

The St. Philip's Initiative Summary

August 1, 2002 - August 31, 2003

Goal 1: Link the MPD and Hennepin County Courts with the faith community to improve neighborhood livability by working with the Minneapolis Police Department, Hennepin County Courts and neighborhood residents

Objective 1: Organize parishioners to work with the neighborhood residents to reduce crime and improve livability by supporting the work of the MPD, block clubs and the neighborhood associations.

- a. Had 10 problem solvers meetings (10)
- b. Average attendance was 25 people per meeting with 10% were church members
- c. Closed 25 problem addresses by using the City Ordinances and State Statues.

Goal 2: Create opportunities for youth and families to grow and become part of the larger community.

Objective 1: Link MPD and faith community to address challenged families by linking with various government and non-profit agencies

- a. Broker government agencies with St Philip's and other churches to provide resources and service links for 8 families.
- b. Clean and Green - Recruit and coordinate 5 groups in the 4th Precinct involved in litter clean up with one being St. Philip's. There were 200 youth and adults adopting an area for once a week for eight weeks.
- c. Nellie Stone Johnson School: 20 mentors give an hour each month to tutor fifth grade students in reading. This is the second year of the program and mentors come from various churches, Edina Community Lutheran, St Philip's, Wooddale Evangelical in Eden Prairie as well as government staff.

Goal 3: Work with Hennepin County Courts to ensure fairness for both the offender and the community.

Objective 1: Address the collateral effects of chronic repeat drug offenders:

- a. Coordinate the efforts of 23 churches, institutions, and foundations to monitor the top repeat drug offenders write impact statements on behalf of these churches and institutions. We did 20 statements this year.
- b. Provide training for twenty pastors and lay leaders to understand the legal system in relationship to drug court.
- c. Established with Drug Court Probation staff 13 churches to become community Sentence to Serve sites for repeat drug offenders. We have referred over 20 offenders this year.
- d. Work with faith communities, residents of the 4th precinct and the City Attorney to write community impact statements on chronic repeat offenders to encourage judges to hold these offenders accountable. We are working on livability crimes such as loitering with intent to commit prostitution, loitering with intent to sell narcotics, consuming in public and prostitution. We have requested and received impact statements from residents on 85 chronic individuals. The courts have dismissed only 6 cases.

e. Work with judges to offer restorative justice opportunities. Held a restorative justice day in collaboration with Hennepin county Courts to offer the opportunity for people with outstanding traffic offenses in Hennepin County to work off their fines. We held court in the community and had 925 people who did community service. 575 people did their community service at faith or neighborhood groups.

f. Prison Reentry Program: Partner with Amicus to provide training and matching of mentors with mentees. 20 mentors have been recruited and trained who will be assigned to women from Shakopee and men from Lino Lakes. The goal is to reduce recidivism by beginning the relationship 4 months prior to release and continuing that relationship when they return to the community.

2. To involve residents in electronic impact statements to provide them a voice to community members that are affected by crimes.

- a. 112 Residents involved in the e-mail list
- b. In the last year over 160 e-mail impact statements have been written.