



Mobilizing the Resources of Neighborhoods

2009 ANNUAL REPORT



OUR MISSION

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

OUR VISION

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



DEAR FRIENDS OF SAFE & SOUND:

We are happy to present to you the 2009 Safe & Sound Annual Report. As you look through the pages of this report, we hope that you will find yourself drawn in by the wonderful faces and inspirational stories of your Milwaukee community. Hopefully, you will see the many ways in which Safe & Sound helps Milwaukee neighborhoods become safe places to work, live and raise a family through three interdependent strategies of youth development, community mobilization and law enforcement.

Safe & Sound has supported Safe Places since its inception. However, the Safe Places we support now run evidence-based programming that includes the Crime Strategy Initiative (CSI). A CSI is a youth-driven program in which young people become the “change-makers” in their neighborhoods, leading projects such as “A Lot of Respect,” which you will read about inside this report. These projects embrace the young people within a Safe Place and help them experience community leadership, community involvement and community safety.

Safe & Sound’s Community Partners empower Milwaukee’s residents and act as the bridge between law enforcement and residents. As you follow the story of Rasheeda, you will learn more about the challenges people face within their neighborhoods and the realities related to concerns for personal safety. Community Partners mobilize residents, helping them navigate existing community resources while instilling a sense of ownership and responsibility within neighborhoods. While we support young “change-makers” through our Safe Places, we are “bridge builders” within neighborhoods through our Community Partners.

Safe & Sound and its three-prong strategy would not be complete without the collaboration of Safe & Sound with the High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area (HIDTA), the Milwaukee Police Department, the District Attorney’s Community Prosecution Unit Coordinators, and the City Department of Neighborhood Services.

Safe & Sound’s collaborative approach joins residents, Safe Places and law enforcement in strategies to restore resident control and lay the groundwork for change in our target neighborhoods.

In 2009, Safe & Sound was named a Mutual of America National Community Partnership Award Winner and, in 2010, received the National HIDTA Prevention Award. We are proud of these honors and the work we do. We are even more pleased that you have chosen to partner with us.

Sincerely,

Edward Flynn, Chief of Police
Board Chair, 2010

John T. Chisholm, District Attorney
Board Chair, 2009

Barbara Notestein
CEO

“After I heard the news that 7 arrests were made and the vacant house was boarded up and secure, I called Safe & Sound. I could not believe that I would be able to sleep soundly that night. The fear was lifted and my hope is restored.” Rasheeda, Milwaukee Resident



Reducing Blight, Reducing Crime

Having bought a house down the street from where she grew up, Rasheeda has lived near 21st and Burleigh her entire life. Over the years, she has watched her community transition from a safe and stable neighborhood of proud and responsible homeowners, to a neighborhood overwhelmed by vacant, blighted properties. Ms. Bonnie Niles, another member of the community, has also witnessed this change.

As an active “block watcher” with Safe & Sound, Rasheeda has worked with her Community Partner, Talibah Mateen, to report nuisances on her block. She has dealt with problems such as illegal auto work conducted in the streets and illegal dumping of oil and other debris on vacant lots. She even worked with Mateen and the City of Milwaukee to have a decrepit, abandoned house razed.

Recently, however, crime on Rasheeda’s block has escalated from loud music, loitering, and general nuisance properties to more serious problems such as drug dealing and gun activity, causing Rasheeda and other residents, such as Ms. Niles, to feel unsafe in their neighborhood. Mateen found it necessary once nuisances became criminal in nature to involve Safe & Sound Community Prosecution Unit Coordinator Kati Tillema to leverage law enforcement resources.

Together, Rasheeda, Mateen, and Kati identified the central cause of the illegal activities: a house in severe disrepair on the block. Although the house was owned by a bank, the prior tenants continued to live in the home without furniture or electricity. The house was host to drug trafficking and other serious criminal activity.

Based on the numerous criminal complaints gathered by Mateen from Rasheeda and other residents, Kati coordinated law enforcement resources to have Community Liaison Officers conduct a “knock and talk” in the neighborhood. Officers validated the complaints from residents, seizing a variety of illegal drugs and arresting seven individuals for squatting at the property. Within an hour, Rasheeda called Kati and Mateen to thank them for Safe & Sound’s help. She was relieved to have witnessed such a quick response after months of frustration and fear.

Rasheeda’s story highlights the unique collaboration of community and law enforcement through the coordination of the Safe & Sound Community Partners. It illustrates how residents, law enforcement, and Safe & Sound can join forces to restore control and lay the groundwork for positive change in a neighborhood. •



Community Liaison Officers speaking with a resident during a routine “knock and talk.”

Community Partner Talibah Mateen, resident Ms. Niles and Community Prosecution Unit Coordinator Kati Tillema work together to identify the causes of illegal activities in Ms. Niles’ neighborhood.

Uplifting Neighborhoods, Inspiring Young “Change-Makers”



Community Partner Aaron Edwards works with Operation Payback offenders to remove graffiti.

Consider the quote by a young woman named Ever. She is a freshman in high school and isn't sure if she will be a fashion designer or a criminal anthropologist. However, she knows what she is today: a young woman who enjoys being part of the Crime Strategy Initiative (CSI) that helped transform a vacant lot into what is now known as “A Lot of Respect.”

Listening to Ever speak about “A Lot of Respect” you will hear her pride and determination in becoming a leader within the community. She and other members of the Safe & Sound-funded CSI worked with students from the UW-Madison School of Landscape Architecture. Over the course of a summer, the lot that was once a comfortable place for drug dealers and those with ill intentions was transformed into a safe park-like setting, replete with graffiti- and theft-proof benches, a handmade bridge, stepping-stones and a gathering circle to provide a place for Ever and her Safe Place peers to meet.

In 2009, Safe & Sound funded 29 Safe Places, where young people like Ever transformed into leaders and changed their community for the better. Funding these Safe Places where young people can learn the importance of avoiding gangs, guns and drugs through their own community involvement and leadership is central to the Safe & Sound mission.

Crime is generally more prevalent in blighted neighborhoods than those in which homes and businesses are well-maintained. Because of this, blight elimination is a crucial part of Safe & Sound's crime reduction strategy. Blight is the most commonly used word to describe the destruction and ruin that exist in neighborhoods where boarded up and abandoned homes, empty trash-strewn lots and garbage litter the landscape. Along with the efforts of youth at Safe Places, Safe & Sound's Community Partners engage youth to participate in Operation Payback, a restorative justice program for offenders on probation or parole. Participants remove graffiti, pick up trash and number garages with house addresses, thereby learning the importance of keeping their community clean and safe. •

Community Partner Nichole Crust and Neu-Life Community Resource Center youth Ever and Oshawn take pride in their work at “A Lot of Respect.”

“This lot was covered with trash and home to drug deals. It made the neighborhood uncomfortable. Now, it is like a park — even the neighbors help keep it up. It taught us that even at our age we can lead in our community” Ever, Safe Place Youth



SAFE PLACES

Critical to Safe & Sound's success are after-school Safe Places which offer youth positive alternatives to drugs, crime, violence and gangs. Funded by Safe & Sound, Safe Places engage youth in projects to develop leadership skills and join with Community Partners and residents to improve their neighborhoods.

27th Street West Neighborhood

- Hmong American Friendship Association
- Neighborhood House of Milwaukee

Central South Neighborhood

- Latino Community Center

Clarke Square Neighborhood

- Journey House

Harambee North Neighborhood

- HeartLove Place – Teens on the Move

Hillside Harambee South Neighborhood

- Milwaukee LGBT Community Center
- Northcott Neighborhood House
- Boys & Girls Clubs of Greater Milwaukee – Pieper-Hillside Club

Historic Southwest Neighborhood

- Boys & Girls Clubs of Greater Milwaukee – Don & Sallie Davis Club

Kosciuszko Park Neighborhood

- Learn the Seas-America Inc. – R.A.F.T.
- Wisconsin Community Services – Project Excel
- United Community Center
- Milwaukee Christian Center

Lincoln Park Neighborhood

- Boys & Girls Clubs of Greater Milwaukee – Daniels-Mardak Club

McGovern Park Neighborhood

- Silver Spring Neighborhood Center

Metcalfe Park Neighborhood

- Boys & Girls Clubs of Greater Milwaukee – Roger & Leona Fitzsimonds Club
- Next Door Foundation – Leaders of Tomorrow
- Pearls for Teen Girls Inc. @ BEAM

Midtown Neighborhood

- Neu-Life Community Resource Center
- Running Rebels Community Organization

Parklawn/Lincoln Creek Neighborhood

- YMCA of Metropolitan Milwaukee – Parklawn Branch

Riverwest Neighborhood

- COA Youth & Family Centers – Riverwest/Harambee

Sherman East Neighborhood

- Boys & Girls Clubs of Greater Milwaukee – Mary Ryan Club



Silver Spring North Neighborhood

- Agape Community Center

WAICO Amani Neighborhood

- Boys & Girls Clubs of Greater Milwaukee – Augusta M. LaVarnway Club

United South Neighborhood

- COA Youth & Family Centers – Goldin Center

The Woodlands Neighborhood

- YMCA of Metropolitan Milwaukee – John C. Cudahy

Outside Focus Area:

- Boys & Girls Clubs of Greater Milwaukee – Marshall High School CLC



THANK YOU

\$20,000-50,000

Greater Milwaukee Foundation
United Way of Greater Milwaukee

\$10,000-19,999

Anon Charitable Trust
Bayshore Community Foundation
Johnson Controls
Operation Impact Fund

\$5,000-9,999

A.O. Smith Foundation
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Public Sector Donors

City of Milwaukee, Community Development Grants Administration (CDGA)
City of Milwaukee, Department of Neighborhood Services
Milwaukee County
Milwaukee High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area (HIDTA)
Office of Juvenile Justice & Delinquency Prevention (ONDJP)
Office of National Drug Control Policy (ONDCP)
State of Wisconsin, Department of Corrections
University of Wisconsin — Milwaukee

STATEMENTS OF ACTIVITIES

For the Years Ended December 31, 2009 and 2008

	Unrestricted	Temporarily Restricted	2009 Total	Unrestricted	Temporarily Restricted	2008 Total
Public Support						
Government grants	\$1,785,789	\$ —	\$1,785,789	\$1,498,576	\$ —	\$1,498,576
Contributions	154,235	—	154,235	374,324	39,372	413,696
Net assets released from restrictions	52,176	(52,176)		16,799	(16,799)	—
Total Public Support	1,992,200	(52,176)	1,940,024	1,889,699	22,573	1,912,272
Revenue						
Investment Income	4,395	—	4,395	21,839	—	21,839
Other	5,760	—	5,760	9,507	—	9,507
Total Revenue	10,155	—	10,155	31,346	—	31,346
Total Public Support and Revenue	2,002,355	(52,176)	1,950,179	1,921,045	22,573	1,943,618
Expenses						
Program						
Private- Milwaukee	165,775	—	165,775	704,393	—	704,393
HIDTA- Milwaukee	719,399	—	719,399	708,289	—	708,289
Block grant	150,437	—	150,437	192,880	—	192,880
OJJDP	385,011	—	385,011	—	—	—
Community Partners	491,137	—	491,137	608,980	—	608,980
Total Program	1,911,759	—	1,911,759	2,214,542	—	2,214,542
Management and General	99,086	—	99,086	99,099	—	99,099
Fundraising	47,100	—	47,100	21,691	—	21,691
Total Expenses	2,057,945	—	2,057,945	2,335,332	—	2,335,332
Change in Net Assets	(55,590)	(52,176)	(107,766)	(414,287)	22,573	(391,714)
Net Assets – Beginning Of Year	635,384	145,670	781,054	1,049,671	123,097	1,172,768
Net Assets – End of Year	\$579,794	\$93,494	\$673,288	\$ 635,384	\$145,670	\$ 781,054



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