Exploring Law Enforcement Support for Community Violence Intervention Strategies

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TODAY'S AGENDA

1. BACKGROUND
2. AGENCY SURVEY
3. EXPERT WORKSHOP
4. IMPLICATIONS FOR THE FIELD
Independent research organization that focuses on critical issues in policing
WHAT ARE COMMUNITY VIOLENCE INTERVENTIONS?

- Address root causes, *holistically*
- Provide support
- Establish partnerships

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STUDY OVERVIEW

Part I
Law enforcement agency (LEA) survey measuring support for and involvement in CVI initiatives

Part II
Expert workshop for identifying how LEAs can be effective partners in CVI initiatives
✓ N = 226
✓ PERF member agencies
✓ Large agencies (150+ sworn)

✓ 41 states + DC represented

✓ 575 officers per agency, on average
LAW ENFORCEMENT SUPPORT FOR CVIs

Is agency familiar with CVI strategies?

- Familiar: 62%
- Unfamiliar: 19%
- Unsure: 19%

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Do community stakeholders share responsibility for addressing violence?

- **Yes**: 87%
- **Unsure**: 7%
- **No**: 6%

**Familiarity**
- **Familiar**: 62%
- **Unfamiliar**: 19%
- **Unsure**: 19%
LAW ENFORCEMENT SUPPORT FOR CVIs

Would agency prefer to lead CVI or provide support to a community group leading the intervention?

- **Familiar**: Yes, 87%; No, 6%; Unsure, 7%
- **Unfamiliar**: Yes, 6%; No, 19%; Unsure, 19%
- **Preference**:
  - Lead: 17%
  - No Preference: 31%
  - Support: 50%

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LAW ENFORCEMENT INVOLVEMENT IN CVIs

Has agency ever participated in a CVI?

Yes: 45%
No: 48%

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WHAT HAS INVOLVEMENT LOOKED LIKE?

Most agencies became involved in 2020 or later

Motivations
1. Improve community relations
2. Address crime

Most used agency budget to fund participation
LAW ENFORCEMENT EXPERTS

Aurora, CO
Baltimore, MD
Kalamazoo, MI
Los Angeles, CA
Miami-Dade, FL
Milwaukee, WI
Nashville, TN
New Haven, CT
Portland, OR
KEY THEMES

1. Organizational Change
2. Implementation
3. Buy-In
4. Partnerships
Traditional policing differs considerably from CVI work.

- Identify the appropriate officers
- Reward behaviors that drive change

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Chief Karl Jacobson
New Haven (CT) Police Department
IMPLEMENTATION

Assess agency’s capacity to engage in the work

Establish the appropriate partnerships

Incorporate the community

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BUY-IN

Promote and incentivize the work

Address officers’ concerns

Follow through on promises

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PARTNERSHIPS

- Acknowledge past harm
- Identify appropriate partners
- Establish parameters for information sharing

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IMPLICATIONS FOR THE FIELD
CONTACT US

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