
The St. Philip's Initiative

2002 Nomination for
The Police Executive Research Forum's
Herman Goldstein Award for Excellence in Community Policing

By Hillary Freeman and Tim Dolan

SUMMARY:

The St. Philip's Initiative is a Faith Based Community Partnership between churches, the Minneapolis Police Department, and the "Northside" Neighborhood'. It is notable because it is the only known program in which a church and a police department share full responsibility for a staff person. The initiative is also timely because it helps address racial disparity in community organizations.

Community research studies concluded that continual family displacement and chronic drug trafficking continue to erode the Hawthorne and Jordan Neighborhoods. The fear is that if these problems are not addressed, they will have a negative affect on parenting, housing availability, business and property investments, and the area's general quality of life.

'St. Philips Church is in Minneapolis' north side. Residents, past and present, like to call themselves "Northsiders." St. Philip's Church serves residents from throughout the city and metro area. The "Northside Neighborhood" includes the foundations, companies, and institutions involved in this effort.

In addition, the U.S. Census and a report on the police department's CCP/Safe Unit showed that there is representational racial disparity in neighborhood organizations. Representational disparity can cause minority residents to resent what they view as "pushed-down" policies and programs, and agencies need community backing to survive the next heated incident. However, the most harmful impact of representational disparity might be that community organizations now allocate funds from state, federal and corporate grants.

Father Greg Tolaas started the St. Philip's Initiative as a part-time pilot program in September of 2000. He has shown a great ability to reach out to the community, through relational based programming that targets family issues, since he inherited the dying parish ³ in 1997. In just a few short years, he has led St. Philips to becoming one of the strongest community institutions ⁴ on the Northside. Its success at involving minority area residents also gave the department a new method to address racial disparity in community representation.

Originally, the Fourth Precinct only supplied the initiative logistical and moral support. By July of 2001, the initiative was a full-time effort with the Minneapolis Police Department and the General Mills Company as substantial financial partners. Incredibly, it is now fully funded through 2004. Its partners now also include the McKnight Foundation, the Hawthorne Area Community Council, the Racial Disparity Initiative, the Salvation Army, and a growing metro ministerial alliance of multi-denominational congregations ⁵.

² Public Strategies Group Report on the Future Direction of CCPISafe, contracted by the City of Minneapolis Police Department.

³ Membership was low and parishioners were mostly older white non-neighborhood residents.

⁴ St. Philips Church has established the following programs: 1) Kids Club, 2) College Bound, 3) Teen Group, 4) Women of Great Hope and Vision, 5) Men About Change, 6) Compassionate Companion, 7) Problem Solvers, and 8) Repeat Offenders Task Force.

⁵ Ministerial Partners include: Edina Community Lutheran, North *United* Methodist, Transfiguration, Redeemer Lutheran, Church of God in Christ, Faith Tabernacle, Family Baptist, and Wooddale Evangelical.

A full explanation of the St. Philip's Initiative and its successes are in this submittal. It met its initial objectives of lowering crime, abating nuisance activity, and stabilizing families, but its most significant success could be how it empowered and satisfied residents. Kevin Kuschel, a Hawthorne resident who is part of the **Neighborhood Problem Solving Group** says, "**This** partnership is the most intelligent approach to problem solving that I've ever seen.

⁶"A New Kind of Policing: Making a Neighborhood into a Community," *Just the Facts*, Metropolitan State University, The school of law Enforcement and Criminal Justice Newsletter, Vol. 8, No. 1, page 2.

The St. Philip's/Fourth Precinct Faith Based Initiative: Problem Oriented Policing in Action

A. SCANNING

1. Numerous social agencies and studies state that "livability" in the Hawthorne Neighborhood continues to suffer due to continual family displacement and chronic drug trafficking. At the same time, additional studies showed racial disparity in traffic stops, arrests, and prison incarcerations - as well as representational disparity in community organizations advising police. Obviously, addressing all these problems required a non-traditional approach.

2. The social problems were identified through studies Northside Ministerial Alliance, St. Philip's Church, Minneapolis Public Schools, Hennepin County Juvenile Probation, and the Minneapolis Police Department. The representational disparity issues came to light because of the recent of neighborhood 2000 Census data, a racial disparity study on arrest and incarceration rates⁸, a racial data on traffic stops study⁹, and a report on the Minneapolis Police Department's CCP/Safe Unit¹⁰.

3. The following agencies and studies contributed in identifying the problems. The media is not mentioned specifically, but they played a large role in publicizing many of the reports on disparity:

⁸ US Census figures and Neighborhood Breakdown Document produced by the City of Minneapolis Planning Department.

⁹ "Justice for All" brochure, published by the Racial Disparity initiative as part of the Council on Crime and Justice, Minneapolis, Minnesota.

¹⁰ "Minneapolis Police Traffic Stops and Driver's Race - Analysis and Recommendations," by the Council on Crime and Justice, a report to the Minneapolis Police Department, April 13, 2001.

- a) The Hawthorne/Jordan (Northside) Ministerial Alliance, through a grant from the Northwest Area Foundation, sought to identify ways to preserve the social capital of the community. They found that the displacement of families and-the continued presence of chronic narcotic traffickers offenders were eroding the community.

- b) St. Philip's Catholic Church staff corroborated the ministerial alliance findings with Hennepin County Family and Children's Services and the Minneapolis Police Department. The Hawthorne Area Community Council (HACC), as part of their involvement in the Minneapolis Neighborhood Revitalization Program (NRP), conducted a 2000 survey that also confirmed the problems with repeated displacement and chronic drug trafficking.

- c) The Minneapolis Schools, as a result of standardized testing studies, had already concluded that frequent family moves have a correlation with poor school performance. As a result, they built four new community grade schools in North Minneapolis - including the Nellie Stone Johnson Community School, opened in 2002, which is located across the street from St. Philip's Church.

- d) Hennepin County Juvenile Probation lists the number of children on probation by zip code. Hawthorne's zip code, 55411, has the highest number of youth on probation in the City of Minneapolis.

e) The Minneapolis Police Department, through daily crime analysis, also monitors the collateral effect of repeat offenders. The Hawthorne and Jordan Neighborhoods continue to lead the city, despite three straight years of Part I crime decreases, in street level violence associated with gangs and drug trafficking.

f) Census data showed dramatic changes in the demographics of the area surrounding St. Philip's Church:

- Caucasian population dropped 60.5% - from 53% to 21%
- African American population increased - from 30% to 54%
- 84% of Hawthorne is now classified as minorities
- The number of children ages 10-14 increased 62.9%
- « The number of youth 15-29 increased 7%
- 24.6% decrease in population ages 25-34
- Households of persons ages 65 and older decreased 43.5 %
- 60% of households are single parent

g) The Public Strategies Group (PSG) study and report on the effectiveness of CCP/Safe showed that minorities were strongly dissatisfied with their representation on community agencies in Minneapolis. In sum, the general tone of the document was that CCP/Safe and the Minneapolis Police Department were not meeting the "unique needs, assets, history, and culture...[of neighborhoods]"¹ 1.

- h) The Minnesota Council on Crime and Justice published two studies in the spring of 2001 that show statistical racial disparity in Minnesota prison incarcerations and in Minneapolis Police arrests and traffic stops. First, they released "Justice for All," a study showing racial disparity in Minnesota prison incarcerations prepared by a subcommittee called The Racial Disparity Initiative. Then they released a study entitled Minneapolis Police Traffic Stops and Driver's Race — Analysis and Recommendations."
4. By the spring of 2001, racial profiling was the top issue in front of legislatures across the country - including Minnesota. It was in this climate that the City of Minneapolis received 2000 Census figures that showed an increased minority population and their PSG study that strongly recommended efforts to "reach out" to these minority communities. The St. Philip's Initiative is an experimental collaborative effort that the Minneapolis Police Department hoped would increase involvement from under-represented minority residents.

The Minneapolis Police Department's Fourth Precinct found that they were making very positive social contacts with many minority members of the community through schools and churches¹². They observed that a lack of free time, neighborhood familiarity, or civic skills were not hindrances to previously uninvolved minority or single parent families when it came to religion and raising their children.

¹²The Nordside Truancy and Suspension Project and Ministerial Alliance.

As these underrepresented citizens became involved, they soon made it known that their major concerns were displacement of families and the perception that there were little if any consequences for repeat offenders loitering and selling narcotics. Residents believed that lowering of consequences for drug trafficking is enabling and therefore-another form of racism. They feel we, the criminal justice system, are creating a culture that is undermining the social capital of their families and neighborhoods.

5. The initial level of diagnosis was the Minneapolis Police Department 4th Precinct crime and arrest information and Hennepin County District Court records. This analysis yielded information on who was arrested, where, frequency of arrests, and consequences in the courts. Existing block clubs and neighborhood organizations requested traditional enforcement measures.

B. ANALYSIS

1. As mentioned above, this initiative has an abundance of current and pertinent surveys, recently published reports, department crime analysis, and recent census data to analyze the problem. The following is a fairly complete list of what was used for this effort:
 - 1990 and 2000 Census Data
 - Hennepin County Juvenile Probation
 - Hawthorne/Jordan (Northside) Ministerial Alliance Study
 - St. Philip's Church Staff
 - Minneapolis Public Schools
 - Hennepin County Family and Children Services

- Hawthorne Area Community Council
- Uniform Crime Report (UCR Data) from the Federal Bureau of Investigation
- Crime Statistics Data from the Minneapolis Police Department
- Public Strategies Group on the Future Direction of the CCP/Safe Unit, 2001
- The Council on Crime and Justice's Report on Minneapolis Police Traffic Stops and Driver's Race: Analysis and Recommendations, April 13, 2001
- The Council on Crime and Justice Report on Racial Disparity. in Prison Incarceration, 2001

In addition, the St. Philip's Initiative's Social Justice Committee conducted a three-week "Study to Action" Forum. As part of the forum, they asked the Minneapolis Police Department to examine a case study of 31st Avenue North and Sixth Street North. They also requested Hennepin County Chief Prosecutor to present information about the repeat offenders in this same area. Another source of data related to the issue of family displacements was gathered both from Hennepin County Family and Children's Services and Nellie Stone Johnson Community School.

2. If the *affects* of chronic narcotic trafficking and offenders are not addressed, they will negatively affect parenting, housing availability, business and property investments, and the area's general quality of life. *The Minneapolis Public School's* finding a correlation between continuous family displacement and poor performance is concerning. Many variables could contribute to this displacement. However, the controversy surrounding racial profiling and disparity in law enforcement has been fueled by the recent accessibility of statistics.

Back in 1996, rising crime, gang violence, and narcotic trafficking were the top national law enforcement issues. Minneapolis homicides per capita figures were so high that the New York Times dubbed the city "murderapolis." As a result, the city started a program in computer-optimized deployment called Codefor (Computer Optimized Deployment - Focused on Results)¹³ Codefor was derived from New York Commissioner William

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Bratton's Computer Statistical Analysis or COMSTAT Program. The program required optimized deployment in high crime areas, and it led the City of Minneapolis to strong Part I crime declines¹⁵

Part I UCR Crimes

	1998	1999	2000	2001
United States	-5.4	-6.8	-3.3	-0.3 ¹⁶
Minneapolis	-16	-11	-11	-3
4th Precinct	-17	-10	-14	-9

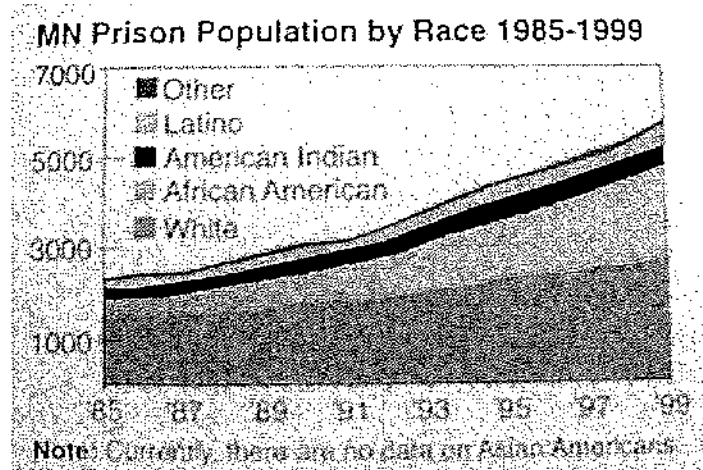
However, these programs exposed enforcement statistics to the public, and the numbers showed overwhelming disparity in arrests and incarceration of minorities. Disparity¹⁷, a word that once meant only unequal or different, took on the implication of bias and is now feared by all in the criminal justice system.

" The Minneapolis Police Departments' Computer Optimized Deployment - Focused on Results (CODEFOR) Program. The program modeled New York's COMSTAT program.

"In 1996, New York Police Department Commissioner William Bratton implemented an administrative **operational** process of area commander **accountability** called Comstat (computer statistical analysis). Similar COMSTAT initiatives now exist in Baltimore and New Orleans. See "New York Cop Tells How He Cut Crime," Weekly Mail and Guardian, August 2, 1996.

"Federal Bureau of Investigations Uniform Crime Report.
¹⁶ UCR National figures for January through June of 2001.

"Definition: 1. The condition or fact of being unequal, as in age, rank, or degree; difference. 2. Unlikeness; incongruity. The American Heritage Dictionary of the English Language, Third Edition, 1992.



Minnesota Prison Population by Race ^{1s}

African Americans, in Minneapolis, soon started to resent the computer optimized deployment strategy of "throwing a big net" over their community to catch a few chronic felons. They pointed out that we are not doing this in predominately white neighborhoods. They asked for an accounting, and Minneapolis agreed to data collection on traffic stops'.

2. Those involved in the problem are agency heads, citizens, elected officials, offenders and victims:
 - a) The police are very involved in this problem. Enforcing narcotic laws and loitering is becoming more and more difficult, and frustrating, with the gradual de-escalation of sanctions for felony drug offenses. Courts and prisons are overwhelmed, and judges are struggling to find ways to treat addicts and punish dealers.

^{1s} "Justice for All" brochure, published by the Racial Disparity Initiative as part of the Council on Crime and Justice, Minneapolis, Minnesota.
¹ The officers have to guess at the race of the person stopped because it is not legal to ask them their race or report their names by race.

- b) "Offenders" are well known on the street corners and in the criminal court system. Addiction and/or the economic gains drug trafficking motivate them. Consequences, that were serious in the mid 90's, are now minimal. A 1997 study by the United States Attorney's Office of fifty-five arrested and charged for felony narcotic behavior showed that twenty-two had five or more previous arrests, nineteen had thirteen or more arrests. Of this group, not one received jail time.
- c) The victims are neighborhood families - including offenders' families. Children that see little consequences for drug trafficking are encouraged to join the trade. Women in these households have an 88% chance of suffering from domestic violence.
- d) Third-party involvement included the neighborhood residents and businesses affected by the loitering and violence. Their security, loss and damage costs increase while property values decrease. Their business customers leave, they loose viable housing units, and school bus drivers and children are confronted every day at the bus stop:



3. Family instability and narcotic trafficking contribute to make neighborhoods undesirable. Hawthorne is in the process of economic recovery, which is demonstrated by the building of forty-five new affordable owner-occupied houses. However, unless the issue of repeat offenders and loitering is addressed, the housing will stand vacant. Few buyers are willing to invest in housing stock so visibility threatened.

If representational disparity issues are not rectified, both the police and the community suffer from the lack of communication. Citizens resent "pushed-down" policies and programs, and communication lines won't be there to help with the next "heated incident." "However, the financial implications of representational disparity can be the most harmful. Neighborhood organizations now receive and disperse large sums of assistance through grants and awards from corporations, foundations, cities, states and the federal government.

4. Prior to the St. Philip's Initiative, only scattered social agencies and the Minneapolis Schools were trying to address issues with chronic displacement of families. Police were predominately short-term result oriented - trying to clear the 911 calls.

Numerous collaborative partnerships exist in the community, but a relational-based model, that a faith community can provide, was not in place. Historically, the needs of families were being addressed through a host of non-profit and government agencies that "sometimes" collaborate. These interventions were short-term "band aid" approaches that address symptoms, too often with money, and rarely causes. Relational

interventions, that try to correct problems within the home, have a much better chance of long-term success.

Minority residents and organizations have been criticizing their under-representation in traditional neighborhood community organizations. Eventually, the Minneapolis City Council ordered the police department to identify any problems in the CCPISafe Unit in 1999. A study by the Minneapolis' Management Analysis Division concluded that there were enough problems to warrant an independent study. As a result, the department contracted for the PSG Study.

6. The 1990 and 2000 Census figures give a picture of some of the underlying conditions that precipitated the problems. There were few complaints about block clubs or crime² in the seventies and eighties. CCP/Safe started block clubs nearly twenty years ago^o when demographics in the city were much different. They initially attracted those residents that were interested in public affairs, and block clubs did not really wield much power until we started awarding grants and aide to troubled **neighborhoods** in the late 90's.

The 2000 Census shows dramatic changes. In 1990, fifteen years into the formation of²¹ block clubs, white people represented fifty-three percent of Hawthorne residents. By the year 2000, African Americans represented over fifty-four percent of Hawthorne's population. In addition, those familiar with the Hawthorne and Jordan neighborhoods

¹⁰CCPISafe History Document

strongly believe that the vast majority *of white* residents in those neighborhoods are
²²
 older .

The 2000 Census data also shows that sixty percent of Hawthorn's families are single-parent households²³. Many of these parents work and have very little free time to participate in community organizations. However, recent efforts by the Minneapolis Police Fourth Precinct have shown them that many of these citizens are very active with
²⁴
 their children's schools and their churches.

In addition, minority residents do not feel comfortable or confident at existing neighborhood group meetings. Many are school dropouts, and some have criminal histories. Add the effects of generations of racism and frequently changed residences, it is not surprising that this population does not "rooted" in the community or confident outside their inner circles.

PSG's analysis of existing problems clearly indicated that the Minneapolis Police Department needed to increase its involvement with members of the minority communities. They identified goals for CCPISafe that included "Increase community involvement and capacity to address safety, stability, and livability issues." One of the core strategies for that goal was to "customize CCP/Safe's community organizing

²¹ US Census Figures.

²² Census figures do not report race by age.

²³ US Census figures and Document produced by the City of Minneapolis Planning Department, Attachment

"Northside Truancy Effort" and "Hawthorne Huddle" Ministerial Group.

approach to meet neighborhoods' unique needs, assets, history, and culture. They recommended:

"Neighborhoods need to establish their own vision and approach for getting residents and businesses positively engaged in addressing safety and livability issues ~ including if and how block clubs are used. ²⁵"

In sum, the general tone of the document was that CCP/Safe and the Minneapolis Police Department were not meeting the "unique needs, assets, history, and culture...[of neighborhoods) ", and the recommendation shows the community's frustration with existing block clubs.

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7. The analysis showed the extent of the problems of dealing with chronic offenders and representational disparity to be fairly large — almost epidemic. It is fair to ask if such a small initiative as St. Philip's can make a difference. The results show that it can make a difference, and that the effort can be easily replicated to other problem neighborhoods.
 8. As a result of the St. Philip's Social Justice inquiry, the following information was needed:
 - How many times were repeat offenders sent into treatment programs?
 - What consequences, if any, happened after there were violations to the terms and conditions to probation limitations?
 - What dispositions were given at the original case? In "secondary" violations cases?
 - What is the "fail to appear" rate for specific individuals?
 - How many continuances for each case?

¹⁵
PSG Report, 1991, Page 2.
¹⁶ PSG Report, 1991, Page 2.

- Were there additional charges/crimes the individual was arrested for while dealing with the original case?
- How many "open felony" files do these persons have outstanding?

Additional information was gathered from Family and Children's Services regarding families from the Hawthorne neighborhood, especially those with a focus on repeated domestic violence.

9. Open discussion within the community took place at a variety of levels. St. Philip's Catholic Church held several neighborhood meetings to gather support and gain feedback from the larger community about the role of the faith community as a viable partner with the neighborhood and the Police Department. St. Philip's Church also made presentations on the initiative to other neighborhood groups such as HACC, the Hawthorne Huddle²⁷, police officials, and Minnesota HEALS²⁸.

C. RESPONSE

- I. We have seen that traditional methods of enforcement in dealing with the chronic drug trafficking could work against efforts to engage the under represented community members. Solving community problems requires community involvement, and finding an enforcement measure that fits the crime is a good rule of thumb.

Some of Minneapolis Police Departments other existing outreach efforts include:

^r Hawthorne Huddle is a collaborative effort started by Dr. Reatha King in 1996, General Mills Corporation, that brings together agencies, corporations, and law enforcement to work on problematic issues.

- Hiring minority representatives as liaisons to new immigrant populations
- Starting second language schools for officers and staff
- Starting monthly meetings with immigrant communities that are not limited to geographic boundaries
- Increasing their officer liaison presence in schools and created a truancy notification program
- Increasing foot-beats in *high* population areas
- Translating department information into other languages
- Bringing neighborhood crime strategy meetings (Codefor) out to the community

2. The St. Philip's Initiative now addresses the problem more than it did initially. It grew in phases. In September of 2000, Father Greg Tolaas expressed desire to hire Hillary Freeman as a Community Outreach Worker. He had discovered that many of their efforts to deal with family issues were being hindered by chronic neighborhood problems. He wanted proactive actions.

The Fourth Precinct, through our work with the Northside Ministerial Alliance, knew that area churches had stronger community representation than other community organizations and agreed to the arrangement on a pilot project basis.

The pilot demonstrated so much success after nine months that the decision was made by the Police Department and St. Philip's Catholic Church to share a full-time employee starting July 2001. It may be the only program in the country where a church and a police

department share responsibility for a program and a staff person. Some specific responses are:

- a. *The Patchwork Quilt* was developed at St. Philip's Catholic Church to address the assets of families by providing a new relational model. *The* model invites families into programs to provide new alternatives to handle conflict through building respectful, non-violent relationships. As one of the youth in the Teen Club said, "What this program gives me is a new way to look at the world. That's the most important thing." The Patchwork Quilt has several components including:

- * Men's Group
- Women of Great Hope and Vision
- Teen Program
- College Bound Tutoring Program
- Kids' Club
- A mentor program

Referrals to this program *have* come from church staff, the Police Department and other county agencies. Other **churches** have also linked with St. Philip's for both program staff and referrals.

- b. Developing collaborative efforts with the Police Department, non-profit agencies, and other government agencies to strengthen and stabilize families such as:
- Sponsoring a police youth academy.
 - Hosting community events such as National Night Out, *holiday* gatherings, **and a community peace garden.**

- Adopt a fifth grade classroom at Nellie Stone Johnson School with over thirty mentors from the police department, government agencies, and various faith-based organizations.
- c. Involve under-represented groups in making positive social contact with other parts of the system to identify and work on problem properties in partnership. "Problem Solvers," a monthly group that includes a high percentage of residents and parishioners, was initiated to seek participation from under-represented communities.
 - d. The faith community and General Mills Foundation working with suburban and urban churches, the Racial Disparity initiative and neighborhood residents began a dialog with the Chief Judge of Hennepin County Court to address the collateral effects of repeat offenders.
3. Various stakeholders in the neighborhood were actively engaged in developing the response to this problem. Parishioners, Patchwork Quilt participants, residents, the Hawthorne Huddle, Hawthorne Area Community Council, the Fourth Precinct, and other churches worked to define and implement the response.
 4. The evaluation criteria most important to the Department before implementation of the response were:
 - Cost-effectiveness of a shared employee ~ with the assistance of grants, St. Philip's pays the employee's salary and the Police Department provides the benefits.
 - Neighborhood-based community standards to develop goals and objectives.

- Adopt a fifth grade classroom at Nellie Stone Johnson School with over thirty mentors from the police department, government agencies, and various faith-based organizations.
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- A memo of understanding and deliverables for the City were also developed in cooperation with the City Attorney's office, the Police Department and St. Philip's Catholic Church.

5. Project goals included:

- Stabilize at least 11 families - 14 families are currently involved with the project
- Address the issue of repeat offenders through involvement of under represented groups - over 60% of people involved in the Initiative are from the minority community and the churches

6. Resources available for this effort came from a variety of sources: City agencies, including the Minneapolis Police Department, Housing Inspections, City Attorney's Office, and Solid Waste and Recycling all contributed funding and/or staff time to the project. Hennepin County staff from Juvenile Probation, Children and Family Services, County Attorney's Office are participating in the project. Non-profit agencies including, but not limited to: Project 504 (a tenant advocacy project), Pilot City (community health clinic), the Racial Disparity Initiative and the Hawthorne Area Community Council contributed staff time and resources. In addition to St. Philip's Catholic Church, Faith Tabernacle, Redeemer Lutheran, North United Methodist, Word of God in Christ Church, Family Baptist, Salvation Army, suburban partner congregations including Edina Community Lutheran Church, Wooddale Evangelical Church, and Transfiguration Catholic Church provide both financial, volunteer, and staff resources.

Corporate sponsors include the General Mills Foundation and McKnight Foundation as well as the Greater Minneapolis Council of Churches. In addition, Minneapolis Public Schools

and the Minneapolis Parks and Recreation Department are active in the effort. The Minneapolis Northside Weed and Seed Program has included the St. Philip's/ Police Department Initiative in its 2003 Work Plan.

7. Prior to implementation of the project, some churches were sporadically involved with

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community activities. Some helped the police tremendously in crisis situations. Traditional block clubs and community organizations had more influence than they did today. The department has recently implemented an overall strategy to make "Public Safety Committees" more representative of the community.

8. The biggest difficulty to implementing the St. Philip's Initiative was the fear that some have of not keeping Church and State separate. One CCP/SAFE manager had to be removed from the project because she did not want to work with a catholic priest.

We also lacked a model for the initiative, since we know of no similar initiatives where a police department or city shares the cost of a staff member with a church to work on crime prevention issues.

9. All stakeholders noted above were involved in the response to the problem.

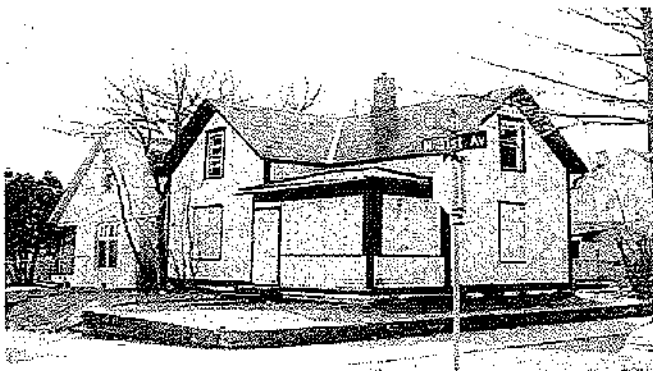
³ The precinct received assistance on some very high-tension incidents such as **shootings involving** the death of children. On one occasion, Reverend McAfee and his congregation spent forty straight nights in Cottage Park to try **and** prevent gang violence after Kevin Brewer, age eleven, was killed in gang crossfire.

D. ASSESSMENT

The result of the response plan was a significant reduction of crime in Hawthorne. Thus far, in 2002, Hawthorne has demonstrated an 11% decrease in Part 1 crimes in the 4th Precinct despite the fact that the precinct as a whole shows a 15% increase.

a) The Problem Solvers' group has:

- Abated nuisance activity at 35 rental properties
- Abated nuisance activity at 4 homesteaded properties
- Abated nuisance activity at 2 businesses
- Written nine impact statements to judges and various regulatory agencies regarding effects of nuisance behavior on the community and requesting support of the community standards.



Closed Drug House at 31^s and 6th St. North

b) The Collateral Effects of Repeat Offenders project has:

- + Provided a three week "study to action" series for education of 50 residents and parishioners in cooperation with Minneapolis 4th Precinct Community Response Team and the Hennepin County Attorney's office
- Provided opportunities for participants for "ride-alongs" with members of the 4th Precinct Community Response Team.

- Co-sponsored a community forum with General Mills Foundation with a hundred and fifty citizens in attendance. This forum allowed African-American and Native American residents of Hawthorne to tell their stories to a Hennepin County Drug Court judge. The outcome of the forum was the formation of a Task Force working with the Hennepin County Chief Judge to address means for community input into sentencing process and for churches to provide court-ordered mentoring.

c) The Families Initiative has:

- Stabilized 15 families
- 30 individuals involved with classroom mentoring and relationship building
- Completed a police youth academy with 22 youth participating

HAWTHORNE and JORDAN CRIME STATISTICS 1998-2001³⁸

	1998	2001	Result
Hawthorne Neighborhood	1259	665	-47.2%
Jordan Neighborhood	1221	799	-34.6%

HAWTHORNE and JORDAN CRIME STATISTICS 2002 YTD

	2001	2002	Result
Hawthorne Neighborhood	79	78	-1%
Jordan Neighborhood	83	85	+2%

In addition to the crime statistics, other factors have demonstrated the success of this initiative. Since January 1, 1997, the State Nuisance Law and Conduct on Premise ordinance were aggressively enforced. As a result, seventeen properties that had accounted for 875 police calls for service within a year had some enforcement action taken against

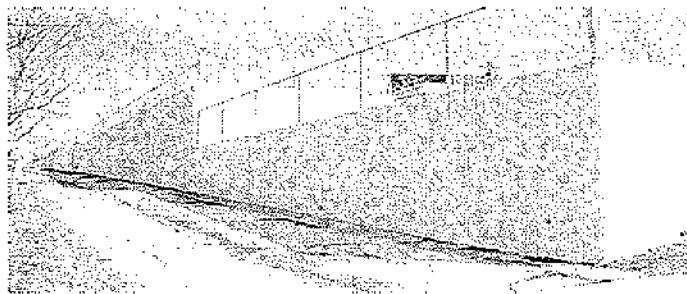
³⁰ The period between 1998 and 2001 represents the timeframe of the Minneapolis Codefor effort. It is also the timeframe for this effort.

them. As a result of the Community Empowerment Team, fifty-five families demonstrating problem behaviors, received attention. Of those fifty-five families, only five families were unwilling to utilize the resources and work with the Empowerment Team.

Measures are both qualitative and quantitative. Crime statistics from the Minneapolis Police Department were used to analyze the problem and were used to evaluate the problem solving effort. Within a six-block area surrounding St. Philip's Catholic Church, no Part 1 crimes have been reported. Over 750 neighborhood kids attend St. Philip's Church programs, and the lack of damage or graffiti to their "Neighborhood Peace Garden" and their long white retaining wall attests to the respect they have earned in the community:



Peace Garden



St. Philip's Long Retaining Wall

St. Philip's Long Retaining Wall

3. Residents, representatives from the faith communities and the Police Department 4^h Precinct were all involved with the evaluation process.

4. No problems were encountered in implementation of the response plan. All stakeholders were involved in the planning, implementation, and evaluation of the plan.
5. After two years there is evidence of demonstrated success. Court-ordered mentoring and other initiatives will be evaluated after three months of implementation.
6. The primary goals to stabilize families and involve under represented communities have been achieved. The repeat offender initiative has demonstrated initial success with short-term indicators such as geographical restrictions of repeat offenders and the implementation of a community involvement in the sentencing process.
7. The results were measured through the Minneapolis Police Department Crime statistics, focus groups, and pre-and post-evaluation of families.
8. Data from the Minneapolis Police Department, which demonstrated a reduction in crime, and from community feedback sessions, clearly supported the successful accomplishment of the stated goals.
9. This response, or the initiative can become *more* effective through growth. Several other neighborhoods are already planning on starting similar initiatives. The fear with this initiative is putting "too many eggs in just one basket." Many of the St. Philip's initiative partners **could** be **of value** to other problematic **neighborhoods**.

10. One goal of the main goals of this initiative is to address the issue of displacement.

11. Family stabilization and the issues of repeat offenders will require on-going monitoring to note patterns and locations of problem behaviors. Efforts to replicate this collaborative faith-based police are now being implemented. The key participation of both the faith-based organizations and under represented residents gives this Initiative its potential for ongoing effect.

Alphabetical Reference List

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"Justice for All" brochure, published by the Racial Disparity Initiative as part of the Council on Crime and Justice, Minneapolis, Minnesota, 2001. (Attached)

"Minneapolis Police Traffic Stops and Driver's Race - Analysis and Recommendations," by the Council on Crime and Justice, a report to the Minneapolis Police Department, April 13, 2001.

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"The Philipian View," Newsletter of the Church of St. Philip, Summer, 2001, Vol.1, Number 1. (Attached)

"The Philipian View," Newsletter of the Church of St. Philip, Autumn, 2001, Vol.1, Number 2. (Attached)

Uniform Crime Report, Federal Bureau of Investigation, Department of Justice.

Agency and Other Information:

1. The St. Philip's Initiative is a patrol precinct effort. It initially involved the work and endorsement of Mayor Sharon Sayles-Belton, City Council Member Joe Biernat, Chief Robert K. Olson, Deputy Chief Greg Hestness, and Precinct Commander Tim Dolan.

Inspector Tim Dolan, of the Fourth Precinct, has on-going agency responsibility, and Father Greg Tolaas has on-going St. Philip's Church responsibility.

Lieutenant Marie Przynski has day-to-day **supervisory** responsibility of CPS Hillary Freeman. Hillary works very closely with Officer Ted Fisher, the Hawthorne Area Safe Officer. They are a team. All housing enforcement efforts are coordinated with Minneapolis Housing Authority and the Fourth Precinct Community Response Team.

2. There was no special training associated with this effort. Hillary Freeman and Officer Fisher are fully trained Community Crime Specialists and receive regular training in that **position.**
3. The incentives for this effort were flexibility in work schedule, freedom to design the project, and the ability to really work out in the community. The reality is that Hillary Freeman and Ted Fisher work much more than forty hours a week. They talk about their personal satisfaction in the attached articles.

4. The Minneapolis Police Department does have policies and manuals for dealing with problem properties. Most of these become involved in the enforcement stages. Ideally, the St. Philip's Initiative would like to save the property.
5. There were no issues with the problem solving model.
6. The resources committed to the project are discussed in the submittal.
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