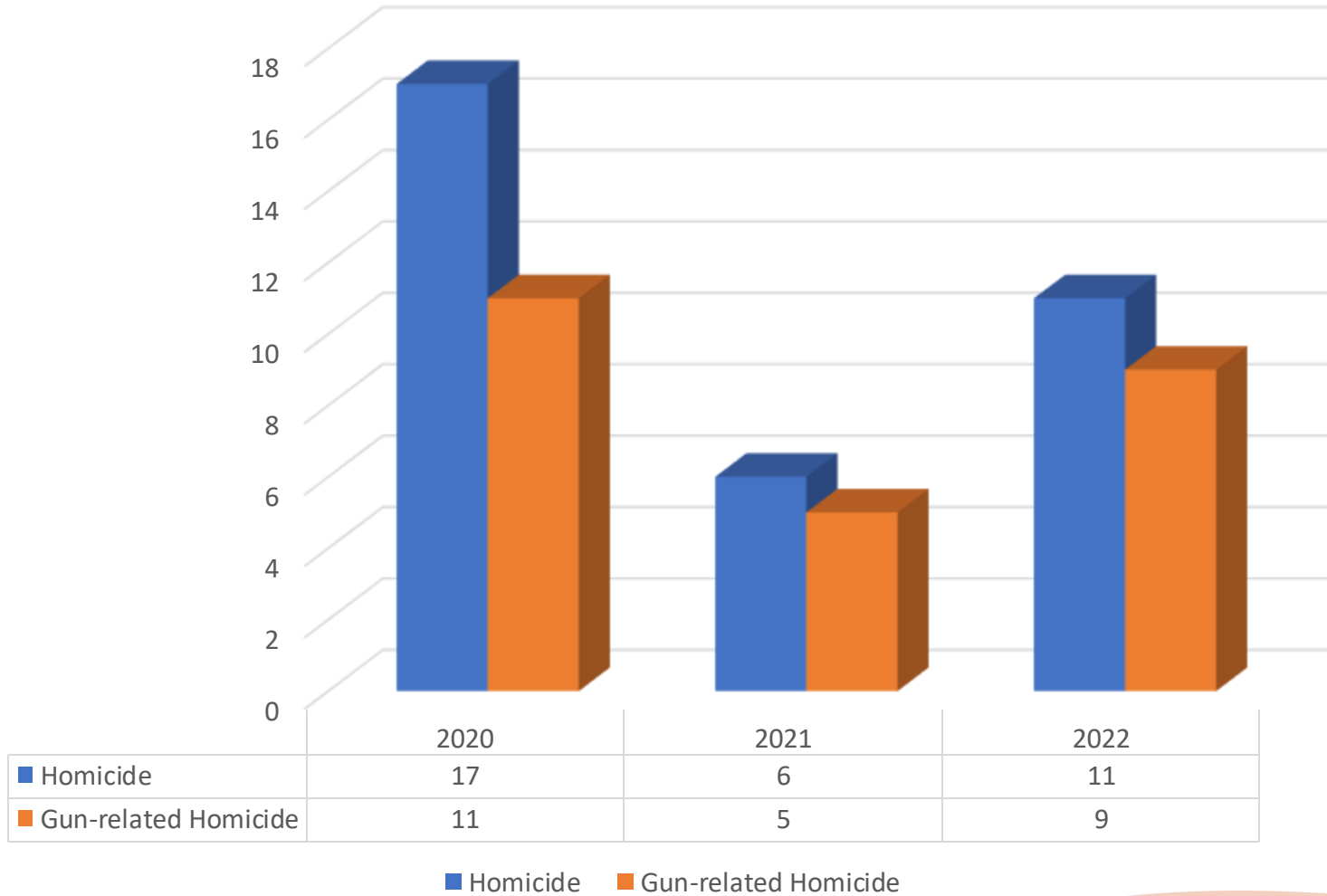
Update from the SAFE Task Force

- SAFE Task Force Activities Update



Update from the Grand Rapids Police Department

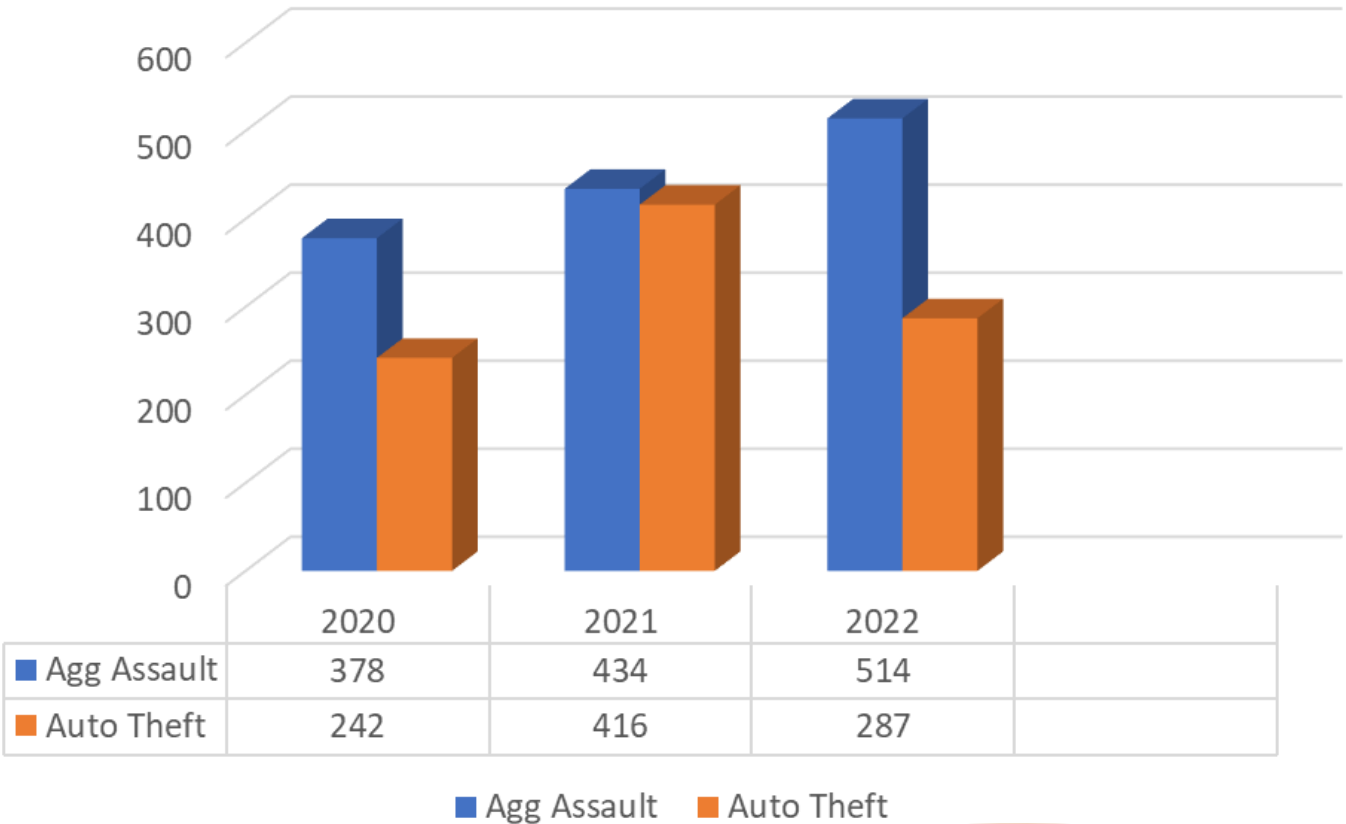
Year to Date Homicides



January – May Aggravated Assault and Auto Theft Data



Year to Date Aggravated Assaults / Auto Theft



GRPD efforts to combat violence



Cleared Homicides

- National Average: 55%
- GRPD 2021 Cleared rate: 78.9%
- GRPD 2022 Cleared rate: TBD

2022 Murders

- 11 Total Murders in Grand Rapids
- Five closed by arrest and prosecution
- Majority of other murders in prosecution review

Illegally Possessed Firearms Recovered by GRPD (YTD)

- 2019 – 120
- 2020 – 113
- 2021 – 258
- 2022 – 255



D.I.C.E. (Data Informed Community Engagement)



Update on Other GRPD Efforts



- GRPD Police Metric Dashboard has been updated (will refresh each month):
<https://www.grandrapidsmi.gov/Government/Departments/Police-Department>
- Software developer to enhance victim information in police reporting application to improve data for gun crime analysis.
- Chief Winstrom to continue evaluation of GRPD and report back to the City Commission July 26, 2022.





**Grand Rapids
Police
Department
K9 Unit**

- The primary tool used on the K-9 is his nose. Approximately 1% of K9 applications result in a bite.
- After a bite most injuries from the K-9 are minor and only require cleaning with soapy water and bandaging.
- K-9's are selected from "Green" and trained in house. The first trait we look for is that they are social. Initial training takes 8 weeks of Mon-Fri training.
- After their initial academy K-9 teams are required to certify annually through a third party organization. We use International Police Work Dog Association.
- K-9 handlers are encouraged to further their knowledge and become a certified Trainer and Master Trainer. We currently have Trainers and Master Trainers in the GRPD K-9 Unit.
- K-9's perform demonstrations for thousands of people every year.

- K-9's go home and live with handlers and their families.
- Once K-9's retire they usually stay with the handler and their family.
- K-9 teams are a great public relations asset. The K-9 teams comes out for large events (National Night Out, K9K etc.)
- GRPD has 8 K-9 teams. They are all certified in Patrol Operations and scent specialty Narcotics or Explosives. There are two K-9 teams assigned per shift.
- 4 GRPD teams are assigned as Tactical K-9 Teams and work directly with GRPD SRT on critical incidents or high-risk incidents.
- K-9 Officers are regular patrol officers who volunteer for all the extra work involved in being in K-9. The first thing a K-9 handler takes care of when he gets up is his dog. The last thing before bed is his dog. It is the only unit the requires the daily dedication to the police department on that level.



K-9 Stats 2019-2021

- 2078 Applications (tracks, building search, narcotic searches etc...)
- 209 Arrests by K-9's (arrests directly attributes to K-9)
- 16 Physical Apprehensions of suspects
- 508/131 K-9 tracks/successful tracks
- 651 High Risk Operations (Homicide, Agg Assault, Robbery etc...)
- \$64,000 seized by K-9's



**Update from the
Office of
Oversight and
Public
Accountability**

OPA Update – Update Regarding Cure Violence GR



Agenda

1. What is Cure Violence? How does Cure Violence Work?
2. Snapshot of Cure Violence Activities
3. Recent Violence Interruption Services and Outcomes
4. Summary
5. Questions



What is Cure Violence? How does it work?



- Cure Violence is a model of violence interruption that uses disease control methods.
 - Violence is a learned behavior and is acquired like a contagion.
 - Treatment involves detecting and interrupting the transmission of the disease.
 - Cure Violence works by identifying and treating those at the highest risk and by mobilizing community to change norms.
- Rather than a Criminal Justice methodology, Cure Violence utilizes:
 - Violence Interrupters that are placed in the community who can build rapport with those individuals identified as high-risk.
 - Does not work to increase police presence.
 - The Urban League of West Michigan to provide wrap-around services. These services include Employment and Housing Education and Health and Wellness opportunities.

Snapshot of Cure Violence Activities



- Cure Violence has engaged in **1679** interactions that led to violence interruptions.
 - **815** were with high-risk individuals.
 - **864** were with medium-risk individuals.
- Cure Violence has had **47** interactions that led to interruptions that served to defuse immediate conflicts that had a high-risk of leading to gun violence.
- Cure Violence has had **128** interactions that led to mediations with key individuals involved in other conflicts.

Snapshot of Cure Violence Activities (cont'd)



- Over the last 30 days, Cure Violence has participated in the following activities:
 - Baxter Community Grill Roast for the Neighborhood – May 28, 2022
 - CVGR attended two graduations of participants on June 8, 2022 and June 9, 2022
 - Rock the Block Event — June 11, 2022
 - New City Kids Music Event – June 16, 2022
 - GVSU Black Boys and Men Symposium – June 16, 17, 2022
 - Juneteenth Event with Baxter Community – June 18, 2022
 - Kent County Youth Detention Center every other Wednesday, since March 2022.



Recent Violence Interruption Services and Outcomes



- In addition to programmatic work, over the last 30 days, Cure Violence has:
 - Expanded the workday for the CV Team to midnights on Fridays and Saturdays.
 - Enrolled high-risk participants in summer enrichment activities designed to promote inner-peace, mindfulness, and self-care.
 - Hosted a summer series of neighborhood cookouts to further engage residents in promoting peace and strengthening relationships.
 - Improved the economic conditions of participants and their families through access to the League's wrap around services in Employment, Housing, Education, and Health.
 - Added one additional Violence Interrupter to the Staff.
 - Increased the tracking and monitoring of gang-related activity via social media.

Recent Violence Interruption Services and Outcomes (cont'd)



- The Cure Violence Team is also fully committed to providing support to families of victims and to neighborhoods where violence has taken place.
 - The CV Team remains actively engaged with the families who have lost loved ones due to gun violence.
 - The CV Team continues to provide strength-based, trauma-informed case management which includes: engagement, assessment, planning, implementation, monitoring, review, analysis, and evaluation.
 - The CV Team attends court dates, transports participants to and from doctor's appointments, mental health screenings, job interviews, education classes, driver's license, and state identification fees, and individual and group career exploration outings.
 - The CV Team provide direct, one-to-one support to the families including food, medicine, diapers, clothing, personal hygiene services, and products.
 - The CV Team spends time in community discussing the needs of community with those who are most closely impacted by violence.

Summary



- The Cure Violence Model works and is working. It is not a short term solution to increases in violence. CV is a long-term investment that helps to impact the disease of violence through a targeted health-based approach.
- Over the last eight months, amazing work has taken place and community is beginning to connect with CV in tangible ways including, but not limited to the following:
 - Parents are reaching out and connecting with the CV Team requesting help with their children who may be involved in gang-related activity with the hopes of CV staff detecting and interrupting violence before it occurs.
 - Schools are actively recruiting the CV Team to visit and make a regular presence to further engage with youth during and after school hours.
 - Cure Violence has expanded mental health partnership with Pine Rest, Family Outreach Center, Arbor Circle, and Catherine's Health Center.
- The full annual report regarding the Activities and Outcomes of Cure Violence – GR is scheduled to be presented to the Committee of the Whole on **July 26, 2022.**



Questions?



**Update from the
SAFE Task Force**

2022 Update

Members of the SAFE Task Force

- Carol Rienstra: President, Restorative Justice Coalition of West Michigan
- Chris Becker: Kent County Prosecutor, Kent County
- Deputy Chief Rifenberg: Grand Rapids Police Department
- Eric D. Brown, Urban League of West Michigan
- Kerby Killingham: Seeking Safety, Family Outreach Center
- Larry Johnson: Chief of staff/Assistant Superintendent and Executive Director of Public Safety, Grand Rapids Public Schools
- Marian Berrera-Young: Crime Prevention Coordinator, Baxter Neighborhood Association
- Milinda Ysasi, 2nd Ward Commissioner
- Richard Griffin: The Justice League
- Senita Lenear, 3rd Ward Commissioner
- Shannon Harris: Interim Executive Director, Our Community's Children

Staff Liaison- Asante Cain, Assistant to the City Manager, City of Grand Rapids

SAFE Task Force Pitch and Highlight Night







We Matter Now

A 1-day conference that will provide conflict resolution, problem solving and self-efficacy training for youth.





Muse(ed)

Muse will expand its Muse(ed) opportunities by providing a community production studio that allows people ages 15-24 a space to conduct photography and videography while learning the fundamentals of capturing photos and videos. This increases the continuum of Muse's music-based programming, previously funded by SAFE, as it builds a creative ecosystem that promotes a sense of belonging for those who want to identify with people their age outside of the streets.





Grand Rapids Center for Community Transformation

Sponsorship of the Community Basketball League where young people will be able to participate in a basketball league in exchange for reduction in participants' truancy and school suspensions, increased community engagement service with support from mentors while promoting wellness.





Neighborhood Association Collaborative of Grand Rapids

A collaboration of Neighborhood Associations in the creation and execution of a "Safe Streets = Safe Neighborhoods" public awareness campaign to focus on educating and training the community on gun safety and evidence-based practices to address the public health crisis of violence and trauma within the city of Grand Rapids.





Puertas Abiertas, Inc.

A six-month program to support adolescents between the age of 14-18 who are survivors of domestic violence. The project will be conducted by two bilingual culturally sensitive Michigan licensed therapists and one bilingual culturally sensitive physical educator. The services will include 1:1 therapy, group support, and physical education.



Freedom Elevated Defense Solutions

In response to increased sales of guns, Freedom Elevated will provide training to those who desire to learn how to store and handle firearms in those areas most affected by crime. It will provide free basic firearm safety training and ways to properly secure firearms. With the use of a virtual simulator, it develops safer and more responsible gun owners, with legal feedback from an attorney.

Sample Outcomes in SAFE Task Force Agreements



- Pre and post surveys capturing:
 - Level of participants ability to express themselves
 - Understanding of the fundamentals of capturing photos and videos using industry standard equipment and computer software.
 - Demonstrate understanding of healthy social media habits/ responsibility
 - Develop healthy relationships with their peers
 - Increased or decreased social responsibility
- Increasing information and access to violence-free living arrangements
- Create a positive support system or relationship with trusted adults increasing their self-esteem and developing healthy friendships.
- Increasing the availability of culturally sensitive services addressing the cycle of domestic abuse and children's victimization and exposure to violence at the individual level through education in West Michigan.
- Explain what difference the grant made in our community for the population served
- List demographic data on race, ethnicity, and gender identity and geography (Grand Rapids resident or not), level of education, country of origin
- Pre and Post Surveys regarding PTSD, trauma, anxiety, etc.
- Testimonials and interviews
- The number of adolescents who participated in the project (1:1 therapy, group supports, and physical activities)
- Documentation of Outreach efforts

Proposed 2022 Gun Buyback

Gun Buybacks. Firearms were in good working condition. \$40,000 was sought for approval today

Tier 1- Assault Rifles / Semi-Automatic Handguns - \$200

Tier 2- Revolvers / Shotguns / Rifles - \$100

Previous gun buy backs were held in 2020

FY2021 Gun Buyback

Date	Gun Tier 1	Gun Tier 2	Gun Tier 3	Total Guns Disposed of
Oct. 24, 2020	39	66	2	107
Nov. 7, 2020	41	104	15	160
Totals for Entire Gun Buyback	80	170	17	267

SAFE Gathering

To facilitate collaboration, the SAFE Task Force invited past participants of Pitch and Highlight Night and other invited guests to gather and discuss SAFE's priorities and address ideas on how to reduce gun violence in our community.

This event also promoted Collaboration between community organizations with similar missions –as providers shared their programs and efforts through networking during the gathering.



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