

# The Power of Collaboration

**2004 ANNUAL REPORT**



**Reducing Crime, Caring for Kids & Uplifting Neighborhoods**

Since Safe & Sound's creation in 1998, serious violent crime has declined 41% in the 21 targeted neighborhoods, compared to just 27% outside the targeted area.

Dear Friends of Safe & Sound:

**W**e are very excited to share with you Safe & Sound's 2004 Annual Report: **The Power of Collaboration.**

Milwaukee's foremost crime reduction strategy, Safe & Sound focuses a collaboration of the City's strongest and best resources on 21 high-crime city neighborhoods. Ours is a unique model: no other city in the U.S. unites three interdependent strategies — positive youth development alternatives, community organizing and strong law enforcement — to maximize their impact.

Safe & Sound mobilizes the partnership of youth-serving agencies, the Milwaukee Public Schools, churches, businesses, law enforcement and government to carry out our mission to reduce crime, develop youth, and create safe and vital neighborhoods.

Safe & Sound is a collaboration which impacts dramatically on Milwaukee's crime rate, our neighborhoods and our youth. Each component is more effective because of its work with the other two strategies.

We are proud of our accomplishments in 2004:

- Safe & Sound's Safe Places engaged 19,877 unduplicated youth between the ages of 10-19 in positive youth development activities that act as alternatives to crime, violence, drug use and sexual activity.
- Community Partners made 25,600 front-porch resident contacts to encourage participation in crime prevention and neighborhood revitalization efforts; and to provide information on key community services and neighborhood events. The Partners also work in cooperation with Safe Places to increase the participation of area youth.
- Milwaukee HIDTA (High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area) coordinates the work of federal, state and local law enforcement to disrupt and dismantle drug trafficking organizations. The initiatives disrupted and dismantled nine drug trafficking organizations, seized \$2,108,735 in drug assets and closed 353 fugitive warrants.

We look forward to growing our partnerships for the well-being of Milwaukee's neighborhoods, families and youth. Thank you to our partners and supporters. Together we are making Milwaukee Safe & Sound.

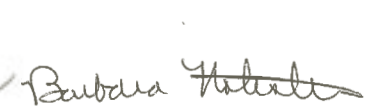
Sincerely,



**Inspector Kevin Carr**  
Co-Chair



**Paul La Schiazza**  
Co-Chair



**Barbara Notestein**  
Executive Director



# A Positive Frame of Mind

Safe & Sound's Safe Places offer youth ages 10-19 positive alternatives to crime, drug and alcohol use, sexual activity and violence. The Safe Places operate between 3:00-9:00 p.m. weekdays, during the summer and on some weekends. Those are the times when youth are most likely to

become involved in negative activities or become victims of violence.

The Safe Places funded by Safe & Sound are located in the 21 targeted neighborhoods Safe & Sound serves. They collaborate with their respective Community Partner to recruit Milwaukee's most vulnerable youth and families to participate in constructive activities designed to assist them in reaching their potential.

Safe Places offer academic tutoring, anger management, computer skills, youth leadership projects, job skills training, drug and alcohol prevention training, decision-making training, sports and recreation. Youth councils allow young people to create, write grants, implement and evaluate their own projects.

Community Partners work with the Safe Places to engage youth in neighborhood improvement and safety projects that build leadership skills and instill a sense of ownership for neighborhood improvement. Innovative, relevant programming addresses current and emerging issues such as teen prostitution, bullying, and truancy and street safety.

Safe Places collaborate with community resources such as schools, churches, businesses and other youth-serving organizations to leverage resources and maximize outcomes.

Because Safe & Sound puts particular emphasis on quality programming, the Safe Places receive unannounced visits to monitor programming and they must meet minimum staff-to-youth ratios.

In 2004, 19,877 unduplicated youth attended Safe & Sound-funded Safe Places.

“Our kids are not only safe, but we think they’re smarter as a result of being part of this program. We’ve been able to work together on many issues and have been able to expand the number of hours and days [our Safe Place] operates.”

**RICARDO DIAZ** EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, UNITED COMMUNITY CENTER



## SAFE PLACE SITES:

### HISTORIC SOUTHWEST

Lincoln Avenue School Elementary CLC\*  
Mitchell Street Elementary CLC\*  
Seher Boys & Girls Clubs ■  
Walker International School CLC ■\*

### KOSCIUSZKO PARK

Allen Field Elementary School CLC\*  
Forest Home Elementary\*  
Kosciuszko Community Center  
Kosciuszko Middle School CLC\*  
Project Excel  
Riley Elementary School CLC\*  
United Community Center ■  
Vieau K-8 CLC\*

### CLARKE SQUARE EAST

Doerfler Elementary\*  
Journey House ■  
Lao Family Community Inc.  
Longfellow Elementary School CLC\*  
United Church ■

### WEED & SEED SOUTH/WALKER'S PT

Kagel Elementary CLC  
Latino Community Center ■  
South Division H.S. CLC ■

### 27TH STREET WEST

Neighborhood House ■  
37th Street School Safe Place  
Urban Waldorf School Safe Place  
Westside Academy I Safe Place  
Westside Academy II CLC ■\*

### AVENUES WEST

Grand Avenue Middle School CLC ■\*  
Milwaukee High School of the Arts CLC\*

### METCALFE PARK

Clarke Street Elementary School\*  
Fitzsimonds Boys & Girls Club ■  
Mercy Memorial Church ■  
Next Door Foundation ■  
SDC Westside Safe Haven

### MIDTOWN

Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Center ■  
Running Rebels  
Siefert Elementary School CLC\*  
Starns Discovery School CLC  
Wheatley School CLC

### HILLSIDE HARAMBEE SOUTH

Hillside Boys & Girls Clubs ■  
Milwaukee LGBT Community Center ■  
Northcott Neighborhood House ■  
O.W. Holmes Elem. School CLC\*  
Palmer Elementary School CLC\*

### RIVERWEST

COA Youth & Family Centers ■  
Escuela Fratney Elementary CLC\*  
Holton Youth Center ■  
Pierce Elementary School CLC\*  
Riverside High School CLC\*

### SHERMAN EAST

Jackie Robinson Middle School CLC\*  
Mary Ryan Boys & Girls Club ■  
Townsend Street Elem. School CLC  
Trinity Presbyterian Church  
Washington High School CLC

### WAICO AMANI

LaVarnway Boys & Girls Club ■  
Lee Elementary School CLC\*  
Lloyd Street Elem. School CLC  
North Division H.S. CLC ■  
Milwaukee Village Middle CLC  
21st Street School CLC\*  
YMCA Northside Branch ■

### UNITED WEST

See adjacent neighborhoods for closest location.

### UNITED SOUTH

LaFollette School CLC\*  
Todd Wehr Community Center ■

### HARAMBEE NORTH

Dr. Martin Luther King Elem. School  
Green Bay Avenue School CLC\*  
Heartlove Place ■  
Malcolm X Academy CLC ■\*

### PARKLAWN/LINCOLN CREEK

35th St. Elementary School CLC\*  
YMCA Parklawn Branch ■

### UNITED NORTH

Andrew Douglas Academy CLC\*  
Garden Homes School Safe Place

### MCGOVERN PARK

Hampton Elementary School  
Muir Middle School CLC ■  
Silver Spring Neighborhood Center ■

### LINCOLN PARK

Edison Middle School CLC\*  
Holy Redeemer Christian Academy\*  
McNair Academy Safe Place\*  
Silver Spring School Safe Place

### SILVER SPRING NORTH

Agape Community Center ■  
Richard Kluge School Safe Place

### THE WOODLANDS

John C. Cudahy YMCA ■

\* Community-based partnership with Milwaukee Public Schools

■ Safe & Sound-funded Safe Place

# Mobilizing to Take Back Neighborhoods

## COMMUNITY PARTNERS

The Community Partners Program serves as the Safe & Sound initiative's neighborhood organizing and outreach component. Twenty outreach professionals known as Community Partners initiate porch-to-porch contact with more than 25,000 residents of high-crime, low-income neighborhoods each year. Partners work with individuals and families block-by-block to encourage participation in community activities, to engage residents in crime prevention and neighborhood revitalization efforts, and to provide information on key community services and neighborhood events. The Partners also work in cooperation with Safe Places to increase the participation of area youth in constructive activities in safe environments during the critical after-school, evening, weekend and summer hours.

“The reason I’m fighting so hard is that I care about my neighbors and my neighborhood. [The area] has gone from bad to much better. If it had not been for David and Community Partners, we would not have come this far today.”

**VERDA REMM** RESIDENT, 27TH STREET WEST NEIGHBORHOOD

Throughout the target area the Community Partners, in collaboration with Safe Place staff, provides an abundance of programming focused on the interests of youth, ages 10-19, and their families. In 2004, these joint ventures included:

- Initiation of collaborative efforts with Safe Places such as teen forums, Girls Night Out, Safe Nights, holiday events, block parties, neighborhood clean-ups, potlucks, health fairs and classes, mentoring programs, tutoring, basketball tournaments and dances.
- Development of the Reality Check Initiative to reduce the use of alcohol among Milwaukee's youth. Youth from two Boys & Girls Clubs' Safe Places personally visited and mailed postcards to more than 100 alcohol retailers. The Safe Place youth efforts greatly reduced the retailers' sales of alcohol to minors as tested by bi-annual alcohol compliance checks.
- Recruitment and retention of youth participating in Safe Place activities. Community Partners conducted street outreach to inform and refer young adults to a variety of activities and programs designed as positive alternatives to crime, drugs and alcohol use, sexual activity and violence.
- Work with the City of Milwaukee, Department of Neighborhood Services, in providing preliminary warnings to residents regarding trash and debris in their yards. These warnings have a compliance rate of more than 65%, saving the City of Milwaukee time and money by eliminating visits by city inspectors.



# A Crucial Partner in the Fight to Reduce Crime



“I’m so pleased to be associated with Safe & Sound. We share the same goal — a better community. Safe & Sound’s collaborative approach to community safety is really valuable in reducing crime.”

**NANETTE H. HEGERTY** CHIEF OF POLICE, CITY OF MILWAUKEE

The goal of the Milwaukee HIDTA (High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area) is to disrupt and/or dismantle criminal organizations that import, transport and distribute illegal drugs. Its mandate also includes investigation of drug-related violent crime and money laundering.

Founded in 1998, Milwaukee HIDTA coordinates the work and information-sharing of federal, state and local law enforcement agencies investigating targeted drug-trafficking organizations. The agencies especially focus on gang activity related to major drug-trafficking organizations and tough enforcement of gun laws, and encourage neighborhood involvement in reducing crime.

In 2004, the Milwaukee HIDTA initiatives seized 13.1 kilos of cocaine, .26 kilos of heroin, 309 kilos of marijuana, 119 dosage units of Ecstasy and 12 Oxycontin pills. The initiatives disrupted or dismantled nine drug-trafficking organizations and seized \$2,108,735.00 in drug assets. The Milwaukee HIDTA also closed 353 fugitive warrants, an increase of 43% over the previous year.

As part of Safe & Sound’s three-pronged approach to reduce youth crime and violence, Milwaukee HIDTA is a key element in improving the quality of life for the community.

The Milwaukee HIDTA Executive Board is comprised of the heads of the participating law enforcement agencies. The Executive Board sets policy and determines the direction of Milwaukee HIDTA. Executive Director Erick Slamka provides administrative oversight of the program.

## AGENCIES PARTICIPATING IN MILWAUKEE HIDTA

### Local Agencies

- Kenosha County Sheriff’s Office
- Milwaukee County District Attorney’s Office
- Milwaukee County Sheriff’s Office
- Milwaukee Police Department
- Racine County Sheriff’s Office
- Waukesha County Sheriff’s Office
- West Allis Police Department

### State Agencies

- Wisconsin Department of Justice–Division of Criminal Investigation
- Wisconsin National Guard

### Federal Agencies

- Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms
- Drug Enforcement Administration
- Federal Bureau of Investigation
- United States Attorney’s Office
- Department of Homeland Security, Bureau of Immigration and Customs Enforcement
- United States Marshal’s Office

# Safe & Sound's Neighborhood



Most of **Verda Remm's** neighbors were afraid to leave their homes or sit on their porches. They never knew if they would be shot, stabbed or robbed when they stepped outside. That's what it was like for people on several blocks in the 27th Street West neighborhood. Most people would have given up trying to rid their neighborhood of the drug dealer next door or on the corner, drug houses and the open-air drug market across the street, but

not Verda Remm. The feisty homeowner decided to organize a block club. Her neighbors were reluctant, but several eventually joined. She worked closely and tirelessly with their Community Partner David Weber for four years on various trouble spots. It took as long as two years of reporting license numbers and drug activity to close down some of the drug dealers and four drug houses. With the persistence and involvement of the neighbors, Community Partner and law enforcement, the area has become safer for the neighbors. Their work continues to keep the area that way.

**Marcus, age 15.** He started out as a quiet, reserved child. During the five years he's attended Agape Community Center's Safe Place, Marcus has grown and developed his leadership abilities. Now you'll find him in Upward Bound at Marquette University, playing on his high school basketball team and involved in many volunteer activities at the Safe Place. Marcus recently wrote this about his experiences at his Safe Place: "The Agape Community Center can mean numerous things to different people. It can mean a place to play games, or just a place for recreation. To me, the Agape Community Center means safe place, tough love, and people who care about you. I've been attending the center for five years, and no matter how the staff changes, the standards and order of the community center never change. The Agape Community Center provides a place of comfort for people who need comfort; it provides food for people who need food. The Agape Community Center shows me by their actions that they want me to succeed and with them striving for me to be the best, I will be sure not to let them down."

**Bryan, age 19.** Bryan has come a long, hard way during the past few years, moving from house to house and frequenting social service offices. At Journey House's Safe Place, however, he found a safe, supportive environment. Bryan moved to Milwaukee when he entered the 6th grade, and walked past Journey House many times during the next three years. It was not until halfway through his high school career that he went inside. He began on the basketball courts, and then joined the Young Milwaukeean Leaders (YML), hoping to have some fun while eluding tasks and responsibilities. He was soon asked to help manage YML group meetings and motivate its members, eventually becoming president. Bryan has learned how to carry himself, put the needs of others before his own, and solve problems creatively and collaboratively. He plans to attend college and pursue a career as a firefighter in the city of Milwaukee, having placed 5th of approximately 300 applicants for the Milwaukee Fire Cadet Program. He wants to spend his life saving others, largely because of his appreciation for his Safe Place, in a sense, saving him.



**Juvenile Justice Accountability Incentive Block Grant:**

# Youth Accountability and Opportunities

Juvenile offenders must be held accountable through systems of graduated sanctions. This is the strategy that underlies the federal Juvenile Justice Accountability Incentive Block Grant, which Safe & Sound received from the Wisconsin Office of Justice Assistance.

Accountability means that offenders are assured of facing individualized consequences, and made aware of and held responsible for the loss, damage, or injury perpetrated on the victim. Accountability is achieved with a system of graduated sanctions that is imposed according to the nature and severity of the offense, from limited interventions to greater restrictive actions. JAIBG provides for enhanced options such as restitution, community service, victim-offender mediation, and other restorative sanctions.

“The JAIBG initiative offers youth opportunities to learn personal responsibility and make amends to their victims.”

**BARBARA NOTESTEIN** EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, SAFE & SOUND

Safe & Sound used a competitive process to select organizations to receive JAIBG funds. Grants were awarded to: Boys & Girls Clubs of Greater Milwaukee; Community Relations-Social Development Commission; The Counseling Center of Milwaukee; Milwaukee Christian Center; Milwaukee County Children’s Court; Milwaukee County District Attorney’s Office; New Concept Self Development Center; Northcott Neighborhood House; and Wisconsin Community Services.

Youth in the JAIBG programs were residents of the City of Milwaukee and aged 10-16 if they participated due to violation of Chapter 938 of the Wisconsin State Statutes or up to age 17 if they were truant, been cited or arrested for violation of state or federal laws (Chapter 938) or a municipal truancy ordinance. They could also be referred to the program by law enforcement.

A few of the funded programs included:

- Wisconsin Community Services **Project Giveback**, a juvenile community restitution and community service program. The goal was to offer youth an option to give back to the community and avoid sentencing to a detention facility.
- The Milwaukee Christian Center’s **Operation Justice Program** offered youth the opportunity to learn anger management strategies, equipping them to make better choices. At school Reshunda, 16, was harassed by other students. Her typical response was to be confrontational. Following her involvement with Operation Justice, faced with the same situation, she said, “I decided to walk away and talk to a staff member concerning the youth who approached me.”
- **New Concept** focused on truancy issues. Concerned that parents referred to Municipal Court were fined or jailed because of their child’s truancy, the agency targeted 106 truancy cases referred by Municipal Court Judges Derek Mosley and Valerie Hill. New Concept also implemented an AODA component for youth who were truant. Of the 106 referrals, 101 youth successfully completed the program. Youth said of the truancy program, “I stayed away from jumping people,” and “I can stay out of trouble by not fighting and hang around the right people.”

# Financial Overview

**Statements of Activities**

Years ended December 31, 2004 and 2003

	Unrestricted	Temporarily Restricted	2004 Total	Unrestricted	Temporarily Restricted	2003 Total
<b>Public Support</b>						
Government grants	\$ 1,750,741	\$ —	\$ 1,750,741	\$ 3,109,651	\$ —	\$ 3,109,651
Contributions	172,914	290,000	462,914	664,152	778,385	1,442,537
Net assets released from restrictions	365,355	(365,355)	—	—	—	—
<b>Total Public Support</b>	<b>2,289,010</b>	<b>(75,355)</b>	<b>2,213,655</b>	<b>3,773,803</b>	<b>778,385</b>	<b>4,552,188</b>
<b>Revenue</b>						
Investment income	8,420	—	8,420	4,943	—	4,943
<b>Total Public Support and Revenue</b>	<b>2,297,430</b>	<b>(75,355)</b>	<b>2,222,075</b>	<b>3,778,746</b>	<b>778,385</b>	<b>4,557,131</b>
<b>Expenses</b>						
Program						
Private – Milwaukee	307,078	—	307,078	450,031	—	450,031
HIDTA – Milwaukee	675,045	—	675,045	812,581	—	812,581
Ceasefire – Milwaukee	75,220	—	75,220	50,000	—	50,000
Block grant	257,453	—	257,453	271,560	—	271,560
OJJDP	630,839	—	630,839	1,928,022	—	1,928,022
JAIBG	80,713	—	80,713	—	—	—
Total Program	2,026,348	—	2,026,348	3,512,194	—	3,512,194
Management and general	86,290	—	86,290	76,324	—	76,324
Fundraising	5,998	—	5,998	54,037	—	54,037
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>2,118,636</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>2,118,636</b>	<b>3,642,555</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>3,642,555</b>
<b>Change in Net Assets</b>	<b>178,794</b>	<b>(75,355)</b>	<b>103,439</b>	<b>136,191</b>	<b>778,385</b>	<b>914,576</b>
Net Assets – Beginning of Year	797,176	778,385	1,575,561	660,985	—	660,985
<b>Net Assets – End of Year</b>	<b>\$ 975,970</b>	<b>\$ 703,030</b>	<b>\$ 1,679,000</b>	<b>\$ 797,176</b>	<b>\$ 778,385</b>	<b>\$ 1,575,561</b>

The audited financial statements of Safe & Sound prepared by Virchow, Krause & Company, LLC are available upon request.

# Thank You

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## Public-sector Donors

City of Milwaukee, Community Development Block Grant Office (CDBG)  
Milwaukee High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area (HIDTA)  
Office of Juvenile Justice & Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP)  
Office of National Drug Control Policy (ONDCP)  
State of Wisconsin, Department of Justice, Office of Justice Assistance  
U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, CDBG  
U.S. Department of Justice, Executive Office of Weed & Seed

## Our Vision:

Safe & Sound develops, supports and facilitates collaborative approaches to measurably reduce violent crime by blending law enforcement, neighborhood organizing and youth development.

## Our Mission:

Making Milwaukee neighborhoods safe places to work, live and raise families.

## 2004 Safe & Sound Board of Directors

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