

Transforming Safety North Aurora Local Planning Team Meeting 6 – February 27, 2018

LPT Members Attending: Tonya Rozencwajg, Ken Crawford, Harry Glidden, Reid Hettich, Hanni Raley, Yemane Habtezgi, Nancy Jackson, Debi Hunter-Holen, Dara Goldsby, Crystal Murillo (by video conference), Molli Barker, Dana Jenkins, Hassan Latif, -Omar Montgomery, Brian Arnold, Robert Andrews, Ronald Blan, LaKeshia Hodge-, Farduus Ahmed

LPT Members Not Attending:

Guests Attending: Ernie Duff, Bob Hagedorn, Yael Berhane (Operation Hope), Mason Morales (son of Shannon Morales), Jimmy Naccaratto – Aurora Mental Health Center

Helpers Attending: Shannon Morales – Latino Coalition for Community Leadership, evaluation and capacity building team; Patrick Horvath – The Denver Foundation; Christie Donner – Colorado Criminal Justice Reform Coalition

Facilitators: Wendy Talley and LaDawn Sullivan.

Welcome and Introductions: Wendy led the group through a round of introductions.

Translating Priorities into Grant Language: Patrick presented draft priority language based on the voting exercise from the last meeting. He told the LPT that he grouped similar priorities that came out of the first round of decision-making and recounted the votes based on the regrouping. He then drafted grant priority language based on the primary intent of the LPT decision-making process. He presented the draft language for each priority to the LPT members and invited them to comment. There was discussion about a number of the proposed priorities. LPT members tweaked language, combined two of the priorities, and ultimately decided to advance four grant priorities as the first round priorities for the North Aurora Transforming Safety grant program. Patrick also expressed a desire on The Denver Foundation's part to frame the grant priority language as positively and in as much of an asset-based way as possible. He asked for the LPT's permission to work with the Latino Coalition and The Denver Foundation staff to develop final language that is both measurable and as asset-based as possible, while preserving the clear intent and meaning of the LPT's language. The LPT agreed to give the Foundation this permission.

The final North Aurora Transforming Safety grant priorities are as follows:

- Support adults and youth who are or have been involved in the criminal justice system in order to reduce recidivism or incidence of reoffending.
- Help youth (up to age 25) develop the skills and resilience to avoid, reduce, or stop high risk behaviors that can lead to involvement with the criminal justice system.
- Reduce/prevent crime affecting the most vulnerable people in the North Aurora community, with a particular focus on people experiencing homelessness, immigrants, victims of sexual assault, and victims of sex trafficking.
- Increase academic achievement by reducing rates of school suspension, expulsion, and referrals to law enforcement, with a particular emphasis on students of color.

Geographic boundaries:

Group 1: City boundary on north and west, I-225, 6th Ave. on south – based on heat maps of crime

Group 2: City boundary on west, 26th Ave on north, I-225 on east, 6th Ave. on south – based on heat maps of crime

Group 3: Ward 1 boundaries – city boundary on west, I-225 on east, 6th Ave. on south

Group 4: same three – north is Smith Road (adds Morris Heights)

Discussion: The groups quickly agreed to adopt the following as the final boundaries, based on the heat maps: For the purposes of the Transforming Safety grant program, North Aurora is defined as the Aurora city boundary on the west, the Aurora city boundary on the north, Interstate 225 on the east, and 6th Ave. on the south.

Guest comments: Guests at the meeting provided their final observations.

Final LPT Check-out: Wendy asked the LPT members to share their final reflections on the experience of being on the LPT. Members shared freely and openly, expressing satisfaction, a sense of community, of new relationships, and especially of hope that for the first time in their experience of North Aurora things will be different.