

# MILWAUKEE COMMUNITY BASED PROSECUTION

Problem Solving Through Collaboration For Community Safety



# CPU Definition and Principles

## DEFINITION

Community Prosecution is a philosophy that encourages government agencies, community based organizations, private businesses, and neighborhood residents to work collaboratively to create safer neighborhoods and enhance the quality of life.

## 4 CORE PRINCIPLES

- Recognize the Community's Role in Public Safety
- Engage in Problem Solving
- Establish and Maintain Partnerships
- Evaluate the Outcomes of Activities

# **Community Prosecution Mission**

**To create a robust and flexible  
collaboration, focused on  
problem oriented, community  
driven initiatives.**

# Operational Structure

- Target Team
  - Line level representatives
  - Meet bi-monthly
  - Strategically address public safety issues
  - Action requires attention of three or more agencies
- District Level Operations
  - Line level representatives
  - Issues not rising to the level of the Neighborhood Safety Team

**Neighborhood Safety Team**

**District Level Operations**

# Target Teams



# Southside Organizing Committee Community Prosecution Unit Coordinator

**Community  
Prosecution  
Coordinator**

- **Grassroots Organizing:** provide residents a greater voice in the decision about their community
- **Leadership:** SOC provides a Leadership Academy for resident interested in forming neighborhood groups and doing grassroots organizing.
- **Unity:** SOC works to build coalitions that address the needs that relate to their mission and our launching the following coalitions this year:
  - Driver's Card Program
  - 5<sup>th</sup> Place Revitalization
  - Street Prostitution with a focus on Harm Reduction to women involved
- **Engagement:** SOC develops customized relationship with each resident and group, and provides support such as:
  - Housing and Neighborhood Revitalization and Resources
  - Neighborhood Safety
  - Bilingual Services



**SOC**  
**Southside Organizing Committee**

# Safe and Sound Community Prosecution Unit Coordinator

Community  
Prosecution  
Coordinator

- Works directly out of Police Districts 2, 3, 5 and 7 as civilian contact and resource for residents/stakeholders to assist in neighborhood nuisance abatement and building of stronger police-community relationships
- Administrative resource and central point of contact for Neighborhood Safety Team
- Assists with the development and execution of CPU led-initiatives, insures the Neighborhood Safety Team is acting strategically with a focus on community priorities and appropriate follow-up is completed
- Maintains nuisance property records for reporting, follow-up and evaluation



**SAFE & SOUND**

# Safe and Sound Community Partners

Community  
Organizers

## New strategy for 2015:

- Two priority neighborhoods per district, plus new Citywide Team (2.5 staff members) to provide outreach support outside of target areas

## Organizing Team Structure:

- One traditional organizer (adult-focused) to build neighborhood capacity, organize block clubs, build relationship with law enforcement.
- One youth organizer to connect youth with leadership opportunities, develop connections with the community, build relationships with adults and law enforcement.

27<sup>th</sup> Street West Drug Free Communities  
Coalition (53208)



# Assistant District Attorney- Community Prosecution Unit

District Attorney's  
Office

- Assists the District Commander in the coordination and operation of the Neighborhood Safety Team.
- Review appropriate criminal cases at the police district station.
- Prepare/review search warrants/subpoenas at police district station.
- Work with district partners to abate nuisances.
- Provide resources, training, and information for district partners related to the criminal law and procedure.
- Facilitate communication and information sharing between the various partners and the District Attorney's Office.
- Knowledge and prosecution of High Value Targets.
- Knowledge of alternatives to incarceration candidates.

Community Prosecution  
Unit



# Milwaukee Police Department

Milwaukee Police  
Department



- Centralized guidance, Unified district supervision, Standardized Position Descriptions
- (Example):
  - Two 2-person cars
    - Neighborhood Nuisance Unit
    - Neighborhood Response
  - Associated Units / Officers
    - Community Liaison Officer
    - District Crime Analyst
  - Adjunct Units / Officers
    - Late Power Tavern Car
    - Beat Officers
    - Anti-Gang Units
  - Freedom to address initiatives
  - Hub of information in the district
    - i.e. Who are the bad guys, what are the bad areas, what assets do we have
  - Working knowledge and relationships with the many different partners

# Sojourner Family Peace Advocates

## Sojourner Family Peace Advocates

- Six funded advocates covering Districts 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7
- Work with victims of domestic violence to improve victim safety and offer immediate services
  - Both victims of cases referred for charges and un-referred victims
  - Meet with victims in the community and provide court support
  - Conduct home visits, case by case scenario with law enforcement
  - Emphasis on connections to resources, safety planning, and problem solving
  - Outreach Specialist focusing on city-wide neighborhood outreach and youth work initiatives
  - Offender Outreach worker providing services to offenders re-entering through the districts (primarily out of District 4)
- Provide resources, training, and information for district partners related to domestic abuse.
- Facilitate communication and information sharing between the various partners and the Sojourner Family Peace Center.
- Knowledge of High Value Targets and information about civil restraining orders for those HVTs.
- Knowledge of community resources available for victims, offenders, and their children.



# State of Wisconsin Division of Adult Community Corrections

## Department of Corrections



- Streamline supervision (i.e. one or two supervisors, one assistant regional chief)
- Combination of high risk and traditional caseloads, reflecting the Neighborhood Safety Team priorities, maintained at districts
- Full-time coverage at districts
  - At least 2 full time agents assigned
- Facilitate information sharing between partners and the Department of Community Corrections
- Proactive investigation/supervision
- Point of contact for Neighborhood Safety Team members
- Northpointe Compas risk and needs assessment tool

# State of Wisconsin Division of Juvenile Corrections



**Department of  
Corrections**

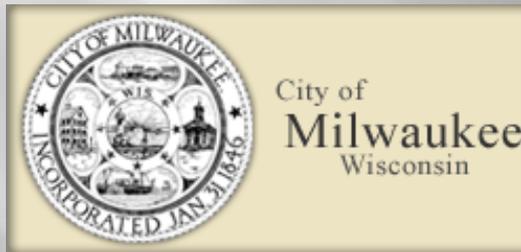


## Juvenile Milwaukee Offender Re-entry Program

- WIDOC/DJC Agent teamed with MPD Officers in districts 3 and 7
- Combination of high risk and traditional caseloads, reflecting the priorities of the district
- Facilitate information sharing between partners and the Division of Juvenile Corrections
- Offer services and support to juvenile and family members
- MPD/DJC visits with youth at LHS/CLS and Pre-release visits with family of juvenile who will be returning home
- “Welcome Home” visits
- Proactive investigations and supervision
- Swift response to apprehension requests
- Enhanced supervision and monitoring (GPS)
- Mobile technology resources

# City of Milwaukee Department of Neighborhood Services

## Department of Neighborhood Services



- 15 highly credentialed inspectors charged with addressing quality of life issues in Milwaukee's neighborhoods.
- Assigned to geographic territories aligned with MPD districts.
- Provides expanded availability for late shift and weekend inspections with rapid response times.
- Provides aggressive abatement techniques aimed at eliminating nuisance and problem properties.
- Identifies significant neighborhood problems and provides targeted corrective action.
- Conducts thorough investigations of Zoning and Licensing complaints.
- Addresses illegal use and illegal occupancies, conduct licensed premise checks.
- Attends community, aldermanic and business meetings to educate citizenry and hear neighborhood concerns.

# City of Milwaukee Department of Neighborhood Services

Department of  
Neighborhood  
Services

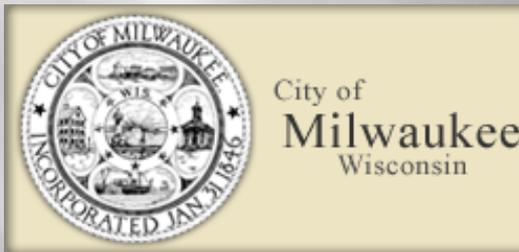


- **New Initiatives for 2015**
  - **Creation of Nuisance RRI Program**
    - Targeted inspections of nuisance properties under 80-10
    - Unit by unit inspection
    - Increased penalties and fees for non-compliance
  - **BOZA Periodic Inspection Program (BPIP)**
    - Ensure compliance with BOZA conditions, plans of operation, landscaping plans, etc for all cases heard by the Board.
    - Provides a defined periodic inspection interval based on potential detrimental impacts to surrounding neighborhoods.
  - **6 Additional Inspector Positions**
    - 21 Special Enforcement Inspectors

# City of Milwaukee City Attorney's Office

## City Attorney's Office

- Two city attorneys assigned to the unit
- Circuit court litigation regarding drug/gang houses, public nuisance actions, condemnation cases
- Licensing committee and administrative board litigation
- Addressing property owners, landlords, business owners, commercial licensees and other third party stakeholders to respond to public safety threats
- Municipal court prosecution of citations relative to neighborhood quality of life and CPU issues
  - i.e. abandoned property maintenance, nuisance activity and properties, etc.
- Attend area-specific community & police district meetings



# Community Based Organizations

Community  
Based  
Organizations



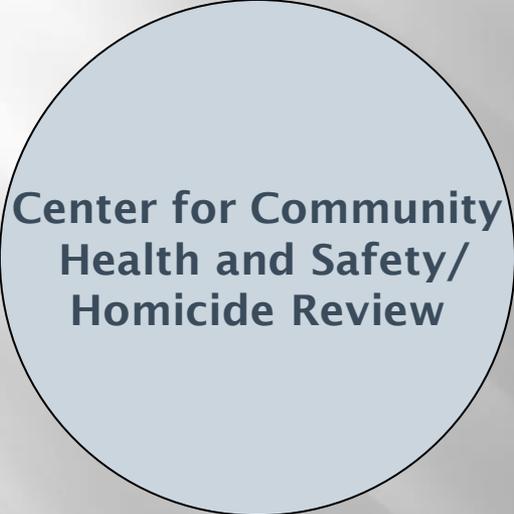
- Partnerships vary by geographic area
- Provide vital information to and from the residents
- Provide a myriad of services
- Many employ organizers to help interact with the neighborhoods

# Additional Collaborations



- Local Initiative Support Corporation (“LISC”)
  - Assists with addressing the needs of private business and business improvement districts
  - Provides enhanced training opportunities for public safety
  - Works with the Sustainable Communities Initiative

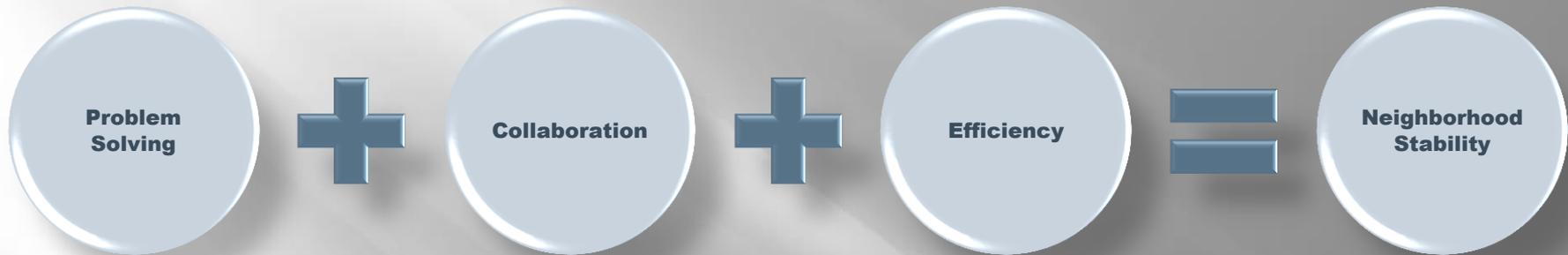
# Evaluation and Training



Center for Community  
Health and Safety/  
Homicide Review

- Center for Community Health Safety/ Homicide Review to evaluate program.
- Community surveys to determine effectiveness within the neighborhoods
- Joint partner training to provide consistent understanding of agency responsibilities and roles

# Benefits and Efficiencies of Community Based Prosecution



- Increased safety and quality of life in the neighborhoods
- Increased information sharing leading to better, more informed decision making
- Increased accessibility to the Neighborhood Safety Team by the neighborhoods

- Increased efficiency through standardization and streamlined supervision
- Decreased cost
- Fewer repeat calls for service
- Neighborhood stability