

Police Reform: Community Engagement Working Group
Thursday, August 6, 2020
ZOOM Group Chat

19:24:05 From Jordan Lewis : Please make sure everyone's camera is on for public meeting requirements. Thank you!

19:26:51 From brian.johns : I think Julio is involved in that military emersion training in his daily job

19:27:05 From brian.johns : he is on CPC

19:27:11 From Robin Williams : I think we need to discuss how we get individuals who have issues with our police officers to come forward and participate in the activities we develop. in my professional field, often we develop programs, and those who could benefit most do not register to participate?

19:27:21 From amaha : love that!!!

19:27:23 From Erica Fields : He has a proposal developed for something similar

19:27:47 From brian.johns : Great work Erica

19:28:01 From byron.branch : Robin - how do you suggest we create incentives to get more individuals involved?

19:28:33 From Robin Williams : I think it starts with defining our target audience

19:29:24 From byron.branch : I would agree. Would that be race, age based? Or location based? or all three? Definitely think that's something that we should try and figure out.

19:32:13 From Robin Williams : I'm not sure what we base it on...perhaps we hone in on where we believe or can document where or which residents have conflict or are less trusting of our officers

19:33:04 From Erin Ritter : One idea we could also consider is how we may free police up for situations where they are most needed and decrease the incidences of them responding to situations that do not require them (CAHOOTS program in Eugene Oregon, and Montgomery County ADAMHS is looking into a similar county wide approach). Dayton has a mobile crisis unit with officers that respond to mental health related calls, but this type of program would only utilize police if necessary. I will upload some information to the google drive.

19:33:05 From byron.branch : That's a good place to start. I suppose we could always use the survey method. The problem with surveys is that it can limit participation depending on how its conducted. i.e - emails, knocking door to door, cold calling. etc.

19:38:39 From Dormetria Thompson : That is awesome!!

19:43:25 From Eric Henderson : We have 4 Mobile Crisis Response Team officers that work with mental health resources and connect citizens with a crisis to help long term

19:47:22 From byron.branch : Colonel - but do we have a location or a space where we can take these individuals like Helen was saying? I know some of the locations we have for housing for these individuals but not a general location, other than the hospital, where we take them for treatment or follow ups.

19:57:41 From Dormetria Thompson : AND the pandemic has added another huge challenge for many in our community. Therefore, those in crisis have increased.

20:06:31 From yousef elzein : Males of Color was a program that had high expectation to develop a mentoring program to our youth. I believe that a program like this sponsored by the Police

Department will be a good idea. At least our youth will see the police officers in the classroom discussing the future.

20:07:42 From byron.branch : If you can get them to attend, yes. There has to be a genuine interest in it for the youth in society to get them to participate.

20:08:44 From Robin Williams : I believe we need to discuss distrust and how this impacts engagement and conflict...at the end of the day I would hope we are having some impact on building trust...not all conflict occurs with individuals in mental crisis...some individuals do not trust not only our officers, but "government" in general

20:09:41 From youssef elzein : We went to the schools during the lunch period, plus few minutes more.

20:09:50 From Dion Sampson : Officer Branch, I totally agree, but I also believe that a genuine interest for youth in our community is key from the adults and leaders in our community.

20:10:01 From youssef elzein : 100%

20:10:10 From byron.branch : Most definitely

20:10:47 From byron.branch : So I suppose the question really is "How?".

20:11:30 From Dion Sampson : Yes sir, that is the question. We have to figure out the how but also the why.

20:12:31 From hjones-kelley : Everyone should know that in cases of MH crisis, we currently have the ability to request that a CIT trained officer be dispatched.

20:12:48 From byron.branch : Why is it important? or how do you mean exactly? I know what I've been doing, when time allows it, is asking citizens when I'm patrolling. "What would you like to see from your Police?" or if you don't trust Police, what could be done differently to earn that trust. Things of that nature.

20:14:14 From Dion Sampson : Yes sir the "why" is it important. There is no doubt in my mind, based of your conversation, that you intentionally get to know the community in which you serve! That sir is not only recognizable but also appreciated!

20:14:44 From City Manager's Office : Byron your suggested questions/directions are particularly important to get to impactful community engagement.

20:14:46 From byron.branch : Well, people tend to trust who they know. Cant know someone if you don't take them time to speak with them.

20:16:05 From City Manager's Office : 010% agreed. trust comes in relationships when you can understand and predict someone you've gotten to know.

20:22:22 From Gwen Buchanan : RE: Our previous conversation, trust and respect are the foundation of any relationship. People don't care how much you know until they know how much you care. Regarding the Charter, as this will be a public document, I agree with David that it should be concise and transparent and written simply enough that Joe Citizen can also understand it.

20:22:51 From youssef elzein : Unfortunately Officer Branch we do not know our next door neighbor anymore. Body language, empathy and a smiley face sometimes is all that it takes to defuse a situation.

20:29:29 From Gwen Buchanan : That would be helpful

20:29:45 From Gwen Buchanan : bi weekly would be great

20:30:50 From Gwen Buchanan : It would be helpful if we choose one day of the week for planning other activities