



Mobilizing & Uplifting Neighborhoods

2010 Annual Report





David Mineta, Deputy Director of the Office of National Drug Control Policy, visited Safe & Sound to learn more about the agency's award winning and collaborative approaches to violent crime reduction. Mineta spent time at COA-Riverwest, a Safe & Sound-funded Safe Place for youth, participated in door-to-door resident outreach, and spoke with participants in Operation Payback, a graffiti abatement initiative.

About Us **OUR MISSION** Founded in 1998, Safe & Sound develops, supports, and facilitates collaborative approaches to measurably reduce violent crime by blending law enforcement, neighborhood organizing, and youth development.

OUR APPROACH

Through close partnerships with law enforcement, local neighborhood groups, violence reduction agencies and youth-serving organizations, Safe & Sound employs a three-pronged approach to reducing violent crime and keeping Milwaukee's neighborhoods safe and drug-free. Primary initiatives include:

- **Community Partners**, an initiative to mobilize residents to create safer and more engaged neighborhoods through block watches, community action, blight reduction, and to build trusting relationships with law enforcement and other resources.
- **Safe Places / Crime Strategy Initiative**, where collaborations are built with youth-serving organizations that result in after-school Safe Places for young people ages 11-19 and programming that develops youth leadership, healthy decision-making and resistance to drugs, violence and crime.
- **Community Prosecution Unit Coordinators**, a team approach with the Milwaukee County District Attorney's Office and Milwaukee Police Department district stations to immediately identify and defuse factors, such as the emergence of drug houses and other criminal activity that could compromise the safety and stability of a neighborhood.

OUR 2010 MAJOR ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- Engaged 11,600 residents at their homes to discuss neighborhood safety and violent crime reduction strategies, while facilitating trusting relationships between residents and law enforcement.
- Provided funding and technical support to 30 youth-serving organizations to ensure the availability of after-school Safe Place sites, and the training of 12,000 youth to avoid gangs, guns, and violence.
- Fostered resident leadership by establishing 66 new neighborhood block watch groups.
- Created programs and cross-generational activities that brought 5,369 youth and older adults together to address crime reduction.
- Reported 603 cases of observed criminal activity to the Milwaukee Police Department and the District Attorney's Office Community Prosecution Units.
- Engaged 394 youth as core leaders in planning and implementing neighborhood service projects to address crime.



Dear Friend of Safe & Sound:

This year, Safe & Sound was recognized as a **Champion of Change** by the **White House** as a national model of collaboration between law enforcement and a community organization. “This program is a unique, effective, and shining example of how community efforts can reduce drug use and its consequences,” said Gil Kerlikowske, White House Director of National Drug Control Policy. “Safe & Sound is an example of a local community taking action and addressing this issue head on.”

This award demonstrates Safe & Sound’s dedication to strengthening neighborhoods that are vulnerable to crime and violence by building collaborations with residents, law enforcement, city services and youth-serving organizations.

Difficult economic times can challenge the stability of a neighborhood. Jobs become more difficult to find, home foreclosures and blighted properties can become commonplace, community resources are overextended, and feelings of hopelessness and frustration often prevail.

Despite these challenges, Safe & Sound provides highly collaborative, community-based programming that contributes to increased safety and reduced crime in Milwaukee’s neighborhoods.

As you review this report, you will learn the stories of Bilal and Pilal Carrington, two dedicated block watch captains who reclaimed their neighborhood, and Kinyada, a young man who developed the skills and wisdom to break down the age barriers that compromised his neighborhood. Their stories are important, but represent only a few of the many lives improved by Safe & Sound’s strategies.

Sincerely,

Edward Flynn, *Chief of Police, Board Chair*

Barbara Notestein, *Executive Director*



WHITE HOUSE CHAMPION OF CHANGE

“This program is a unique, effective, and shining example of how community efforts can reduce drug use and its consequences.”

– Gil Kerlikowske, White House Director of National Drug Control Policy

Mobilizing a Neighborhood for Action

“The difference between safe and unsafe neighborhoods is being organized.”

– Alderman Willie Wade

The most essential step in building a safer neighborhood is organizing the neighbors. Safe & Sound Community Partners staff conduct extensive outreach by going door-to-door and talking to people about crime and safety. They listen closely to each resident’s concerns and observations of street activity. To address immediate problems, Community Partners connect residents with city government and law enforcement resources. To build the capacity of the neighborhood, Safe & Sound staff facilitate the formation of block watches, community empowerment events, and encourage residents to be more involved in decision-making processes that impact their neighborhood.

In Milwaukee’s Parklawn neighborhood, Safe & Sound Community Partner Roosevelt “Rose” Pritchett learned from block watch captains Bilal and Pilar Carrington of a motel that was regularly being used as host site for parties. A pattern was identified of increased crime, including burglaries and vandalism, whenever parties occurred. Neighbors

were reluctant to report the problem due to fear of retaliation, and the stability of the neighborhood was threatened.

Together, Rose, Bilal, and Pilar, built familiarity and trust with the nearby neighbors, and an agreement was reached to monitor and immediately report activity at the motel.

With the support and involvement of Alderman Joe Davis, Jr., the Milwaukee Police Department, the Department of Neighborhood Services, and the District Attorney’s Office, the motel was temporarily shut down and action was taken to prevent future problematic activity.

The real outcome spanned far beyond the motel as a single problem property. Rose brought neighbors together, built trust and connected them with the proper resources to address future problems. Local residents now attend City Licensing Committee meetings to provide input on area businesses, organize street clean-up events, share ideas and celebrate the increased safety of their neighborhood.

“Now, you see people out on the street, walking their dogs or just talking to each other,” said Bilal. “We owe this to Rose and Safe & Sound.”



The Carrington family meets with Safe & Sound Community Partner Rose Pritchett and Milwaukee Police Community Liaison Officers Lisa Fossier and Shellee Lubus.



Block watch & law enforcement members discuss neighborhood safety.





Kinyada Watts uses intergenerational activities to create a safer neighborhood.



Youth Emerging as Community Leaders

“I gained the wisdom of the generations before me.”

– Kinyada Watts

Ask almost any person in any Milwaukee neighborhood about violent crime and they will share these concerns: “How do we keep the young people safe, and how do we develop young leaders as change-makers?”

In addition to a significant investment in strengthening neighborhoods, Safe & Sound addresses these common concerns by supporting the growth and success of 30 neighborhood-based Safe Places. These sites offer programming that encourages the personal and social development of young people ages 10-19 during the high-crime hours that coincide with the conclusion of school. Programming offered includes adult mentoring, learning skills, problem-solving, intergenerational sharing, and they promote drug and violence-free values.

In 2010, the COA Goldin Center, in collaboration with Safe & Sound, expanded an initiative to create intergenerational programming designed to bridge a gap between neighborhood youth and seniors. For 17-year-old Kinyada Watts, participation in intergenerational programming has been life-changing.

“We needed to break ignorance of who seniors are and who youth are, break barriers, branch out from the room to the street, and build community,” said Kinyada.

To bridge the generations between them, youth and seniors in his neighborhood came together over breakfast to introduce themselves. The youth believed that the seniors could not understand the challenges faced by young people. The seniors saw the young people as intimidating and even threatening. Neither saw the value of working together until Safe & Sound staff shared that young people and seniors are often targeted for violent crimes when a neighborhood is disconnected.

The experience and exchange of ideas and values proved beneficial for both groups and the neighborhood. “I gained wisdom,” said Kinyada. “We need each other,” agreed Javaris, a friend of Kinyada’s.

Next year, Kinyada will begin attending college at the Tuskegee Institute. The experience he gained through his involvement with Safe & Sound, as well as the connections he made to strong adult role models, has prepared him to lead a meaningful and impactful life.

Statements of Financial Position

December 31, 2010 and 2009

	2010	2009
Public Support		
Government Grants	\$1,829,004	\$1,785,789
Contributions	279,026	154,235
Net assets released from restrictions	-	-
TOTAL PUBLIC SUPPORT	2,108,030	1,940,024
Revenue		
Investment income	2,057	4,395
Other	-	5,760
Total Revenue	2,057	10,155
TOTAL PUBLIC SUPPORT & REVENUE	2,110,087	1,950,179
Expenses		
Program		
Private - Milwaukee	240,362	165,775
HIDTA - Milwaukee	788,202	719,399
Block grant	179,267	150,437
BJA	183,016	385,011
Community Partners	648,049	491,137
Total Program	2,038,896	1,911,759
Management and General	101,747	99,086
Fundraising	102,860	47,100
TOTAL EXPENSES	2,243,503	2,057,945
CHANGE IN NET ASSETS	(133,416)	(107,766)
Net Assets - Beginning of Year	673,288	781,054
Net Assets - End of Year	\$539,872	\$673,288



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neighborhood
families, and youth
turn out to support
a Safe & Sound
community-building
event.



Donor Support

\$100,000

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Foundation

\$40,000 – \$99,999

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Assistance (OJA)
Office of Juvenile
Justice & Delinquency
Prevention (OJJDP)
Office of National
Drug Control Policy
(ONDCP)
State of Wisconsin,
Department of
Corrections



Northwestern Mutual Foundation partners in creating safer Milwaukee neighborhoods.

Safe & Sound demonstrates its value to our community by delivering concrete and measurable results: Safer Milwaukee Neighborhoods. The organization is effectively driving sustainable change "one porch at a time." The collective impact of these grassroots efforts are engaged residents, less crime, safe kids and overall greater community involvement. The Northwestern Mutual Foundation is proud to be a founding member and long standing partner of Safe & Sound.

– Deanna L. Tillisch, Director of Corporate Affairs & Foundation Vice President

Safe Places: Partnerships to Keep Youth Safe

In 2010, Safe & Sound provided funding support and technical assistance to 30 youth-serving organizations in order to ensure the availability of after-school Safe Places for young people ages 10-19. We are grateful for the dedication of these groups to encourage youth development and leadership, and for initiating youth-led crime reduction strategies.

Agape Community Center	Learn the Seas – America (RAFT)
Boys & Girls Clubs Daniels-Mardak	Milwaukee Christian Center
Boys & Girls Clubs Don & Sallie Davis	Milwaukee LGBT Community Center
Boys & Girls Clubs Fitzsimonds	Neighborhood House
Boys & Girls Clubs at John Marshall High CLC	Neu-Life Community Resource
Boys & Girls Clubs LaFollette	Northcott Neighborhood House
Boys & Girls Clubs LaVarnway	Our Next Generation (ONG)
Boys & Girls Clubs Mary Ryan	Project Ujima
Boys & Girls Clubs North Division	Running Rebels
City on a Hill	Silver Spring Neighborhood Center
COA Goldin	Social Development Commission (SDC)
COA Riverwest	United Community Center
Hmong American Friendship Association	WCS – Project Excel
Journey House	YMCA Cudahy
Latino Community Center	YMCA Parklawn

