

St. Louis Area Violence Prevention Commission Quarterly Commission Meeting

October 22, 2021 | 1:00 pm – 3:00 pm | Virtual

Mission: The St. Louis Area Violence Prevention Commission (VPC) works to reduce violent crime in the region by promoting and advocating a coordinated, well – resourced support system, policies, and interventions among area governments, institutions and agencies that serve individuals and families most at risk of violent crime.

Vision: VPC envisions a St. Louis region where communities enjoy quiet nights and the sounds of children playing during the days. St. Louis is a safe and desirable destination for businesses and residents. All community members feel protected and served by law enforcement and empowered to have a voice in important regional issues.

AGENDA:

1. Welcome & Introductions Serena Muhammad, Jessica Meyers, Lisa Potts, Sarah Russell, Ann, Branden, Bob, Sandy Brooks, Diamond Divas, Marley Graviss, Kateri Chapman-Kramer, Joseph Schafer, Del Moeller, Kaleigh Lawrence, Ron Johnson, Fresh Start, Poli Rijos, Leah Johnson, Nicole Robinson, Alyssa Finner, Carlette Lewis Rhone, Anne Litwin, Robin, Justin Storie, Courtney Hinton, Kristen Mueller, Sydney Theerman, Rashma, Amy Cunningham, Dwayne James, Craig Schmid, Erin, Eboni Boateng, Taylor Kaser, Meaghan Bailey, Kelli McCrary, Kristin Watt, Matthew Brummund, Linda Robinson, Victoria Anwuri, Ryan, Jessica LaRose, Ben Cooper, Don Logue, Maggie Barone, Mary Schuman, Gerald Dennis, Warren Hayden, S. Ellis, Debra Harper-LeBlanc, Brennan England, Shulamit Cenker, Ryan, Joan Butcher, Hannah Kramer, Lois Schaffer, Kat Cocivera, J Owens, Geoffrey Soyiantet, Jennifer Holzhauser, Christina Brimm, Gayla G., Wilford Pinkney, Donna King, Mike McLively, Vetta Thompson, Bart Andrews, Felicia Spratt, Charles Bryson, Steve Parish, Lynn Waldhauser
2. St. Louis City Public Safety Engagement
 - <https://www.stlareavpc.org/citysafety>
 - Report Out from Previous Events
 - Town Hall w/Center for Policing Equity from 9/23
 1. Watch here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4UyxRuHl8zk>
 2. Read the CPE's National Justice Database Report here: <https://www.stlouis-mo.gov/government/departments/mayor/news/justice-database-study-report-released.cfm>
 - Community Planning Session #1 from 10/9
 1. Process: Intro to public health approach, mayor's priorities, public safety priorities poll & small group discussions, report out & next steps
 2. Public Safety Poll example results from Quarterly Meeting attendees:

Priority	Number of Votes
Access to Behavioral Health & Social Services	2
Alternate Responses to Emergency Calls	5
911 Communications Ex. Reduce 9-1-1 call wait times by increasing salary of dispatchers to attract and retain staff	3
Community Engagement Ex. Improve communication to residents about availability and how to access City services and community resources	2
Diversion Programs Ex. Increase access to evidence-based youth programming focused on decision making and life skills. Use street outreach workers to engage high-risk individuals in their neighborhoods	7
Neighborhood Infrastructure Ex. Clean, safe spaces for neighbors to use - convert vacant lots, clean green spaces and parks, deter illegal dumping etc. Improve lighting, sidewalks, and transit stop safety	9
Victim Services Ex. Help victims to repair their homes and cars after violent crime. Increase protections and coordinated services for victims of domestic violence	3
Workforce Development Ex. Increase access to workforce development programs that increase long-term employment with livable wages. Invest in year-round youth employment programs and increase summer employment	3
Policing	1

- **Takeaways from Community Planning Session #1**

- **Universal theme across all areas**

- * Increase communication about initiatives and priorities (most people had not heard about the programs)
 - * Meet people where they are
 - * Although people had not heard of the programs, they were encouraged by the creativeness and data driven approaches
 - * Use informal networks to reach people (social influencers/teens/others) to disseminate information

- **Most profound comments**

- * 911 is the first impression -spend time and energy into making this the best customer experience
 - * Communicate services to people before they need it - partner with libraries, grocery stores, places of worship
 - * Must promote successes like homicide clearance rate and crime rate while simultaneously promoting systems change work
 - * Meet people where they work, play and pray - everyone can be a champion and can take ownership for violence prevention
 - * Empower people to act NOW - there are roles that we all can play in violence prevention

- **Important take-aways/suggestions**

- * Create communication campaign that is simple for a variety of audiences (churchs, schools, community leaders) that can be easily disseminated
 - * Communicate often & communicate early successes to increase buy-in for continued support
 - * Provide community organizations and leaders clear "calls to action" items
 - * Center and amplify community voice

* Form strategic partnership with news outlets that will regularly report positive updates on initiatives (people could tune in to a weekly report card of Mayor's Priorities)

- Upcoming Engagement Opportunities
 - Police Chief Listening Session- October 26

Reimagining Public Safety:
New Police Chief Search

Take the survey:
www.stlouis-mo.gov/new-chief-survey

October 12th | 6pm | Virtual
October 26th | 6pm | Virtual

ZOOM INFO
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88277928478>

Give your input on what you want
to see in our next police chief.

◦

1. Topic: Domestic Violence
2. Flyer in production
3. Other topic options for future sessions (in order of preference from attendees):
 - a. Youth Violence/Advisory Council
 - b. Gun access
 - c. Vacancy
 - d. Social workers for STL
 - e. Re-entry services

◦ Community Planning Session- November 13

ST. LOUIS CITY PUBLIC SAFETY PLANNING SESSION #2

Speak up & have your voice heard!

Help inform Mayor Jones' Blueprint for Public Safety through this series of planning sessions.

Sat., November 13

10am-noon

Virtual

Register at <https://bit.ly/STLsafetyplan2>

or scan the QR code:



o Survey

1. Takes approx. 20 minutes

HAVE YOUR VOICE HEARD!

VPC & the City of St. Louis want to know what you think to inform Mayor Jones' Blueprint for Public Safety.

Tell us about your neighborhood and what the police and Mayor's office should focus on to make you feel safe!



Take our *anonymous* City Safety Survey at <https://bit.ly/vpccitysafety> or scan the QR code



Ten people who take the survey will win a \$25 gift card.



o Short Text Code

1. Meant to address equity concerns with access to technology
2. Text code & number TBD

o Youth Engagement Opportunity

1. VPC wants to know how many member agencies have youth councils whose members could participate in a regional advisory council.

2. All member agencies with youth councils are asked to fill out this survey by the end of the day Friday 10/29: <https://bit.ly/vpcyouth>
3. Downtown Engagement & Public Safety Initiative
 - <https://www.stlouis-mo.gov/government/departments/mayor/news/downtown-public-safety-initiative.cfm>
 - Group of business, civic, and government leaders to address violence and crime downtown
 - Serena represents VPC on this group
 - Youth Events- VPC has the opportunity to partner with the City to offer downtown events for youth which may include silent parties and skate parties. More information to come
4. Safer Summer STL Events
 - VPC & ReCAST funded a series of projects offering safe events for youth and adults including arts, wellness, and conflict resolution programs.
 - Grantees include:
 - The Conflict Resolution Center- St. Louis
 - North St. Louis Arts Council
 - Saint Louis Story Stitchers Artists Collective
 - The Ethics Project
 - The St. Louis Arts Chamber (STLACC), ArtWorks, Pocket Parks (PP) and West End CID
 - Gentlemen of Vision
 - The T Punch Love Boxing
 - The T's Bullet-Related Injury Clinic
 - CommUNITY Arts
 - The CollectiveSTL
 - Heal Center for the Arts
5. MU Extension Resources
 - Pivot in strategy from in person community capacity-building trainings to virtual resources.
 - <https://www.stlareavpc.org/capacity-building>
 - Infographics
 - Community Asset Mapping
 - Community Engagement
 - Videos
 - Leading Effective Community Meetings
 - Managing Conflict in Community Settings
6. Turning STL Purple 4 DV
 - <https://bit.ly/3zf5mfy>
 - October is Domestic Violence Awareness month
 - You may have seen different buildings and attractions lit up purple in honor of DV Awareness Month

**SHATTER THE SILENCE,
STOP THE VIOLENCE**

**DOMESTIC VIOLENCE
AWARENESS
RALLY
& WALK** IN THE GROVE

• DJ FADE2BLACK LIVE
• FOOD TRUCKS
• RESOURCE BOOTHS
• LOCAL VENDORS
• LIGHTING OF THE UNITY CANDLE
• GIVE-A-WAYS & MORE!

HOSTED BY THE COLLABORATION OF ST. LOUIS
DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AGENCIES & ADVOCATES

OCT. 23RD, 2021
RALLY STARTS AT 10AM

**CHROMA PLAZA
4041 CHOUTEAU AVENUE**

DIAMOND DIVA
EMPOWERMENT FOUNDATION

REGISTER FOR THE WALK
& PREORDER FOR YOUR
"SHATTER THE SILENCE" SHIRT!
www.2def.org/rallywalk

PARK CENTRAL DEVELOPMENT
ST. LOUIS ENDING DOMESTIC VIOLENCE NETWORK

YWCA eliminating racism
empowering women
SAINT MARTHA'S HALL
WOMEN'S SAFE HOUSE

CRIME VICTIM CENTER
THE WOMEN'S SAFE HOUSE
EMPOWERMENT STARTS HERE

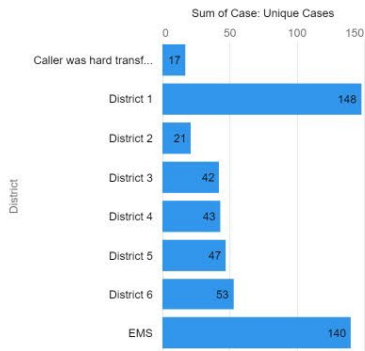
CHROMA
POWERED BY DIAMOND DIVA
EMPOWERMENT FOUNDATION

YWCA CANDLELIGHT VIGIL - OCT. 20TH @ 6PM - WWW.YWCASTL.ORG

7. BHR Presentation on CRU & 911 Diversion

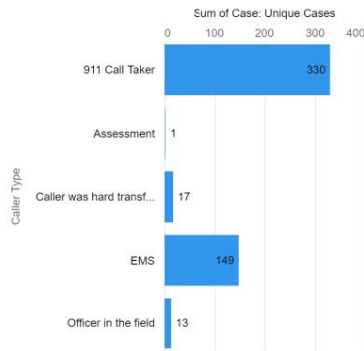
- 911 call diversion allows callers to get an unarmed clinician response if they call 911 with a mental health crisis.
 - Presented by Bart Andrews
 - Question: How can you increase diversion?
 1. Getting more calls sent from 911, but have set a high criteria for what can be transferred
 2. The goal is to get to the point where people are not calling 911 for mental health crises
 - Question: Can you get folks who are diverted next day appointments?
 1. Yes.
 - It has been operating since February.
 - A summary of the results is below:

District Totals



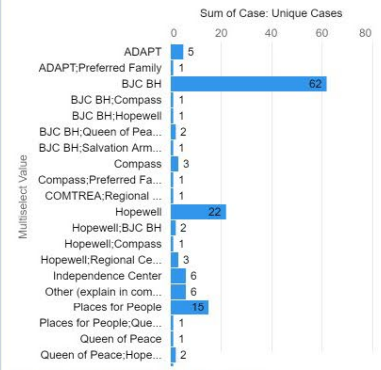
[View Report \(911 Diversion - District Totals\)](#)

Caller Type Totals



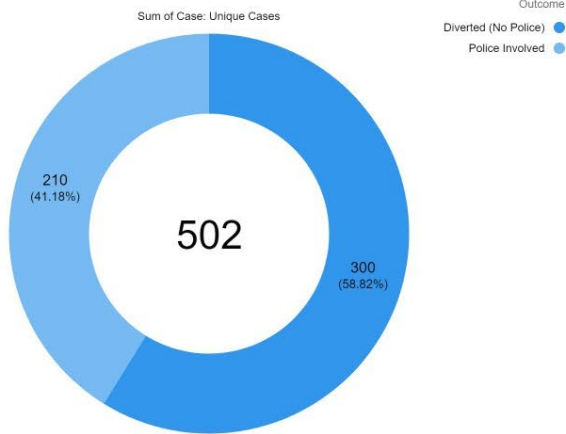
[View Report \(911 Diversion - Caller Type Totals\)](#)

Active Agency Totals



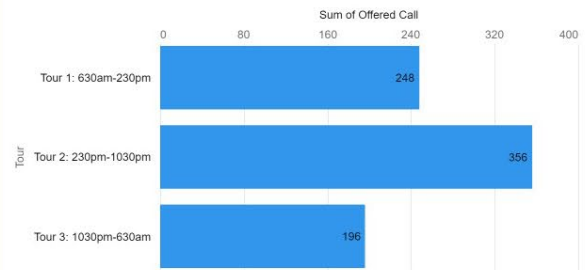
[View Report \(911 Diversion - Active Agency Totals\)](#)

Outcomes



[View Report \(911 Diversion - Diverted from Hospital\)](#)

Inbound Calls by Tour



[View Report \(911 Diversion Vonage Calls by Tour\)](#)

Inbound Calls

800

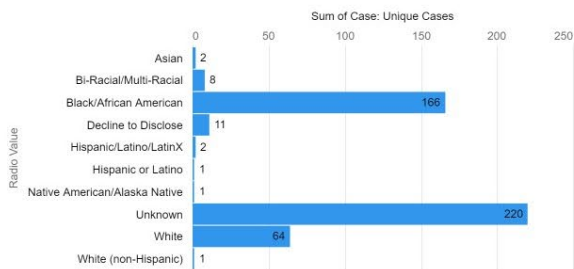
[View Report \(911 Diversion Vonage Calls\)](#)

Outbound Calls

2,254

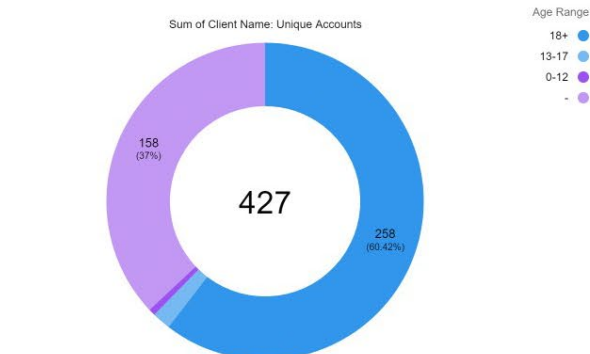
[View Report \(911 Diversion - Outbound Calls\)](#)

Race



[View Report \(911 Diversion - Race\)](#)

Age Range



[View Report \(911 Diversion - Age Range\)](#)

Calls Abandoned >20 sec

65

[View Report \(911 Diversion Vonage Calls\)](#)

Avg Speed to Answer

60

[View Report \(911 Diversion Vonage Calls\)](#)

Follow Up Cases

183

[View Report \(911 Diversion - Follow Up Totals\)](#)

Export this report to calculate # repeat clients
 Sum the Repeat Clients column

428

The number above is Total Unique Clients
[View Report \(911 Diversion - Repeat Clients\)](#)

- Presented by Felicia Spratt
- Co-responders that ride along with police
- 6 units working 7 days a week from 7am-11pm, responded to more than 2500 calls since Feb 8
- A summary of their results is below:

The CRU clinicians have responded and engaged 2,569 citizens in St. Louis city alongside their police partners who presented with the following top five behavioral health needs year-to-date:

- Acute psychiatric crisis (542)
- Self-Sufficient Need (474)
- Housing (338)
- Currently Suicidal (243)
- Education and assistance with referral (242)

The CRU has also provided the following outcomes in response to those in a behavioral crisis:

- Resources offered and accepted on scene (970)
- Referred to community behavioral agency (769)
- Referred to hospital psychiatric unit for evaluation (515)
- Referred to existing provider for follow-up (185)
- Referred to medical facility for medical reasons (91)

The CRU has diverted the following since February 8, 2021, until present:

- 80% (2053) of those engaged were diverted from hospitalization
- 99% (2537) of those engaged were diverted from jail

8. Economic Distress Zone Funding

- Missouri Department of Public Safety announced the SFY 2022 Economic Distress Zone Grant (EDZ).
- Goal to provide funding to 501(c)(3) organizations who provide services to residents of the State of Missouri in areas of high incidents of crime and deteriorating infrastructure for the purpose of deterring criminal behavior.
- Eligible applicants include nonprofits that provide services to the Village of Riverview, City of Pagedale, City of St. Louis, Village of Hillside, City of Vinita Park, City of Moline Acres and City of Madrid
- Project Period: 11/15/21-5/30/22
- Application is due October 29 at 5pm
- <https://dps.mo.gov/dir/programs/ohs/grantstraining/documents/sfy-2022-edz-notice-of-funding-opportunity.pdf>

9. Partner Announcements

- Meaghan Bailey:
 - On **Wednesday, November 3rd at 11:30am**, Amanda Stoermer from the St. Louis Integrated Health Network (IHN) will present *"Leveraging Local Expertise to Accelerate Health Equity & Improve Health Care Delivery."* This session will highlight the IHN's Network Community Academic Partnerships (NCAP) which seeks opportunities for partnership between IHN community health centers and academic institutions. Amanda will discuss the history of NCAP, the process of working with NCAP and IHN's community health centers

and federally qualified health centers (FQHCs), common pitfalls of community-academic partnerships, and more.

- Secondly, registration is open for a Collaborative Cafe on **Friday, November 12th at 12:00pm**. Carissa Minder and Mitchell Saulisbury-Robertson from WashU's HRPO will present "*IRB: Research with Community Individuals and Organizations*," followed by Q&A and networking. This session covers the process, timeline, and helpful hints for navigating IRB approval when working with community partners.
- Hannah Kramer:
 - Saint Louis County Department of Public Health has re-posted the Substance Use Health Education Coordinator position and would appreciate if you could share the opportunity throughout your networks! This role will primarily be responsible for conducting outreach and education throughout the community in regards to substance use and our Community Narcan Distribution Program, with focus on a culturally-sensitive and trauma-informed lens. Folks with lived experiences of substance use are encouraged to apply for this role. The posting will close on 11/9/2021. For more information and to submit an application, click here:
<https://www.governmentjobs.com/careers/stlouis/jobs/3159902/health-education-coordinator>

*DISCOUNT STL CREMATION
PRESENTS*

GHOULS IN THE GROVE, TOWER THAT IS!

**A FUN, FAMILY FRIENDLY HALLOWEEN
EVENT OPEN TO THE PUBLIC!**

5 PM - 8 PM | OCTOBER 31, 2021

COME OUT AND ENJOY FREE FOOD, CANDY/SNACK BAGS FOR THE
KIDS AND ACTIVITIES FOR ALL AGES.

FOR MORE INFO:
Email: inquire@discountstlcremation.com | **Phone:** 314-782-0392
SPONSORSHIP, VENDOR & VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES
Website: www.DiscountSTLCremation.com

Location: Tower Grove Park Turkish Pavilion
2824 Tower Grove Ave. St. Louis, MO 63110

discount
STL
CREMATION
Same result. Most affordable.

f @ f @



- Carlette Lewis-Rhone
 - The Elevate Conference planning committee is pleased partner with BHR on it's upcoming conference. Please sign up to attend virtually or in person. <https://www.mgcelevate.com/>
- Victoria Anwuri
 - Institute for Public Health Annual Conference on Oct 27. https://publichealth.wustl.edu/calendar_event/transforming-public-health-learning-from-the-past-preparing-for-the-future/

10. Coalition Effectiveness Survey

- <https://bit.ly/vpcces2021>
- Please complete no later than Friday, October 29

11. Quarterly Meeting Evaluation

- <https://bit.ly/vpcoctober2021>

2022 Quarterly Meeting Dates:

- January 28
- April 22
- July 22
- October 28
- All will take place from 1-3pm
- Location/Virtual Link will be announced closer to each date