



City of Cambridge
Police Department
Office of the Commissioner

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Perry L. Anderson Jr.
Police Commissioner

Robert W. Healy
City Manager

January 20, 1993

Mr. Robert W. Healy
City Manager
City of Cambridge

Subject: City Calendar Item # 17 of 12/21/92

In response to City Council Calendar Item # 17 of 12/21/92 pertaining to strategies and initiatives in regards to violence throughout the City, the Police Department continues to diligently pursue all available measures.

Some of the measures implemented by the Police Department include:

- *neighborhood walking patrols
- *uniformed officer presence in parks and playgrounds
- *D.A.R.E. program
- *gang liaison with Boston Police
- *meetings and "rap" talks with youth
- *special task force concentrated in Central Square and other targeted areas
- *"Park & Walk" program for uniformed patrol units
- *priority prosecution with Middlesex District Attorney's Office

The Police Department is available to work with the School Department, the Department of Human Services, or any agency or group in dealing with violence throughout the City.

Perry L. Anderson, Jr.
Police Commissioner

PLA:smc

OFFICE OF THE CITY MANAGER
93 JAN 21 AM 9:29



ADDRESS ALL COMMUNICATIONS TO
5 WESTERN AVENUE, CAMBRIDGE, MASSACHUSETTS 02139





City of Cambridge

Department of Human Service Programs

51 Inman Street, Cambridge, Massachusetts 02139
(617) 349-6200, Fax (617) 349-6248

RECEIVED
93 JAN 13 AM 9:37
OFFICE OF THE CITY MANAGER

To: Robert W. Healy
From: Jill Herold *JH*
Date: January 6, 1993
Re: Response to Council Order # 17 dated 12/21/92:
Strategies and initiatives in regards to violence
throughout the City.

The Community and Youth Division has undertaken several initiatives/projects over the past year to address the issues of violence as it affects youth in Cambridge. Some of these initiatives have involved collaboration with other agencies/departments to coordinate services and avoid duplication of efforts. Collaborative efforts include the following:

1. Collaboration with the Cambridge School Department's overnight program targeting at risk Cambridge youth. The project was designed to provide youth with the skills necessary to enable them to overcome personal boundaries and foster more positive interactions. A total of 28 males participated in this project.
2. Collaboration with the Cambridge Youth Council in co-sponsoring Cambridge Youth Speak Out Against Violence and Cambridge Youth At their Best Day.
3. Collaboration with Cambridge and Somerville Legal Services, Transition House and Emerge in implementing the Dating Violence Intervention Project.
4. Collaboration with the Area IV Crime Task Force in promoting the Youth Dialogue Night with Commissioner Perry L. Anderson to address issues related to Police harassment.
5. Collaboration with the OSAP Project in hosting, at several Youth Centers, focus groups for Cambridge youth to air their concerns/issues related to violence.
6. Co-Sponsorship of a Violence Prevention workshop with Gang Peace.

DIVISIONS:

Childcare
349-6200

Community Learning Center
349-6363

Community & Youth
349-6231

Council on Aging/Elderly Services
349-6220

Low Income Fuel Assistance
349-6247

Planning & Development
349-6200

Recreation
349-6230

MultiService Center/Homeless Services
349-6340

7. Most recently, Community & Youth staff have played a critical role in the planning and implementation of the CRLS Teen Vacation Center which provided a week of educational and recreational activities to Cambridge Youth.

In addition to the above-mentioned collaborative efforts, the Community and Youth Division has updated its Drugs and Weapons Policy to insure Youth Centers in Cambridge continue to offer a safe environment for all members.

Youth Centers have sponsored several trips to correctional facilities. Trips to Billerica House of Correction (Second Chance Program) and Bridgewater (Project Youth) involved over 100 Cambridge Youth and provided an opportunity to interact with inmates at these facilities. It is our belief that, although transportation is an added expense for Youth Centers, these projects are beneficial in our efforts to provide youth with a sense of life behind bars and will continue to be offered as a prevention project throughout the City in the coming year.

In our attempts to foster better communication between Cambridge youth and the police, we have sponsored several sports events involving both groups. These include the Moore Center/Cambridge Police Basketball game and the Tobin Neighborhood/Police game.

In sponsoring several well attended dances over the past six months, staff have developed a security plan which has been reviewed by the Cambridge Police Department to insure a safe event for all attendees. There is growing concern, however, that a metal detector similar to the Cambridge School Department's detector must be used in the future at all dances. This will replace our current "pat down" and guarantee more effective screening for weapons.

Staff from the Frisoli Youth Center recently played an invaluable role in responding to the impact in the East Cambridge community of the murder of an MIT student. Staff responded immediately in advocating through the Cambridge School Department and Youth Guidance Center for counseling support of their members. In addition to their focus on East Cambridge Youth, the Frisoli staff held meetings with the parents of the youth, to keep them informed of their efforts in this regard and to extend an offer of counseling support for parents, eg. coping skills.

As we continue to address the issues of violence as it affects our community, Youth Program staff will be actively involved in

other City initiatives and committees to complement the many efforts in Cambridge focused on violence prevention. Some of these committees include the Violence Prevention Task Force, the Youth Planning Leadership Committee, Cambridge Schools Transition Team, Cambridge Youth Council and the Substance Abuse Task Force.

Youth Centers will continue to hold informal open communication with members on a daily basis as it relates to issues they are confronting. We will also continue to host educational components to address current issues.

For: Mayor Reeves, Mr. Healey, Commissioner Anderson, Superintendent McGrath,
Ms. Henrietta Davis, Ms. Jill Herold, Bob Goodwin, John Silva
From: Steven Brion-Meisels, Joyce Johnson-Shabazz, Marvin Daniels
cc: Pat Murphy, Sandra Spooner, Fran Foley, Ed Sarasin, Bill McLaurin, Diane Tabor,
elementary principals, House administrators, participating agencies, School
Committee members,

VIOLENCE PREVENTION ACTIVITIES IN THE SCHOOLS

Progress Report: March 8, 1993

BACKGROUND

In November, Superintendent McGrath requested that we work as a team in order to increase the breadth and depth of violence prevention activities in the schools. Since that time, we have worked at several different levels; this report will summarize some of our work in the following areas at both the high school and elementary schools:

- 1) direct work with students
- 2) staff support and education
- 3) curriculum development
- 4) community outreach and coordination
- 5) strategic planning for 1993-94

We agreed to function as a full-time equivalent staff person; however, our work together amounts to approximately 60 hours per week. This report, though lengthy, is in fact a **partial account** of work being done in the schools. Much is being done that is not directly tied with our work as a team; we acknowledge and thank those throughout the system who continue to work on these issues, and apologize for those projects which are not included in this report. **Please let us know what else is going on, so we can include it in the future.**

1) DIRECT WORK WITH STUDENTS

A) Elementary schools. At this point, violence prevention activities are being implemented in all 11 elementary schools which serve middle grades students. These activities include the following:

- peer mediation training in 9 elementary schools (50 students grades 6-8)
- violence prevention groups (4-6 week sessions, probably more than 500 students) which include:
 - violence against women
 - sources of violence (race, gender, stereotyping)
 - links among kinds of violence (Youth to Youth video)
 - gang violence prevention
 - dissing and the language of respect
 - violence and substance abuse prevention
 - conflict resolution & peace games
- integration of violence issues into social studies curriculum

- "whole-day" efforts (Harrington Peaceable Schools Day)
- parent groups (Drug Free Schools funded parent cluster groups, conducted by Julia Perez and Jackie Carroll; Harrington evening group)
- Peace Games Project, will involve 400 middle grade students, in collaboration with Phillips Brooks House at Harvard University (April 29)
- Youth Conference ("We are Children of the World") for 150 middle grade students will touch on issues of violence and substance abuse prevention; done in collaboration with the Harvard Graduate School of Education's Risk and Prevention program (April 17)

Each school participates in a subset of these activities. In some cases they are conducted by school staff , in others by outside agencies. A list of participating agencies is included at the end of this report.

B. CRLS. Work at CRLS is conducted by a broad range of school and community staff members. A partial summary of the work currently being done follows:

- A weekly group is currently conducted at the Academy, by Marvin Daniels and Joyce Johnson-Shabazz.
- a half-day program on March 29 for all freshmen and sophomores in the Academy. Workshops will touch on the list of issues mentioned above, and will be led by a collaborative of school, city, agency and volunteer individuals.
- weekly support groups which touch upon issues of violence and self-esteem (Marvin Daniels)
- a young women's support group is in its formative stages, to be focused on one House at the high school (Joyce Johnson-Shabazz)
- peer mediation training for 150 students across all Houses of the high school (John Silva and staff)
- legal assembly for all CRLS students informing them of the laws related to weapons use; individual CRLS staff members have incorporated these issues into their curriculum.
- crisis intervention by high school staff involving groups or individual students.
- articles on issues related to violence and violence prevention in the Register Forum, the CRLS student newspaper
- Young Women's Commission (Nancy Ryan and others)
- groups for female and male students through the Teen Health Center (Dating Violence Intervention Project)
- Youth Peace Corps (Cathy Hoffman, Peace Commission) see below
- Project Success (in school suspension program, Al Coccoluto & Bettina Shultz) is integrating these issues into their work

2) STAFF SUPPORT AND EDUCATION

A) Elementary Schools. Two-hour workshops have been conducted for all teachers in grades K,3 and 4 (one workshop per grade level). These workshops have focused on understanding sources of violence, and developing tools for working with students on these issues. They have been conducted on elementary Early Release Days.

In addition, we have worked with clusters of teachers in the elementary schools -- with a specific focus on developing groups and on curriculum integration. Consultation for elementary staff has been made available through grant funds, in collaboration with community mental health agencies.

B) CRLS. All CRLS staff participated in one two-hour workshop on sources and responses to violence (January). This workshop resulted in two outcomes:

- a broader discussion of these issues was initiated
- a staff survey designed to deepen our understanding of faculty perspectives, concerns and ideas, was completed and analyzed (attached)

Our plan is to continue this process next year, working with Houses, in order to develop a comprehensive approach to the range of issues related to violence prevention. As indicated below, one major area for focus next year needs to be violence against women, understood and responded to in the broader context of race, class, gender and homophobia. Our goal is to work with every staff member at CRLS over the next two years in order to increase our awareness of these issues, and develop tools which can help "increase the peace."

In addition, staff support efforts continue with Security and Health/Physical Education staff.

A CRLS Coordinating Group meets twice monthly at the high school to continue this planning. The group includes our team, Ed Sarasin, Bill McLaurin, John Silva, Ray Shurtlieff and Lynn Schoeff (Teen Health Center). The Coordinating Group is currently analyzing the Staff Survey to help provide direction for this effort next year.

3. CURRICULUM DEVELOPMENT

A. Elementary Schools. All elementary teachers are currently participating in educational workshops which will help them teach a comprehensive Health Education curriculum, grades K-8. Our curriculum efforts this year have focused on developing a Resource Packet of violence prevention activities which teachers can integrate into their health curriculum. This work is being done by an intern from the Harvard Graduate School of Education, and is expected to be complete by March 30. The materials will then be integrated into the workshops for teachers implemented next year.

In addition, we are working to integrate conflict resolution, peace and justice issues into traditional curriculum. Examples include: integration into the reading program of kindergarten students at the Agassiz School; integration into social studies and literature classes at the Harrington; the use of Facing History curriculum in several middle grade classrooms; etc. Other examples will be collected in the spring edition of Peace News, co-published by the Peace Commission and the schools.

CRLS. All freshman participate in violence prevention classes through their Health and Physical Education requirements; this curriculum derives from the work of Dr. Deborah Prothrow-Stith. For next year, we are working to develop an upper level elective course which integrates violence prevention, mediation and social change

(Kim DeAndrade, Cathy Hoffman). In addition, we are working with the Onesimus Project to integrate these issues into literature and social studies courses; and with Al Ferreira, Arthur Lipkin and Kim DeAndrade, to develop courses which focus on issues of homophobia (see recommendations).

4. COMMUNITY COLLABORATIONS

Community collaborations have involved agencies, institutions and volunteers. Our goal has been to increase the services available to youth, and to move forward in the work of coordination. Partners currently working with us include:

- community mental health agencies, who provide staff support and training through the Student Support Teams and at the high school: Teen Health Center, Cambridge Youth Guidance, Cambridge Family & Children's Services, The Family Center, Cambridge City Hospital
- community agencies, who provide services to youth, including: Department of Human Services, Teen Centers, Community Schools, AHORA, YWCA, and the Violence Prevention Task Force members
- Drug Free Schools and Office of Substance Abuse Prevention (OSAP) staff members, who have focused on neighborhood and parent work
- Positive Edge workers, and area churches
- Peace Commission, Women's Commission
- Harvard Graduate School of Education and M.I.T. students
- Lesley College (for elementary staff workshops and Summer Institute)

5. STRATEGIC PLANNING

From the start of this effort, we have believed that it is crucial for municipal leaders to articulate a coordinated plan for violence prevention -- one which integrates:

- prevention, intervention and enforcement
- a vision and plan to "increase the peace" in schools & the community
- a roadmap which coordinates the work of the many individuals and agencies who are committed to violence prevention across our community

To this end, we have begun a strategic planning process so that we can bring to the school and community leadership some recommendations for long-term progress. We believe a long-range plan must include:

- increased support for adults who work with children, youth & families:
 - workshops to integrate understanding and action
 - consultation for prevention and intervention
 - strategies to integrate this work into the daily life of the school
- improved coordination among all agencies working on these issues
- a place for the voices of children and youth, in all aspects of our work
- expanded direct work with children, families and youth in all contexts where they can be brought together
- intensified attention to issues of race, class, gender -- especially violence against women, race-based violence and homophobia

- development of a place where young adults (high school, college and others) can learn how to work with these issues, and how to become agents of positive change in the community
- stable funding for this work, through grants and municipal sources.

We believe that each of these pieces contributes to a broader vision of a community which stands for and acts to create, peace and justice. As Dr. King reminds us, "Peace is not merely the absence of tension; it is the presence of justice." Violence prevention is deeply connected with peace-making. These must continue to be our twin commitments for our future work.

Agencies who are working in collaboration with our team:

Cambridge Youth Guidance Center
 Cambridge Family and Children's Services
 CASPAR
 Cambridge City Hospital
 Concilio Hispano/AHORA
 Dating Violence Intervention Project
 The Family Center
 Peace Commission

Youth to Youth
 Cross Cultural Consultation
 School Mediation Associates
 Lesley College
 Harvard Graduate School
 of Education
 Phillips Brooks House
 Women's Commission

attachments:

CRLS Staff survey (January, 1993)
 Academy Workshop Plan

NITE STOP 2

A Brief Report

NITE STOP TWO REPORT

A brief analysis

This report is a brief analysis of the Nite Stop Two Program held at the War Memorial Gym and Field House February 16-20th, 1993.

Nite Stop's agenda sought to provide a holistic achievement-oriented program (**using down-to-earth life skills workshops**) and a activity-oriented program (**recreational team /social skills building**) for CRLS students and seventh and eighth grade Elementary students in the city of Cambridge.

We acknowledge that this program simply addressed the symptoms of violence among Cambridge youth by providing an alternative to the streets, however, unlike any other site in the city of Cambridge, CRLS had the benefit of providing a site that is commonplace and dauntless.

The success of the Nite Stop Program stems from the collaboration of the Cambridge Youth Department, Recreation Department and CRLS. The congenial atmosphere at Nite Stop is attributed to an ilk of proficient youthworkers based within this collaboration.

Bob Goodwin and the Youth and Recreation Staff cannot go unnoticed. Everyone met the challenge that a program like Nite Stop affords. Adult volunteers from CRLS and the community decreased the burden and anxiety that could have been felt in Nite Stop's planning and implementation.

Enclosed you will find daily statistics of the participants at Nite Stop Two and a few recommendations and comments received from the participants.

The City of Cambridge support is greatly appreciated. Your favor for this program demonstrated to the students and youth of this city that the City of Cambridge believes youth are a priority.

Unlike the first Nite Stop program, the diversity of the participants in culture and gender was improved. Such diversity was indicative to the diversity in staff and activities. Nite Stop have proven to be the haven in which students who are divergent can be apart of a program without opposition.

DAILY ATTENDANCE RECORD FOR NITE STOP TWO

TUESDAY	250
WEDNESDAY	330
THURSDAY	300
FRIDAY	280
SATURDAY	340

Note: Attendance record may have an error of .1%

STUDENT RECOMMENDATIONS & COMMENTS

"NITE STOP should be on weekly basis, maybe Saturdays or Friday nights."

"It was okay! I wanted more of my friends to attend than did. They did really know what to expect. I know they would come next time."

"I want to have more tournaments that will involve everyone."

"We need more workshops in smaller groups that help us deal with and talk about some of our issues, not yours."

"Can we have more entertainment events, like performers, poets or athletes?"

"I wanted to try the ropes course this time!"

"Nite Stop is cool! Are you going to keep it going or will it phase out?"

"Whose going to keep Nite Stop going?"

"...No, I like having a place to just hang out without getting into trouble."

"Everything is cool until we get to that coat room stuff."

"I'm glad you let us in, we never get a chance to play with the big kids."

"Overall, this was positive and I was here all week, Shocked me too!"

The overall responses received were positive and the students of the Cambridge community are supportive of such an event. Careful consideration should be granted for its longevity.

Nite Stop is meeting the needs of some youth, not everyone. We know that not all youth will take advantage of this program during the holidays for one reason or another. However, we have not tested to see if this program would work on an ongoing basis or outside of a holiday.

The city should consider, based upon the needs of the youth and the current success of the program, to have Nite Stop as an ongoing alternative for youth in this city.

Respectfully submitted,

PROPOSAL FOR

NITE STOP 2: A PROGRAM COLLABORATION OF CRLS, CAMBRIDGE YOUTH DEPT. AND RECREATION DEPT.

The enclosed proposal is written with enthusiasm due to the success of the first Nite Stop Program. CRLS along with Bob Goodwin of the Cambridge Youth Dept. and part-time staff supplied by the Rec. Dept. have collaborated to successfully develop a multi-cultural, activity/achievement oriented program for Cambridge youth during the Cambridge schools Winter break.

Figures are designed to provide Cambridge youth with a quality program that will meet the holistic capacity of every participant. Thank you, in advance for your support in assisting us with such a program.

STAFF/PERSONNEL

SIX CRLS ALUMNUS	\$10.00/hr. x 6hrs. x 5 days	\$1,800.00
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FOUR CRLS HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS (rotating schedule)	\$5.00/hr. x 5hrs. x 5 days	\$ 250.00
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REFRESHMENTS	\$100.00/day x 5 days	\$ 500.00
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ENTERTAINMENT		\$ 500.00
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Dreamers Inc.	\$200.00	
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Workshop stipend items	\$300.00	
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ART SUPPLIES		\$ 200.00
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VIDEO RENTALS		<u>\$ 25.00</u>
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TOTAL EXPENDITURES		\$3,275.00
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BUDGET AMOUNT REQUESTED		\$3,275.00
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Coming This Winter Break

NITE STOP

2

February 16 - 20th
6:00 - 11:00 p.m.
Cambridge Rindge & Latin School

459 Broadway-War Memorial Building
(use Cambridge Street Entrance)

Activities include:

Basketball (3 on 3 tournament)
Volleyball (Coed Tournament)
Floor Hockey
Special Movie Nights
Swimming
Chess
"Down-to-earth" Workshops
Gymnastics/Aerobics
Ropes
and much, much more...

NIGHT STOP TENTATIVE SCHEDULE OF ACTIVITIES

	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
6:00 to 7:30	volleyball gymnastics basketball floor hockey swimming weight room	open gym W.R. swim (only)	open gym W.R. swim (only)	ALL ACTIVITIES	open gym W.R. swim (only)
7:30 to 9:00	WORKSHOP	WORKSHOP	WORKSHOP	WORKSHOP	WORKSHOP
9:00 to 10:45	MOVIE	MOVIE	MOVIE	MOVIE	MOVIE
8:30 to 11:00	ALL ACTIVITIES	ALL ACTIVITIES	ALL ACTIVITIES	3 on 3 B-Ball FLOOR Hockey Match coed volleyball	3 on 3 B-Ball FLOOR Hockey Match coed volleyball

Scholarship Check off -

13.



CITY OF CAMBRIDGE
CAMBRIDGE, MASSACHUSETTS 02139

TEL. 349-4300
FAX. 349-4307

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT
ROBERT W. HEALY
City Manager

RICHARD C. ROSSI
Deputy City Manager

March 15, 1993

To the Honorable, the City Council:

In response to Awaiting Report #12 regarding strategies and initiative undertaken with regards to violence, please be advised of the following:

Cambridge has undertaken a multifaceted approach to the enforcement of and the prevention of violence. Attached please find reports from the Police, Human Services and School Departments outlining various initiatives undertaken by those departments, often in collaboration with other departments, agencies and task forces. In addition to those mentioned in the reports is the new pilot program, Positive Edge, which was introduced to the City Council at its last Council meeting; this program is targeting and developing initiatives for "at-risk" youth to prevent their initiation into violent activities.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Robert W. Healy", is written over a horizontal line.

Robert W. Healy
City Manager

Attachments

Consent Agenda # 13

S- 131

Awaiting Report Item Number 12 regarding
strategies and initiative undertaken
with regards to violence.

*See 1992 Finance #552
for original order
dated 12/21/92*

In City Council,

March 15, 1993

Placed on file