CAMDEN SAFER CITIES INITIATIVE

The overarching goal of the Camden Safer Cities Initiative (CSCI) is to make Camden a safer city through a sustained collaboration among the criminal justice community and local leaders from Camden’s faith-based, neighborhood, governmental, and social service organizations. WRI serves as neutral convener and facilitator for bi-monthly meetings of over 40 people representing criminal justice, state agencies and the community to meet the CSCI goals. The WRI also provides regular analysis of crime data focused on Camden’s 18-24 year olds Prevent probationers, parolees, and other at-risk individuals from killing or being killed.

Objectives

1) To secure regular communication and collaboration within the criminal justice community; and among local leaders and the criminal justice community for purpose of identifying and solving public safety problems.

2) To design and implement an effective initiative, or a set of initiatives, to help reduce violent crime and other threats to public safety in Camden.

3) To collect and analyze data to:
   - Identify the nature of violent crime and other threats to public safety in Camden;
   - Evaluate the effectiveness of initiatives developed by this process, as well as the process itself.


* Part I Crime consists of the seven most violent crimes: homicide, rape, aggravated assault, robbery, burglary, motor vehicle theft, and arson.

The Initiative

- Identify and notify probationers and parolees, who meet pre-determined criteria for being at risk of involvement with a violent crime, to the Camden Safer Cities caseload.
- Thoroughly assess participants to identify needs, such as housing, education, employment, and counseling.
- Regularly review, collaboratively with assigned parole & probation officers, Safer Cities case worker, & an array of local social service providers, including mentoring programs, the cases and progress of these parolees and probationers.
- Refer probationers and parolees to needed social services & track their compliance.
- Identify gaps in social services & work with policy makers to address gaps.