

Program Goals

GOAL 1:

Increase public awareness on the epidemic of Black-on-Black Crime in Pulaski County.

Objectives

- To create a general educational and media awareness campaign through print, radio, billboards, and on-line;
- To support youth activities with youth groups, public schools, and private partners;
- Strengthen community partnerships to educate about available community resources for residents;
- Conduct quarterly town hall meetings on crime prevention in areas with a high prevalence of violent crime.

GOAL II:

Provide delinquency prevention and intervention service opportunities to Pulaski County Arkansas' most at-risk youth for crime.

Objectives

- To create and support youth activities with youth groups, public schools, and private partners;
- Implement a minimum of 4 parent training seminars to cover topics such as: Parent/child communication; anger management; violence prevention in schools;
- Encourage youth to become crime prevention advocates, promoting living crime-free lives;
- Utilize the expertise of crime prevention specialists to present youth and adult forums on violence;

GOAL III:

To reduce Black-on-Black crime in Little Rock and Pulaski County.

Objectives

- Conduct workshops for community organizations, churches, and other human service providers;
- Support private and public organizations that help crime victims and their families with information and referrals; institute the "Brother's Keepers Program;"
- Create a central database of shared information on Black-on-Black crime statistics and resources;
- Create and support existing intervention programs, mentoring programs, as well as a support system for released prisoners;
- To conduct a Crime Summit that will educate the community at large, specifically in underserved areas and those who have been proven to be at most risk;
- Participate in governmental forums, hearings and processes to report on the impact of Black-on-Black crime.

Program Partners

- Office of Senator Blanche Lincoln
- Office of Governor Mike Beebe
- Attorney General's Office
- Arkansas Coalition for Juvenile Justice
- Arkansas Minority Health Commission
- Arkansas State Chamber of Commerce
- Arkansas State Police
- Attorney General's Office
- City of Little Rock
- Family Service Agency
- House of Vision
- Little Rock Police Department
- New Futures for Youth
- P. A. R. K.
- 34th Street Baptist Church
- UAMS Center for Diversity Affairs
- WECAN, Inc.



"We Connect People To Services That Affect Their Hearts, Minds, Souls and Bodies."

A project of the Women's Council on African American Affairs, Inc.

Joyce Raynor, Executive Director

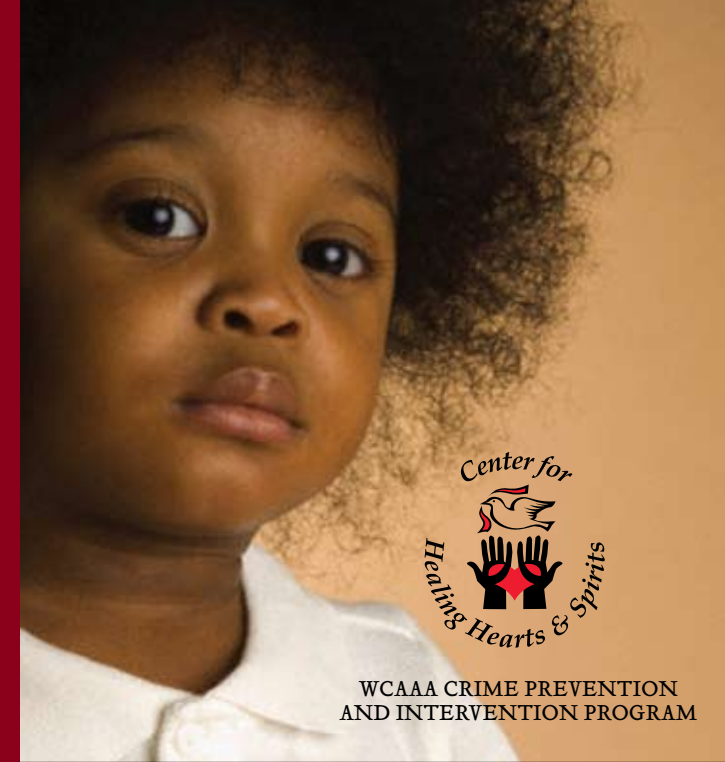
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Black on Black Crime
Hits Us
ALL
in the
Heart

BLACK ON BLACK
CRIME COALITION

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Black-on-Black Crime Affects Us All

Nationally, African Americans make up only 12% of the population, but they account for more than 45% of all murder victims and 90% of those are killed by other African Americans.

But the impact affects us all. It is social, political, psychological and economic. Each year, nearly 4.5 billion dollars are spent on healthcare related to violence. In addition to a family's grief, there are burial costs, counseling services, healthcare costs, property damage, lost jobs, and lost industry.

Violence is violence. It affects all of our communities, regardless of racial composition. It is pointless and chilling and heart-rending. The people affected by Black-on-Black crime are not just statistics hidden in the middle pages of your newspaper. They are fathers, mothers, brothers, sisters, sons and daughters. They are your neighbors, your co-workers, your children's classmates and fellow church-goers. No matter how safe you feel your own neighborhood to be, no part of our community is completely isolated. The effects are grim, long-lasting and undeniable. Black-on-Black crime hits us all in the heart.

The Causes are Numerous

Recent history proves that in America, people can achieve their dreams despite their background. But it's much more difficult if you're a young black man aged 15-24. If you are, you are more likely to be killed by Black-on-Black violent crime than anything else. If you survive your teens, you're more likely to be arrested than your white peers ^[1], more likely to have a harsher sentence passed against you than a white offender ^[2], and far less likely to be able to find a job than a white person with a prison record--even if you have never served time in prison yourself ^[3]. Shockingly, even

though black people make up only 12 percent of the American population, a third of all black men aged 20-29 are in prison, on probation, or on parole right now ^[4].

Even if opportunity does knock for you, the knocking is harder to hear when it is drowned out by gunshots on your streets. The reality is that many black children in Arkansas do not live in the same stable neighborhoods or have the same family and community support as white children. 43% of Arkansas's black children live in poverty, compared to only 15% of white children ^[5]. Black fathers are more likely ^[6] to be absent - and, in the absence of their fathers, some black children look to older neighborhood gang members as their role models ^[7]. All of these factors mean that Black-on-Black violence is growing, and the result is that far too many black children in Arkansas die before they ever get the chance to live. In 2008, 70% of Little Rock's homicides were the result of Black-on-Black violence.

The Black-on-Black Crime Coalition

If we want Arkansas to be a true Land of Opportunity, it's up to all of us to level the playing field for our children. The Black-on-Black Crime Coalition combats Black-on-Black violence through a combination of mentoring programs, youth activities, and intervention programs. The Coalition gets people working together to make their neighborhoods safer. It helps families who have been victims of Black-on-Black violence find the support they need to move forward in a positive way. It participates in Arkansas's governmental processes to seek a better standard of justice for black people who have been accused of crimes. And it promotes programs that help people who have served time find jobs after their release, preventing them from falling back into criminal activity because of continued unemployment.

The Women's Council on African American Affairs, Inc.

The Black-on-Black Crime Coalition is a project of the Women's Council on African American Affairs, Inc.

The Women's Council on African American Affairs, Inc. (WCAAAA) dba the Center for Healing Hearts and Spirits (CHHS), Inc., provides education, outreach and awareness, prevention and intervention services to residents in Little Rock and throughout Pulaski County, Arkansas, to combat the epidemic of Black-on-Black Crime and other violent crimes in Pulaski County. This is accomplished through existing programs and new initiatives which combats the toll that violent crime takes on our communities.

Our Mission

"To promote and nurture individuals in areas of education, community, economic, and leadership development, with special emphasis on healthcare issues, public safety, and race relations."

How You Can Help

It's a crime to do nothing about crime. The Black-On-Black Crime Coalition needs your support to help create a cultural shift in our black neighborhoods, and to give people the support they need to make changes for good in their lives and communities. To find out how you can help, call 501-372-3800 or visit www.hhscenter.org.

Data Sources

1. <http://www.nytimes.com/2008/05/06/us/05cnd-disparities.html>
2. <http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/bjs/pub/html/scsf04/tables/scs04207tab.htm>
3. <http://www.nytimes.com/2005/06/17/nyregion/17felons.html>
4. <http://www.crf-usa.org/brown-v.-board-50th-anniversary/the-color-of-justice.html>
5. http://www.nccp.org/profiles/AR_profile_7.html
6. <http://www.reuters.com/article/domesticNews/idUSNO419185720070614>
7. http://www.fox16.com/news/local/story.aspx?content_id=bbc318f1-fde6-4205-ae18-868b41426ce8