

The United States Conference of Mayors

MY BROTHER'S KEEPER INITIATIVES IN CITIES

A SURVEY REPORT OF THE U.S. CONFERENCE OF MAYORS
TASK FORCE ON MY BROTHER'S KEEPER

September 28, 2014



THE UNITED STATES CONFERENCE OF MAYORS



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The U.S. Conference of Mayors is the official nonpartisan organization of cities with populations of 30,000 or more. There are 1,393 such cities in the country today, each represented in the Conference by its chief elected official, the Mayor.



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INTRODUCTION

In June 2014, Conference President and Sacramento Mayor Kevin Johnson announced the establishment of the Conference's My Brother's Keeper Task Force. He appointed Birmingham Mayor William Bell and Philadelphia Mayor Michael Nutter as Task Force Co-Chairs. In making the announcement, during the Conference's annual meeting in Dallas, President Johnson explained how, for decades, "opportunity has lagged behind for boys of color. That's why President Obama launched the My Brother's Keeper initiative earlier this year. He issued a strong call to action to America's leaders to help provide young men of color with the skills they need to reach their full potential."

In his State of the Union address this year, President Barack Obama announced "a new initiative to help more young men of color facing especially tough odds to stay on track to reach their full potential." As part of this initiative, The White House identified a need "to partner with communities and police to reduce violence and make our classrooms and streets safer. And we need to help these young men stay in school and find a good job – so they have the opportunity to reach their full potential, contribute to their communities and build decent lives for themselves and their families."

The President formally launched the new initiative, entitled My Brother's Keeper (MBK), on February 27. An interagency My Brother's Keeper Task Force was established to identify effective public and private efforts, determine how federal policies and programs can better support these efforts, and determine "how to better involve state and local officials, the private sector, and the philanthropic community in these efforts."

In his Call to Action in Dallas, President Johnson asked the Task Force to pay particular attention to four specific areas to further the aims of My Brother's Keeper:

- Launch public-private campaigns to actively recruit mentors for youth and improve the quality of mentoring programs;
- Increase awareness about youth summer employment and use of pre-apprenticeships as good entry-level jobs;
- Increase access to high-quality pre-K education;
- Eliminate suspensions and expulsions in preschool and other early learning settings.

Conference Survey

Following the Dallas meeting, the Task Force's co-chairs determined that the Conference's efforts should begin with collection of basic information on MBK-related efforts underway and/or planned in the Task Force cities and the roles that the mayors of these cities are playing. The goal was to present a report on the cities' efforts during the Conference's leadership meeting being held in Sacramento September 27-29 and to involve all the attendees in a discussion of the MBK initiative.

A survey was developed by Conference staff and sent to Task Force mayors in mid-August; responses from most Task Force members were received by mid-September. The survey requested information on the leadership role being played by the mayor and the nature of the mayor's efforts to promote and implement an MBK initiative in the city. It then requested information on city efforts in support of the three crosscutting "areas of opportunity" identified by President Obama's MBK Task Force:

- Launch a public-private campaign to actively recruit mentors for youth and improve the quality of mentoring programs;
- Make the status and progress of boys and young men of color and other populations more visible by improving data collection and transparency;
- Support locally driven efforts that are more comprehensive – addressing the educational, physical, social and emotional needs of young people – and that span multiple life stages from cradle-to-college.

The survey also asked the mayors to briefly describe their efforts, already underway or planned, to address the six MBK focus areas identified by the President’s Task Force:

- Entering school ready to learn;
- Reading at grade level by third grade;
- Graduating from high school ready for college and career;
- Completing postsecondary education or training;
- Successfully entering the workforce; and
- Reducing violence and providing a second chance.

In describing their efforts, the mayors were asked to specifically address the four MBK goals identified earlier for the Conference by President Johnson.

FINDINGS

Based on responses from 15 of the Task Force members, the survey found:

Role of the Mayor

In every survey city, the mayor is playing a leadership role relating to My Brother's Keeper (MBK).

In 80 percent of the cities, the mayor has designated someone in city government, most frequently an official in the mayor's office, to spearhead its MBK efforts.

In all but one of the cities the Mayor has undertaken activities to educate the public about the challenges facing young men and boys of color.

In all but two of the cities the Mayor has undertaken activities to encourage the involvement of business leaders, community groups, faith leaders and the public at large in MBK efforts.

In 60 percent of the cities, the Mayor has convened a local task force or group representative of different sectors in the city to plan for and implement city efforts relating to MBK.

In 80 percent of the cities, the Mayor has undertaken efforts within city government to focus on and work toward MBK's goals.

Crosscutting Areas of Opportunity for MBK Efforts

In its preliminary report the President's Federal Interagency Task Force identified three crosscutting areas of opportunity for MBK efforts. For these areas:

- Sixty percent of the cities described efforts underway or planned to launch a public-private campaign to actively recruit mentors for youth and improve the quality of mentoring programs.
- Eighty percent described efforts underway or planned to make the status and progress of boys and young men of color and other populations more visible by improving data collection and transparency.
- Eighty percent described efforts to support locally driven efforts that are more comprehensive – addressing the educational, physical, social and emotional needs of young people – and that span multiple life stages from cradle-to-college.

Focus Areas for MBK Activities

The survey cities described a wide range of efforts, underway or planned, in the six specific MBK focus areas identified by the interagency task force. For these areas:

- Two-thirds of the cities described efforts in support of “Entering school ready to learn, including efforts relating to increasing access to high-quality pre-K education and eliminating suspensions and expulsions in preschool and other early learning settings.”

- Two-thirds described efforts in support of “Reading at grade level by third grade.”
- Sixty-four percent described efforts in support of “Graduating from high school ready for college and career.”
- Two-thirds described efforts in support of “Completing postsecondary education or training.”
- Eighty percent described efforts in support of “Successfully entering the workforce, including efforts relating to increase awareness about youth summer employment and use of pre-apprenticeships as good entry-level jobs.”
- Seventy-three percent described efforts in support of “Reducing violence and providing a second chance.”

Task Force Members Included in the Survey

William A. Bell, Sr., Mayor of Birmingham, Co-Chair
 Michael A. Nutter, Mayor of Philadelphia, Co-Chair
 Kevin Johnson, Mayor of Sacramento, President
 Stephanie C. Rawlings-Blake, Mayor of Baltimore, Vice President
 Kasim Reed, Mayor of Atlanta
 Martin Walsh, Mayor of Boston
 Bill Finch, Mayor of Bridgeport
 Steve Benjamin, Mayor of Columbia, SC
 Aja Brown, Mayor of Compton
 Annise D. Parker, Mayor of Houston
 Greg Ballard, Mayor of Indianapolis
 Sly James, Mayor of Kansas City, MO
 Betsy Hodges, Mayor of Minneapolis
 Mitch Landrieu, Mayor of New Orleans
 Marilyn Strickland, Mayor of Tacoma

ROLE OF THE MAYOR

In every survey city, the mayor is playing a leadership role relating to My Brother's Keeper (MBK).

In 80 percent of the cities, the mayor has designated someone in city government, most frequently an official in the mayor's office, to spearhead its MBK efforts. In Compton, Mayor Aja Brown herself has assumed this responsibility. In Indianapolis, the Public Safety Director serves in this capacity; in Kansas City, it's the Director of Council and Community Relations.

Following is information on the various activities the mayors and their cities have undertaken.

Educating the Public About the Challenges Facing Young Men and Boys of Color

In all but one of the cities, activities focused on this goal have been undertaken. Among these activities:

Baltimore: Officials led a youth violence forum, co-led two education forums with the Baltimore City Public Schools' CEO, and led community forums on the new youth curfew law.

Birmingham: Activities include Birmingham CARES mentoring efforts, Growing Kings Breakfast Clubs for young men in Birmingham City Schools, and workforce development efforts which provide jobs for young men and boys of color.

Boston: Mayor Walsh explains: "As an elected official, I have been very open about my personal experience including my 19 years in recovery. If it was not for others offering me a second chance in my lifetime, I would not be Mayor of Boston today. I grew up in an urban neighborhood. There were good influences and bad influences. I went down the wrong path for a time. I hung out late. I drank. I had brushes with violence. I talk about this when I speak to young people in our city, whether in re-entry programs or at high school graduations. I urge them to make the right choices, to give themselves a chance to follow their dreams.

"But my life turned around because there was a community willing to give me second chances and help me find my way. There were institutions I could turn to—a stable family and neighborhood, mentors in recovery, a union. Through public speeches and public engagement, I openly share my story with all walks of life to ensure our youth, including young men and boys of color, realize their potential. As an example, I often refer to my work in establishing the Building Pathways Program to promote job opportunities in the building trades for women and people of color. I describe the program to educate the public about successful examples of young men of color and women who have succeeded through this initiative. But, sadly, we still learn of individuals who have successfully started on the right path but through no fault of their own, have lost their life as a result of violence in our streets and neighborhoods.

"We need to bear witness to the trauma and the suffering that represents every single data point and statistic. We need to come together and take responsibility. We need to take action, and that is why Boston is embarking on initiatives to support My Brother's Keeper."

Bridgeport: Activities include: 1) partnering with Connecticut Against Violence to host a student symposium with 200 freshman students and guest speaker was Dr. Steve Perry; 2)

holding a community rally highlighting the need to work together as a community to combat crime focusing on rates for Black youth; 3) serving as co-convenor of the Bridgeport Alliance for Young Children, a city-wide platform to address the needs of young children in communities of color; and 4) working collaboratively with the Interdenominational Ministerial Alliance of Greater Bridgeport on educational needs and resources for children of color.

Columbia: On September 2 we held a Town Hall discussion on the issue of young Black males' interaction with law enforcement and how to avoid confrontation that escalates (e.g., Ferguson, MO). We have held several mentoring summits. This past summer, we increased our funding of the Summer Work Enrichment Leadership Program to provide summer job opportunities for our youth. We also invested in our Parks and Recreation program and started a new program that would allow all youth in the City to participate in our recreational leagues for free.

Houston: Through the CDC-funded initiative STRYVE, the Health Department is leading an initiative that is focused on educating youth-serving agencies and the public on challenges and evidence-based solutions to health and safety issues facing all youth and, disproportionately, young men and boys of color.

Indianapolis: We are launching a data-driven approach to deal with quality of life, crime, and social issues facing our City. This begins on October 9. The My Brother's Keeper initiative will be discussed. Additionally before the MBK announcement, the Mayor launched the Your Life Matters campaign that focuses on the challenges facing men of color.

Minneapolis: In conjunction with Mayor Coleman of St. Paul, the City held a community-wide briefing with a White House official to garner support for MBK. Mayor Hodges appointed a community leader to lead the Minneapolis response to MBK. The Mayor included MBK efforts and goals in her 2015 budget and her Cradle to K Initiative, in addition to spreading the message to other elected officials and community members.

New Orleans: Since being elected Mayor of New Orleans in 2011, Mayor Landrieu has made public safety his top priority. In 2011 he hosted the Saving Our Sons Crime Action Summit, which brought together over 1,000 residents, business leaders, faith leaders, and criminal justice stakeholders to identify ways to support young African American males through mentoring, expanding the capacity of local service providers through donations, and keeping neighborhoods safe by reenergizing Neighborhood Watch programs. As an example of the results of this effort, the New Orleans NBA team, the New Orleans Pelicans (formerly the New Orleans Hornets), sponsored a new Midnight Basketball program to provide alternatives to violence through recreation for young men between 16 and 25 years of age in crime hot spots during hours in which a high volume of shooting incidents occur.

In 2012, we launched NOLA FOR LIFE, Mayor Landrieu's Comprehensive Murder Reduction Strategy, which includes initiatives on prevention, intervention, enforcement, and rehabilitation. NOLA FOR LIFE was launched with a public awareness campaign designed by Spike Lee – FLIP THE SCRIPT – that included billboards, radio and television commercials, and newspaper ads to reveal what the community has been missing by taking the violence out of the headlines and showing the hope that remains. The public awareness campaign aims to inspire youths to change their thinking from defeated to emboldened, and to work alongside them to “flip the script” on NOLA's future. NOLA FOR LIFE programming runs 24/7 on Cox Cable Channel 99. The content highlights the NOLA FOR LIFE strategy and the success of our initiatives, and gives voice to people in the community who are working to change the culture of violence.

Finally, in September 2014, the Landrieu administration released the African American Male Unemployment Report outlining June 2014 survey findings and addressing both the challenges of employability and the assets within the population. The data will be used in continued outreach and engagement to job seekers throughout the implementation of the Mayor's Economic Opportunity Strategy, a new comprehensive strategy to connect disadvantaged job seekers and businesses to new opportunities. Spearheaded by the Mayor, the strategy seeks to introduce a new way of connecting all New Orleanians to the City's economic growth through partnerships with local training providers, social service agencies, and community advocates. In addition, the Strategy will include collaboration with some of the region's largest employers and anchor institutions – LCMC Health, Louis Armstrong New Orleans International Airport, Louisiana State University Health Sciences Center, Ochsner Health System, Sewerage and Water Board of New Orleans, Southeast Louisiana Veterans Health Care System, Tulane University, and Xavier University of New Orleans.

Philadelphia: Mayor's Commission on African American Males (MCAAM): Re-established in 2012, the Commission was charged with advising, and recommending to the Mayor, actions on policy issues to improve outcomes for African American boys and men in Philadelphia. The MCAAM is comprised of several subgroups (Committees) of the full Commission, which meet regularly to formulate policy recommendations in the areas of Education, Criminal Justice, Jobs and Economic Development, Communications and Health.

DBHIDS Engaging Men of Color (EMOC): The Department of Behavioral Health and Intellectual disAbility Services hosted a symposium focusing on "Reducing Health Disparities by Engaging Men of Color" with special guest Dr. Derrick Gordon of Yale University, School of Medicine. The outcome of the symposium was the identification of ten key issues most relevant in the reduction of disparities for Men of Color across the Philadelphia region. As a result, the Engaging Males of Color (EMOC) Initiative was created to highlight and address challenges confronting both men and boys of color. A central focus of this forum involved consideration of systematic approaches to reversing low engagement and poor overall health outcomes. DBHIDS will continue to explore and support strategies to positively impact the lives of people in this demographic group.

Black Male Development Symposium (BMDS): The mission of BMDS is to provide a forum that will present practical strategies, techniques and solutions through the presentation of interactive workshops, presenters, best practices and resources that will assist attendees in developing realistic models and concrete recommendations they can put into practice in their respective communities. The Symposium serves as a place for finding models of solution and not just a forum for pontification or "drive-by-conversation." The Symposium becomes a place for transformative action and communication where young men and their older counterparts along with women alike; can share intellectual, emotional, spiritual and cultural opportunities for growth and development that will improve the quality of life for African American males, their families and their communities.

Cities United is a national movement to equip mayors and local leaders with the tools, practices, skills and resources needed to effectively eliminate the violence-related deaths of African American men and boys. Cities United was launched in 2011 under the leadership of Philadelphia Mayor Michael Nutter and New Orleans Mayor Mitch Landrieu with support from the National League of Cities, Casey Family Programs and the Open Society Foundations' Campaign for Black Male Achievement. Additional support comes from the Ford Foundation, W.K. Kellogg Foundation and the Jacob and Valeria Langeloth Foundation. More than 65 mayors have signed up.

Sacramento: Mayor Johnson’s nonprofit education initiative, STAND UP, convenes leaders locally and nationally. Locally, it convenes African American community members on a regular basis to discuss the education crisis and highlight the persistent achievement gap. Nationally, STAND UP convenes African American community leaders in five target cities to discuss the state of Black education. The conversations begin with a close look at the academic achievement data in each city. Making the K-12 academic performance of boys and young men of color visible is always eye opening, even for the most engaged community leaders. The presentation also includes longitudinal data, which demonstrates the slowness of progress in recent years.

Tacoma: Among its activities, the City has: 1) formed the Tacoma Gang Project to focus on keeping young men of color out of gangs through prevention and intervention; 2) created SummerJobs253 to help youth of opportunity get paid work experience, training for interview skills, and career mentors; 3) launched the Tacoma Equity and Empowerment Initiative to help ensure that hiring practices at City Hall include men of color, especially in departments where they are historically under-represented, such as public safety and public works.

Encouraging the Involvement of Business Leaders, Community Groups, Faith Leaders and the Public At Large in MBK Efforts

In all but two cities, activities focused on this goal have been undertaken. Among these activities:

Baltimore: While not MBK-specific, we certainly have done this to support MBK-related goals.

Birmingham: Birmingham CARES, Growing Kings, and ACE (Another Caring Example) partner with all of these entities.

Boston: The Mayor has created an advisory committee representing business leaders, community groups, and faith leaders. The committee also includes several department heads and cabinet chiefs serving in the City of Boston. He has tasked the City’s Chief of Health and Human Services and Chief of Economic Development, both men of color, to lead this advisory committee, which will develop recommendations related to MBK as well as increase community engagement with the public on MBK efforts.

Bridgeport: The City, as co-convener of the Bridgeport Alliance for Young Children, a public and private coalition, hosted Progress Update with the Bridgeport community.

Columbia: We have started a coalition that includes the leaders of our school district, several ministerial alliances, the Columbia Chamber of Commerce, nonprofit organizations, and the University of South Carolina. It meets regularly to lay out a plan for a coordinated approach to improve the outcomes for young Black males.

Compton: Mayor Brown has launched an empowerment initiative, Compton Empowered, focused on education, empowerment and community engagement. “We have established a platform to build coalitions with the community focusing on youth development (after school programs, mentorship, sports and leadership development), economic empowerment (life skills training, leadership development, vocational training, job placement, and small business development), and mental health services to address issues that disproportionately affect boys and men of color. We are also launching a marketing campaign to dispel false perceptions about boys and men of color and infusing the arts (music, poetry, drama and journalism) to express their truths and educate the public at large.”

Indianapolis: Our newly-formed Department of Public Safety (DPS) Foundation has worked to provide funding for summer jobs and reentry opportunities. The City has also worked with the Central Indiana Community Foundation, Lilly Foundation, and others to provide funding for similar initiatives, including pre-K education.

Minneapolis: We have talked with and will be holding a meeting with local funders, specifically around how to support local MBK efforts.

New Orleans: Beginning with a public press conference in conjunction with the Cities United inaugural national convening held in New Orleans in February 2014, Mayor Landrieu has consistently shared publicly with New Orleans stakeholders his support of MBK and has direct engagement with President Obama and White House leadership on this new initiative.

Philadelphia: Mayor's Commission on African American Males (MCAAM): Re-established in 2012, the Commission was charged with advising, and recommending to the Mayor, actions on policy issues to improve outcomes for African American boys and men in Philadelphia. The MCAAM is comprised of several subgroups (Committees) of the full Commission, which meet regularly to formulate policy recommendations in the areas of Education, Criminal Justice, Jobs and Economic Development, Communications and Health.

Convening a Local Task Force or Group Representative of Different Sectors in the City to Plan for and Implement City Efforts Relating to MBK

In 60 percent of the cities, officials have convened an MBK task force or similar group.

Boston: Mayor Walsh explains: "I launched the first meeting of the My Brother's Keeper Boston Advisory Committee on September 11, 2014. Chaired by Felix G. Arroyo, Chief of Health and Human Services, and John Barros, Chief of Economic Development, the Advisory Committee has a shared goal of identifying opportunities to eliminate barriers and obstacles for Black and Latino boys and young men to succeed in the City's public schools, workforce, and neighborhoods. Specifically, the Advisory Committee will be tasked with evaluating the work and programming of existing City agencies that have a role in the education and economic advancement of Black and Latino boys and young men in Boston, and will offer specific recommendations to me on how to address shortcomings through short and long-term goals and measurements. As a start, the Advisory Committee is forming at least four sub-committees including: Educational Advancement; Workforce and Business Development; Community Engagement; and Research & Data (committee names subject to change)."

Birmingham: Mayor Bell has convened neighborhood leaders, our Board of Education and Superintendent, youth, and corporate citizens to vet and make recommendations for a long-term plan for the implementation of the My Brother's Keeper action plan in Birmingham.

Columbia: We have held regular meetings. Last month, we hosted the White House's David Johns. He held a private luncheon for many of the groups involved as well as a public lecture in an auditorium at the University of South Carolina. In addition, we hold bimonthly dinners with key stakeholders to ensure that we are plotting a coordinated response.

Compton: In August 2013 Mayor Brown initiated a Community Safety Task Force to address systematic issues that lead to violence in the community. "The Task Force formed sub-committees focused on gang intervention/prevention and eradicating human trafficking and

educating youth and parents on the dangers of drugs and other threats to human health and safety. We meet monthly and have achieved significant measurable results in our community.”

Indianapolis: The Mayor began a Your Life Matters Task Force that is looking at Black-on-Black crime and examining the root causes.

Kansas City: We are hosting a roundtable of 40-plus groups/individuals to discuss next steps, collaboration, etc.

Minneapolis: To spearhead local MBK efforts, Mayor Hodges appointed a community leader who is in a management position at a well-respected local nonprofit agency that works on employing hard-to-employ men of color. He will be pulling together a small group of people who are getting results in helping boys and young men of color. The Mayor will be scheduling a meeting with local young men of color, including gang members, to talk about what they would like to see happen.

Philadelphia: Mayor’s Commission on African American Males (MCAAM): Re-established in 2012, the Commission was charged with advising, and recommending to the Mayor, actions on policy issues to improve outcomes for African American boys and men in Philadelphia. The MCAAM is comprised of several subgroups (Committees) of the full Commission, which meet regularly to formulate policy recommendations in the areas of Education, Criminal Justice, Jobs and Economic Development, Communications and Health.

Sacramento: The USCM-facilitated partnership between Starbucks and the Office of Mayor Johnson has begun convening “Solutions City” town halls. The first town hall identified closing the skills gap and linking jobseekers as problems to address. The discussions and proposed solution will attempt to engage “opportunity youth,” young people who are currently disconnected from school or work.

Undertaking Efforts Within City Government to Focus on and Work Toward MBK’s Goals

In 80 percent of the cities, such efforts have been undertaken. Among them:

Baltimore: We are developing a plan to align local, state, and quasi-government agencies that impact youth – together called the Mayor’s Youth Cabinet – behind the focus areas of MBK.

Birmingham: Mayor Bell has streamlined the efforts of the City through the Division of Youth Services in the Mayor’s Office to focus on achieving the six focus areas. The City is currently in the process of creating a neighborhood-based focus for My Brother’s Keeper. Funding has already been identified and the process has begun.

Boston: The City is partnering with Mass Mentoring Partnership to launch the “Mayor’s Mentoring Movement,” with the goal of recruiting 1,000 caring adult mentors over the next two years to support Boston’s youth, both young boys and girls. At least 10 percent will be City of Boston employees. This will be part of a comprehensive initiative in collaboration with Mass Mentoring Partnership, My Brother’s Keeper Boston Advisory Committee, the Boston Women’s Commission, Boston Centers for Youth and Families, and Boston Public Schools, among other partners city-wide.

Bridgeport: We have launched a pilot faith-based afterschool initiative.

Columbia: We have started new programs within our Parks and Recreation program to ensure that our youth have positive opportunities that will afford them a safe environment. We have also hired a facilitator and started a new program for at-risk youth who are former gang members, to help them transition from the lifestyle.

Compton: Mayor Brown reports that “All of the initiatives explained above are initiatives launched directly from my office. We have also launched two Job and Resource Fairs (April and September 2014) that focused on the re-entry population, providing resume workshops, expungement services, and direct employment.

Indianapolis: We have the Your Life Matters Task Force and will announce the Data Driving approach on October 9.

Minneapolis: Mayor Hodges has appointed staff within the Mayor's office to take the lead on MBK efforts and work on getting the task force off the ground. She proposed in her 2015 budget two positions in the City Coordinator's office to focus on "Eliminating Disparities," which will include MBK.

New Orleans: Mayor Landrieu has called on all citizens and City departments to play a role in NOLA FOR LIFE, a comprehensive strategy to reduce murders in New Orleans. To promote mentoring, the NOLA FOR LIFE mentoring initiative is working with existing community organizations to provide healthy mentorship relationships for young males in New Orleans at risk of exposure to or involvement in violence. The initiative has established best practices, policies, and tools to support high-quality mentoring for these youth. Our objective around mentoring is to identify young males at risk of exposure to or involvement in violence, recruit and train mentor groups specifically for their needs and provide ongoing support for effective mentoring.

In June 2014, New Orleans launched the NOLA FOR LIFE Reentry Strategy, an initiative to increase access to jobs, social services, and education for returning citizens. In December 2013, the City took the first major step towards this goal when its Civil Service Commission approved a policy that “bans the box” requiring applicants to disclose prior convictions on initial job forms, with the goal of increasing the ability of qualified ex-offenders to obtain quality jobs.

CeaseFire New Orleans uses violence interrupters and outreach workers with street credibility to interrupt violence and connect young African American men to the resources they need. To promote jobs and opportunity, the City has doubled the number of summer jobs offered to young people and started partnerships with local businesses and universities to create new job training and placement services.

And in September 2014, Mayor Landrieu announced a new comprehensive strategy to connect disadvantaged job seekers and businesses to new opportunities. Based on research, the City released a report on African American male unemployment outlining the June 2014 survey findings and addressing both the challenges for employability and the assets within the population. The data will be used in continued outreach and engagement to job seekers throughout the implementation of the Economic Opportunity Strategy. Spearheaded by the Mayor, the Economic Opportunity Strategy seeks to introduce a new way of connecting all New Orleanians to the city's economic growth through partnerships with local training providers, social service agencies, and community advocates. In addition, the Strategy will include collaboration with some of the region's largest employers and anchor institutions – LCMC Health, Louis Armstrong New Orleans International Airport, Louisiana State University Health Sciences Center, Ochsner Health System, Sewerage and Water Board of New Orleans, Southeast

Louisiana Veterans Health Care System, Tulane University, and Xavier University of New Orleans.

Sacramento: In addition to what is described in the previous sections, we are reestablishing the African American Men's Commission.

Other Activities

Among other MBK-related activities that the cities report:

Houston: Two of the MBK goals are currently being addressed. The City of Houston has funded a summer youth employment program for young people age 15 to 21 that employed nearly 500 youth in various City departments. These types of opportunities provide an early introduction to the municipal workforce. Our work in STRYVE building a comprehensive health and violence prevention plan in one area of the City will help to inform how communities and public agencies can improve the quality of life for young people.

Indianapolis: Mayor Ballard has spoken often of this initiative and directed his Public Safety Director and Chief of Police to do the same.

Jacksonville: Through the Black Male Achievement Initiative, Jacksonville is addressing the four main challenges young Black men face: family and fatherhood; health, including mental health; education; and jobs and economic development.

Mayor Brown has established Young Leaders Advisory Council to help develop future leaders of Jacksonville and provide authentic youth engagement in his administration. In addition he has met with at-risk youth and the faith-based community for a day of prayer and discussion to address crime and violence in the community.

Kansas City: The City is connecting the initiative to the Mayor's reading proficiency programs, ongoing crime efforts, and summer youth programs, internships and job readiness.

CITY EFFORTS RELATING TO MY BROTHER'S KEEPER

CROSSCUTTING AREAS OF OPPORTUNITY FOR MBK EFFORTS

In its preliminary report the President's Federal Interagency Task Force identified three cross cutting areas of opportunity for MBK efforts. The survey cities described a wide range of efforts underway and planned in these areas:

Launch a Public-Private Campaign to Actively Recruit Mentors for Youth and Improve the Quality of Mentoring Programs

Baltimore:

The Mayor's agencies and partner organizations collect a wide spectrum of data on different populations and make it publically available.

Planned

The City is in preliminary discussions with Big Brothers Big Sisters of the Greater Chesapeake to develop a campaign.

Birmingham:

Programs in Birmingham include CARES, ACE (Another Caring Example), and Growing Kings.

Boston:

Currently, the Mayor's Office of Health and Human Services is engaging with Mass Mentoring Partnership to: 1) develop a website to promote and track identified mentors as part of the "Mayor's Mentoring Movement;" 2) form a working group with City departments and Mass Mentoring Partnership, as well as with top mentoring partners in the City, to work collaboratively on this initiative; and 3) develop a comprehensive marketing and public awareness strategy once the site is created, proposed to launch leading up to and during the month of January, National Mentoring Month.

Planned

As part of Boston's MBK effort, the City is partnering with Mass Mentoring Partnership to launch the "Mayor's Mentoring Movement" with the goal of recruiting 1,000 caring adult mentors over the next two years to support Boston's youth – both young boys and girls – in which at least 10 percent will be City of Boston employees. This will be part of a comprehensive initiative in collaboration with Mass Mentoring Partnership, My Brother's Keeper Boston Advisory Committee, the Boston Women's Commission, Boston Centers for Youth and Families, and Boston Public Schools, among other partners city-wide.

Columbia:

We have started the Mayor's Mentoring Network, a system that allows mentoring organizations to register to be a part of the network so that aspiring mentors can be connected with them. Aspiring mentors also are able to access the network to learn more about the various organizations they can mentor through.

Planned

We will hold Mayor Benjamin's 3rd Mentoring Summit, an event that includes most of the mentoring organizations and faith organizations in our City. The goal is to get 1,000 mentors to register at this Summit.

Compton:

Initiatives include the Compton Empowered Youth Ambassadors (ages 14-20), Compton Empowered MBK Mentorship Program (middle school), Compton Empowered Men's Collaborative (ages 18 and up), Compton Empowered Youth Sports Programs (all sports included), and the Compton Empowered Health City Campaign (to be launched January 24, 2015).

Indianapolis:

Mayor Ballard is holding Town Hall meetings to ask for support of his budget that provides millions of dollars (public/private) for pre-K initiatives.

Planned

We are working with numerous foundations on a comprehensive plan to address social issues in our City.

New Orleans:

To promote mentoring, the NOLA FOR LIFE mentoring initiative is working with existing community organizations to provide healthy mentorship relationships for young males in New Orleans at risk of exposure to or involvement in violence. The initiative has established best practices, policies, and tools to support high-quality mentoring for these youth. Our objective around mentoring is to identify young males at risk of exposure to or involvement in violence, recruit and train mentor groups specifically targeting their needs, and provide ongoing support for effective mentoring.

Philadelphia:

Mentoring Efforts include:

- AMACHI, INC.: The Amachi mentoring organization was developed in 2000 to provide children impacted by incarceration with a different path by establishing the consistent presence of loving, caring mentors. Since the organization was created, there have been at least 350 Amachi-modeled programs in more than 250 US cities and all 50 states. To date, these programs have served more than 300,000 children.
- Philadelphia Youth Poetry Movement (PYPM): The Philly Youth Poetry Movement (PYPM) is a volunteer-run, 501(c)(3) non-profit organization that provides a safe space for Philadelphia teens to discover the power of their voices through spoken word and literary expression. PYPM was founded in 2006 at a time when there were no local poetry events dedicated to youth poets who wanted to write and perform. As the only youth poetry organization in the city, PYPM offers literary arts education programs and mentoring to youth ages 13-19 that promote creative expression, critical literacy, life skills, and leadership. We believe that when youth take ownership of their voices, they take ownership over themselves. Through free weekly workshops, monthly slams, national/local performance opportunities, mentoring and community service, we provide a space where youth use their voices to bring about both personal and social transformation. In partnership with DHS, PYPM provides writing workshops to youth at the Juvenile Justice Services Center.
- Philly Roots: Launched in 2012 as a fellowship serving individuals providing grassroots organic mentoring, and representing a range of practitioners—from volunteers to full-time executive directors of their organizations. The purpose of the fellowship was created to

provide information and tools to organic mentors that support positive engagement of young Black males, highlight promising and effective practices/models in organic mentoring, and assist communities, especially organic and formal mentoring spaces, in replicating those effective practices/models. Throughout the initiative, fellows participate in monthly meetings, which served as a pivotal “touchstone” for the mentors’ experience. Fellows shared information, resources, and effective practices through discussion and peer interaction. Regular guest speakers also shared information on topics relevant to mentoring Black youth, identifying sustainable resources, and increasing organizational leadership.

In addition the City is coordinating with Big Brothers and Big Sisters 100th Anniversary events.

Make the Status and Progress of Boys and Young Men of Color and Other Populations More Visible by Improving Data Collection and Transparency

Birmingham:

My Brother's Keeper will be a community/neighborhood-based operation in the City of Birmingham. The transition process is currently underway and will run from the fall of 2014 through the summer of 2015. The rollout will be incremental in the winter and spring of 2015, with a full public launch tentatively planned for August 2015.

Boston:

On September 10, 2014, the City of Boston joined White House staff for an initial discussion to explore possible opportunities for the City to consider improving data collection and transparency relative to programs that support Black and Latino boys and young men in Boston. This effort is being led by the City’s Chief of Economic Development (Co-Chair of the MBK Boston Advisory Committee) and the City's Chief Information Officer, among other key staff.

Bridgeport:

Collective Impact Community; Bridgeport Alliance for Young Children.

Columbia:

Planned

We will work with our school district, Richland One, to spread the usage of their data-tracking system to organizations that impact the lives of young Black males (social service programs, law enforcement agencies, etc.).

Compton:

Intake surveys and data collection for all program participants are being conducted by UCLA graduate students.

Planned

The City is partnering with the USC School of Policy, Planning and Development to create program-specific data collection modules – work on which is underway.

Houston:

There is a citywide effort that was germinated in the May 2014 convening, which included a broad group of stakeholders. This effort intends to involve City/County departments inclusive of education and justice systems.

Planned

HDHHS will convene an Adolescent Mortality, Injury and Arrest Review panel that will examine data across multiple systems and make policy improvements to address issues identified.

Indianapolis:

Planned

The Department of Public Safety will unveil its data driven approach on October 9. It will be open to the public for review and input.

New Orleans:

In April 2014, the City embarked on a strategic effort to examine a local report indicating that 52 percent of African American working-age men in the City are not working. The report, conducted by the Lindy Boggs National Center for Community Literacy at Loyola University New Orleans, in partnership with The Data Center, was released in June 2013 as part of a study of the economic potential for African American men in New Orleans. In September 2014, the City of New Orleans released a report on African American male unemployment outlining the June 2014 survey findings and addressing both the challenges for employability and the assets within the population. The data will be used in continued outreach and engagement to job seekers throughout the implementation of the Economic Opportunity Strategy.

Philadelphia:

Data are collected through a wide range of programs and we are working on streamlining data collection and sharing among departments.

Sacramento:

STAND UP, Mayor Johnson's nonprofit education initiative, convenes leaders locally and nationally. Locally, it convenes African American community members on a regular basis to discuss the education crisis and highlight the persistent achievement gap. Nationally, it convenes African American community leaders in five target cities to discuss the state of Black education. The conversations begin with a close look at the academic achievement data in each city. Making the K-12 academic performance of boys and young men of color visible is always eye-opening, even for the most engaged community leaders. The presentation also includes longitudinal data, which demonstrates the slowness of progress in recent years.

Tacoma:

Launch of 311 mobile app and data sharing.

Support Locally Driven Efforts That Are More Comprehensive – Addressing the Educational, Physical, Social And Emotional Needs of Young People – and That Span Multiple Life Stages From Cradle-to-College

Baltimore:

The Mayor's Office collaborates closely with two nascent collective impact initiatives that span multiple life stages: the Baltimore Campaign for Grade-Level Reading covers birth to third grade (modeled after the national campaign), and Baltimore's Promise covers birth to post-secondary achievement.

Birmingham:

Examples of targeted efforts being provided by the City include partnerships with the A.G. Gaston Boys and Girls Club, 100 Black Men of Birmingham's Mentoring the 100 Way, Sigma Pi

Phi Fraternity, Beta Kappa Boule's Beautillion, and the YMCA through its Youth Center and Y Achievers programs.

Planned

Adding to the City's efforts, Growing Kings is a school-based curriculum founded by a local youth service provider that targets boys of color. Its curriculum will be expanded Citywide through My Brother's Keeper.

Boston:

Virtually all of the Boston Center for Youth and Families (BCYF) sites offer youth programs that engage participants from a diverse range of races and cultures. A few examples include efforts in the neighborhood, youth employment, and educational and physical activity for all ages. As a means of addressing education through physical activity, for example, the BCYF sports centers offer free drop-in summer programs that provide youth with the opportunity to stay engaged and active during the summer months by learning and developing the fundamental skills to participate in a variety of sports and athletic activities. Additionally, within our neighborhoods, the BCYF Streetworker Program plays a critical role in keeping neighborhoods safe through youth violence prevention and intervention. Streetworkers form relationships with at-risk youth, connect youth to resources, and mediate conflicts. BCYF also supports youth summer employment by connecting youth to summer employment and skill-building opportunities, including targeted summer job positions for youth who currently have a CORI challenge that might limit their summer job opportunities. To support emotional needs of young people, athletic staff at all BCYF sites have been trained to deliver the Coaching Boys into Men Curriculum, designed to teach youth about healthy relationships and dating violence prevention.

Bridgeport:

Collective Impact Initiative Community; Bridgeport Alliance for Young Children.

Columbia:

Through our collaborative efforts, as discussed before, we have identified and highlighted several organizations that are seeing great success in mentoring, film education, and re-entry.

Planned

Going forward, we plan to form the Center of Excellence for Black Male Achievement, which would mainly be a collaboration among the City of Columbia, the University of South Carolina, Richland School District One, and Richland County. This effort would target the young Black males enrolled in the school district and work with the targeted organizations to ensure that their outcomes are improved and that they are placed on a track to be a contributing member of society.

Compton:

Compton Empowered has a group of existing non-profit organizations that are focused on every aspect of youth development. We are sharing resources to expand capacity and reach a greater population in the community.

Houston:

Planned

The current coalition of City departments and youth-serving agencies that are part of the STRYVE coalition will work in coordination with the emerging My Brother's Keeper efforts.

Indianapolis:

The Department of Public Safety Foundation and others raised \$35,000 to help with the overflow of young people needing summer jobs. DPS teamed with the Women's Fund to help single mothers (many were 16 years of age) and found funding to help the 10 Points coalition that works with police to deal with social issues in many of our toughest areas.

Planned

The Mayor's budget for 2015 deals with three overarching topics: Prevention (\$25 million for educating youth, summer jobs, etc.), Protection (a commitment to hiring a more diverse police department with up to 280 new hires over the next three years), and Punishment (a commitment to work with those reentering society from prison). A new director of reentry to coordinate efforts and help identify funding needs and sources has just been announced.

Minneapolis:

Mayor Hodges has started her Cradle to K initiative to reduce disparities among children prenatal to age three. MBK goals on "entering school ready to learn" will be incorporated into the Cradle to K plan currently being developed. In addition, the Mayor is in the Executive Leadership of Generation Next, the "STRYVE-like" model to close the achievement gap in Minneapolis.

New Orleans:

In 2013, the City Health Department, supported by the National Forum on Youth Violence Prevention, released the "NOLA FOR LIFE PLAYbook: Promoting Life for all Youth," a strategic plan for action to prevent youth violence. Nested within the larger framework of NOLA FOR LIFE, the PLAYbook's aim is to improve youth safety by addressing risk and protective factors for youth violence. The PLAYbook envisions by 2020, 95 percent of youth will feel safe in their schools and neighborhoods. The PLAYbook helps advance New Orleans toward that vision in three key ways: 1) designating a structure for youth violence prevention; 2) coordinating and integrating youth violence prevention activities toward shared priorities; and 3) establishing benchmarks and fostering accountability.

Philadelphia:

Among Philadelphia's comprehensive programs is the Evidence-based Program for the Integration of Curricula (EPIC), a comprehensive early childhood professional development program specifically designed for preschool children from an underserved, minority urban population. Developed and scientifically validated through a federal grant from the Interagency School Readiness Consortium (IRSC), EPIC takes an *intentional, systematic* and *intense* approach to skill development, assessment, family involvement, and professional development in early childhood education.

EPIC maximizes early learning by using a child-centered approach that draws on all of the resources surrounding the child: classroom, home, and learning community. The comprehensive EPIC program includes:

- A scientifically-based, developmentally-appropriate curriculum that integrates early mathematics, language, literacy, and learning behaviors into one cohesive, coordinated set of learning experiences that are reinforced at home through a strong connection to families.
- A built-in, scientifically-based, formative assessment of skill development that allows teachers to measure progress and tailor instruction to individual patterns of development.
- A learning community model of professional development that supports teachers' mastery of the program and promotes sharing of best practices and leadership development based on tested distributed leadership principles.

Sacramento:

Way Up is a local initiative aimed at serving Sacramento's poorest neighborhood, Oak Park, through holistic services including early childhood education and health care. The initiative was started by a Sacramento City Council Member.

Planned

The Mayor's Office will support the growth and expansion of Way Up by supporting grant applications and by amplifying its work within the community.

FOCUS AREAS FOR MBK ACTIVITIES

The survey cities described a wide range of efforts in the six specific MBK focus areas identified by the interagency task force. Following are descriptions of efforts already underway and efforts planned in these areas.

1. Entering School Ready to Learn**Baltimore:**

The Mayor's Office of Human Services (MOHS) oversees the City's Head Start programs and leads a coalition of other Head Start/Early Head Start providers. A partnership between MOHS and Baltimore City Public Schools opened up 400 additional pre-K seats without additional funding being required. A recent partnership between a local foundation and the Maryland Department of Education allowed 200 Head Start students to receive Head Start services in the summer, making it a year-round program for them. In addition, the City just won \$29 million in federal funding for a new birth-to-five pilot program.

Birmingham:

Among relevant programs operating in Birmingham: First Teacher is a free home visitation program that provides support in several different areas, including literacy, through activities, books, and learning materials to families with children under age five. United Way Success by 6 is an initiative focusing on increasing access to quality early learning. The Birmingham Education Foundation's K-Prep is a new mobile app designed to help parents engage our littlest learners in home education and skill building. Birmingham City Schools Student Support Services provides comprehensive school counseling programs of developmental, preventive and responsive services through which school counselors address academic development, career development and the personal/social development of students. Take a Child to the Dr. Day, provided through the Mayor's Office Division of Youth Services, is a partnership with the healthcare community to provide free screenings for uninsured and underinsured Birmingham youth. Services are provided by medical staff from Children's of Alabama and UAB Healthy Systems, Department of Pediatrics. The Birmingham City Schools Parent Project is a 10- to 16-week parent training program designed specifically for parents of strong-willed or out-of-control adolescent children.

Boston:

The City of Boston's goal is to provide all children with a strong and early start to their formal education. In 1998, Boston opened three new early education centers, providing "surround care" to students ages three through six, including those with and without disabilities. Since then, Boston Public Schools also has guaranteed a full-day kindergarten seat to every five-year-old in the city. In recent years, the district has expanded early childhood programs for four-year-olds, known as Kindergarten 1 or K1, with more than 2,300 "K1" seats available in September 2013, up from 700 seats in 2005. Today, Boston offers K1 seats in 85 percent of our elementary schools, Early Learning Centers and K-8 schools. As part of our Acceleration Agenda, BPS is

implementing uniform math and literacy programs across K1, including teacher training and coaches. For even younger children, Boston offers several free parent-child play groups for children ages one to three and their caregivers. They are led by an early childhood educator and include time for free play, circle time, snack, and gross motor/sensory play. The City and the Boston Public Schools also partner with numerous community-based organizations for Countdown to Kindergarten, to help families and students prepare for a successful transition to school. Thrive in Five is among the City's efforts to support early childhood education. Boston's birth-to-five school readiness initiative is a comprehensive and inclusive strategic planning process dedicated to strengthening Boston's commitment to early care and education and improving the health of Boston's children and families, thereby improving the quality of and family engagement in the public schools which young children enter, and much more.

Planned

In 2014, in support of universal pre-K (or K1), Mayor Walsh included a \$1 million, 100-seat expansion of the BPS early education (K1) program, which studies have shown is among the most effective in the nation in closing achievement gaps.

Bridgeport:

With the support of the United Way of Coastal Fairfield County, Bridgeport's public schools were able to provide 72 children with a summer program prior to their entry into kindergarten. Outcome data has shown that this summer experience improves the kindergarten readiness of the participants. The Bridgeport Alliance for Young Children partners with the public schools to bring professional development to early care and education sites, including management training and training specific to language and literacy. To reduce suspensions and expulsions from early care and education programs, the community of providers has participated in on-site embedded coaching from Yale University, in which coaches work with classroom teachers and children with challenging behaviors. In addition, training on Conscious Discipline was provided to all pre-school programs, to strengthen teachers' skills in classroom management and in responding to children's needs.

Planned

Mayor Finch led a Bridgeport delegation campaign to increase the number of State-funded early care and education slots available to children in Bridgeport and other low-income communities across Connecticut. As a result, the City was granted 126 new slots for low-income children that opened in September 2014.

Columbia:

Planned

The City is exploring ways to incentivize more quality pre-K education opportunities.

Compton:

Planned

Mayor Brown has initiated an Education Task Force comprised of the Community College, the School District, and the City, to implement universal pre-school in Compton. "The Task Force has a set of success indicators that we will be working collaboratively to achieve as a City, including the following: eradicating the school to prison pipeline; improving reading through incentive programs and parental involvement; and providing free vision services to every child in our school district (already underway through partnership with Vision to Learn). The Task Force is formed and our first meeting will be held in February 2015."

Indianapolis:

The City is holding town halls to generate support for this initiative. The Lilly endowment has already committed funding.

Planned

The Mayor's budget and private dollars will, hopefully, raise \$25 million for pre-K.

Minneapolis:

The Minneapolis School Board recently announced that it had established a moratorium on prekindergarten and first grade suspensions for non-violent behavior. Minneapolis is accessing the State's early learning scholarships, and Mayor Hodges is in support of Minneminds legislation to increase scholarship opportunities for low-income children to receive high quality preschool. In addition, the Minneapolis Northside Achievement Zone (NAZ), a federal Promise Neighborhood, has been accessing early learning scholarship funds from the Minnesota Race to the Top grant for three years.

Planned

Continuous access to high quality preschool is one of the goals of Mayor Hodge's Cradle to K Initiative and the Cabinet is working on recommendations in this area. The Cradle to K Plan, with recommendations, will be complete by the end of 2014.

Philadelphia:

Early Childhood – John Fantuzzo, UPenn GSE – EPIC Program

The Evidence-based Program for the Integration of Curricula (EPIC) is a comprehensive early childhood professional development program specifically designed for preschool children from an underserved, minority urban population. Developed and scientifically validated through a federal grant from the Interagency School Readiness Consortium (IRSC), EPIC takes an *intentional, systematic* and *intense* approach to skill development, assessment, family involvement, and professional development in early childhood education.

EPIC maximizes early learning by using a child-centered approach that draws on all of the resources surrounding the child: classroom, home, and learning community. The comprehensive EPIC program includes:

- A scientifically-based, developmentally-appropriate curriculum that integrates early mathematics, language, literacy, and learning behaviors into one cohesive, coordinated set of learning experiences that are reinforced at home through a strong connection to families.
- A built-in, scientifically-based, formative assessment of skill development that allows teachers to measure progress and tailor instruction to individual patterns of development.
- A learning community model of professional development that supports teachers' mastery of the program and promotes sharing of best practices and leadership development based on tested distributed leadership principles.

Sacramento:

The Child Signature Program (CSP) is a coordinated effort between First 5 California and First 5 Sacramento to bring a comprehensive set of high quality early learning and development services to children ages 0-5 in Sacramento County. CSP was designed to prepare children at greatest risk to enter school ready to learn and to be successful in school. First 5 Sacramento targets school communities with higher rates of poverty, special needs, and English language learners to receive services, as children and families in these areas typically don't have access to community support services.

2. Reading at grade level by third grade

Baltimore:

Mayor Rawlings-Blake's Third Grade Reads initiative recruits volunteer reading tutors for youth reading below benchmark. To bolster the number of tutors, the Mayor signed an executive order allowing City employees up to two hours paid leave per week to volunteer. Students' reading proficiency gains have been impressive. In addition, the Mayor's Office has been working with the Grade-Level Reading Campaign to develop outcomes, indicators, and recommendations for what the Mayor's Youth Cabinet agencies will commit to doing to impact third grade reading proficiency.

Birmingham:

Among relevant efforts in Birmingham: Reading is Fundamental's primary mission is to bring reading motivation to all children, especially those in disadvantaged households. RIF has launched a Multicultural Literacy Campaign, a multiyear effort to promote and support early childhood literacy in African American, Hispanic, and American Indian communities. The University of Alabama's Summer Reading Skills Program develops reading readiness skills needed to read successfully through beginning phonics, reading and comprehension. Accelerated Reader is a software tool that assesses a student's reading level, suggests titles of books at that level, and then assesses whether a student has completed reading the book by asking a series of questions. The software provides information to students regarding reading rates, amount of reading, and other factors related to reading. The Mayor's Office Division of Youth Services (DYS) Summer Movie Series is a summer enrichment program that encourages reading by offering one free ticket to see newly-released movies during the summer in exchange for only one book report.

Boston:

Efforts by the Boston Public School system include: Alignment to the Massachusetts Curriculum Framework for ELA and Literacy; Consultant Teacher of Reading BPS Wheelock partnership; Implementation of Foundations – an explicit and highly systematic word study program designed to be combined with Reading Street, our literature-based reading system, in which instruction is: delivered for 30 minutes a day in place of the word study component of Reading Street, targeted to K-3 general education and at-risk students with the aim of improving student performance in the areas of phonemic awareness, decoding, and spelling, and also includes vocabulary, fluency, handwriting and aspects of comprehension; Implementation of the Core Aligned Literacy Modules, each of which provide interdisciplinary content and afford students opportunities to build and expand their knowledge and deepen their understanding of the world; Implementation of Literacy Collaborative, a research-based comprehensive instructional method to increase student achievement, empower teachers, and develop school cultures that are rich in language; and Reading Recovery, a highly effective short-term intervention of one-to-one tutoring for low-achieving first graders – intervention most effective when available to all students who need it and when used as a supplement to good classroom teaching.

Planned

Efforts by the Boston Public School system are to include: implementing academic and disciplinary literacy specific to English language arts and literacy using standards-focused instruction focus on basic and intermediate literacy; implementing culturally responsive pedagogy using complex text and its academic vocabulary; supporting reading comprehension and build critical analysis skills by using text based questions; drawing evidence from literary and informational texts to support analysis, reflection, and research; implementing new BPS-created units of study aligned to the Massachusetts Curriculum Framework for ELA and Literacy; and

professional development for teachers to support the implementation of the Massachusetts Curriculum Framework for ELA and Literacy.

Bridgeport:

A number of initiatives are underway to improve literacy: 1) The Bridgeport Alliance for Young Children (BAYC), a collaborative made up of 50 community-based organizations that touch the lives of young children, will identify 1,000 children under the age of three, provide periodic screening, and connect to community resources to support age-appropriate speech and language development and early literacy skills. 2) Read to Grow, with the support of the United Way of Coastal Fairfield County, will distribute over 1,000 books to children and their families, beginning with a kick-off event hosted by Mayor Finch. 3) The Early Literacy Partnership, in which BAYC, under the care of the United Way of Coastal Fairfield County, will be gathering information on the current efforts to improve third grade literacy both in the schools and community; BAYC will collect data that is available and will, over the next 10 months, identify programs that have promise for improving grade level reading, and will, in year two, identify potential funding opportunities to scale up or replicate these effective efforts.

Planned

The Bridgeport Public Schools have been awarded a grant to address chronic absenteeism and will be implementing this program in the fall. BAYC and the United Way of Coastal Fairfield County are working together to develop strategies and collaborate efforts around summer slide and children's health.

Columbia:

We have had a partnership with our school district to attract/recruit mentors to read and coach young Black males in the past.

Planned

We are exploring the possibility of identifying all of the first and second graders that are not on track to be reading proficiently by the third grade so that we can provide the program and resources to ensure they are able to meet that goal.

Compton:

Planned

Mayor Brown has initiated an Education Task Force comprised of the Community College, the School District, and the City, to implement universal pre-school in Compton. "The Task Force has a set of success indicators that we will be working collaboratively to achieve as a City, including the following: Eradicating the school to prison pipeline; improving reading through incentive programs and parental involvement; and providing free vision services to every child in our school district (already underway through partnership with Vision to Learn). The Task Force is formed and our first meeting will be held in February 2015."

Indianapolis:

We are currently planning to have the school district and Big Brothers, Big Sisters share a list of mentor needs for tutoring during our data driven meeting in October.

Planned

We will be working with a variety of organizations which can assist in finding mentors to help struggling students.

Kansas City:

We are using the Turn the Page reading readiness program.

Philadelphia:

Children's Literacy Initiative (CLI) is a non-profit that works with teachers to transform instruction so that children can become powerful readers, writers and thinkers. CLI develops collaborative networks of schools that serve as training sites for local teachers, sustaining quality teaching and increasing student achievement. CLI also brings families and community partners together by creating opportunities for exchange around literacy practices and by coaching schools to nurture meaningful and reciprocal relationships with the families in the community they serve.

CLI's intervention, Modeling Exemplary Literacy Instruction (MELI), was chosen by the U.S. Department of Education to receive a grant from its Investing in Innovation (i3) fund. The purpose of the i3 fund is to support and expand innovative programs with a record of improving student achievement in order to strengthen public education in the United States and close the vast achievement gaps between students of different backgrounds.

Sacramento:

Mayor Johnson has been a leader in closing the third grade reading gap. In 2011 he founded Sacramento READS! which partnered with all five school districts in the City to get all Sacramento third graders reading on grade level. Sac READS! is now an initiative of the United Way of Greater Sacramento and it continues the original vision of Mayor Johnson by focusing on three key levers: 1) School Readiness – too many children are showing up for school not ready for what school has to offer; 2) School Attendance – too many children are missing too much school and too much instructional time; and 3) Summer Learning Loss – too many children are losing too much academic ground during the summer.

3. Graduating from high school ready for college and career

Baltimore:

We are working collaboratively with Baltimore's Promise to identify areas of intervention.

Birmingham:

The Birmingham Education Foundation is a nonprofit that seeks to help and improve the educational outcomes for children in Birmingham City Schools.

Talent Search, Jeff State Community College is an educational outreach program funded by the U.S. Department of Education that is designed to identify, motivate and support students in grades 6-12 who have the potential to succeed in college.

The Family Involvement Program, Birmingham-City School is an arm of the Birmingham School System with staff set aside to provide a holistic approach to education by putting families first.

S.T.A.R. Programs, Inc. is a company that licenses, implements, and maintains a unique disciplinary program for schools and juvenile courts interested in a proven, cost-effective alternatives to the incarceration, suspension or expulsion of at-risk youth. S.T.A.R. has

drastically reduced juvenile offenses and referrals to the office for disciplinary problems, all while improving academic performance

Every Child a Graduate is the Dropout Prevention Awareness Campaign for the State of Alabama through the State Department of Education, which identifies at-risk students, offers programs or services, and encourages school personnel, parents and community leaders to help reverse the trend of dropouts in our state.

School-Parent Compact, Birmingham City Schools is a commitment from the school, the parent, and the student to share in the responsibility for improved academic achievement through high-quality curriculum and instruction in a supportive and effective environment.

Boston:

Efforts include implementation of core instructional routines for reading and writing, Close Reading units, curriculum embedded tasks (CET), and McDougal curriculum units with professional development for tier 1 supports, and the implementation of Wilson Just Words intervention a tier 2 support. The tier 1 supports will provide targeted research-based instructional materials and supports aligned to the new Massachusetts Curriculum Framework for English Language Arts and Literacy. The tier 2 Intervention Wilson Just Words is based on Orton-Gillingham principles, WJW is a highly-structured remedial program that directly teaches the structure of the language for older students, who have been unable to learn with other teaching strategies, or who may require multisensory language; and WJW will provide on-going initial training to 20 schools across grades 4-12. WJW will provide coaching to elementary, middle, and high school general education and special education teachers. The Wilson consultants will provide job-embedded professional development using instructional practices that enhance learning opportunities for students who struggle with decoding, vocabulary, and reading comprehension. Other activities include high-quality professional development, job-embedded coaching support, and instructional materials, assessments, and support

Planned

Among planned activities:

- Implementation of academic and disciplinary literacy specific to English language arts and literacy using standards-focused instruction for both intermediate and advanced literacy;
- Implementation of new BPS-created units of study aligned to the Massachusetts Curriculum Framework for ELA and Literacy and the district core texts;
- Implementation of culturally responsive pedagogy using complex text and its academic vocabulary;
- Supporting reading comprehension and build critical analysis skills by using text based questions;
- Drawing evidence from literary and informational texts to support analysis, reflection, and research; and
- Providing professional development for teachers to support the implementation of the Massachusetts Curriculum Framework for ELA and Literacy.

Compton:

The Compton Youth Leadership Program was launched in May 2014. We graduated our first set of summer scholars and have also initiated a year-round program focused on policy development and advocacy, leadership development, career planning and exposure. The scholars will also participate in an intersession at UCLA for an intensive college preparation curriculum.

Houston:

The Mayor has established an education liaison in the Department of Neighborhoods who works with local school district on efforts to reduce dropout rates and support early connections to higher education.

Indianapolis:

The Mayor has supported charter schools, which are currently outperforming other school districts at a reduced cost.

Planned

Local government is working on future partnerships in an effort to increase readiness.

Kansas City:

Activities include internships, summer youth programming including financial literacy, and professional development.

Minneapolis:*Planned*

This is one of the goals of Generation Next and NAZ

Philadelphia:

Philadelphia Futures provides Philadelphia's low-income, first-generation-to-college students with the tools, resources and opportunities necessary for admission to and success in college. It has developed and implemented an extensive array of programs and services that help students step up to success. At the core of the organization is Sponsor-A-Scholar (SAS) – a nationally-recognized program that provides students from Philadelphia's neighborhood high schools with the critical support and resources they need to achieve their dream of a college education.

Beyond the SAS Program, Philadelphia Futures publishes the annual Step Up to College Guide – an invaluable resource for thousands of students across Philadelphia. In addition, the organization works with businesses, foundations, and other organizations that look to Philadelphia Futures to help create and manage scholarship and award programs on their behalf.

4. Completing Postsecondary Education or Training**Baltimore:**

We are working collaboratively with Baltimore's Promise to identify areas of intervention.

Boston:

Through the SuccessBoston initiative and related projects, the City works to increase the percentage of young adults, including young men of color, who are successful in completing college or other post-secondary programs. The Maritime Apprentice Program prepares youth committed to DYS for careers in the maritime trades. A partnership with YouthBuild Boston provides hands-on construction training and education. Two programs expose young adults to culinary arts careers. Boston serves younger youth of color with academically-oriented afterschool programming that increases their chances of school success and graduation.

Planned

Boston presently has a strong youth development network, and a strong adult job training system, and we are working on plans to expand the amount of job training specifically aimed at young men of color, in part by promoting collaboration between the youth and adult systems.

Columbia:

We previously launched a partnership with Midlands Technical College for the Work It Up program. It was a program geared to holistically provide support for those that are unable to find employment. Upon entering the program, participants select a field of choice. The given fields are identified to have job availability and participants can be matched upon completion of the program.

Compton:

We have the Compton Adult Education Academy.

Houston:

Collaborations between Houston Independent School District and local community college systems have encouraged early college credits and smooth transition to post-secondary training.

Indianapolis:

Planned

Deputy Mayor Jason Kloth is working with local school districts and others to identify needs and ways to obtain measurable goals for the future.

Minneapolis:

This is one of the goals of Generation Next and NAZ.

New Orleans:

In September 2014, the City of New Orleans released a report on African American male unemployment outlining the June 2014 survey findings and addressing both the challenges for employability and the assets within the population. The data will be used in continued outreach and engagement to job seekers throughout the implementation of the Economic Opportunity Strategy. The Mayor's Economic Opportunity Strategy will: 1) establish a collaborative of local anchor institutions committed to expanding economic opportunity to disadvantaged job seekers and businesses; 2) create a workforce intermediary that connects disadvantaged job seekers to employment opportunities through anchor institutions, providing case management, foundational skills training and supportive services; 3) create a procurement intermediary that connects qualified disadvantaged businesses to contracting opportunities through anchor institutions; 4) create a worker-owned cooperative that connects job seekers to employment by leveraging procurement and purchasing opportunities through anchor institutions; and 5) establish and align customized job training based on employer needs that prepares disadvantaged job seekers for in-demand jobs through anchor institutions and major infrastructure projects.

Philadelphia:

Geared towards African American males, the Center for Male Engagement (CME) provides its members with targeted academic and non-academic supports designed to enhance their skill sets, cultivate a sense of belonging and build resolve as they pursue a degree at Community College of Philadelphia and continue beyond.

Philadelphia Futures provides Philadelphia's low-income, first-generation-to-college students with the tools, resources and opportunities necessary for admission to and success in college. It has developed and implemented an extensive array of programs and services that help students step up to success. At the core of the organization is Sponsor-A-Scholar (SAS) – a nationally-recognized program that provides students from Philadelphia's neighborhood high schools with the critical support and resources they need to achieve their dream of a college education.

Beyond the SAS Program, Philadelphia Futures publishes the annual Step Up to College Guide – an invaluable resource for thousands of students across Philadelphia. In addition, the organization works with businesses, foundations, and other organizations that look to Philadelphia Futures to help create and manage scholarship and award programs on their behalf.

Sacramento:

Planned

With the support of Sacramento Mayor Kevin Johnson and in partnership with St. HOPE Public Schools, College Track will open its doors in the heart of Oak Park at the start of the 2014-2015 academic school year. In the Oak Park neighborhood, nearly half of adult residents have not earned a high school diploma, and only 14 percent have a college degree. College Track intends to change that. The inaugural class will be comprised of 60 freshmen from Sacramento Charter High School, nearly 25 percent of the high school's freshman class. By 2018, the site will be fully enrolled with over 250 students across four cohorts, and by 2023, our Oak Park center will support nearly 500 high school and college students annually.

5. Successfully Entering the Workforce

Baltimore:

The Mayor's Office of Employment Development launched a public-private initiative called Hire One Youth. In the first year of the initiative in 2013, more than 500 youth were placed with employers during the summer, becoming better prepared to meet workplace expectations and gaining exposure to career opportunities.

Birmingham:

Go Build Alabama is a subsidiary of the Future Skilled Workers of America (FSWA) established to help ingrate young people into vocational trades and the construction industry. In the YouthBuild programs, low-income young people ages 16 to 24 work full-time for six to 24 months toward their GED or high school diploma while learning job skills by building affordable housing in their communities. Summer Executive Internships (SEI) and Fox 6 Kids and Jobs Draft provide students 16 to 21 years of age with a unique opportunity to establish a foundation in the career path of their choice. Students are also provided job training to help them sharpen their professional skills. The Jefferson County WIA Out-Of-School Youth Program provides WIA-eligible out-of-school youth ages 18-21 with training and employment assistance. The Dannon Project offers opportunities for low-income, at-risk youth to achieve educational and employment goals through summer job placement, work experience, tutoring, GED preparation, alternative education, leadership activities, mentoring, and referrals.

We also work with employers, mayors and others to expand successful summer jobs efforts, and identify and enhance the quality of existing programs. Fox 6 Kids and Jobs—City of Birmingham Mayor's Office Division of Youth Services places hundreds of Birmingham Youth between the ages of 14 and 15 into jobs working with Summer Camps, the Police Department, houses of faith, and recreation centers.

Boston:

Boston's Youth Options Unlimited program connects gang-involved young adults, many of them young men of color, with intensive case management, alternative education services, and transitional jobs leading eventually to unsubsidized employment. The maritime, building trades and culinary arts programs also channel young men of color into the workforce, although they are designed as career exploration programs, not job placement programs. Boston also utilizes the

state's YouthWorks grant to serve young adults, many of whom are young men of color, in need of jobs and work readiness.

Planned

Boston has historically set very high summer jobs goals – exceeding 12,000 jobs per summer back in the years when the federal government still funded summer jobs. More recently, in the absence of federal funding, the city has aimed to place 10,000 youth in summer employment. Last year, Boston placed approximately 9,000 youth in summer jobs and under Mayor Walsh's leadership, the City is on track to reach approximately 10,000 (based on projections, data currently being collected).

Boston also plans to expand the number of year-round jobs for young people, as a way of introducing them to employment and helping them think about future careers. Through the Mayor's Office of Jobs and Community Service, the City of Boston anticipates issuing an RFP in 2015 to make additional career exploration and training services available for young men of color. Under the new Workforce Investment and Opportunity Act rules, which mandate that a higher percentage of funds be spent on out-of-school youth, we will serve additional older out-of-school youth (up to age 24) in education, career exploration, and training programs.

Columbia:

We have partnered with the Columbia Urban League over the last several years to encourage our business community to provide summer job opportunities for our youth, specifically for young, Black males.

Planned

We plan to introduce the Columbia Chamber of Commerce to the relationship so that we encourage more businesses to offer opportunities.

Compton:

Youth Summer Employment, internships and vocation exposure is included in the Compton Youth Scholars Program explained previously.

Houston:

The City of Houston has initiated a summer jobs program for youth.

Indianapolis:

The DPS Foundation held a 5K to bring awareness to the need for summer jobs after holding a community conversation with young people where they mentioned this as a great need. \$35,000 were raised and 400 young people enjoyed employment.

Planned

The DPS Foundation is including summer jobs funding in its strategic plan for 2015.

Jacksonville:

Mayor Brown is expanding the Summer Jobs Program by increasing the number of private-sector employers and youth participants.

Minneapolis:

We have the nationally recognized Step Up and Urban Scholars programs. The City of Minneapolis is both an employer and a supporter of both of these youth summer employment programs.

New Orleans:

To promote jobs and opportunity, the City has doubled the number of summer jobs offered to young people and started partnerships with local businesses and universities to create new job training and placement services. NOLA Youth Works provides quality summer experiences that build a pipeline to careers for local youth ages 13-21. Last summer's experiences focused on creating a career-ready workforce and providing valuable employment opportunities in community revitalization while transforming local neighborhoods. Youth earn a much needed paycheck and, equally as important, gain experience that helps them define and advance their career goals.

Philadelphia:

Planned

Increasing summer youth employment slots, despite cuts, to 10,000.

Sacramento:

The USCM-facilitated partnership between Starbucks and the Office of Mayor Kevin Johnson has begun convening "Solutions City" town halls. The first town hall identified closing the skills gap and linking jobseekers as problems to address. The discussions and proposed solution will attempt to engage "opportunity youth," young people who are currently disconnected from school or work.

6. Reducing violence and providing a second chance.**Baltimore:**

The Mayor's Office of Criminal Justice and Mayor's Health Department have been working with stakeholders to develop outcomes, indicators, and recommendations for what Mayor's Youth Cabinet agencies will commit to doing to prevent youth from becoming perpetrators or victims of violence. In addition, with the new youth curfew law, the Mayor launched Youth Connection Centers. Unaccompanied children and youth who are found on the streets after 9 pm are transported to them; parents/guardians are contacted; and both youth and parents are connected to services and programs that can address the challenges they face that led to the youth being unaccompanied at night.

Birmingham:

The Youth Firearms Violence Initiative at the Birmingham Police Department reduces youth firearm violence. The FBI Citizens' Academy, like each of the FBI's local field offices, has a community outreach program that complements and strengthens its many efforts to protect individuals, families, and businesses, in concrete ways through a range of activities and initiatives. It works specifically to help reduce crime, violence, terrorism, and civil rights violations through community-based partnerships, collaborative efforts, and special events, all in support of the FBI's mission. Dannon Project helps restore lives through providing supportive re-entry assistance including short-term training and certifications, job prep and placement to previously incarcerated youth, which will result in permanent employment.

Boston:

Led by the Mayor's Public Safety Initiative and in partnership with several local and state partners, the following efforts are planned or underway in Boston.

1. Proposed merger of the City of Boston's Streetworker program with a foundation funded program known as "StreetSafe" that is proposed for January 1, 2015. If approved and funded, the merger will centralize city and philanthropic outreach and prevention efforts that will be coordinated through the Mayor's Office. As part of this proposal, the Boston Police Department and the Boston Centers for Youth & Families will act as the central partners in collaboration with other local and state partners and non-profit partners.
2. The expansion of the Boston Police Department's unit to include elementary ages for Boston Public School students to enhance community and school-based positive relationships with the Boston Police Department that does/will include collaboration with a variety of non-profit partners.
3. The recent creation and hiring of a Re-Entry Coordinator based in the Mayor's Office of Jobs and Community Service. This position works with the Mayor's Office of Jobs and Community Service as well as the Mayor's Public Safety Initiative to centralize and coordinate re-integration of returning citizens for the City of Boston.
4. The creation of a program coordinator position within the Mayor's Public Safety Initiative to centralize and coordinate the City's response to Trauma. This coordinator will work collaboratively with the Boston Public Health Commission, Boston Police Department as well as prosecutorial agencies and in partnership with non-profits to develop a sustained program for response to violence and trauma for the City.
5. The creation of "Operation Exit" through the Mayor's Public Safety Initiative in collaboration with Cabinet of Health and Human Services and Cabinet of Economic Development. "Operation Exit" is a pre-apprenticeship partnership with the trade unions that identified young men and woman who are gang-involved or at significant risk of involvement/violence. The program was launched in September 2014 with 16 participants, and includes a "call in" with young men and woman and presentation through the Mayor's Office of seven business agents and the general agent of the trade unions about meaningful employment and career opportunities, pension and annuity benefits, etc. The program length is three weeks with guaranteed union placement upon completion. Participants are from groups across the City, many of whom have had ongoing violent conflict. As of today, there program includes 100 percent attendance and team enthusiasm is palpable.

Columbia:

We have adopted the Ban the Box model. We have held Town Hall discussions to encourage safety and nonviolence among our young, Black males.

Planned

We plan to hold more discussions that will partner with the South Carolina Bar to educate youth on the possible result of their negative choices. The Center of Excellence for Black Male Achievement will also partner with our local re-entry organizations.

Compton:

Compton Empowered has a gang intervention task force initiated by Mayor Brown in June 2014. We meet bi-monthly to broker peace and prosperity in our community. The Mayor heads the meetings directly and has successfully initiated a ceasefire with the major gangs in my community. Homicides and violent crime are at the lowest levels in our community in decades.

Houston:

We have developed a multi-sector comprehensive plan that includes evidence-based strategies for prevention, intervention and restorative justice.

Planned

Local STRYVE partners will expand youth engagement in violence prevention work with neighborhoods beyond those originally funded with the CDC grant.

Indianapolis:

Our new data approach will help police better identify areas in need, while the mayor, DPS director, and chief work with local businesses, houses of faith, and foundations to identify funding sources for many of the social issues facing our community--reentry, summer jobs, etc.

Planned

The police department has publicly announced plans and operations targeting crime and also including the community and social components necessary for long-term, sustainability.

Jacksonville:

Mayor Brown is providing funds to increase the number of first-time, nonviolent offenders able to participate in Teen Court and Neighborhood Accountability Boards, which offer constructive alternatives to arrest and detention for misdemeanor offenses.

Minneapolis:

The City of Minneapolis Health Department leads the work of the Blueprint for Youth Violence Prevention. Mayor Hodges co-chairs the Youth Violence Prevention Executive Committee.

New Orleans:

Since taking office in 2010, the Landrieu Administration moved quickly to take on the top issues facing New Orleans and we have seen tremendous progress. Still, many daunting challenges remain and we cannot continue to kick the can down the road. In 2012, 193 people were murdered in New Orleans. 193 tragic stories and a wake of destruction and heart break. There is no challenge more urgent than preventing murder and make no mistake, it can be fixed. We believe there is an answer to this age-old problem.

Our answer is NOLA FOR LIFE. In the spring of 2012 Mayor Landrieu launched this cutting edge comprehensive strategy as one of the city's top priorities. It's smart, holistic, and hits the streets. At the end of 2013, the City of New Orleans decreased murders by 20 percent and recorded the lowest number of murders in 30 years.

The NOPD-led Multi-Agency Gang Unit has indicted more than 74 individuals from gangs as part of a coordinated multi-jurisdictional effort to focus on group and gang activity. Two dozen identified high-risk individuals have taken advantage of job placement, job training, GED preparation, housing assistance, emergency financial assistance, child care, substance abuse counseling, and/or mental health counseling as part of the Group Violence Reduction Strategy. CeaseFire New Orleans mediates conflicts in order to prevent violence, and as of mid-October 2013, the Central City target area has seen over 200 days without a murder.

The Mayor's 2013 NOLA Youth Works Summer Jobs Program provided 1,600 young people ages 13-21 with work experience at private companies, non-profit organizations and other entities. NOLA FOR LIFE Midnight Basketball's 4th season ended in August 2013 with over 1,000 participants. Over five dozen participants were connected with jobs, job training, or

education. NOLA FOR LIFE Days have engaged nearly a thousand citizens to clean up crime hot spots, reduce blight, and improve infrastructure. In March 2013, The Central City WIC Clinic started screening for family violence and referring those who screen positive to the New Orleans Family Justice Center for help. The City regularly convenes a diverse group of service providers, supported by the NOLA FOR LIFE Fund, to network, coordinate programming, and identify policy barriers to improve service delivery for high-risk individuals.

Philadelphia:

The overarching goals of the Youth Violence Prevention Collaborative (YVPC) are to reduce the number of youth homicides, specifically targeting the number of youth involved in shootings, arrested for violent crimes, reporting assault-related injuries, and involved in violence in the 22nd Police District.

There are six core themes that the strategic plan is focusing on across government and in our community, one of which is Detention and Diversion. The overall goals for Detention and Diversion are: to increase the use of diversion alternatives for youth; those in placement should remain in and near Philadelphia; percentage of youth in placement as a percentage of the total number of petitions declines; the average stay and the cost per stay among youth decreases.

A significant amount of Evidence-based Programming is underway in Philadelphia, including:

- Place-based approach: As a USDOJ National Forum on Youth Violence Prevention city, Philadelphia is taking a place-based approach to prevention focusing on the 22nd Police District.
- Juvenile Detention Alternative Initiative (JDAI) enables the use of diversion programs and detention alternatives to increase the number of youth allowed to remain safely in their communities while under court supervision. Philadelphia's Department of Human Services and The Family Court of Philadelphia initiated JDAI, a national initiative managed through the Annie E. Casey Foundation, which is focused on eliminating the inappropriate or unnecessary use of secure detention, and ensuring the most appropriate supervision for youth through the use of eight core strategies: 1) Collaboration between major juvenile justice agencies, 2) Use of accurate data, 3) Objective admissions criteria and instruments, 4) New or enhanced non-secure alternatives to detention, 5) Case processing reforms, Special detention cases, 6) Youth in custody, 7) Reducing racial disparities, 8) Improving conditions of confinement
- Youth Violence Reduction Partnership (YVRP) provides monitoring and support to youth, ages 14 to 24 years old, who are at greatest risk of killing or being killed. The targeted youths are those who are more likely to have (1) siblings preceding them into the juvenile justice system, (2) an arrest record for a drug offense, (3) an arrest record for a gun charge, and (4) a history of incarceration. YVRP provides close and constant supervision of youth as well as schooling, jobs, drug treatment, and counseling services. Intervention Teams consisting of probation officers, police, and mentors (as well as credible street outreach workers) implement the strategies.
- Evening Reporting Center (ERC) program is a community-based alternative to detention program. The purpose of the Evening Reporting Center is to provide moderate- to high-risk youth with supervision in a structured setting and prevent them from engaging in delinquent behavior during times known for high delinquent activity, i.e. after school and during the early evening hours.
- Pennsylvania Detention Risk Assessment Instrument (PaDRAI) at court intake serves to standardize intake decisions and ensure fairness in the decision-making process by requiring Intake Interviews to complete an objective risk assessment tool that guides detention

decisions. The purpose of the PaDRAI is to increase consistency in detention decisions, to minimize unnecessary or inappropriate admissions to secure detention, and to help examine other alternatives to secure detention when appropriate.

- The Mural Arts Guild Program incorporates the concepts of restorative justice through art instruction, mural making, and community service youth advocates and probation officers can refer court-appointed youth ages 15 to 21 to these evening and Saturday classes to develop their art-making skills and earn community service hours while contributing to major public art projects.
- Cure Violence (formerly Ceasefire) Philadelphia relies on an outreach coordinator and teams of ex-offenders who serve as outreach workers, who use their built-in credibility to act as mentors to youths in the targeted demographic — 14-25 years old. The workers meet with at-risk youth, coach them on how to get out of a lifestyle that often ends with gun violence. Cure Violence also works with communities after a violent event has occurred to support those who have lost family and to spread messages that disparage future violence.
- Healing Hurt People (HHP) addresses the emotional wounds that can impact a child for life. HHP is a community-focused, hospital-based program designed to reduce re-injury and retaliation and is available for youth as young as 8 years old. The program is affiliated with the Emergency Departments at Hahnemann University Hospital and St. Christopher's Hospital for Children, Drexel University College of Medicine and School of Public Health.
- Philadelphia Sports Youth Collaborative PYSC, the U.S. Attorney's Office, Family Court, DHS, Northeast Treatment Centers (NET) and CustomEd are collaborating on a program that places juvenile offenders into participating PYSC programs.
- Youth Courts in partnership with United States Attorney's Office (USAO) partnership with Strawberry Mansion High School (SMHS) and PhillyRising (The City of Philadelphia's neighborhood outreach effort), Youth Courts are an anti-violence strategy that begin in school and focus resources on creating a more positive youth culture as well as correcting individual bad behavior. This program in the 22nd Police District, Strawberry Mansion High School, utilizes previously vacant or under-utilized mock courtroom in the school and teach youth Civics, US government and personal responsibility. Students play all the key courtroom roles and a jury of students is responsible for creating a verdict for those found to be culpable for breaking school regulations.
- Common Justice a restorative justice approach, (related but not in Philadelphia; the model's director is a Stoneleigh Fellow looking to take the model here) is a project that provides an alternative to incarceration for young people (ages 16-24) who commit violent crimes, and develops a consistent method of supporting the recovery of the harmed parties. Common Justice uses the term "participatory justice" to describe their work which promotes healing and accountability and facilitates the recovery of individuals and communities.
- Family Court (FC) was developed in 1998 to ensure that a safe, permanent and stable home is secured for each abused and neglected child. The court provides for the behavioral health needs of the child and their family by offering assessment, treatment and case monitoring services that will determine, in large measure, the outcome of the hearings. Cases are referred to FC for review by the Philadelphia Department of Human Services (DHS).
 - Clinical Evaluation Unit - Youth and families with a history of substance abuse are referred by probation officers to the Clinical Evaluation Unit. The evaluator clinically determines the level of care, specific treatment program, and facilitates authorization from the funding source. All Youth Partners who are referred to substance abuse treatment are provided with case management services.
 - Juvenile Treatment Court (JTC) is a diversion project at Family Court designed to engage non-violent substance-abusing juvenile offenders in appropriate treatment under the supervision of the presiding JTC judge and the JTC Review Team. The CEU Evaluator

performs behavioral health assessments for these juveniles and refers them to treatment. The CEU clinical staff is a part of the JTC Team, including a dedicated Judge, Public Defender, District Attorney, School District Representative, Juvenile Probation Department, and Family Court Juvenile Services staff.

- Youth Aid Panel is open to first-time juvenile offenders charged with misdemeanors or felonies who would otherwise be heard by a Judge in Juvenile Court where participants are required to do long-term community service projects, written essays or reports, counseling, drug testing, and restitution. If the juvenile fulfills all terms of the contract, the juvenile's record is expunged.
- Philadelphia Treatment Court (PTC), operated by the Public Health Management Corporation, with funding from Office of Addiction Services, provides evaluation and case management services to offenders brought before the court. Completion qualifies the participant to have his/her criminal record expunged after remaining arrest-free for one year. Failure to complete the treatment and requirements may result in incarceration.
- Juvenile Enforcement Team (JET) unit is comprised of juvenile probation officers and Philadelphia police officers housed inside Family Court. It focuses on high-risk juvenile offenders who are currently under court supervision. This unit gathers intelligence on juvenile gangs, serves high priority juvenile warrants, and assists police in solving crimes that involve juveniles.
- GunStat is a targeted law enforcement and prosecution program operated jointly by the Philadelphia Police Department and the Philadelphia District Attorney's Office. GunStat was created to combat gun violence in Philadelphia. The program uses criminal intelligence and multi-agency collaboration to target the city's most violent gun offenders in the most violent areas in Philadelphia. GunStat's mission is to utilize criminal intelligence for precise targeting of the City's most violent neighborhoods, hotspots, and the prosecution of the City's most violent offenders.

7. Other

Two cities mentioned activities besides those included under the six focus areas:

Indianapolis:

Planning is occurring in conjunction with budget preparation for calendar year 2015. The Your Life Matters Task Force is meeting and examining issues facing men and children of color in our city. DPS has begun a citizens academy and planning is now taking place to take this academy into minority communities throughout the city to develop trust and partnerships. Our two biggest employers in government – police and fire – are recruiting from a diverse community and have been successful. The DPS is hosting community conversations to discuss crime and quality of life issues within the City.

Philadelphia:

We are planning on becoming an MBK City as designated by the White House.



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