



Michigan Youth Violence Prevention Center

Intervention Area

The YVPC programs were focused in a defined area in Flint Michigan surrounding Hurley Hospital, west to Forest Hill Ave. (above Flushing Rd) and north to West Dayton and East Rankin Streets. The southern border is the Flint River. The residents who lived within this area were eligible to participate in the MI-YVPC programs. These boundaries form a distinct area known as the Durant-Tuuri-Mott neighborhood. Historically, the Flint River has separated the predominantly African American north side from downtown Flint.

The intervention community was a single geographic area of nearly 2 square miles. After reviewing crime incident data for this area with key stakeholders, this area was selected because of its high rates of youth violent crime, but also because of its community assets including:

- Active community organizations
- A major hospital (Hurley)
- Two nearby Universities (Kettering University and the University of Michigan – Flint)
- Nearby neighborhoods that show early signs of redevelopment



For more information:

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2010-2015

Multi-Level Approach to Youth Violence Prevention

From 2010-2015, MI-YVPC coordinated several programs within the intervention area that seek to reduce violence and create a supportive and healthy environment for youth, ages 10-24. The array of six programs were designed to focus on the individual, relationships, or community. The array of programs were also designed to reach both low and high risk youth. Each program was organized or led by a community organization.

Prevention Strategy

Individual-Focused

- (Youth Empowerment Solutions) Empower youth to create community change and connect them with adult advocates.
- (Project Sync) Provide one-on-one counseling to youth treated at Hurley Medical Center's emergency department.

Relationship-Focused

- (Fathers and Sons) Build stronger relations between adolescent boys and their fathers.
- (Mentoring) Pair adult role models with youth who have been referred by Family Court or Teen Jury.

Community-Focused

- (Clean & Green) Partner with local organizations to improve and maintain vacant properties.
- (Community Mobilization) Assist residents, community organizations, and police officers in working together.

Evaluation Strategy

The evaluation strategy is based on several components. We are examining spatial analysis of crime incidents, community survey data, and hospital injury data in the intervention neighborhood, in comparison to all other neighborhoods across the city. We are also comparing the outcomes in the intervention area to a comparison area with similar characteristics. In addition, we are conducting a process evaluation of each individual program and an overall evaluation of the Center.

Selected Publications

Reischl, T. M., Krusky, A. M., Zimmerman, M. A., Aiyer, S. M., Kruger, D. J., Franzen, S. P., & Lipton, R. (2016). Assessing Physical Disorder in Urban Neighborhoods: Reliability and Validity of the Parcel Maintenance Observation Tool. *Journal of Community Psychology*, 44(1), 7–21. <http://doi.org/10.1002/jcop.21730>

Heinze, J. E., Reischl, T. M., Bai, M., Roche, J. S., Morrel-Samuels, S., Cunningham, R. M., & Zimmerman, M. A. (2016). A Comprehensive Prevention Approach to Reducing Assault Offenses and Assault Injuries among Youth. *Prevention Science: The Official Journal of the Society for Prevention Research*, 17(2), 167–176. <http://doi.org/10.1007/s11121-015-0616-1>

