Youth Violence Prevention Through Environmental Design aims to study the effects of environmental design on crime and youth violence. The project is in partnership with the University Avenue Corridor Coalition (UACC), a local community-based coalition in Flint, MI, and funded through the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

The UACC was established in 2012 to implement Crime Prevention through Environmental Design (CPTED) activities to address blight and crime hotspots, improve neighborhood health and safety, stabilize land use, establish leisure and recreational areas, and create and improve communication links and education in the area.

The University Avenue Corridor Coalition (UACC), is a broad based collaboration of universities, community organizations, and law enforcement which formed with the collective goal of revitalizing the University Avenue area of Flint, Michigan. This corridor connects a hospital and two universities in the city with the downtown area. Over the years, it has also experienced much disinvestment and neglect.

This funding allows the group to expand their neighborhood and blight elimination efforts to a wider area and evaluate the effects of their projects on crime, injury, property conditions and neighborhood perceptions.

Renew the Avenue

The UACC is leading an affiliated project, funded by a grant from the Byrne Criminal Justice Innovation Program, for which the YVPC is assuming the role of evaluator.

Renew the Avenue is a collaboration between the UACC, the YVPC, Michigan State University, as well as local Flint neighborhood associations, public figures, and law enforcement. Implementation of the project encompasses many CPTED-based activities also aiming to eliminate blight and reduce crime in Flint.