

Promising Partnerships



A Newsletter from the
Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services

Martin O'Malley, Governor, Anthony G. Brown, Lt. Governor
Gary D. Maynard, Secretary

Maryland Police and Correctional Training Commissions

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Advanced and Specialized Training Unit

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Determining Success

By Adam Starr, Administrator

Advanced and Specialized Training

Reducing crime and recidivism is a difficult task and measuring results solely from quantitative information can be equally perplexing. For example, police calls for service may increase, not because of an actual increase in crime, but the rise may be due to a community's renewed interest in reducing crime and a willingness to call the police when crime is observed. These variables also make it difficult to conclude if any one program or initiative is exclusively responsible for a trend based solely on a numerical change. But there are other types of indicators that will help us evaluate effectiveness.

Over the last few months, this newsletter has featured numerous examples of how collaboration among public safety professionals has led to arrests, heightened awareness, and promoted proactive initiatives. When resources are low and the workload seems unbearable, we must rely upon these qualitative examples to keep us focused on success.

This edition of the newsletter highlights a truly

In this issue:

- A message from the administrator.
- Crisfield CSAFE distributes school supplies
- CHUMS awarded the title of "Healthy Neighborhood"
- National Night Out
- The value of joint home contacts
- Collaboration catches a suspect
- The abuse/misuse of fentanyl

spectacular example of community mobilization in the statewide recognition of National Night Out. There is also a follow up article about an arrest made during a CSAFE joint home contact. I believe you will find the victim's renewed faith in the "system" to be a powerful example of what can be accomplished when we work together

Back to School Supplies Distributed by Crisfield HEAT team Members

By Robert Ertter, Field Supervisor I
Division of Parole and Probation

On August 21, 2007, members of the Crisfield HEAT team distributed over 100 packets to area children. The packets contained pencils, paper, markers, crayons, rulers and special surprises.

The packets were well received and several of the parents and children expressed their pleasure and delight. The Crisfield HEAT team has been hosting this Back to School annual event for the past six years.



Dale Jamison (DPP), Robin Slechter (DJS), Laney Howard (SAO Victim/Witness Coordinator) and Stan Harmon, (Crisfield Police Department) distribute back to school supplies to residents of Somers Cove Apartments in Crisfield, MD.

CSAFE Helps Community Receive Healthy Neighborhood Status

*By Karen Fortune, Community Liaison
Advanced and Specialized Training*

The Coldstream/Homestead/Montebello (CHUMS) CSAFE program was validated by its inclusion into the “Healthy Neighborhoods” program. Only four of the fourteen neighborhoods that applied were selected, not because of their needs but because of their strengths. Factors such as fighting crime, improving property values, sanitation efforts, and other variables were used to determine the awardees.

According to Mark Washington the Executive Director of CHUMS, this achievement was due in no small part to the CSAFE program. The collaborative effort and unifying vision has, in four short years, helped to transform the CHUMS community from one of the most dangerous neighborhoods in North East Baltimore to its newly found status, “Healthy Neighborhood”. This designation opens the door for additional funding for expanded community efforts, the type of positive private sector investment needed to continue the improvement of the neighborhood.

The “Healthy Neighborhoods” initiative was a collaborative activity involving community residents, the Baltimore City Police Department, and other CSAFE partners. They jointly tackled specific tasks and projects that led to this accomplishment. CSAFE can take pride in the significant role it played in making this happen.

National Night Out

*By Susan Vandegrift, Field Supervisor I
Division of Parole and Probation*

On August 7, 2007, CSAFE teams across the state sponsored National Night Out events. HEAT and Neighborhood Safety Team members organized events that were open to all community members. We applaud the dedicated members who made these events a huge success.

The following photographs portray just a few of the many National Night Out events.



Hagerstown’s activities included instructions on the proper way to call 911



Germtown offered a rock wall challenge for attendees.



Dedicated volunteers braved the heat and prepared food for the many attendees in Baltimore City

“We simply must work together as public safety professionals in collaboration with our community partners. This is the most effective strategy to reduce crime, protect our communities and make our neighborhoods safer places to live, work and raise families.”

Pat Bradley, Executive Director, MPCTC



A gospel choir entertained the crowd in Denton



Residents of Oakland Mills (Howard County) enjoyed the food and the opportunity to meet their neighbors.



The Children's Choir provided entertainment in Salisbury



Pocomoke City attracted many residents who enjoyed the food and activities.



The Easton event provided an opportunity to cool off.

The Value of Joint Home Contacts

*By James R. Hedrick, Treatment Specialist
Advanced and Specialized Training*

A previous newsletter article featured a story about the Harper's Choice Heat Team. A joint home visit resulted in the recovery of a stolen mini-bike, missing for about 3 months. The probationer was arrested, found guilty and the mini-bike was returned to the owner. Recently, the victim was contacted and he related how cooperative and helpful the police, Assistant State's Attorney, and probation agent had been. He further stated that he "never thought we would see it again" and added how pleased he was with the outcome. The value of the "joint home visit" was demonstrated, once again.

Armed Robbery Suspect Captured

*By Karen Fortune, Community Liaison
Advanced and Specialized Training*

Earlier this year, an off duty Baltimore City Police Officer and her daughter were exiting her car in the Harlem Park community when a gunman grabbed the child, placed a gun to her head, and demanded money. After meeting the suspect's demands, the child was pushed into the arms of her mother and the suspect fled the scene. Baltimore City Police Investigators released a composite drawing of the suspect. Division of Parole and Probation (DPP) Agent Faye Washington recognized the individual as one of DPP Agent Erinn Gross's clients. After conferring with her supervisor, Doug McClure,

Agent Gross of the Harlem Park CSAFE and her supervisor, Wallis Minor, were notified. To confirm a positive identification, Ms. Minor contacted Officer LaPrade who is assigned to the Harlem Park CSAFE HEAT team. He retrieved the client's picture from the folder at the CSAFE office and took it to the Western District for the victim to make a positive identification. After the suspect was identified, Agent Gross informed investigators that the suspect could be located selling papers on the street in front of a local hospital on Sunday. It was there that the suspect was taken into custody. This is one outstanding example of how collaboration and partnerships work in CSAFE.

The 'T' in HEAT Stands for Treatment

*By James R. Hedrick, Treatment Specialist
Advanced and Specialized Training*

A new development in the "world of substance abuse" is the combination of fentanyl with heroin; or in a lesser number of cases, combining fentanyl with cocaine. Fentanyl, a Schedule II prescription narcotic, is a powerful synthetic opiate analgesic generally used to treat patients with severe pain. It is similar to morphine but is estimated to be 50 to 100 times more powerful. The effects of fentanyl are similar to other opiates and can include euphoria, respiratory depression and arrest, confusion, sedation, and addiction. Overdose effects occur rapidly and may lead to sudden death through respiratory or cardiac arrest. Mixing fentanyl with street heroin or cocaine markedly amplifies the base drug's potency and potential dangers.

In 2006, fentanyl combinations were attributed to clusters of deaths in Philadelphia, Chicago, and St Louis and it is estimated that Detroit had 33 overdose combination deaths in just one week. In Maryland, the Office of the Chief Medical Examiner reports that fentanyl was the cause of death in 36 cases in 2006. Fentanyl was present in another 52 deaths but was not the main cause of death. Thus far in 2007, the Medical Examiner's Office reports 12 deaths due to fentanyl alone or in combination with other drugs.

If you have any comments or questions, please contact me at 410-978-3253 or by email at jrhedrick@dpscs.state.md.us

CSAFE On the Job Training, & Key Indicator/Warrant Tracking Training

The above training will be held the following dates at the Public Safety Education & Training Center (PSETC) in Sykesville, MD

- Warrant Tracking & Key Indicator Training: 8:00 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.
- On the Job Training: 10:00 a.m.–1:00 p.m.

DATES: October 26, 2007 & December 14, 2007

In the event of inclement weather, any decision to reschedule a class will be made by 6:00 a.m. on the day of the class. Updated information is available by calling (410) 875-3783.

Please Help Us

Do you have a promising practice or notable accomplishment that you would like to share? You may email your comments to Susan Vandegrift at svandegrift@dpscs.state.md.us



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AST remains committed to saving trees; therefore, all editions of Promising Partnerships are available at <http://www.mdle.net/astnewsletter.htm>