



Vision: Empowered Youth Thriving in Safe & Prosperous

ThrVe Change Levers by Action Team

1. All Action Teams

- a. Establish data-sharing agreement across ThrVe partners.
- b. Reduce the amount of news time given to sensationalized stories related to youth violence.

2. Parent, Family, and Community Engagement Action Team

- a. Create a network among ministers of all denominations where programs and strategies to prevent youth violence could be discussed.
- b. Provide information to parents and guardians about warning signs of violent behavior, gang involvement, and other risky behaviors.
- c. Establish a program where representatives from churches, synagogues and mosques take youth on trips to places they have never visited.
- d. Conduct prayer walks or drive-by prayer to pray for the community and establish a presence in your community that will allow congregants to get to know neighbors and youth in neighborhood.
- e. Connect/reconnect with churches and faith-based organizations
- f. Create opportunities for neighborhood residents to influence policy issues that affect the community
- g. Establish intergenerational mentoring programs that link youth of different ethnic and cultural backgrounds with their elders.
- h. Identify and disseminate information to parents, youth, and community on summer youth programs and during breaks (winter break, spring break)
- i. Increase parental involvement (e.g., Parent Council, parent survey, Parents as Teachers)
- j. Increase the number of agencies or organizations that conduct free parenting classes with culturally appropriate content.
- k. Organize support groups and networks for parents and guardians.
- l. Provide access to male role models who use nonviolent means of expression.
- m. Provide workshops for parents and youth to enhance skills of anger management, conflict management, decision making, peer refusal, and parent-child communication
- n. We will provide in-service training to area clergy and religious workers on how to use community resources for preventing and coping with violence and sexual abuse, and facilitate more effective referrals to local agencies.



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3. Youth Opportunities Action Team

- a. Establish youth community service programs to enhance life skills and social responsibility.
- b. Establish mentoring programs to enhance job/employment, educational, and secondary education opportunities.
- c. Provide positive alternative activities and needed supports (e.g., tutoring) during out-of-school time.
- d. All athletic directors and/or coaches will be required to present a program to student athletes at the beginning of each sports season regarding the causes and consequences of violence,
- e. Create opportunities for job shadowing
- f. Develop a plan for identifying and referring at-risk youth (survivors, witnesses, and/or perpetrators) to appropriate individual or agency.
- g. Establish a variety of alternative activities for at-risk youth.
- h. Establish Board policies by which youth can have influence on the policies and practices of youth organizations.
- i. Establish early (elementary school) intervention programs for prevention of violence and gang-related activity for families and youth.
- j. Establish mentoring programs by which at-risk youth who avoid violence and weapons can gain access to potential employers and other influential adults.
- k. Extend available and affordable daycare or after-school care options to reduce stress of safety concerns for parents and guardians.
- l. Improve relations between youth and police (e.g., bias training, Juvenile Community Policing, Neighborhood Watch)
- m. In collaboration with local Parent Teacher Organizations (PTAs and PTO's), establish and implement violence prevention programs for use by parents or guardians at home.
- n. Inform parents on warning signs of violent behavior, including gang involvement and coercive sexual relationships.
- o. Provide safe and affordable transportation to supervised recreational opportunities.
- p. Provide skills training for parents and guardians that emphasizes adult-child communication and information about youth violence in your community
- q. Provide skills training on conflict management, negotiation, decision-making, communication to youth, and refusal skills for youth, including local student organizations and athletic teams. (Trauma & Social Service Action Team also identified as priority)
- r. Provide transportation for youth to get access to support and prevention programs.
- s. Reduce barriers to employment services (e.g., federal policies, language/translation, etc.)
- t. The school district, parents or guardians, and the recreation department will establish coordinated before and after school and summer activities for youth.



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4. Youth Justice & Crime Prevention Action Team

- a. **Develop an Injury and Fatality Review board to review youth related incidents of homicides and youth violence. (Trauma & Social Service Action Team also identified as priority)**
 - b. **Improve night and street lighting and supervision in public parks and recreational areas.**
 - c. Educate public as to how victims and advocates can access services; *Disseminate information about legal services whereby protective orders, temporary restraining orders, and peace bonds keep violent offenders from attacking partners or family members*
 - d. Provide a coordinated program of "wrap around" services for youth involved in violent crimes that includes juvenile court, schools, and social and rehabilitate services.
 - a1. Determine what school, social, and rehabilitative services are offered
 - e. Develop and implement a plan to maintain property by removing graffiti associated with gang activity; restrict access to abandoned buildings, vacant lots, and other gathering places of illegal activity.
 - f. *Provide skill training to youth including in methods of refusing peer pressure to use weapons, in recruiting peer support for the choice to avoid youth violence, and in how to avoid or walk away from a potentially violent situation without a loss of respect. (Youth Advisory Board)*
 - g. Consider tax credits or other incentives to businesses who employ youth
 - h. Cooperate with the media to communicate accurate information on the level of violence, including violence among youth.
 - i. *Demonstrate commitment to/promotion of youth employment and skills*
 - j. Disseminate appropriate information to the community related to the consequences of use and possession of weapons.
 - k. Driver's Ed- increase opportunities for youth to obtain driver's license
 - l. Establish and increase use of silent witness and related youth crisis hotlines for reporting violence, including physical and sexual abuse. (Trauma & Social Service Action Team also identified as priority)
 - m. Establish accurate reporting systems for firearm and gang-related injuries.
 - n. Support participation in programs for police officers to work with youth in alternative activities and education: (1) Develop plan for police program for middle and high school youth, (2) Work with youth outreach kids (3) Have police come and engage with kids, (4) Youth alive website for trauma services
 - o. Expand existing programs to youth who are not justice involved
 - p. Identify community organizations who provide youth employment and aren't already at capacity
 - q. Promote sports and recreation certification programs for youth employment (e.g., Lifeguard certification, referee, umpire, coaching) (Collaborate with Youth Opportunities Action Team)
 - r. *Publicize the levels of violence-free days and/or of police arrests and prosecutions for violence and gang-related activity.*
 - s. *Reduce the waiting period between actual arrest and final disposition for violent crimes.*
 - t. Strengthen and enforce laws regarding buying, selling, or possession of firearms by youth.
- KDOC: Youth Justice Community Engagement Initiative (Juvenile Justice & Crime Prevention Sub-Team)
- a. **Examine the Juvenile Justice System flow chart for any other concerns/additions/modifications**
 - a1. Match up important data points for reducing RED with JD29 flow chart and reach out to appropriate agency to determine what data is available
 - b. **Develop & disseminate informational materials to better inform community on SB 367.**



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5. Trauma & Social Service Action Team

- a. Provide information and training to teachers, parents, and guardians about what to look for and how to promote health and safety in children and youth (e.g., through newsletter, in-service training, schools, and local libraries) **[Note: top priority change lever is combined 5a., 5b., and 5e. as of June 2019].**
- b. Establish intervention programs for those who are witness to violence, such as murder of a friend or family member.
- c. Action team needs to establish regular meeting times
- d. Conduct annual school-based health fairs with an emphasis on youth health issues, including physical assault, incest, and sexual abuse.
- e. Considering joint application to OJJDP grant to support hospital-based intervention activities
- f. Develop an Injury and Fatality Review board to review youth related incidents of homicides and youth violence. (Youth Justice Community Engagement Action Team also identified as priority)
- g. Disseminate information on peaceful conflict resolution and how to walk away from potential fights.
- h. Ensure that victims of violence receive adequate medical care regardless of ability to pay.
- i. Establish peer support groups for teens to explore ways to resist youth violence, sexual coercion, and/or becoming involved in gang activity. (Youth Advisory Board Action Team also identified as priority)
- j. Establish crisis intervention teams to address extreme or repeated instances of conflict among family members.
- k. Establish regional support networks among leaders and members of youth organizations working on preventing assaultive violence.
- l. Facilitate REVIVE meetings occurring on monthly basis for the hospital-based violence intervention program related to youth who are admitted to ER for intentional injury
- m. Provide cross-cultural training for health professionals to enhance the cultural appropriateness of preventive services.
- n. Provide cultural competence training (e.g. respecting differences) for all school staff (e.g. custodians, administrators).
- o. Provide incentives for Emergency Room staff who get additional training to deal with victims of violence.
- p. Provide in-service training for school personnel in planning, implementing, and evaluating school-based programs for preventing youth violence.
- q. Provide skills training on conflict management, negotiation, decision-making, communication to youth, and refusal skills for youth, including local student organizations and athletic teams. (Youth Opportunities Action Team also identified as priority)
- r. Provide training for all Emergency Room staff to instruct them in appropriate ways of dealing with victims of violence and persons arriving with the victims.



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6. ThrYve Youth Advisory Board

- a. Provide through radio, television, social media, and newspaper PSA's appropriate for a variety of audiences (children, adolescents, adults) about the negative consequences of violence for youth and society. The PSA's will be culturally-specific and ethnically-appropriate and will feature local and national celebrities and personalities.
- b. Establish a contest for youth to develop messages to discourage other youth from violence, gang activity, or using alcohol and other drugs.
- c. Establish a student code of conduct which includes consequences for students who sexually harass or abuse other students.
- d. Establish an ongoing system to provide public recognition for specific community or youth efforts to prevent assaultive violence.
- e. Establish peer support groups for teens to explore ways to resist youth violence, sexual coercion, and/or becoming involved in gang activity.
- f. Local radio will sponsor regular live debates on ways of preventing youth violence.
- g. Provide opportunities for youth leadership and youth involvement (e.g., Youth Task Force, Youth Advisory Council) in advocating for policies that affect them and applying their leadership skills in addressing neighborhood problems and goals.
- h. Provide PSA's which display how to avoid or walk away from a potentially violent situation without a loss of respect.
- i. Provide skill training to youth including in methods of refusing peer pressure to use weapons, in recruiting peer support for the choice to avoid youth violence, and in how to avoid or walk away from a potentially violent situation without a loss of respect. (Youth Justice Community Engagement Action Team also identified as priority)
- j. Establish youth community service programs to enhance life skills and social responsibility.