



**Elder Care
May 2020**

Problem

Franklin County and Ohio have rapidly aging populations. Older adults are challenged to find quality short and long-term care at an affordable price. Some seniors suffer from malnutrition and many from isolation. Senior services lack coordination across agencies, making it difficult to know where to seek information and help. According to the Kirwan Institute, in some neighborhoods, people on average, are dying 27 years younger than in other neighborhoods. There are many determinants that cause this gap, but seniors not having equal access to support and services is an injustice that must be addressed.

Solutions:

- 1. Expand pilot program in Columbus Fire Department that places social workers with EMS and First Responders on 911 calls to connect older adults to available services.**
 - Currently they have two social workers. We pressed for the second social worker to be hired.
 - Expanding this program (SPARC) will especially help older adults in vulnerable neighborhoods and those who are isolated in their homes and unaware of the programs available. By reaching at risk older adults during a crisis, we can prevent future incidents and connect them to resources that could keep them in their homes and improve their overall health. SPARC will now be able to help 1,200 older adults so they will no longer suffer in silence!

- 2. Work with officials to launch a “Life Expectancy” task force similar to the “Celebrate One” task force for infant mortality reduction as recommended by the Kirwan Institute.**
 - The purpose of the task force will be to create more collaboration among agencies that serve older adults and strategically implement proven solutions to close the gap.
 - This initiative will also increase public awareness of the life expectancy gap and put pressure on city and county officials to address social determinants causing this gap and support solutions that come out of the research.
 - BREAD sees this as a long term goal that has the potential to address some of the bigger solutions that came up in our research such as implementing the national villages model in low income neighborhoods and improving the wages of home healthcare aides.
 - The Life Expectancy Task Force began meeting in December 2019.



Juvenile Justice May 2020

Solution:

We know that the school district is looking for an alternative to suspensions. We want to keep kids in school, improve the learning environment, reduce suspensions, reduce bullying, and keep kids out of the court system. Restorative Practices are an alternative to suspensions. Restorative practices “reduce crime, violence and bullying, improve human behavior, strengthen civil society, provide effective leadership, restore relationships, and repair harm” (International Institute for Restorative Practices).

In 2016, BREAD worked with the School District to set up a plan to reduce suspensions and improve school climate. We also wanted to work with Judge Gill to strengthen the current Restorative Justice Program in the courts so that more youth benefit from this proven diversion program. In both the schools and the courts, our goal is to stop the school-to-prison pipeline by bringing both parties together to explore alternatives.

At our 2017 Nehemiah Action, former Superintendent Dan Good agreed to send representatives with BREAD leaders to Pittsburgh Public Schools to see Restorative Practices in action. On November 1st, BREAD Leaders, Members of the Columbus School Board, Columbus City Schools Administration including the interim Superintendent, and members of the Columbus Education Association toured 5 different schools in Pittsburgh.

After seeing the success in Pittsburgh, Columbus City Schools Administration agreed with BREAD that the best way to achieve fidelity was with training by the International Institute for Restorative Practices. In April they presented a proposal to use Federal funds for training by the IIRP and the Columbus School Board voted yes! Last summer, over 100 staff will receive training and 36 of those staff will go on to be certified by the IIRP to train others. BREAD plans on continuing to work with the Columbus City Schools Administration and School Board to ensure a strong implementation and integration of Restorative Practices into our schools!

Since then, the committee has followed up with 3 of the 10 schools who received training and staff reported that even in the first semester, they are seeing improvements in disciplinary incidents. The new Superintendent, Dr. Talisa Dixon, has committed to work with BREAD to support and improve Restorative Practices training in our district. Other communities like Pittsburgh have seen a 36% drop in out of school suspensions in 2 years of implementation. BREAD is dedicated to monitoring and ensuring training in our district is done with fidelity so that we can get those same results in Columbus City Schools!



**“Welcome Columbus”
May 2020**

BREAD is spearheading *One ID Columbus*, a coalition of area organizations. We are pressing the Columbus City Council to set up a municipal ID program. The Council commissioned a feasibility study for the program. It was completed in August 2019. Legislation for the program has been drafted. As of May 2020, the Columbus City Council has not taken action on implementing an ID program.

Why is photo ID so important?

- The Columbus City Council-sponsored feasibility study states that “between 81,000 and 118,000 residents” do not have valid ID. Lack of photo ID can be a barrier to accessing many services and activities, such as health care, banking, libraries, food pantries, visitation at schools and local government buildings, and emergency housing.
- Lack of photo ID presents problems in encounters between residents and police officers when those encounters require resident identification.
- Lack of photo ID can contribute to a sense of isolation from the civic, cultural, and economic life of the community, and can decrease public safety by making residents lacking ID less likely to report suspicious or criminal activity to the authorities.

But why is there a need for another kind of ID? Aren't driver's licenses or state issued ID's available to all?

- Driver's licenses or state ID's are NOT available to all. Many Columbus residents find it either difficult or impossible to obtain the documents required by the state to obtain those state-issued ID's. To make photo ID accessible to all residents, municipal ID programs feature greater flexibility in the types of documents that applicants can present to qualify for an ID. The document lists are designed to reduce barriers to ID access, **while still preventing identity fraud.**
- Properly designed municipal ID programs can provide significant new benefits to **all** residents, including those who already have other forms of photo ID. Examples include consolidating transit fare payments, library borrowing privileges, access to cultural centers, and business discounts into a single multipurpose card.

Are there any limitations on the use of municipal ID's?

- Municipal IDs do not give holders driving privileges, they cannot be used for air travel, and they are only accepted within the boundaries of the city that issues them (though other jurisdictions, government agencies, and companies may choose to accept them). The card would not authorize cardholders to receive public assistance benefits. It would not affect immigration status or provide work authorization.

What is the estimated cost of the ID program?

- The feasibility study estimates that the cost to set up the program is \$500,000 to \$600,000. After the first year, annual operating expenses are estimated to be \$300,000 to \$400,000.

For more information, visit www.oneidcolumbus.org.



B.R.E.A.D. Organization

Hire and Better Pay! Don't Throw Away!

May 2020

Problem:

Columbus is a tale of two cities. There are privileged neighborhoods and residents that thrive while others are considered throw-aways. Median household incomes in two census tracts less than 2 miles apart can easily differ by more than \$70,000. Unemployment in North Linden and Hilltop is five times higher than all of Central Ohio's rate of about 4 percent. These patterns didn't develop overnight – there have been decades of decisions that have marginalized these neighborhoods as they decline, leaving residents with little opportunity or hope. A recent study by the University of Toronto's Martin Prosperity Institute ranked Columbus the second most economically segregated city among large metro areas in the country with pockets of extreme wealth and extreme poverty. Poverty is high in many areas of our city even among those who are employed; too many people are working at low-paying jobs that don't allow them to support their families. This is especially true for people with criminal backgrounds who struggle to find employers that will hire them. 11,000 people returning from jail in Franklin County each year struggle to rebuild their lives. These people and the neighborhoods that they live in are not prioritized in our community's overall economic plan.

Solutions

One: In July, 2017 City Council passed an ordinance amending city purchasing procedures to incentivize city contracts for private vendors committed to hiring people with criminal backgrounds. The ordinance was sponsored by Councilmember Elizabeth Brown in collaboration with BREAD.

Two: Expand worker-owned cooperatives located in neighborhoods with the highest levels of poverty and committed to employing people most vulnerable to barriers of unemployment and under-employment. One model of this is the Evergreen Co-operatives, a model developed in Cleveland and being replicated in cities across the U.S. This model provides sustainable jobs and brings wealth to marginalized communities and could be part of the solution to long term poverty in Linden and the Hilltop. The strategy is to find out what services and goods the anchor institutions - hospitals and universities - would purchase locally and create worker-owned businesses in those neighborhoods to meet the purchasing needs. Local hospitals and universities spend BILLIONS of dollars each year - why not use that purchasing power to build wealth in Linden and Hilltop, instead of lining pockets of investors outside of Ohio? For the past two years, BREAD has been working with Ohio State and Linden representatives toward a goal of creating a worker-owned food hub that would align with OSU's commitment to address food insecurity while creating jobs and capturing wealth in local neighborhoods like Linden with high levels of disinvestment. The new initiative known as the "One Linden Cooperative" recently was awarded nearly \$70,000 in grants as seed funding to take initial steps toward establishment of the food hub. The collaborative anticipates the initial start-up process to take one year before a solid business plan has been developed and the collaborative begins raising capital for the new business venture.



Problem:

- In Franklin County, there are 54,000 low-income families spending ½ or more of their paycheck on housing! This includes renters **and** homeowners. (Affordable Housing Alliance of Central Ohio). It also includes grandparents, aunts and uncles who have stepped up, opened their houses and are raising their young relatives with little or no financial support.
- In 2017, a worker in Franklin County needed to earn \$15.98 per hour in order to afford a two-bedroom apartment.
- The Affordable Housing Alliance of Central Ohio projects a loss of 38% of the current affordable housing in ten years. They also project that meeting the housing needs of half of the 54,000 low-income families struggling to afford housing will cost \$835 million.
- Only 25% of families eligible for rental assistance receive it in Franklin County. The Columbus City Council's tax policy incentive change for affordable housing through tax incentives to developers does not impact the most needy families. (Move to Prosper)
- There were 18,441 eviction filings with Franklin County Municipal Court in 2015. This compares to about 12,000 in Cleveland and 22,000 in New York City (Affordable Housing Alliance of Central Ohio).
- We met with over 40 agencies working to meet the needs of youth and families - from substance abuse to homelessness, from mental healthcare to foster care. They told us families need housing first! Children who experience homelessness, repeated eviction and unsafe housing grow up with high levels of fear and anxiety, struggle in school and are less likely to be successful as adults.

Solutions:

We pressed the Franklin County Commissioners to increase their affordable housing commitment. In 2019, they approved a resolution which would generate \$65 million of additional funding to affordable housing over the next 10 years. We want to see the City of Columbus encourage developers to set aside new housing units for families that make less than \$42,000 a year, increase funding to the Affordable Housing Trust by at least \$5 million per year, and utilize the \$4.3 million Community Development Block Grant dollars for emergency housing assistance.



Gun Violence Fact Sheet

Revised April 2020

Problem:

Gun violence is not just a problem, it is an epidemic in Columbus. There are approximately two shootings per day and 1 murder every 3 days. The police know who the murderers are and where they live. The majority of people who are killed are from 3 neighborhoods, Linden, the Hilltop and the Near East side. To date, the police have not been able to significantly reduce the gun violence. We know we cannot arrest our way out of this crisis.

2019 Murders in three zip codes



General Statistics:

1. In 2019, there were 739 shootings in Columbus and 104 homicides. (Deputy Chief Becker)
2. 12,748 people were killed with guns in Ohio from 2008-2017. (Ohio Coalition Against Gun Violence)
3. A person is killed with a gun every 7 hours in Ohio. (Ohio Coalition Against Gun Violence)
4. Violent Crimes are committed by less than 3% of the city's population. (Columbus Public Health)
5. 1 murder is estimated to cost the community \$17.25 million dollars (Iowa State University, 2010)

Population Affected:

1. While African Americans make up close to 13% of the state population, they account for approximately 69% of gun homicide victims in the state. (Ohio Coalition Against Gun Violence)

2. African American males between the ages of 25-35 are the population disproportionately affected by gun violence. (Ohio Violence and Injury Prevention)
3. Nearly half of all homicide victims so far (2020) in Columbus have been under the age of 21. The number of homicides of those under 18 rose from two last year to six this year, an increase of 200%. (Columbus Dispatch, March 9, 2020)

Geography:

1. The majority of homicides occur in North Linden, South Linden, Hilltop, and the Far East Side. (Deputy Chief Becker)
2. From the work APPs does they see gun violence prevalent in 43211, 43204, 43232. (Mario Martin from APPs)

Solution:

The Group Violence Intervention (GVI) is designed to reduce homicide and gun violence, minimize harm to communities by replacing enforcement with deterrence, and foster stronger relationships between law enforcement and the people they serve. National Network For Safe Communities Executive Director David Kennedy and colleagues pioneered GVI's evidence-based strategies with "Operation Ceasefire" in Boston during the 1990s. Subsequent GVI implementations across dozens of challenging cities, including Chicago, Detroit, and New Orleans, have repeatedly demonstrated that violence can be dramatically reduced when community members join together with law enforcement and social service providers to focus an antiviolence message on highly active street groups.

GVI has repeatedly demonstrated that violence can be dramatically reduced when a partnership of community members, law enforcement, and social service providers directly engages with the small and active number of people involved in street groups and clearly communicates a credible moral message against violence, prior notice about the consequences of further violence, and a genuine offer of help for those who want it. A central method of communication is the call-in, a face-to-face meeting between group members and the strategy's partners.

The aim of the GVI strategy is to reduce peer dynamics in the group that promote violence by creating collective accountability, to foster internal social pressure that deters violence, to establish clear community standards against violence, to offer group members an "honorable exit" from committing acts of violence, and to provide a supported path for those who want to change.

(<https://nnscommunities.org/strategies/group-violenceintervention/>)

GVI HAS 20 YEARS OF SUCCESS

Chicago - 37% reduction in homicides through Project Safe Neighborhoods

Indianapolis - 34% reduction in homicide

Stockton - 42% reduction in gun homicide

Lowell - 44% reduction in gun assaults

Boston - 63% reduction in youth homicide

High Point - 44-56% reduction in Part 1 UCR crime in 3 out of 4 DMI neighborhoods

Cincinnati - 41% reduction in group member-involved homicide

Nashville - 55% reduction in drug offenses

Rockford - 22% reduction in non-violent offenses

New Orleans - 32% decrease in group member-involved homicides

Source: National Network for Save Communities, www.nnscommunities.org