

# Memorandum



**Date:** November 28, 2022

**To:** Honorable Interim Chairman Oliver G. Gilbert, III  
and Members, Board of County Commissioners

**From:** Daniella Levine Cava  
Mayor *Daniella Levine Cava*

**Subject:** Miami-Dade County Peace and Prosperity Plan - Quarterly Update

## **Executive Summary**

This Quarterly Report for the Peace and Prosperity Plan (the “Plan”) includes information on the following: the Plan’s budget and expenditures; Community Development Block Grant (“CDBG”) expenditures; Office of Neighborhood Safety (“ONS”) initiatives; youth development programs; Miami-Dade Police Department (“MDPD”) initiatives; and various supplemental initiatives including Miami-Dade County’s Hospital-based Violence Intervention Program, Operation Community Shield, the Case Management and Referral Program, and the White House Community Violence Intervention Collaborative. The Plan’s programs and initiatives for FY 2022-23 are well underway. With the completion and receipt of the Year 1 Independent Evaluation of the Plan that assesses the first seven months of the program, my administration is reviewing and assessing any additions and modifications that will improve upon the successes of the Plan.

## **Peace & Prosperity Plan Budget and Expenditures**

To date, the County has received a total of \$19,500,000 in naming rights revenue of which \$9,983,000 has been deposited in the Anti-Gun Violence and Prosperity Initiatives Trust (“Trust”). Of the \$9,993,000, \$5,713,174 has been expended on Peace & Prosperity Plan programs administered by MDPD, Miami-Dade County Parks, Recreation and Open Spaces (“PROS”) and ONS. Attachment A highlights the Plan expenditures through September 2022. Across the Plan’s first two program years, inclusive of supplemental funding, \$11,751,780 have been expended of which \$5,713,174 Trust, and as noted in previous reports, all unspent non-general fund dollars in FY2020-21 were carried over to FY2021-22 for their respective programs. FY2021-22 funds expended through September 2022 was \$10,307,735, inclusive of supplemental funding.

A few notable updates to the budget include the removal of the \$300,000 listed as Mental Health Funding (the funding was not realized during the FY and is being explored for the Year 4 Peace & Prosperity Plan budget development) and an allocation of \$311,000 to fund one position in the State Attorney’s Office (“SAO”) which was funded via the General Fund budget in FY2021-22 and is included in the FY2022-23 adopted budget.

## **Community Development Block Grant Expenditures**

All FY2020-21 CDBG dollars have been allocated and most FY2020-21 CDBG-funded projects have begun, and in some instances, have been completed and are pending reimbursement by Public Housing and Community Development (“PHCD”). PHCD funded 62 programs and projects with FY 2021 Program Year CDBG and CDBG-CV3 (“CARES ACT”) funds which total \$18.3 million.

The County's statutory authority to spend 2021 CDBG program year funds began in January 2021, and statutory authority to spend CDBG CARES Act ("CDBG-CV3") funds began in March 2020. To date, 52 of the funded projects have begun, 32 were completed, and 20 are ongoing. The remaining 10 projects are being assessed. It is important to note that there are 11 projects valued at more than \$5 million collectively that require permits before the physical work can begin.

The total amount of CDBG expenditures through September 2022 is \$5,988,606. These total expenditures are primarily from Public Service funded projects. Economic Development funded projects will continue throughout 2022. Housing and Capital Improvement funded projects may extend up to two years to complete due to the nature of construction-related activities. Expenditures will be minimal at the onset of these projects and significantly increase as they progress. These projects account for \$11.78 million of the allocation and include such projects as homeownership rehabilitation, water and sewer connections, and micro lending to small businesses.

Additionally, PHCD has issued the FY2022 Request for Application for \$6.45 million in CDBG funds, and applications are currently under review. Members of the Miami-Dade Board of County Commissioners ("Board") will allocate \$1.7 million of these CDBG funds. An additional \$2.5 million will be recommended for housing.

**ONS Initiatives: Year 1 Independent Evaluation, Year 3 Peace & Prosperity Plan, Safe in the 305 Grant Program, College Scholarships, 305 Second Chance Job & Resource Expo, and Peace & Prosperity Dashboard**

Launched in August 2021, ONS continues to advance a vision of public safety for the County that prioritizes prevention, intervention, and reentry at the community level. ONS successfully launched and managed the inaugural Peace & Prosperity Plan. The Plan was awarded a 2022 National Association of Counties Achievement Award in the Criminal Justice and Public Safety Category.

*Year 1 Independent Evaluation ("evaluation")*

The evaluation (Attachment B) was funded by the FTX Foundation and completed by the Melissa Institute under the guidance of Dr. Alex Piquero and Dr. Etiony Aldorando. The independent evaluation yielded the following key findings:

- *The Year 1 implementation of the Peace & Prosperity Plan was associated with observed reductions in both shootings in unincorporated Miami-Dade County and gun-related homicides countywide inclusive of municipalities.*
- *Operation Summer Heat and Operation Community Shield showed significant effects on shootings indicating that the start of the operations was associated with a decline in shootings - a 41.76% decrease in the number of shootings in Unincorporated Miami-Dade County during the 30 weeks following the roll-out of Operation Summer Heat compared to the 30 weeks prior to the start of the initiative.*
- *The number of gun-related homicides in Miami-Dade County, including its municipalities, for the June 2021 through December 2021 period was lower than the previous five months*

*of 2021 as well as the same monthly time period in the year 2020. Moreover, the start of Operation Summer Heat was associated with a significant decrease in homicides in the seven-month follow-up period.*

- *The data showed that Fit2Lead program participants reported a high level of satisfaction with the internship experience and the quality of the program. Specifically, participants reported the internship experience to be relevant to their career goals. Among the various parts of the Fit2Lead program, respondents indicated that “working with children” was their favorite part of their job, followed by getting “experience for resume” and “working with children their age.”*

The evaluator(s) also included the following nine recommendations:

- 1) The County should include a targeted investment in the evaluation process to identify barriers to data collection and analysis in a timely fashion as well as to provide valuable information for the implementation of services and programs.
- 2) The County should develop a centralized database and standardized data sharing system that will provide a comprehensive look at gun violence countywide, including the municipalities.
- 3) Future evaluation efforts should include data collected with the expanded Fit2Lead questionnaire to better assess the impact of the internship program on the youth’s social-emotional skills, prosocial behaviors, and developmental assets needed for non-violent life.
- 4) The Juvenile Services Department assessment and linkage to services data should be included in future evaluations of Fit2Lead.
- 5) The Office of the Mayor and the Board of County Commissioners should equip the Office of Neighborhood Safety with human resources and expertise to provide on-the-ground technical assistance to the recipients of the Safe in the 305 grant awards to generate the appropriate data needed to evaluate their performance.
- 6) The evaluation team should be an integral part of the *Public Safety Toolkit* effort.
- 7) To measure the impact of Project Green Light Miami-Dade, communities, neighborhoods, and businesses participating in program should be matched and compared to other areas not participating in the program. The intervention and non-intervention areas will then be compared for crimes, arrests, number of 911 calls, and revenue impact due to the virtual and random in-person patrolling.
- 8) Future Peace & Prosperity Plans should also include a focus on (1) substance abuse beyond the effects of substance abuse treatment and on (2) other forms of violence known to be associated with unsafe and toxic living conditions such intimate partner violence, bullying, and child abuse.
- 9) The evaluation team should work with the Office of Neighborhood Safety (“ONS”) to guide the identification of metrics and outcomes for future evaluations.

A review of the recommendations is underway, and some are in the process of being implemented.

### *Year 3 Peace & Prosperity Plan*

While the Trust allocation for Years 1 and 2 of the Plan (70 percent of the full allocation plus the District 5 allocation) totaled \$7,218,100, only \$1,268,277 in new Trust fund dollars are allocated

to the Administration for the Year 3 Peace & Prosperity Plan (“Year 3 Plan”). Using data from MDPD and the Miami-Dade County Medical Examiner’s Office, and incorporating lessons learned, lived experience, and community input, the Year 3 Plan was crafted with a continued focus on prevention and intervention. The Year 3 Plan was unanimously adopted by the Board on July 8, 2022, and is valued at \$3,643,277 which includes \$1.2 million in Trust carryover funds from FY2021-22 that was strategically planned due to limited revenue expected during the third year of the naming rights deal to maintain service levels for various youth initiatives.

Building on lessons learned, the 2022-2023 Fit2Lead program includes a joint management structure between the Miami-Dade County Parks, Recreation and Open Spaces Department (“PROS”) and the Juvenile Services Department (“JSD”). This strategic alignment brings the strengths of both departments together to provide a holistic internship experience for youth interns. Fit2Lead will serve justice-involved youth, at-risk youth, and youth with disabilities or who are neurodivergent, with a focus on communities with high incidences of gun-related violence. JSD social workers will play a pivotal role in facilitating care coordination for youth and members of their household. All participating youth will complete an evidenced-based assessment, have access to case management and other support services, and be provided with wraparound services that extend to their household, such as rental and utility payment assistance, early childhood education, nutrition assistance, emergency planning and preparation, employment readiness and job search assistance, and mental and physical wellness.

#### *Safe in the 305 Grant Program*

On June 7, 2022, ONS launched the microgrant program, Safe in the 305, and accepted applications through July 6, 2022, from residents, community leaders and advocates, community and faith-based organizations, and grassroots groups. Safe in the 305 is designed to activate community participation in creating safer neighborhoods, amplify the voices of residents and community leaders against violence, build capacity in communities, and bridge gaps with neighborhood stakeholders and government to address quality of life issues. The inaugural grant round received 123 applications, of which 32 proposals were awarded funding. Individual awards ranged from \$500-\$1,500. Of the \$45,000 allocated for Safe in the 305, a total of \$35,100 in grant funds were issued to support community-driven initiatives focused on making neighborhoods safer. The remaining \$9,900 will be carried over and included in the next round of grant awards.

Funded projects include removing graffiti in Brownsville, revitalizing a community garden in Goulds, community clean-ups in Little Havana and Little River, mental wellness in Opa-Locka, cyclist and pedestrian safety in Coral Gables, and rights restoration in Liberty City and Overtown, to name a few.

#### *College Scholarships*

For more than 25 years, Family and Community Services (“FCS”), a division in the Community Action and Human Services Department (“CAHSD”), has provided education scholarships to college-bound and enrolled youth residing in disadvantaged communities. Annually, approximately 16 to 20 scholarships are awarded to youth who reside in the 16 Target Areas as defined in the CAHSD Community Services Block Grant (“CSBG”) Community Action Plan. This past summer, ONS collaborated with FCS to provide 40 additional scholarships, valued at \$1,500

each, to students who live in CSBG eligible households. Scholarship recipients represent 26 colleges/universities, and all scholarships were paid to the following educational institutions:

**Colleges/Universities**

Alabama State University	Florida State University College of Medicine
Barry University	Georgia State University
Bethune Cookman University (3)	Grambling State University
Broward University	Howard University
Delaware State University	Jacksonville University
Eastern University	Miami Dade College (13)
Edward Waters University	St. Thomas University
Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University	Tennessee State University
Florida A&M University (3)	University of Central Florida
Florida Atlantic University (2)	University of Miami
Florida Memorial University (2)	University of North Florida

Additionally, as a component of the Miami-Dade County Community Violence Intervention Plan, adopted by the Board on July 19, 2022, ONS and the Carrie Meek Foundation will launch the Peace & Prosperity Scholarship program in Spring 2023 to support youth pursuing postsecondary education, including vocational training. An allocation of \$375,000 was approved to provide 150 scholarships, over two years, to youth and young adults.

*305 Second Chance Job & Resource Expo*

On June 10, 2022, ONS, in partnership with the Florida Rights Restoration Coalition and CareerSource South Florida, Inc., hosted the first 305 Second Chance Job & Resource Expo which attracted more than 700 attendees with 69 employers, rights restoration partners, social service and education providers, government entities, and reentry community partners participating. The 305 Second Chance job & Resource Expo provided returning citizens with job opportunities along with the resources and support they need to reintegrate into the community. Attendees met with second chance employers representing various sectors, including government, hospitality, social services, food service, and labor. Resources include assistance with fines and fees, voter registration, sealing & expungement review, housing, utility and basic needs assistance, health, and wellness resources and much more. The Miami Dolphins Foundation and Starbucks were sponsors of the event. Keeping with the theme of amplifying services and opportunities for returning citizens, the Miami Dolphins sponsored lunch for all attendees by funding food trucks owned and operated by second chance citizens.

*Peace & Prosperity Dashboard*

Led by the Information Technology Department (“ITD”), the County established a multi-agency partnership to develop an impact measurement data reporting tool that examines programs in real time and communicates transparently the true impact of the County’s public safety efforts. The project reached a critical milestone early this year with the completion of Data Lab in concert with Amazon Web Services (“AWS”). AWS-trained “builders” from ITD spent one week using data

collected by ONS from Peace & Prosperity Plan program leads to develop a functional prototype of this tool that consists of a series of dashboards that ONS can use to begin to tell a coherent and compelling story about the impact of programs and dollars spent on these programs. This is an extremely valuable function that will, over time, grow to enable real-time reporting and full transparency with the public, including residents and community-based organizations invested in neighborhood safety, and philanthropic partners (existing and potential) who could aid in the scaling of these efforts. The dashboard is projected to go live in Summer 2023.

**Youth Development Programs: Summer Youth Internship Program, Fit2Lead, District 9 Safety Net, Police Athletic League Youth Athletic and Mentoring Initiative, and Turn Around Police Academy**

*Summer Youth Internship Program (“SYIP”)*

SYIP is a partnership with the Children’s Trust, Miami-Dade County, Miami-Dade County Public Schools, the South Florida Workforce Investment Board d/b/a CareerSource South Florida, and the Foundation for New Education Initiatives, sponsors student internships annually at a variety of organizations over the course of the summer. In its 7th year, the County allocated \$1.7 million to SYIP (inclusive of a \$700,000 allocation via the Peace & Prosperity Plan) for its 2022 summer internship program. In April, the program partners embarked upon an aggressive outreach and marketing effort that resulted in the employment of 2,738 youth (filling 100% of internship slots), and the participation of more than 695 employers representing various sectors. Under the Plan, 350 additional slots were added to the program across the County. Summer 2022 highlights include:

- 3,484 youth applied
- 2,738 were enrolled and completed 418,843 hours
- 2116 (77%) qualified for free/reduced lunch and 808 (29%) were youth with exceptionalities
- 341 youth were dual enrolled and received Miami-Dade College or Florida International University credit, the highest number since the inception of SYIP
- 65 schools participated

Other important student demographic information includes: 43% of the participants were sixteen; 55% were in the eleventh grade; 33% were Black and 60% identified as female. Additionally, 44 youth interns were homeless, 120 were English Language Learners and 20 in foster care. A breakdown of participants by Commission District is provided below:

<b>District</b>	<b>Commissioner</b>	<b>Youth Served</b>
1	Oliver G. Gilbert, III	140
2	Marleine Bastien	172
3	Keon Hardemon	146
4	Micky Steinberg	241
5	Eileen Higgins	99
6	Kevin M. Cabrera	126
7	Raquel A. Regalado	113

8	Danielle Cohen Higgins	132
9	Kionne L. McGhee	487
10	Anthony Rodriguez	254
11	Roberto Gonzalez	236
12	Juan Carlos Bermudez	235
13	Rene Garcia	357
	<b>Total</b>	<b>2,738</b>

*PROS Fit2Lead-Internship Program*

The Fit2Lead Summer Internship Program, a seven-week program administered by PROS, began on June 20, 2022, and concluded on August 6, 2022. Five hundred youth participated with 475 (95%) completing the summer programming. Approximately half of the interns participated in the 2021-22 Fit2Lead Afterschool Enrichment program and the remaining were new applicants. The program received referrals from a variety of sources including JSD, Department of Juvenile Justice, Teen Court, law enforcement agencies, PROS’ staff, Miami-Dade County Public Schools (“MDCPS”), Commission offices, and community-based organizations.

Youth were assigned to several County departments and offices that include Animal Services, CAHSD, Cultural Affairs, Homeless Trust, JSD, Mayor’s Office, Miami-Dade Economic Advocacy Trust, MDPD, Miami-Dade Public Library System (“MDPLS”), PROS, PHCD, and Solid Waste Management. Community-based partners such as the Boys and Girls Club, Big Ideas, Empowering Youth, Hope for Miami, Prosperity, The Resource Room, Overtown Optimist, Mahogany Youth, Sant La Haitian Neighborhood Center, and Arts for Learning also played a significant role in providing meaningful internship opportunities for interns.

Enrichment and experiential learning were important components of the summer program. JSD offered several enrichment classes to interns that covered a variety of topics, including communication skills, self-care and mental health, addiction and the media, conflict resolution, recognizing and responding to peer pressure, and healthy dating. PROS staff from the Deering Estate and the University of Florida Institute of Food Agricultural Sciences, developed and presented the following in-person workshops:

- Wildlife Encounters
- Touch Tank / Ocean Conservation Outreach
- Invasive vs. Native Species
- Archaeology / The Tequesta’s
- Florida Landscaping

A breakdown of Summer 2022 youth participants by Commission District is provided below.

District	Commissioner	Allocated Slots	Youth Enrolled	Youth Completed
1	Oliver G. Gilbert, III	64.5	64	62
2	Marleine Bastien	101	101	95

3	Keon Hardemon	133	133	126
4	Micky Steinberg	8.5	9	7
5	Eileen Higgins	10.5	11	11
6	Kevin M. Cabrera	13	13	11
7	Raquel A. Regalado	4.5	4	4
8	Danielle Cohen Higgins	34.5	35	33
9	Kionne L. McGhee	90	90	89
10	Anthony Rodriquez	6.5	8	8
11	Roberto Gonzalez	10.5	9	9
12	Juan Carlos Bermudez	13	13	11
13	Rene Garcia	10.5	10	9
<b>Total</b>		<b>500</b>	<b>500</b>	<b>475</b>

The 2022-23 Fit2Lead Afterschool Internship program began on October 3, 2022, with more than 300 of the 400 slots filled. The Year 3 Plan funds 200 afterschool slots via the Anti-Gun Violence and Prosperity Initiatives Trust Fund and the remaining 200 slots are funded via PROS' general fund allocation. An additional 40 youth candidates are completing the onboarding process, and recruitment remains ongoing to fill all internship positions.

Both in-person and virtual enrichment classes and workshops continue to be an important component of the Fit2Lead Internship Program. The Afterschool Program enrichment menu of service has been expanded to include music (Guitars Over Guns), entrepreneurship (Dream Team Concepts), sailing (Fly Pelican Fly), fishing (Mahogany Outdoors), environmental and conservation education (PROS), communication skills, self-care, and mental health (JSD).

#### *District 9 Safety Net Leadership Institute*

District 9 Safety Net Leadership Institute administered by Greater Miami Service Corps ("GMSC") housed within CAHSD provides summer and afterschool programming to students ages 14-22. GMSC is using its allocated CDBG-CV3 funding to support program services. Fifty students are enrolled and receiving tutoring, mentoring, community services, workshops, and other positive youth development activities. The Safety Net Leadership Institute includes snacks, meals, transportation, and monthly attendance incentives.

Workshops included "Teen Talk Dialogue" sessions designed to build trusting relationships between police officers and youth. The dialogue between students and MDPD's South Dade District Officers allowed students and officers to gain a better understanding of each other and forge a respectful relationship and interaction.

The Safety Net Leadership Institute hosted an "Image is Power: Youth Empowerment Series," an intensive weeklong workshop designed to expose students to proper etiquette, dressing for success, and public speaking. The program partnered with Suited for Success, which provided professional attire for the students. The "Youth Empowerment Series" culminated with a formal dinner and



student presentations. Miami-Dade County Commissioner Kionne McGhee, District 9, served as the keynote speaker. Many students expressed that this was their first exposure to a formal dining setting or being dressed in professional attire.

Additional highlights include participation in “Are we Social Distancing from the Dream Martin Luther King Youth Symposium”; Hispanic Heritage Activities; and Common Threads cooking and nutrition program. Students also participated in a field trip to Xtreme Park, attended a Financial Management Training, and completed a Suicide Awareness and Prevention Workshop.

*Police Athletic League: Youth Athletic and Mentoring Initiative*

The Youth Athletic and Mentoring Initiative (“YAMI”) emphasizes the ideal of positive life choices, education, and involvement in sports, as opposed to destructive decisions and the negative outcomes associated with criminal activity, as well as the perils of “gang life.” MDPD’s Community Affairs Bureau’s Youth Outreach Unit successfully launched two YAMI summer camps which commenced on June 13, 2022 and ended on August 5, 2022. The camps were located at Jefferson Reaves Sr. Park (north) and Modello Park (south). Approximately 90 campers from both sites engaged in traditional weekday summer camp activities, participating in field trips to the Opa-Locka Airport, Super Wheels Skating Center, Bird Bowl Bowling Center, Game Time Miami, Launch Time, Deering Estate, Cobb Theaters, and Zoo Miami. Each camper received a camp t-shirt, water bottle, drawstring bag, baseball hat, and sweat towel; all with the YAMI logo. Participants shared their days alongside law enforcement personnel who continue to build trust and strengthen the relationships between youth and police. The YAMI summer camps were provided at no cost to participating families.

*Turn Around Police (“TAP”) Academy*

Launched in September 2021, TAP Academy is an intense 11-week program, offering a structured curriculum designed to transform arrested and at-risk youth perspective, encourage community service, and improve their relationship with law enforcement. The primary goal of the TAP Academy is to ensure that participants are provided with the guidance and tools to make positive and effective decisions. The curriculum includes interactive teaching that increases awareness of consequences for at-risk behaviors. TAP lessons, taught by uniformed MDPD police officers and community partners, encourage career-oriented thinking, build self-esteem, and discourage at-risk behaviors. The intense interaction with youth is designed to improve positive perceptions of police and establish bonds between law enforcement and the community in target neighborhoods. Participants are between the ages of 13 to 17.

Weekly sessions consist of topics such as:

- Drug/Alcohol Addiction, Gangs & Gun Violence
- Social Media Challenges
- Homicide/Deadly Violence Consequences
- Peer to Peer Perspective Interview
- Family Counseling
- Career Planning/Resumes & Applying for a Job
- Career Success/How to Dress & Mock Interviews
- Environmental Community Project

MDPD partners with JSD to provide a comprehensive approach to addressing the needs of TAP participants. Through JSD's administration of evidence-based tool, assessment results indicate that 41% of youth participants have substance abuse issues, 33% have family issues, and 62% have mental health issues. As a result, participants have been linked to community-based organizations that address their service needs. To date, 81% have completed their JSD Case Management Program.

To date, three cohorts of youth have completed the program. Participants were identified by JSD and recently entered the juvenile justice system with arrests, such as battery, criminal mischief, trespassing, and theft. The program is also open to at-risk juveniles receiving JSD services.

The fourth cohort commenced on Saturday, September 10, 2022, with 21 participants of which 13 completed and graduated from the program on Saturday, November 19, 2022. During this TAP Academy session, participants were taken to the Turner Guilford Knight Correctional Center to show participants the consequences that may occur if the wrong decisions are made. The TAP Academy also partnered with the Department of Regulatory and Economic Resources to assist TAP Academy participants in performing an improvement and betterment community project. JSD continues to provide referrals of at-risk and arrested youth who qualify for the program in preparation for the fifth cohort.

### **MDPD Initiatives: Intelligence Analysts and Crime Analysis Specialist 1, Operation Community Shield, and Project Green Light**

#### *Cyber-crime Investigation Intelligence Analysts and Police Crime Analysis Specialist 1*

MDPD has filled all four positions funded in the Year 2 Peace & Prosperity Plan to assist with cyber-crime investigations. Analysts are assigned to the Strategic Innovation and High Technology Crimes Section and are tasked with monitoring social media for indicators of gun violence and other criminal activity and following these channels to identify potential plans of action. Relevant information is forwarded to officers who can intervene, ideally before a crime occurs. Funding for the four positions are incorporated in the FY 2022-23 General Fund adopted budget.

#### *Operation Community Shield*

Operation Community Shield ("OCS"), formerly known as Operation Summer Heat, continues to yield results in curtailing gun violence in our community. OCS is a joint gun violence reduction initiative that brings together MDPD with local, state, and federal law enforcement agencies and prosecutorial agencies. Between June 4, 2021, and August 31, 2022, OCS removed 1,771 firearms, contributing to a decrease in shootings throughout the County.

From January 1, 2022, to August 31, 2022, MDPD continued to show a measurable impact in the decrease in shootings. Shootings are currently down by 3% in the Northside District, 44% in the Intracoastal District, and 18% in the South District, as compared to the same period in 2021.

<b>MDPD District Shootings January 1 to August 31</b>	<b><u>2020</u></b>	<b><u>2021</u></b>	<b><u>2022</u></b>	<b><u>% Change</u> 2020 vs 2022</b>	<b><u>% Change</u> 2021 vs 2022</b>
Intracoastal District	90	82	46	-49%	-44%
Northside District	175	143	139	-21%	-3%
Northwest District	10	8	13	30%	63%
Midwest District	16	17	22	38%	29%
Hammocks District	38	35	47	24%	34%
Kendall District	21	41	15	-29%	-63%
South District	257	159	130	-49%	-18%
<b>Totals</b>	<b>607</b>	<b>485</b>	<b>412</b>	<b>-32%</b>	<b>-15%</b>

OCS was originally funded \$2.5 million for a 12-week period. An additional \$12.5 million was granted to fund operational expenses and to extend the initiative through December 2, 2022.

*Project Green Light Miami-Dade*

Project Green Light Miami-Dade (“PGLMD”) is a public/private partnership to improve neighborhood safety and promote the revitalization and growth of local businesses. PGLMD is designed to deter, identify, and solve crime through the installation of high-definition cameras that provide video streaming from participating businesses to the Real-Time Crime Center (“RTCC”). The project is in its final stages of planning and implementation. MDPD recently hired an internal candidate as an Administrative Officer 3 in the Strategic Response Division of the RTCC to serve as project manager who will lead its implementation and provide project management and oversight functions throughout its duration.

PGLMD recently formed a partnership with Miami-Dade County Department of Transportation and Public Works to launch PGLMD at all Metrorail and Metromover stations with the installation of the Project Green Light signage and the signature flashing green lights. The RTCC currently has live stream camera connectivity at all exterior Metrorail and Metromover stations.

As it pertains to the business arm of the PGLMD initiative, Northside District has identified 16 businesses that are interested in participating, 12 of which are small businesses. South District has identified 28 businesses that are interested, 12 of which are small businesses. PGLMD will provide grant funding to qualifying small businesses to offset costs for equipment and related material to participate in the program. To finalize the onboarding of our community business partners, the participant agreements for PGLMD are currently under review for approval and the PGLMD grant and non-grant applications are in the final stages of development. In addition, the official PGLMD website is being updated and is nearing completion.

**Supplemental Initiatives: Miami-Dade County Hospital-based Violence Intervention Program, Case Management and Referral Program and White House Community Violence Intervention Collaborative**

*Miami-Dade County Hospital-based Violence Intervention Program (“HVIP”)*

Launched on December 1, 2021 under the leadership of JSD, HVIP, a component of Miami-Dade County’s Group Violence Intervention (“GVI”), is a partnership between Miami-Dade County, Ummah Futures International LLC, and Jackson Health System, which is home to the Ryder Trauma Center (“Ryder”). The HVIP partnership positions Master-level Social Workers and Licensed Clinical Social Workers to be stationed at Ryder when victims of gun violence enter the hospital. Social Workers provide a multi-disciplinary approach by working closely with hospital staff, GVI group violence interrupters, and other community-based organizations to address the needs of the victim, family members and others that are impacted by the incident. Services include assessments, crisis intervention, brief counseling, treatment planning, case staffing and relocation, utility, and food assistance.

Since its launch, HVIP has afforded those affected by group violence the opportunity to receive continuous lifesaving support, intervention, and care during critical time of need. The HVIP Clinical Data Coordinator, housed at Ryder, is the gunshot victim’s first point of contact and upon the client’s consent, service provision begins. To support a continuum of care from the hospital to the community, the Clinical Data Coordinator participates in Walking One Stops, Custom Notifications, weekly clinical staffing with HVIP’s social workers, discharge education meetings with the victim and their loved ones and shooting analyses. Under the care of HVIP’s social workers, 159 clients have received 439 services including 35 relocations of clients threatened with victimization and/or revictimization, 21 Fit2Lead placements, 71 mental health assessments and/or service referrals, and assistance with a total of 312 other applications for disability benefits, victim services, rent assistance, basic needs assistance, childcare, Medicaid, summer camps, as well as repairs to homes and automobiles affected by gunfire

HVIP is a collaborative effort encompassing Anti-Violence Initiative community partners that include MDPD, Street Outreach Team, Faith-based Coordinator, Jackson Health System, PHCD and CAHSD to assess the status of gun violence victims in the targeted communities during weekly Shooting Analysis Meetings and monthly AVI Collaborative Partnership Meetings.

*Case Management and Referral Program*

*Here Everyday Ready on Time (H.E.R.O) Truancy Prevention Program*

On March 21, 2017, the Board adopted Resolution No. R-300-17, which authorized Miami-Dade County’s participation in the Together for Children Program, a countywide collaboration that identified youth at highest risk of being victims or perpetrators of violence and their families. The Case Management and Referral Program, which has its origins in the Together for Children Program, addresses root causes of youth violence and promotes positive youth development to increase public safety through a continuum of comprehensive services. The Case Management Referral Program includes the following components: H.E.R.O Truancy Prevention Program, Middle and High School Aged Program, provided by JSD’s Prevention Program, and the One Stop

Educational and Community Service Centers. A description of the components, program outcomes for school year 2021-2022, and future goals are included in the summary below.

Elementary students and their families referred to the H.E.R.O. Truancy Prevention Program receive coordinated and corrective strategies to reengage children in the learning process and eliminate any barriers that may prevent daily school attendance. Intervention services include linkage to internal and external support services responsive to cultural and linguistic needs and address the student and family's underlying needs. The H.E.R.O. Truancy Prevention Program takes a person-centered approach by including the family in the decision-making process. A total of 16,161 elementary school children were contacted across the 39 schools, of which 9,652 participated in the H.E.R.O. Truancy Prevention Program through the response to intervention model. A total of 2,174 home visits were conducted, and 1,011 families participated in Truancy Child Study Team meetings. Additionally, 1,639 referrals/coordination of services were made to Community-Based Organizations, including The Children's Trust's Family and Neighborhood Support Partnerships and Family Strengthening providers.

#### *Middle and High School Aged Program*

The JSD Prevention Program provides culturally relevant evidence-based assessments and reduces risk factors by linking children to appropriate interventions and case management services. Each child's case is presented during multi-disciplinary staffing to ensure a balance between early-warning indicators, strengths and protective factors, and service needs. JSD case managers connect children and their families to community-based organizations to address substance abuse, mental health, family issues, educational services such as tutoring, or basic needs. Additionally, JSD connects children to prosocial activities to build on their strengths and those that can further develop interpersonal skills and soft skills through mentoring opportunities and job development. The Fit2Lead Internship Program and MDPD's TAP are valuable resources for program participants. The JSD Prevention Program received 209 referrals from the Middle and High School Aged Program. Of the 209 referred, 65 accepted case management services, 63 were linked to community-based services, and 13 continued with services previously in place. Evidence-based instruments identified 89% reported mental health concerns and 59% family issues. Seventy-eight percent of the JSD Prevention Program participants completed services.

#### *One-Stop Educational and Community Service Centers*

One-Stop Educational and Community Service Centers provide transitional onsite advisement and services to assist juvenile justice-involved children in enrolling in an appropriate educational setting. Referrals initiated by the court, school, community-based organizations, or walk-in requests receive a multi-disciplinary educational assessment and recommendations for support services. One-Stop Centers served 690 children across 57 schools. Ninety-six percent of the students were placed in an appropriate educational setting.

#### *White House Community Violence Intervention Collaborative*

Miami-Dade County is one of 16 jurisdictions across the United States participating in the White House Community Violence Intervention Collaborative ("CVIC") joined by Atlanta, GA, Austin, TX, Baltimore, MD, Baton Rouge, LA, Chicago, IL, Detroit, MI, Los Angeles, CA, Memphis, TN,

Minneapolis-St. Paul, MN, Newark, NJ, Philadelphia, PA, Rapid City, SD, Kings County, WA, St. Louis, MO, and Washington, DC. At no additional cost to the County, the four organizations leading and supporting the County's GVI strategy completed a comprehensive assessment and are receiving training and technical assistance in various community violence intervention strategies, including school-based programming, hospital-based violence intervention, and trauma recovery. ONS serves at the lead on this initiative.

Since the launch of CVIC, representatives from the four organizations participating in Miami-Dade County's AVI/GVI with "boots on the ground" (Ummah Futures International, Inc., Circle of Brotherhood, Johnny Barber Ministries and Community Youth Against Violence) attended a two-day Peer Exchange in Newark, New Jersey to learn from about best practices from the Newark Community Street Team and the work in their portfolio and completed Representatives participated in both in-person and virtual trainings that covered topics such as trauma recovery, deescalating aggressive behavior, recognizing and understanding dispute vs. conflicts; Safe Passage best practices, philanthropy, data management, workforce development and wellness, and understanding federal earmarks.

Additionally, the organizations were provided with \$5,000 each from CVIC to build capacity and received technical assistance with preparing grant proposals. The Circle of Brotherhood received technical assistance in preparing and submitting a grant application to the Department of Justice and was awarded \$2 million to provide CVI services with several community groups, including Behind the Bars, Dade County Street Response, and Dream Defenders, in underserved neighborhoods in Miami-Dade County.

### **Conclusion**

The Peace & Prosperity Plan and its supplemental efforts are having a positive impact on gun violence in our County. Through a prevention and intervention approach, at-risk youth and their families are provided with individualized services that are responsive to the needs of the household. The Year 3 Plan hones in on best practices with a keen focus on mental wellness for Fit2Lead participants, increases investment in neighborhood participation via the Safe in the 305 grant program, and builds trust in neighborhoods through an increase in initiatives for youth and mom and pop businesses impacted by violence, specifically gun violence. Through the Office of Neighborhood Safety, my Administration will continue to leverage resources and opportunities to further strengthen Miami-Dade County's community violence intervention infrastructure to combat gun violence and create safer neighborhoods for all.

Should you require additional information, please contact Annika S. Holder, Director of the Office of Neighborhood Safety, at (786) 469-4716 or [annika.holder@miamidade.gov](mailto:annika.holder@miamidade.gov).

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## Peace & Prosperity Plan Attachment A



Department	Program Name	Program Term	Funding	FY 2020-21 Actuals	FY 2021-22 Original Budget	FY 2021-22 Budget W/ Carryover*	FY 2021-22 YTD Actuals as of 09/30/2022	Comments	
Juvenile Services	Fit 2 Lead	October 1, 2021	Trust Fund	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 100,000	\$ 100,000	\$ -	All funds carried over to FY22-23 (Year 3 P&PP)
Miami-Dade Police Department	MDPD Youth Athletic and Mentoring Initiative	June 14, 2021	Naming Rights Revenue	30,000	30,000	308,000	308,000	195,598	
Miami-Dade Police Department	MDPD Intelligence Analysts	October 1, 2021	Naming Rights Revenue	-	-	341,676	341,676	232,828	Balance carried over to FY22-23 for Fit2Lead ( Year 3 P & PP)- positions funded via MDPD general fund in FY22-23
Miami-Dade Police Department	MDPD Turn Around Police Academy	August 2021/March 2022	Naming Rights Revenue	44,000	-	106,000	150,000	109,455	
Parks, Recreation and Open Spaces	Fit2Lead (mentoring program)	June 1, 2021	Naming Rights Revenue	1,094,626	614,045	3,269,174	3,749,755	2,982,498	Balance carried over to FY22-23 (Year 3 P & PP)
Public Housing and Community Development	Revitalization and Economic Development	June 1, 2021	PHCD and CDBG Funding	18,300,000	-	13,800,000	32,100,000	5,988,606	FY20-21 funds allocated to various programs through the 2021 Consolidated Planning Annual Action Plan
Non-Departmental	Summer Youth Internship Program	Summer 2021/Summer 2022	Naming Rights Revenue	800,000	800,000	700,000	700,000	700,000	
Non-Departmental	Safe in the 305 Community Grant	October 1, 2021	Naming Rights Revenue	-	-	50,000	50,000	48,750	
Non-Departmental	Public Safety Tool Kit	October 1, 2021	Naming Rights Revenue	-	-	50,000	50,000	-	
Non-Departmental	Project Greenlight	October 1, 2021	Naming Rights Revenue	-	-	300,000	300,000	-	Funds carried over to FY 22-23 (Year 3 P& PP)
Non-Departmental	Fit 2 Lead	October 1, 2021	FTX Foundation	-	-	150,000	150,000	50,000	Independent Evaluation
Non-Departmental	Independent Evaluation	Ongoing	Naming Rights Revenue	50,000	-	75,000	125,000	-	\$50,000 carried over to FY22-23 for Fit2Lead and \$75,000 for Safe in the 305 (Year 3 P&PP)
<b>Total including PHCD</b>				<b>\$ 20,318,626</b>	<b>\$ 1,444,045</b>	<b>\$ 19,249,850</b>	<b>\$ 38,124,431</b>	<b>\$ 10,307,735</b>	
<b>Annual Total excluding PHCD</b>				<b>\$ 2,018,626</b>	<b>\$ 1,444,045</b>	<b>\$ 5,449,850</b>	<b>\$ 6,024,431</b>	<b>\$ 4,319,129</b>	

\*Includes carryover from FY 2020-21 unspent expenditures

Note: \$300K Pending Mental Health Funding was not realized and \$311K in Genrral Fund for the State Attorney's Office was removed from the budget.



# Attachment B

November 2022

## Initial Review of the Impact of Parts of the Miami-Dade County Peace & Prosperity Plan: Independent Year 1 Evaluation Report

Submitted to Miami-Dade County Office of Neighborhood Safety and FTX Philanthropy, Inc.

By The Melissa Institute for Violence Prevention & Treatment<sup>1</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> TMI's evaluation team: Alexis A. Piquero, Ph.D., Professor & Chair, Department of Sociology & Criminology, University of Miami and Etiony Aldarondo, Ph.D., Executive Director, The Melissa Institute for Violence Prevention & Treatment, 1507 Levante Avenue, Coral Gables, FL 33186 ([www.melissainstitute.org](http://www.melissainstitute.org)).

On August 15, 2022, Dr. Piquero was sworn in as Director of the Bureau of Justice Statistics within the Department of Justice Office of Justice Programs. He is currently on leave from The University of Miami and The Melissa Institute's Scientific Board.

Recommended citation: The Melissa Institute for Violence Prevention & Treatment Evaluation Team (2022). *Initial Review of the Impact of Parts of the Miami-Dade County Peace & Prosperity Plan: Independent Year 1 Evaluation Report*. Miami, FL: The Melissa Institute for Violence Prevention & Treatment.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY..... 3

    KEY FINDINGS ..... 3

INTRODUCTION AND BACKGROUND INFORMATION..... 4

CONTEXT OF THE INDEPENDENT EVALUATION ..... 5

OVERVIEW OF THE YEAR 1 EVALUATION ..... 5

EVALUATION PART I: THE IMPACT OF OPERATION SUMMER HEAT AND OPERATION COMMUNITY SHIELD ON MIAMI-DADE SHOOTINGS ..... 6

    RESULTS PART I..... 7

EVALUATION PART II: THE IMPACT OF OPERATION SUMMER HEAT AND OPERATION COMMUNITY SHIELD ON MIAMI-DADE HOMICIDES ..... 8

    RESULTS PART II..... 8

EVALUATION PART III: FIT2LEAD SUMMER FELLOWSHIP AND AFTERSCHOOL ENRICHMENT AND INTERNSHIP PROGRAM ..... 10

    RESULTS PART III..... 10

SUMMARY ..... 11

RECOMMENDATIONS..... 12

FIGURES & TABLES ..... 15

REFERENCES ..... 19

APPENDIX A ..... 20

## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

In June 2021, Miami-Dade County Mayor Daniella Levine Cava's Administration launched the Peace & Prosperity Plan (the "Plan"), an anti-gun violence and prosperity initiative developed in response to Resolution No. R-238-21 and unanimously approved in Resolution No. R-577-21 by the Miami-Dade Board of County Commissioners. The Plan was developed with input by Commissioners, staff, local community leaders, and national experts. The Plan leverages evidence-based and best practice-driven programs to address known causes of gun violence and poverty. It does so through a strategic prevention, intervention, and reentry approach that looks at the whole child, family, and community, with a focus on the neighborhoods most affected, and addresses the social and economic disparities at the root of gun violence.<sup>2</sup>

The Year 1 Peace & Prosperity Plan included an independent evaluation of (1) reduction in gun homicides<sup>3</sup> (2) reductions in shootings, and (3) recidivism rates among participants of the Plan's various programs. The Plan recognizes that evaluations of programmatic efforts and public policies are essential not only to determine their effectiveness with the desired outcome (i.e., reduction in homicides), but also for identifying if they do not work. Accordingly, the Plan is to be reviewed annually and modified based on total allocated funding, community needs, and impact.

The Year 1 evaluation was financially supported by FTX Philanthropy, Inc. ("FTX Foundation"). The agreement between the FTX Foundation and The Melissa Institute for Violence Prevention & Treatment ("TMI") to conduct an independent Year 1 evaluation of Miami-Dade County's Peace & Prosperity Plan was executed on July 20, 2022.

This report includes analysis for the Year 1 evaluation of the Plan. It is important to note that the Plan years are aligned with Miami-Dade County's fiscal years (October 1 to September 30), not calendar years. For that reason, the Year 1 evaluation is limited to interventions that took place during fiscal year 2020-2021 (June 8, 2021 to September 30, 2021) and the first quarter of the fiscal year 2021-22 (October 1, 2021 to December 31, 2021), a timeframe that was extended to ensure that data for additional months could be incorporated into the evaluation.

Accordingly, the Year 1 evaluation covers three principal programmatic strategies that were in place from the outset of the passage of the Plan on June 8, 2021 through December 31, 2021. This initial data set creates an important first look at the initial roll-out of key aspects of the Plan and supplemental initiative(s). Lessons learned from the initial roll out of the Plan through the end of 2021 will help the County moving forward with both its programming and evaluation processes.

## KEY FINDINGS

The Year 1 implementation of the Peace & Prosperity Plan was associated with observed reductions in both shootings and homicides. Specifically, both Operation Summer Heat and Operation Community Shield showed significant effects on shootings, indicating that the start of the operations was associated with a decline in shootings—a 41.76% decrease in the number of shootings in Unincorporated Miami-Dade County during the 30 weeks following the roll-out of

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<sup>2</sup> Peace & Prosperity Plan available at <https://www.miamidade.gov/global/government/mayor/peace-and-prosperity/home.pag>.

<sup>3</sup> Homicides as referenced throughout this document are gunshot wound related homicides, not homicides in general and homicides countywide including municipalities.

Operation Summer Heat compared to the 30 weeks prior to the start of the initiative. The number of homicides across Miami-Dade County, including municipalities, from June 2021 through December 2021 was lower than the previous five months of 2021 as well as the same monthly time period in the year 2020. Moreover, the start of Operation Summer Heat was associated with a significant decrease in homicides in the seven-month follow-up period.

The fact that both shootings and homicides declined soon after various components of the Plan were put into effect is convincing that the implementation of the Plan was associated with the observed reductions, although from an analytical perspective we are prevented from stating that the implementation of the Plan caused the observed reductions.

Concerning the impact of Fit2Lead, the data showed that program participants reported a high level of satisfaction with the internship experience and the quality of the program. Specifically, participants reported the internship experience to be relevant to their career goals and to have had a positive supervisory experience, while expressing the desire to return to the program the following summer. Among the various parts of the Fit2Lead program, respondents indicated that “working with children” was their favorite part of their job, followed by getting “experience for resume” and “working with children their age.”

## INTRODUCTION AND BACKGROUND INFORMATION

The Peace & Prosperity Plan is an anti-gun violence and economic prosperity initiative to combine research-based knowledge and best practices to address known causes of gun violence and poverty. The Plan aims to address the social and economic disparities at the root of gun violence and takes a strategic prevention, intervention, and reentry approach to promote the safety and well-being of children, families, and communities, with a focus on the most affected neighborhoods.

The Plan is anchored in \$90 million in funding over 19 years available through an agreement with West Realm Shires Services, Inc dba FTX.US (“FTX”) for the sale of the naming rights of the County-owned arena. As noted in the Plan official document: “The Plan encompasses a short- and long-term strategy, including programs to have immediate impact on high-risk youth; an independent evaluation to ensure that the most effective efforts guide future investments; and leveraging outside resources to expand the impact of the FTX dollars by addressing the causes and symptoms of violence and poverty.”

The Plan focuses on five key impact areas:

- Prevention: job creation, internships and apprenticeships, support for families, counseling and enrichment programs, and one-stop, comprehensive neighborhood service centers
- Intervention: alternative programs including education, training, redirection, treatment, and intervention practices such as stemming retaliatory shootings, making inroads in the community to prevent new shootings, ceasefires, mediation, and conflict resolution
- Reentry: programs for returning citizens that are focused on job training, placement, supportive housing, rights restoration, and counseling

- Community revitalization: investing in chronically underserved communities and addressing neighborhood blight through remediation, beautification, and the acceleration of critical public works improvements
- Economic investment: small business development, job creation, community wealth building, and access to housing that is affordable and attainable

## CONTEXT OF THE INDEPENDENT EVALUATION

The Year 1 Plan asked for an independent evaluation of (1) reduction in homicides, (2) reductions in shootings, and (3) recidivism rates among participants of the Plan’s various programs. The Plan recognizes that evaluations of programmatic efforts and public policies are essential not only to determine their effectiveness with the desired outcome (i.e., reduction in homicides), but also for identifying if they do not work. Accordingly, the Plan is to be reviewed annually and modified based on total allocated funding, community needs, and impact.

The scope of the Year 1 evaluation was developed over a period of six months by the leadership in Miami-Dade County including the Office of Neighborhood Safety (ONS), and Dr. Alexis Piquero and Dr. Etiony Aldarondo of The Melissa Institute for Violence Prevention & Treatment (TMI). Preliminary discussions began in mid-November 2021 followed by biweekly meetings with ONS and County stakeholders starting in March 2022. During this time, efforts were made to situate relevant homicide by a firearm and shooting data as well as data from key programs in Year 1 of the Plan. The final scope of work was confirmed on June 16, 2022.

The Year 1 evaluation was financially supported by the FTX Foundation. The agreement between the FTX Foundation and TMI to conduct an independent Year 1 evaluation of Miami-Dade County’s Peace & Prosperity Plan was executed on July 20, 2022.

## OVERVIEW OF THE YEAR 1 EVALUATION

Public safety was deemed a priority from the start for Mayor Daniella Levine Cava’s administration and reaffirmed by the survey results of close to 27,000 residents that anchored Thrive 305, the largest civic engagement effort in County history. The Peace & Prosperity Plan was formulated following a sharp increase in violence, especially shootings and homicides that occurred in the middle of Winter and Spring in 2021. After an almost 20-year period of declining crime and violence both nationwide and locally in Miami-Dade County, 2020 and 2021 saw significant spikes in community gun violence that have been linked to the COVID-19 pandemic (Rosenfeld and Lopez, 2021; Piquero, 2021). Within this context, Mayor Daniella Levine Cava, in consultation with Commissioners, staff, local community leaders, and national experts, put together a forward-thinking plan that became the Peace & Prosperity Plan, a multiyear, multimillion-dollar effort aimed to address underlying causes of gun violence and poverty, thus improving the quality of life for Miami-Dade County residents.

At the outset, a significant aspect of the Plan’s efforts involved engaging the Miami-Dade Police Department (“MDPD”), who outlined an initiative originally known as Operation Summer Heat on June 3, 2021 that was focused on targeted hot spots and violent offenders as part of an effort to get guns off the street and violence reigned in. Operation Summer Heat, though led by MDPD,

also engaged other police agencies throughout the area, including the City of Miami, Miami Gardens, and Miami Beach police departments. The effort eventually morphed into Operation Community Shield in early October 2021. These supplemental initiatives are included in the independent evaluation due to their alignment with the Plan.

Separately, the Plan’s flagship program, Fit2Lead, was an initiative of the Miami-Dade County Parks, Recreation and Open Spaces (PROS). This long-standing, evidence-based program engages young people during the summer (and then throughout the school year) in paid internship opportunities and an array of activities that seek to improve emotional control, social skills, and reduce the likelihood of antisocial behavior.

This document includes analyses for the Year 1 evaluation of the Plan. As previously mentioned, it is important to note that the Plan years are aligned with fiscal years, not calendar or programmatic years. For that reason, the Year 1 evaluation is limited to interventions that took place during a portion of fiscal year 2020-21 (June 8, 2021 to September 30, 2021) and for the first quarter of fiscal year 2021-22 (October 1 to December 31), a timeframe that was extended to ensure that data for additional months could be incorporated into the evaluation.

Accordingly, the Year 1 evaluation covers three principal programmatic strategies that were in place from the outset of the passage of the Plan from June 8, 2021 through December 31, 2021. While this is not one full year in the traditional sense and the information available for this report covers a short time period, it does permit an initial review of key aspects of the Plan’s strategy. Lessons learned from the initial roll out of the Plan through the end of 2021 will be of help as the County continues moving forward with both its programming and evaluation processes.

## EVALUATION PART I: THE IMPACT OF OPERATION SUMMER HEAT AND OPERATION COMMUNITY SHIELD ON MIAMI-DADE SHOOTINGS

This part of the evaluation focuses on the impact of both MDPD interventions that were rolled out in the Summer and Fall of 2021, respectively: Operation Summer Heat and Operation Community Shield.<sup>4</sup> Anytime there is an intervention of some sort, or a policy change, a common approach is to perform an interrupted or intervention-based time series analysis— better referred to as ARIMA (Auto-Regressive Integrated Moving Average) with specifications corresponding to three specific parameters: p (the number of autoregressive terms), d (number of non-seasonal differences needed for stationarity), and q (number of lagged forecast errors in the predicted equation).<sup>5</sup> In this case, these analyses involve shootings collected by the MDPD, before and after a policy intervention is introduced.

To examine the impact of these policy initiatives, or what are referred to as intervention points, we need to have a substantial period of time before the intervention to capture a baseline of the behavior being modeled. For present purposes, MDPD provided shooting data per week starting

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<sup>4</sup> As previously indicated, in Fall 2021 Operation Summer Heat morphed into Operation Community Shield. However, for the purposes of the Year 1 evaluation, they must be treated as two initiatives with discrete intervention points.

<sup>5</sup> The ARIMA model (an acronym for Auto-Regressive Integrated Moving Average), essentially creates a linear equation which describes and forecasts your time series data, essentially creates a linear equation which describes and forecasts your time series data.

in January 2020 through the end of December 2021. Recall that Operation Summer Heat went into effect in early June 2021 (June 10 for modeling purposes) while Operation Community Shield began in October 2021 (October 15 for modeling purposes).<sup>6</sup>

To be as authoritative as possible, the analyses are presented using both raw counts as well as a smoothing procedure (using the Hodrick-Prescott high-pass filter) to separate the shooting time series into trend and cyclical components and smooth out spikes in the data series. All models include controls for months and years. All analyses were performed in STATA 16.1.

## RESULTS PART I

### Highlights

- Both Operation Summer Heat and Operation Community Shield showed significant effects on shootings indicating that the start of the operations were associated with a decline in shootings.
- There was a 41.76% decrease in the number of shootings in Unincorporated Miami-Dade County during the 30 weeks following the roll-out of Operation Summer Heat compared to the 30 weeks prior to the start of the policy.

### Data & Methods

Figure 1 presents the shootings in Unincorporated Miami-Dade County over the period of time under investigation (January 2020 through December 2021) along with two vertical lines depicting the two interventions. As can be seen, prior to Operation Summer Heat there were a high number of shootings, and with each intervention—but especially with Operation Summer Heat—the number of shootings appears to drop. This visual evidence is suggestive but not confirmatory of an intervention effect, which can only be determined via the results of a statistical analysis, (i.e., the ARIMA model procedure described above).

Table 1 presents the substantive results from the ARIMA regression model. As can be seen, regardless of whether the time series was modeled using raw counts or the smoothed trend (shown in Figure 2), the substantive result is the same: the coefficients for both Operation Summer Heat and Operation Community Shield exhibited negative and significant effects on shootings, indicating that the start of Operation Summer Heat – and its morphing into Operation Community Shield – was associated with a decline in shootings, even after controlling for the

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<sup>6</sup> For analytical reasons, it is important to note that there are several different ways that time series data can be modeled. As a result, several preliminary steps need to be taken to examine the data, whether it is stationary (or not), and so forth. These types of decisions, in turn, are directly put into the model specification. Important as well, as is the case in these and most other types of statistical analyses, a few different models may be specified and provide relevant output and estimation. For background purposes, a number of diagnostic tests and alternative model specifications, assessing for autocorrelation (including the number of lags) as well as moving averages were undertaken, and the best fitting model was an ARIMA (1,0,0), which corresponds to first order autoregressive model in which the series is stationary and autocorrelated (predicted as a multiple of its own previous value). As noted, a series of preliminary analyses were conducted to investigate aspects of the ARIMA parameterization.

These results indicated that the data were stationary (via the Dickey Fuller Test as well as a correlogram) and that an AR(1) model is potentially indicated via the partial autocorrelation test which showed a single spike at the first lag with the ACF indicating a tapering pattern.

autoregressive component as well as the month and year control parameters.

When comparing the two parameter estimates, it is important to note that the effect of Operation Summer Heat on shootings was larger (stronger) than what it was for the Operation Community Shield coefficient. This is likely the case for at least two reasons: (1) shootings were quite high just prior to the implementation of Operation Summer Heat and (2) the trend in shootings was already declining prior to the initiation of Operation Community Shield and there were not many observations (units of time available for analysis) for the post-Operation Community Shield intervention where shootings were continuing to decline.<sup>7</sup>

As a final way to ease interpretation, one could also calculate the percentage change in the number of shootings before the MDPD's policy initiative, starting with Operation Summer Heat in June 2021, to the number of shootings after the initiative. Because there were 30 weeks of observation starting with the implementation of Operation Summer Heat through the end of 2021, one needs to take the same number of observation time periods prior to the onset of Operation Summer Heat to arrive at an equal time period for which to compare the changes in shootings. Thus, the post-Operation Summer Heat period is from June 10, 2021 through December 31, 2021, for which MDPD reported 311 shootings. This is compared to the 30 weeks prior to the implementation of Operation Summer Heat (November 12, 2020 through June 9, 2021), for which MDPD reported 534 shootings. Calculating the percent-change<sup>8</sup> between the number of pre and post shootings, there was a 41.76% decrease in the number of shootings in the 30 weeks following the roll-out of Operation Summer Heat compared to the 30 weeks prior to the start of the initiative.

## EVALUATION PART II: THE IMPACT OF OPERATION SUMMER HEAT AND OPERATION COMMUNITY SHIELD ON MIAMI-DADE GUN-RELATED HOMICIDES

In the next section of this report, we examine the changes in gun-related homicides beginning from January 2020 through December 2021, with a focus on the intervention period of June 2021 through December 2021, that coincides with the MDPD roll-out of Operation Summer Heat in early June 2021 that then transitioned to Operation Community Shield in October 2021. Please note that in this report we look only at gun-related homicides or homicides by a firearm. Other forms of homicides such as vehicular are not included in these numbers.

### RESULTS PART II

#### Highlights

- The number of homicides across Miami-Dade County, including municipalities from June 2021 through December 2021 was lower than the previous five months of 2021 as well as the same monthly time period in the year 2020.

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<sup>7</sup> To be sure, any time series intervention-based analysis is limited by the variables available and other things that were going on that were not measured could have had an effect on the shooting patterns, but the results here are quite convincing and in line with traditional time series approaches.

<sup>8</sup> The percent-change is calculated by  $(V2 - V1) / V1 * 100$ , where V2 is the number of Post-Operation Summer Heat shootings and V1 is the number of Pre-Operation Summer Heat shootings. More specifically,  $((311 - 534) / 534) * 100$ .



- The start of Operation Summer Heat was associated with a significant decrease in homicides in the seven-month follow-up period.
- Although from an analytical perspective we cannot say that Operation Summer Heat and Operation Community Shield led to the observed reduction in homicides, the fact that both shootings and homicides declined soon after their implementation is convincing that these interventions were associated with this reduction.

#### Data & Methods

Figure 3 displays the trend in homicides from June 2021 through December 2021 across Miami-Dade County including municipalities. It is worth noting that, like much of the United States, 2020 was a very violent year, especially in the period following the pandemic. Miami-Dade County was not spared the increase in homicides during this period. For example, between January and May of 2020, Miami-Dade experienced 80 homicides, which was followed by another 146 in the period from June through December of 2020. Then, in the beginning of 2021, from January through May, the County had 108 homicides, but from June through December 2021, there were 82 homicides. Thus, the June through December 2021 period was lower than the previous five months of 2021 as well as the same monthly time period in the prior year (2020).<sup>9</sup> Importantly, according to MDPD data the same trend was observed in Unincorporated Miami-Dade County, which experienced 44 homicides between January and May of 2020, followed by 69 homicides from June through December of 2020, 50 homicides from January through May of 2021, and 43 homicides from June through December 2021.

The drop off seen in Figure 3 is merely descriptive, so we must turn our attention to an intervention time series analysis. After a series of preliminary modeling analyses, including tests for autocorrelation, heteroskedasticity, and moving averages, two models were estimated: (1) an ARIMA (0,0,0) and (2) an ARIMA (1,0,0). To be sure, this was conservative insofar as there was not strong evidence of autocorrelation in these data. Nevertheless, both ARIMA models were estimated, and the results were not substantively different regarding the association between the intervention and homicides. As well, models with and without controls for time (each month) did not alter the substantive conclusion regarding the association between the intervention and homicides. Therefore, the results are presented for an ARIMA (0,0,0) without the time control shown. These results may be found in Table 1.

In short, the ARIMA results indicate that Operation Summer Heat, marked as occurring in June 2021, was associated with a significant decrease in homicides in the seven-month follow-up period. It is cautionary to note, of course, that this result implies an association between the intervention and homicides, and not definitive evidence of a singular cause of the decrease because of other competing interventions. Thus, although from an analytical perspective we cannot say that the MDPD efforts led to the observed reduction in homicides, the fact that both

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<sup>9</sup>Time series analysis (TSA) is a specific way of analyzing a sequence of data points collected over an interval of time. In TSA, analysts record data points at consistent intervals over a set period of time rather than just recording the data points intermittently or randomly. TSA typically requires a large number of data points to ensure consistency and reliability. It also ensures that any trends or patterns discovered are not outliers and can account for seasonal variance.

shootings and homicides declined soon after Operation Summer Heat (and then Operation Community Shield) was implemented is convincing that the MDPD efforts were associated with this reduction.

## EVALUATION PART III: FIT2LEAD SUMMER FELLOWSHIP AND AFTERSCHOOL ENRICHMENT AND INTERNSHIP PROGRAM

This part of the evaluation focuses on the Miami-Dade County Parks, Recreation and Open Spaces Fit2Lead program, the flagship program of the Plan and long-standing award winning, evidence-based program centered on internship experiences for youth ages 15-19. Through the Peace & Prosperity Plan, the Fit2Lead program was enhanced and expanded to serve youth at-risk, youth already involved in the juvenile justice system, and youth who may have identified disabilities or are neurodivergent, thus requiring different methods of learning and processing information. The program provides paid work opportunities to young people to acquire and practice skills through recreation activities and workshops promoting social and emotional well-being, mental health, and long-term academic and behavior improvement. As part of the Plan, the Fit2Lead hourly wage paid to interns was increased from \$9.08 to \$13.88 per hour to make the program more attractive. As part of its internship program, Fit2Lead hopes to address a wide range of individual characteristics aimed at self-efficacy, behavioral issues, perceived stress, adoption of the street code, locus of control, and food security. Although its focus is not entirely on crime prevention, the individual-centered aspects that it hopes to impact are both singularly and collectively associated with antisocial and other adverse behaviors. Year 1 evaluation Fit2Lead data included participants' descriptive information and program satisfaction data obtained through a 9-item self-report survey completed by program participants. PROS staff, with input from Dr. Alexis Piquero, developed a before-and-after survey to measure changes in self-efficacy, perceived stress, adoption to the street code, locus of control, food security, and antisocial behavior/delinquency, as a result of participation in the program. Data collection using the expanded survey began in 2022 and will be available for subsequent evaluation reports.

## RESULTS PART III

### Highlights

- Fit2Lead program participants reported a high level of satisfaction with the internship experience and the quality of the program.
- Participants reported the experience to be relevant to their career goals.
- Participants reported having a positive supervisory experience.
- All participants expressed the desire to return to the program the following summer.
- Among the various parts of the internship experience, participants said that “working with children” was their favorite part of their job, followed by getting “experience for resume” and “working with children their age.”

### Data & Methods

A total of 134 participants completed the Fit2Lead program-designed survey over the course of

the summer of 2021. In terms of demographics, 64% of participants reported being 16 years old, 25% 17 years old, and 11% 18 years old. Seventy-five percent and 25% of the participants identified themselves as female or male, respectively.

In response to the question “What was your favorite part of your job?”, the top three responses were “working with children” (42%), obtaining “experience for resume” (19%), and “working with children their age” (16%). “Working outside”, “sports and recreation”, and “salary” were endorsed as the favorite part of the job by 10%, 9%, and 4% of the participants, respectively. Nearly 100% of program participants reported being “satisfied” or “very satisfied” with both the internship experience and the quality of the program. In terms of reported satisfaction with specific aspects of the internship experience, they either “strongly agreed” or “agreed” that they enjoyed working in the Fit2Lead Summer Internship Program, felt their supervisor was accessible and treated them fairly, that the park was a good place to work, that they would like to work at the park next summer, and the internship experience was relevant to their career goals.<sup>10</sup>

## SUMMARY

The Peace & Prosperity Plan is an ambitious, evidenced-based plan not only to improve public safety, but to improve the lives and opportunities afforded to residents of Miami-Dade County to build a safer, more prosperous community in the long term. The Plan’s programmatic features contain a range of activities including community grants and investments, leadership development and employment for youth, reentry services for justice-involved individuals, and a supplemental policing initiative which in its first year was focused on areas most impacted by gun violence. Now known as Operation Community Shield, this MDPD initiative and its effect on shootings and homicides was an important focus of this evaluation. The interrupted time series analysis undertaken showed that the number of shootings decreased after implementation of both Operation Summer Heat and Operation Community Shield, and the statistical estimates remained significant after taking into consideration month and year controls. An additional analysis revealed that the number of shootings decreased by over 40% in the 30 weeks after Operation Summer Heat and Operation Community Shield were put into place compared to the 30 weeks prior to programmatic implementation.

Consistent with the findings of significant reductions in the number of shootings, the interrupted time series analysis showed that the number of homicides decreased after implementation of both Operation Summer Heat and Operation Community Shield.

This evaluation cannot assess what specific aspects of MDPD’s program were the most strongly associated with the decrease in shootings and homicides, and this is the case in large part due to operational and security reasons that cannot be disclosed, but other aspects of their efforts could also be assessed in future work (e.g., number of guns seized, etc.). Also, it is not possible to fully state that the MDPD program and the MDPD program alone was the cause of the decrease in shootings. This caution must be noted because other aspects of the Plan were in place (or being implemented) and other local factors may have also come into play.

Nevertheless, the timing of the drop in shootings and homicides and the sustained decrease in

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<sup>10</sup> The Fit2Lead program has expanded to over 10 County Departments and several non-profit organizations, providing a plethora of internship opportunities for youth in Miami-Dade County

shootings—at least through the end of 2021—provides evidence that the program had some impact on shootings and homicides. In short, the results of this part of the evaluation are consistent with the MDPD’s initiative having some impact on the number of shootings and homicides in Miami-Dade County.

Another focus of this evaluation was the engagement of high-risk youth in the Fit2Lead internship program and the potential impact of the program on the youth’s social-emotional skills, prosocial behaviors, and developmental assets needed for a non-violent life. Although the Fit2Lead program focus is not entirely on crime prevention, the individual aspects that it hopes to impact are associated with antisocial and other adverse behaviors. The available data for the Year 1 evaluation suggests that Fit2Lead does a good job engaging young people and generating positive and potentially growth-promoting experiences. Subsequent analysis relying on the more expansive Fit2Lead assessment data are needed to properly evaluate the impact of this program experience for the stated purposes of the Plan.

## RECOMMENDATIONS

Going forward, it will be important to continue monitoring the impact of MDPD’s role on public safety in concert with other aspects of the Peace & Prosperity Plan. A solid public safety approach utilizes both police and non-police strategies (Council on Criminal Justice, 2022). It is important that the Office of Neighborhood Safety, the Office of the Mayor, the Board of County Commissioners, and other stakeholders, including constituents continue down the path of using evidence-based strategies and engaging in the rigorous evaluation needed to assess their performance and make any modifications that are necessary. Doing so will generate strong research-based knowledge to anchor gun violence and crime reduction public policies in Miami-Dade County for years to come.

**Recommended Action 1:** Rigorous evaluation of public policies and programs requires access to appropriate data. Future years must involve strengthening and consolidating the structure and processes for generating, storing, and managing the data needed to evaluate the policies, services and programs selected to address the five Miami-Dade County Peace & Prosperity Impact Areas (i.e., prevention, intervention, reentry, economic investment, and community revitalization). **A targeted investment in the evaluation process is recommended to identify barriers to data collection and analysis in a timely fashion as well as to provide valuable information for the implementation of services and programs.** A planful approach to data collection leads to stronger, more reliable, and sustainable services, programs, and public policies.

**Recommended Action 2:** As noted in the original Peace & Prosperity Plan, a critical need continues to exist for the collection, standardization, and sharing of gun violence data across all municipalities in Miami-Dade County. **It is recommended that Miami-Dade County develop a centralized database and standardized data sharing system that will provide a comprehensive look at gun violence countywide, including the municipalities.** In addition to assisting in evaluation efforts, doing so will help inform public policy, resource allocation and ultimately decision-making by elected officials, law enforcement agencies, and community partners in the collective effort to reduce violence in communities.

**Recommended Action 3:** It is recommended that future evaluation efforts include data collected with the expanded Fit2Lead questionnaire to better assess the impact of the internship program on the youth's social-emotional skills, prosocial behaviors, and developmental assets needed for non-violent life (see appendix A).

**Recommended Action 4:** In addition, it is recommended that the Juvenile Services Department assessment and linkage to services data be included in future evaluations. This is an important part of the wrap-around model proposed by Mayor Daniella Levine Cava. The assessment will include measures of Adverse Childhood Experiences, Youth Level of Severity (risk to offend), and the GAIN-Q, which is an evidence-based clinical protocol.

**Recommended Action 5:** Future evaluation efforts must also focus on initiatives like the *Safe in the 305 Grant Program*, which was rolled out in the summer of 2022. This grant program is designed to incentivize and encourage resident leaders and organizations to promote peace and prosperity across communities, by funding community-driven actions that make their own neighborhoods safer. These small local community-based grants are designed to attend to various aspects of public safety, broadly defined. Each of these grants has different audiences, foci and, as a result, outcomes. **It is recommended that the Office of the Mayor and the Board of County Commissioners equip the Office of Neighborhood Safety with human resources and expertise to provide on-the-ground technical assistance to the recipients of these awards to generate the appropriate data needed to evaluate their performance.**

**Recommended Action 6:** A key aspect of the Plan for future years is the completion and implementation of the *Public Safety Toolkit*, which is designed to be a centralized guide that provides Miami-Dade County residents with best practices, contact information, and related resources to employ intervention and prevention strategies in their own neighborhoods and across the county, provide accurate and timely information about how to report a crime safely and anonymously, and offers readily accessible resources to help families and neighborhoods in the aftermath of a violent event. The toolkit will also be used to train residents who can then advocate for the specific needs of their neighborhoods. **It is recommended that the evaluation team be an integral part of the *Public Safety Toolkit* effort.**

**Recommended Action 7:** Another important initiative is *Project Green Light*. This is an evidence-based crime-intervention and prevention partnership between local businesses and community groups that partners with property owners in high crime areas by installing real-time cameras and connecting to MDPD's Real Time Crime Center. The project includes installing high-definition cameras and upgrading to high-speed network connections that enable consistent video streaming to the MDPD. Participants provide sufficient lighting on all parts of their properties and make improvements needed to ensure that their businesses are safe, inviting, and customer friendly. The program may include incentives for businesses that participate and help to subsidize the cost. Consistent with previous evaluation of Project Green Light implementation in Detroit (Circo et al., 2020), **it is recommended that those areas receiving the cameras be matched to other areas not receiving the cameras. The intervention and non-intervention areas will then be compared for crimes, arrests, number of 911 calls, and revenue impact due to the virtual and random in-person patrolling.**

**Recommended Action 8:** As a long-term community violence prevention and revitalization effort,

it is recommended that the Plan include a focus on (1) substance abuse beyond the effects of substance abuse treatment and on (2) other forms of violence known to be associated with unsafe and toxic living conditions such intimate partner violence, bullying, and child abuse. Research shows that various forms of violence are connected.

**Recommended Action 9:** As these and other new programs are identified and implemented, we recommend that the evaluation team to work with ONS to guide the identification of metrics and outcomes for future evaluations.

FIGURES & TABLES (in order of appearance in the text)

Figure 1

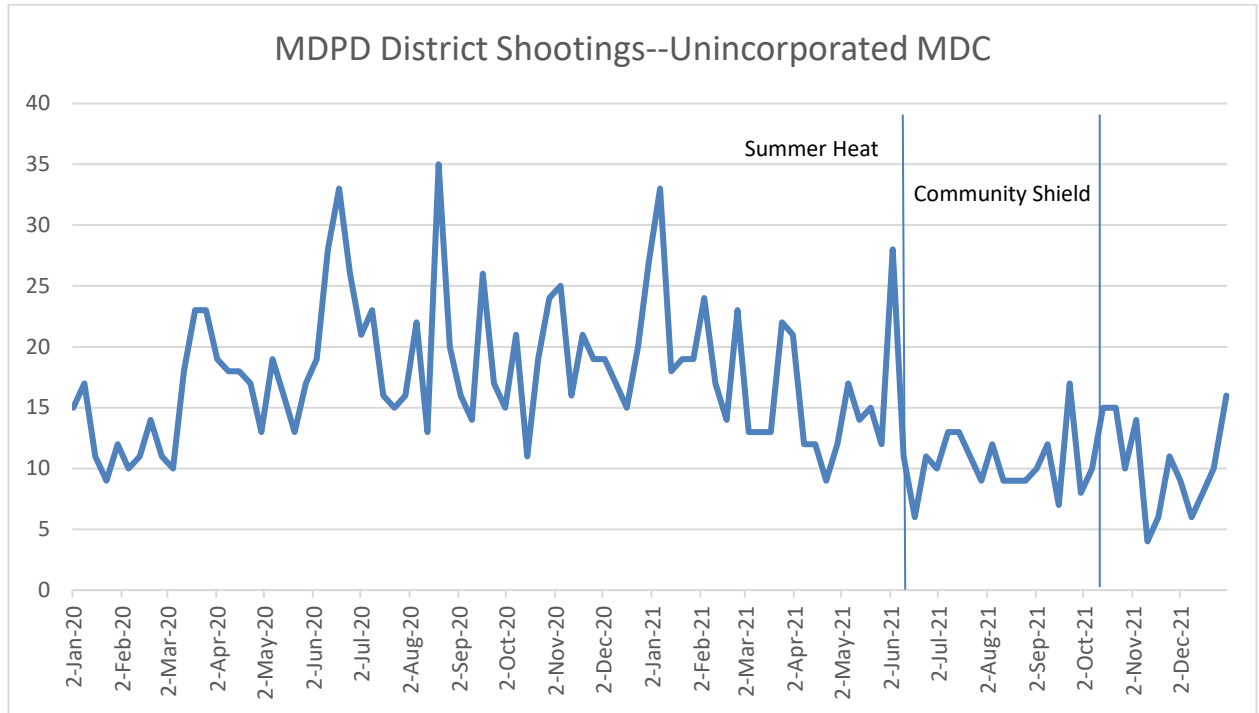


Figure 2

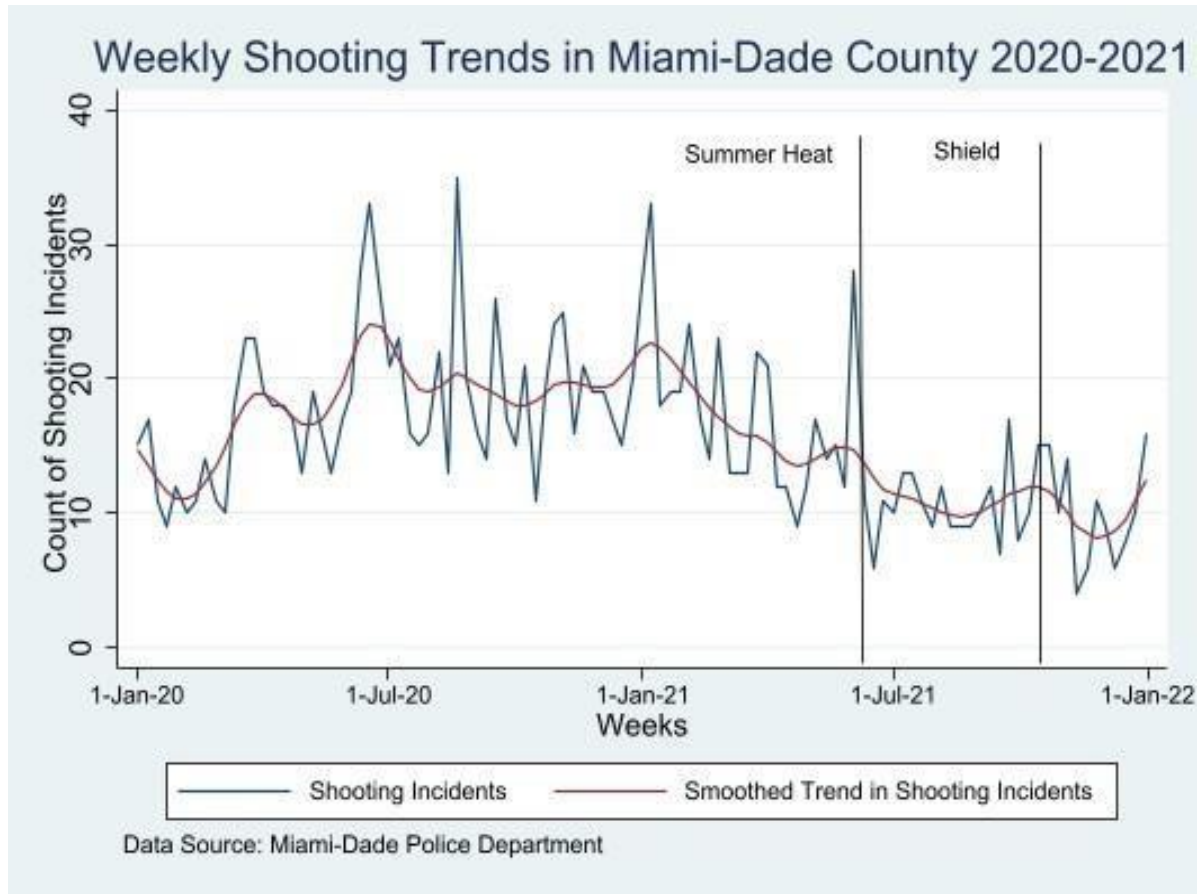




Table 1. ARIMA (1,0,0) Regression Results Predicting Shootings		
	RAW Count	HP Smoothed
	b (SE) / 95 CI	b (SE) / 95 CI
Operation Summer Heat	-12.771 (2.311)***	-1.063 (0.086)***
	[-17.302,-8.240]	[-1.232,-.895]
Operation Community Shield	-10.596 (2.334)***	-1.014 (0.126)***
	[-15.172,-6.021]	[-1.261,-.767]
Month = 1 January	-7.810 (3.021)**	-.629 (1.055)
	[-13.731,-1.889]	[-2.698,1.440]
Month = 2 February	-8.817 (2.827)**	-1.110 (1.048)
	[-14.358,-3.276]	[-3.165,.945]
Month = 3 March	-8.459 (3.077)**	-.731 (0.829)
	[-14.491,-2.427]	[-2.356,.894]
Month = 4 April	-10.173 (2.545)***	-.968 (0.807)
	[-15.162,-5.183]	[-2.551,.616]
Month = 5 May	-9.214 (2.379)***	-.773 (0.799)
	[-13.877,-4.551]	[-2.340,.794]
Month = 7 July	-3.973 (2.118)	-.757 (0.159)***
	[-8.124,.179]	[-1.069,-.445]
Month = 8 August	-2.240 (3.233)	-.765 (0.327)*
	[-8.578,4.098]	[-1.407,-.123]
Month = 9 September	-3.887 (2.680)	-.938 (0.401)*
	[-9.142,1.367]	[-1.724,-.151]
Month = 10 October	-4.483 (2.664)	-1.004 (0.444)*
	[-9.705,.739]	[-1.875,-.132]
Month = 11 November	-4.872 (2.792)	-1.357 (0.658)*
	[-10.345,.602]	[-2.648,-.065]
Month = 12 December	-5.065 (2.711)	-1.378 (0.668)*
	[-10.379,.250]	[-2.688,-.067]
Year = 2021	2.044 (1.711)	-.435 (1.139)
	[-1.310,5.398]	[-2.670,1.799]
_cons	23.928***	16.353 (1.788)***
	[19.704,28.151]	[12.847,19.859]
ARMA		
Lar	.196	.977***
	[-.070,.462]	[.947,1.006]
sigma		
_cons	4.388***	.699***
	[3.711,5.066]	[.608,.789]
N	105.000	105.000
vce	robust	robust
Notes:		
* p < .05 ; ** p < .01 ; *** p < .001		
The month of June and the year of 2020 are omitted to serve as reference categories		
VCE is the Robust Variance Estimator		

Figure 3. Homicide Trends Across Miami-Dade County Including Municipalities, January 2020 – December 2021.

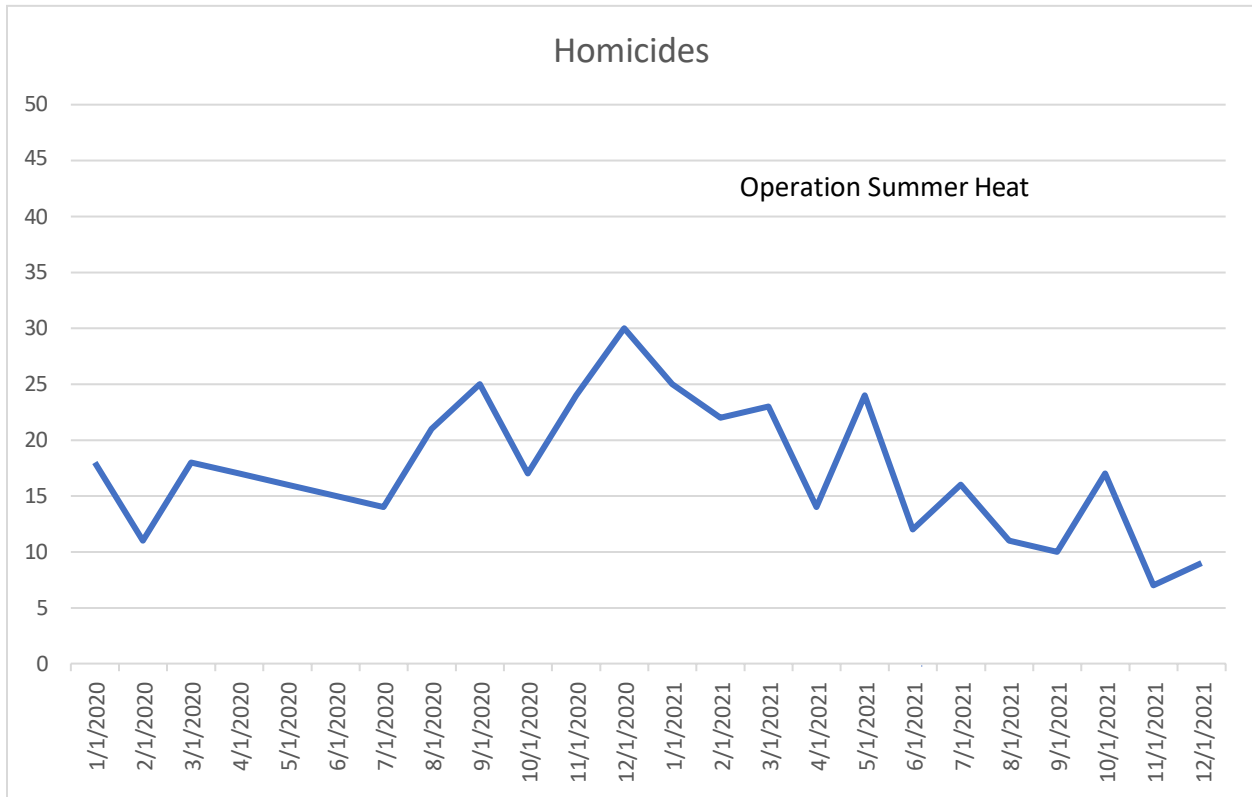


Table 2. ARIMA Regression Predicting Homicides.

Variable	Coeff (SE)	95% Confidence Interval
Intervention (OSH/OCS)	-7.932 (1.784)*	-11.431, -4.434
_Cons	19.647 (1.222)*	
/sigma	4.533 (0.553)*	

NOTES: VCE(Robust) was used; \* p < .05.

Wald chi2(1) = 19.75, p < .05

Log pseudolikelihood = -70.331

## REFERENCES

Circo, G., Werdlow, J.R., McGarrell, E.F., Krupa, J.M., De Biasi, A., Liebler, J., Cartwright, S., & Carter, T. (2020). *Project Greenlight Detroit: Evaluation Report*. East Lansing, MI: Michigan Justice Statistics Center. Available at <https://cj.msu.edu/assets/pdfs/misc/pgld-report-2192021.pdf>.

Council on Criminal Justice. (2022). *Saving Lives: Ten Essential Actions Cities Can Take to Reduce Violence Now*. Washington, DC: Council on Criminal Justice. Available at: <https://counciloncj.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/01/VCWG-Final-Report.pdf>

Piquero, Alex R. (2021). The policy lessons learned from the criminal justice system response to COVID-19. *Criminology & Public Policy*, 20, 385-399.

Rosenfeld, R., & Lopez, E. (2021). *Pandemic, social unrest, and crime in U.S. cities: June 2021 update*. Washington, D.C.: Council on Criminal Justice, July 2021.

APPENDIX A

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

## Youth Baseline

Please note: Responses to this survey are kept private. They will be regarded in the strictest confidence and will not be associated with you/your name or shared with anyone.



Thank you for agreeing to answer these questions. We are really excited about you joining the Fit2Lead Internship Program. It is our hope that the information you provide will help make this program better for you and the other interns too.

It's important that you know that we understand that everyone has different ideas and experiences, and that we are interested in hearing about yours, even if they might be different than the next person. We also know that people can have good and bad, happy and sad, exciting and scary, and everything in between types of experiences.

You are free to answer (or not answer) any of these questions. **There are no right or wrong answers** to the questions because they are all going to be unique to you and your life. Thank you again and good luck this year.

## Behavior Index

### Instructions

The next set of questions will ask you about behavior. Please answer honestly – your responses will remain private. Remember, there are no right or wrong answers. For each question, please make sure to pick only one answer. For applicable questions, please select the word that shows how often each of these things happen to you.

1. Have you ever used alcohol beverages, even just a few sips?

- Yes
- No

**If no, skip to question 3**

2. If yes, how many times in the past year have you used alcohol? \_\_\_\_\_

3. Have you ever smoked a regular cigarette, even one or two puffs?

- Yes
- No

**If no, skip to question 5**

4. If yes, how many times in the past year have you used cigarettes? \_\_\_\_\_

5. Have you ever smoked an electronic cigarette, even one or two puffs?

- Yes
- No

**If no, skip to question 7**

6. If yes, how many times in the past year have you used electronic cigarettes/vaped?  
\_\_\_\_\_

7. Have you ever smoked a traditional cigar, cigarillo, or filtered cigar, even one or two puffs?

- Yes
- No

**If no, skip to question 9**

8. If yes, how many times in the past year have you used a traditional cigar, cigarillo, or filtered cigar? \_\_\_\_\_

9. Have you ever used marijuana, cannabis, hash, THC, grass, pot, or weed?

Yes

No

**If no, skip to question 11**

10. If yes, how many times in the past year have you used marijuana, cannabis, hash, THC, grass, pot, or weed? \_\_\_\_\_

11. Have you ever used other drugs besides marijuana, cannabis, hash, THC, grass, pot, or weed?

Yes

No

**If no, skip to question 13**

12. If yes, how many times in the past year have you used other drugs besides marijuana, cannabis, hash, THC, grass, pot, or weed? \_\_\_\_\_

13. If you ever used any substance, such as alcohol, cigarettes, cigars, or marijuana, at what age did you start?

Age: \_\_\_\_\_

Not Applicable (I have never used any of these substances)

**If NA skip to question 20**

**These questions ask about consequences people sometimes have because of drinking or drug use. Have you ever had any of the following happen because of your drinking or drug use?**

14. Got into trouble with my teachers or principal because of my drinking or drug use.

- Yes
- No

15. Got into difficulties of any kind with my friends because of my drinking or drug use.

- Yes
- No

16. Gotten in trouble with my parents because of my drinking or drug use.

- Yes
- No

17. Missed school (or time on job) because of my drinking or drug use.

- Yes
- No

18. Gotten in trouble with the police because of my drinking or drug use.

- Yes
- No

**The following questions related to your experiences in general:**

Have you ever...

19. Taken something from a store without paying for it?

- Yes
- No

**If no, skip to question 21.**

20. If yes, how often?

- Once or twice in my life
- A few times this month
- About once or twice a week
- About three or four times a week
- Most days



21. Skipped school?

- Yes
- No

**If no, skip to question 23.**

22. If yes, how often?

- Once or twice in my life
- A few times this month
- About once or twice a week
- About three or four times a week
- Most days

23. Did something that could be considered as vandalism?

- Yes
- No

**If no, skip to question 25.**

24. If yes, how often?

- Once or twice in my life
- A few times this month
- About once or twice a week
- About three or four times a week
- Most days

25. Gotten into trouble with the police?

- Yes
- No

**If no, skip to question 27.**

26. If yes, how often?

- Once or twice in my life
- A few times this month
- About once or twice a week
- About three or four times a week
- Most days

27. Received a detention at school?

- Yes
- No

**If no, skip to question 29.**

28. If yes, how often?

- Once or twice in my life
- A few times this month
- About once or twice a week
- About three or four times a week
- Most days

29. Been suspended from school?

- Yes
- No

30. What is your sexual orientation?

**Sexual orientation:** gender (that is, male or female) to which a person is attracted.

- Straight
- Gay
- Lesbian
- Bisexual
- Asexual
- Prefer not to answer

31. What is your gender identity?

**Gender identity:** one's innermost concept of self as male, female, a blend of both or neither.

This is how individuals perceive themselves and what they call themselves. One's gender identity can be the same or different from their sex assigned at birth.

- Male
- Female
- Transgender
- Prefer not to answer

## ACE

### Instructions

The next set of questions will ask you about adverse childhood experiences. Everyone has different life experiences, and we know that we cannot capture everything in these questions. This is a limited list of things that may or may not have happened to you. There may be other things that have been upsetting or difficult for you that are not represented on this list, and that we are interested in knowing that too. **Please answer honestly – all your responses will remain private.** Remember, **there are no right or wrong answers.** For each question, select either “yes” or “no”. Use the blank spaces to tell us about anything you think wasn't covered that you feel we should know about.

### While you were growing up/Prior to your 18<sup>th</sup> birthday:

Did a parent or other adult in the household often or very often...

1. Swear at you, insult you, put you down, or humiliate you?

- Yes
- No

2. Act in a way that made you afraid that you might be physically hurt?

- Yes
- No

3. Push, grab, slap, or throw something at you?

- Yes
- No

4. Ever hit you so hard that you had marks or were injured?

- Yes
- No

Did an adult or person at least 5 years older than you ever...

5. Touch or fondle you or have you touch their body in an inappropriate way?

- Yes
- No

Did you often or very often feel that...

6. No one in your family loved you or thought you were important or special?

- Yes
- No

7. Your family didn't look out for each other, feel close to each other, or support each other?

- Yes
- No

8. You didn't have enough to eat, had to wear dirty clothes, and had no one to protect you?

- Yes
- No

9. Did you live with anyone who was a problem drinker or alcoholic or who used street drugs?

- Yes
- No

10. Your parents were too drunk or high to take care of you or take you to the doctor if you needed it?

- Yes
- No

11. While you were growing up, were your parents ever separated or divorced?

- Yes
- No

Was your mother or stepmother:

12. Often or very often pushed, grabbed, slapped, or had something thrown at her?

- Yes
- No

13. Sometimes, often, or very often kicked, bitten, hit with a fist, or hit with something hard?

- Yes
- No

14. Ever repeatedly hit at least a few minutes or threatened with a gun or knife?

- Yes
- No

15. Did you live with a household member that was depressed or mentally ill, or did a household member ever attempt suicide?

- Yes
- No

16. Did a household member go to prison?

- Yes
- No

17. Did other kids, including brothers or sisters, often or very often hit you, threaten you, pick on you or insult you?

- Yes
- No

18. Did you often or very often feel lonely, rejected, or that nobody liked you?

- Yes
- No

19. Did you live for 2 years or more in a neighborhood that was dangerous, or where you saw people being assaulted?

- Yes
- No

20. Was there a period of 2 or more years when your family was very poor or on public assistance?

- Yes
- No

21. Are there other adverse (negative) childhood experiences that were not included in these questions that you feel we should know about?

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## Self-Efficacy

These items measure one's confidence in attaining educational and career goals and in avoiding fights. Youths are asked to indicate the extent to which they agree or disagree with the following statements.

	<b>Strongly Disagree</b>	<b>Disagree</b>	<b>Agree</b>	<b>Strongly Agree</b>
1. I will graduate from high school.	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>
2. I will finish college.	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>
3. I will get a job I really want.	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>
4. I am confident in my ability to stay out of fights.	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>
5. If someone called me a bad name, I would ignore them or walk away.	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>
6. I don't need to fight because there are other ways to deal with anger.	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>
7. I can get along well with most people.	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>
8. I will have healthy relationships (with friends, family, partner).	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>
9. I will earn enough for healthy food and safe housing.	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>

## SCARED

Below is a list of sentences that describes how people feel. Read each phrase and decide if it is “Not True or Hardly Ever True” or “Somewhat True or Sometimes True” or “Very True or Often True” for you. Then, for each sentence, please check (✓) one of the three options that corresponds to the response that seems to describe you *for the last 3 months*.

	<b>0</b> Not True or Hardly Ever True	<b>1</b> Sometimes True	<b>2</b> Very True or Often True
1. I get really frightened for no reason at all.			
2. I am afraid to be alone in the house.			
3. People tell me that I worry too much.			
4. I am scared to go to school.			
5. I am shy.			

## Moods and Feelings Questionnaire A

This form is about how **you** might have been feeling or acting **recently**.

For each question, please check (✓) how you have been feeling or acting in the **past two weeks**

If a sentence was not true about you, check NOT TRUE

If a sentence was only sometimes true, check SOMETIMES

If a sentence was true about you most of the time, check TRUE

Please use a checkmark (✓) for each statement.

	NOT TRUE	SOMETIMES	TRUE
1. I felt miserable or unhappy.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
2. I didn't enjoy anything at all.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3. I felt so tired I just sat around and did nothing.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
4. I was very restless.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
5. I felt I was no good anymore.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
6. I cried a lot.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
7. I found it hard to think properly or concentrate.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
8. I hate myself.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
9. I was a bad person.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
10. I felt lonely.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
11. I thought nobody really loved me.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
12. I thought I could never be as good as other kids.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
13. I did everything wrong.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>



## Moods and Feelings Questionnaire B

This form is about how **you** might have been feeling or acting **recently**.

For each question, please check (✓) how you have been feeling or acting in the **past two weeks**

If a sentence was not true about you, check NOT TRUE

If a sentence was only sometimes true, check SOMETIMES

If a sentence was true about you most of the time, check TRUE

Please use a checkmark (✓) for each statement.

	NOT TRUE	SOMETIMES	TRUE
1. I felt ecstatic or happy.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
2. I enjoyed everything.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3. I felt like I was accomplishing a lot.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
4. I was very calm.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
5. I felt I was worthy of love.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
6. I laughed a lot.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
7. I was able to concentrate.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
8. I like myself.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
9. I was a good person.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
10. I felt like I had friends.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
11. I thought others loved me.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
12. I thought I could be just as good as other kids.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
13. I did everything right.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

## Peer Behavior

Think about your best friend when answering the next set of questions.

Definitely yes	Probably yes	Probably not	Definitely not
1	2	3	4

1. If one of your best friends were to offer you a cigarette, would you smoke it?	1	2	3	4
2. If one of your best friends were to offer you alcohol, would you drink it?	1	2	3	4
3. If one of your best friends were to offer you an e-cigarette, would you use it?	1	2	3	4
4. If one of your best friends were to offer you marijuana, would you use it?	1	2	3	4
5. If one of your best friends were to offer you a traditional cigar, cigarillo, or filtered cigar, would you smoke it?	1	2	3	4

## ERQ-CA

We would like to ask you some questions about your thoughts and feelings, in particular, how you control your feelings. The questions below involve two types of emotions. One is your emotional experience, or what you feel inside. The other is your emotional expression, or how you show your emotions in the way you talk or behave. Although some of the following questions may seem like one another, they differ in important ways. For each item, please answer using the following scale:

<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>
Strongly Disagree		Neutral		Strongly Agree

1. \_\_\_\_\_ When I want to feel more positive emotion (such as joy), I change what I'm thinking about.
2. \_\_\_\_\_ I keep my emotions to myself.
3. \_\_\_\_\_ I control my negative feelings about things by changing what I'm thinking about.
4. \_\_\_\_\_ When I am feeling positive emotions, I am careful not to show them.
5. \_\_\_\_\_ When I'm faced with a stressful situation, I make myself think about it in a way that helps me stay calm.
6. \_\_\_\_\_ I control my emotions by not showing them.
7. \_\_\_\_\_ When I want to feel more positive emotions, I change the way I'm thinking about the situation.
8. \_\_\_\_\_ I control my emotions by changing the way I think about the situation I'm in.
9. \_\_\_\_\_ When I am feeling negative emotions, I make sure not to show them.
10. \_\_\_\_\_ When I want to feel less negative emotion, I change the way I'm thinking about the situation.

## Self-Efficacy – Teen Conflict Survey

These items measure an individual's confidence in his or her ability to control anger and resolve conflicts nonviolently. Respondents are asked to indicate how likely they would be to use certain nonviolent strategies.

	<b>Very Confident</b>	<b>Somewhat Confident</b>	<b>Unsure</b>	<b>Not Very Confident</b>	<b>Not at all Confident</b>
1. Stay out of fights?	a	b	c	d	e
2. Understand another person's point of view?	a	b	c	d	e
3. Calm down when you are mad?	a	b	c	d	e
4. Talk out a disagreement?	a	b	c	d	e
5. Learn to stay out of fights?	a	b	c	d	e

### Perceived Stress Scale

Instructions: The questions in this scale ask you about your feelings and thoughts during the last month. In each case, please indicate with a check how often you felt or thought a certain way.

	<b>0 Never</b>	<b>1 Almost Never</b>	<b>2 Sometimes</b>	<b>3 Fairly Often</b>	<b>4 Very Often</b>
1. In the last month, how often have you felt that you were unable to control the important things in your life?					
2. In the last month, how often have you felt confident about your ability to handle your personal problems?					
3. In the last month, how often have you felt that things were going your way?					
4. In the last month, how often have you felt difficulties were piling up so high that you could not overcome them?					

## Street Code Survey

How much do you agree with each statement?

**A:** strongly agree

**B:** agree

**C:** neither agree nor disagree

**D:** disagree

**E:** strongly disagree

1. \_When someone disrespects you, it is important that you use physical force or aggression to teach him or her not to disrespect you.
2. \_If someone uses violence against you, it is important that you use violence against him or her to get even.
3. \_People will take advantage of you if you do not let them know how tough you are.
4. \_It is important that I have popcorn when I go to the movies.
5. \_People do not respect a person who is afraid to fight physically for his/her rights.
6. \_Sometimes you need to threaten people to get them to treat you fairly.
7. \_It is important to show others that you cannot be intimidated.
8. \_People tend to respect a person who is tough and aggressive.

### **WHAT DO YOU THINK**

\_\_\_\_\_How old do you think you will live to be?

## Food Security Survey

In the last 12 months, were the following statements Often, Sometimes, or Never True for you:

	<b>Often</b>	<b>Sometimes</b>	<b>Never True</b>
1. "We worried whether our food would run out before we got money to buy more.			
2. "We couldn't afford to eat balanced meals."			
3. Did you ever cut the size of your meals or skip meals because there wasn't enough money for food?			
4. Did you ever not eat for a whole day because there wasn't enough money for food?			
5. Did anyone ever not eat for a whole day because there wasn't enough money for food?			

## Nowicki-Strickland Locus of Control Survey

For each question circle Yes or No

- |         |    |  |
|---------|----|--|
| 1. Yes  | No | Do you believe that most problems solve themselves?                  |
| 2. Yes  | No | Do you feel that getting good grades means a great deal to you?      |
| 3. Yes  | No | Are you often blamed for things that just aren't your fault?         |
| 4. Yes  | No | Are Burger King fries better than KFC fries?                         |
| 5. Yes  | No | Do you believe that wishing can make good things happen?             |
| 6. Yes  | No | Most of the time, do you find it hard to change a friends mind?      |
| 7. Yes  | No | Do you think cheering more than luck helps a team win?               |
| 8. Yes  | No | Do you like going to the movies?                                     |
| 9. Yes  | No | Do you feel that you have a choice in decoding who your friends are? |
| 10. Yes | No | Do you like Lucky Charms cereal?                                     |
| 11. Yes | No | Will your parents / caregivers usually help you if you ask them to?  |
| 12. Yes | No | Do you feel that when good things happen because of hard work?       |
| 13. Yes | No | Do you think it's better to be smart than lucky?                     |
| 14. Yes | No | Do you feel you have very little to say about what you eat at home?  |
| 15. Yes | No | Can you ride a bike with no hands?                                   |