WHAT IS THE CARDIFF VIOLENCE PREVENTION MODEL?

More than half of violent crime in the United States is not reported to law enforcement, according to the U.S. Department of Justice. That means cities and communities lack a complete understanding of where violence occurs, which limits the ability to develop successful solutions.

The Cardiff Violence Prevention Model provides a way for communities to gain a clearer picture about where violence is occurring by combining and mapping both hospital and police data on violence. But more than just an approach to map and understand violence, the Cardiff Model provides a straightforward framework for hospitals, law enforcement agencies, public health agencies, community groups, and others interested in violence prevention to work together and develop collaborative violence prevention strategies.
The greatest benefit to implementing a Cardiff Model communications plan is to ensure transparency and trust with local communities. The Cardiff Model is intended to benefit the community. The Community Safety Partnership (CSP) should designate a centralized point of contact to serve as the lead on all communications and media. This person should:

- Take the lead on developing a communications and media strategy for the partnership,
- Draft communications materials,
- Provide expert guidance on strategic communications and develop decision-making processes for reviewing communications materials under consideration by CSP members, and
- Coordinate with media relations staff who serve within the collaborating members’ individual organizations, as needed.

Planning for communications and media should be done collectively and in tandem with all other project planning, and may include some or all of the following activities:

- Communications Strategy & Plan
- Goals and SMART Objectives
- Audience Analysis
- Risk Communication Plan
- Communication Channels
- **Budget**: Financial resources, human resources, and in-kind resources
- **Products and Activities**: A work plan, including a time-line, is recommended to streamline needed inputs and desired outputs, roles and responsibilities, monitoring and evaluation

**MEDIA ENGAGEMENT AND STRATEGY DEVELOPMENT**

Information about the project should be prepared by the media lead regardless of whether the CSP intends to engage the media. The information should include the development of talking points about the project (frequently asked questions, history of the Cardiff Model, information about the local CSP collaboration), a general timeline for project implementation, a list of the organizations that are collaborating together and other relevant public information. Collaborators will need to review and approve all documents prior to dissemination.
JANUARY 18, 2017 — Violence is a serious public health problem that affects people of all ages, but according to the U.S. Department of Justice, more than half of violent crime (53 percent) in the United States is unreported to law enforcement. Therefore, communities lack a complete understanding of where violence occurs and how to develop tailored prevention programs. The Cardiff Violence Prevention Model (Cardiff Model), developed by surgeon and Professor Jonathan Shepherd, M.D., of Cardiff University in the United Kingdom, provides a way for communities to gain more complete information as to where violence occurs and how to prevent it by forming partnerships between hospitals and law enforcement and others interested in violence prevention. Grady Memorial Hospital and DeKalb County Police Department have created a local Cardiff Model partnership.

The partnership, known locally as the United States Injury Prevention Partnership or USIPP, has worked since June 2015 to collect anonymous information on the location and timing of violent events and use that information with existing law enforcement records to create local maps of where violence occurs. Local maps have identified that the southern region of DeKalb County has a higher number of assaults and crimes than other areas of DeKalb County. This information and predictive analysis enhances law enforcement efforts and helps guide environmental improvements that can reduce crime, such as building repairs, safety improvements, and other USIPP-led ideas. Currently, USIPP is partnering with DeKalb Police Department’s South Precinct and business group to develop public health strategies and environmental approaches to address violence and crime in the area.

The DeKalb County Police Department works with area businesses to improve public safety and seek new opportunities to prevent crime in DeKalb County. "We welcome community involvement and partnerships to enhance the quality of life for the residents of DeKalb County," said DeKalb County Police Chief J.W. Conroy. "We are always looking for new and innovative ways to identify and reduce crime." USIPP’s support and community engagement have strengthened the interest of businesses to prevent crime by improving their properties using evidence-based environmental approaches such as property beautification and increased security measures.

Daniel Wu, M.D., associate professor of emergency medicine at Emory School of Medicine, says, "The opportunity to work with DeKalb County Police Department allows the hospital [Grady Memorial Hospital] to prevent violence before it enters our doors. We are committed to improving the health of our communities by making them safer through innovative programs like the Cardiff Model and partnerships like ours with DeKalb County Police Department."

USIPP also has been working closely with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's (CDC) Division of Violence Prevention, which has provided technical assistance and support for adapting the Cardiff Model to the United States and selecting public health approaches for violence prevention.

Preventing violence and making communities safer are key USIPP goals. DeKalb County Police Department and Grady Memorial Hospital hope to engage with more community groups, public health agencies, local governments, and others interested in violence prevention to scale up and sustain implementation of the Cardiff Model in the Atlanta metropolitan area. South DeKalb County businesses interested in learning more about how the local Cardiff model partnership could benefit their business and communities are welcome to attend the next business group meeting, scheduled for Feb. 22, 2017, from 10:00–11:00 a.m. ET at South DeKalb County Police Precinct, 2842 H F Shepard Drive, Decatur, GA 30024.

LEARN MORE about the Cardiff Model and how to start using it in your community's violence prevention efforts at www.cdc.gov/violenceprevention/fundedprograms/cardiffmodel

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