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Crime Prevention Division
North Carolina
Department of Crime Control and Public Safety



CRIME PREVENTION
IN
INNER CITY AND PUBLIC HOUSING
COMMUNITIES

NEWS

MAR 1 1988

ACQUISITIONS



Crime Prevention Division
North Carolina
Department of Crime Control and Public Safety

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Governor

Joseph W. Dean

Secretary

Written and Compiled

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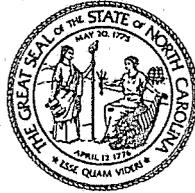
June 1986

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North Carolina Department of Crime Control and Public Safety

James G. Martin, Governor

June 1986

Joseph W. Dean, Secretary

Dear Crime Prevention Practitioners:

I am pleased to present this manual, a valuable tool in the implementation of crime prevention programs in public housing and inner-city communities.

This manual is based on the successes and failures of crime prevention programs across the state and nation. The concepts and sensitivities presented are sound and proven.

With a projected decline of public dollars, successfully organized community crime prevention programs are now more important than ever. Residents and communities in partnership with local law enforcement and management offers an ideal solution in reducing crime and the fear of crime.

Sincerely Yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Joseph W. Dean".

Joseph W. Dean
Secretary

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INTRODUCTION

Crime is a problem from which no American is completely immune. However, not all segments of the population feel the burden equally. One group in particular is considerably more vulnerable to both the temptations and the consequences of crime. This group consists of the more than four million Americans who reside in public housing.¹

IT IS OUR BELIEF THAT RESIDENTS OF PUBLIC AND LOW INCOME HOUSING COMMUNITIES CAN AND MUST WORK TOGETHER WITH LAW ENFORCEMENT TO PREVENT CRIME.

Here are some basic facts:

- Criminals are all ages, races, sexes and sizes, and have different motivations.
- Many crimes occur simply because homes, vehicles and other belongings are not properly secured.
- Crime reduces the overall quality of life by threatening human dignity, wasting human potential, disrupting families, inflating taxes and prices, and causing loss of property.
- We are all victims of crime, either directly or indirectly.
- Most crimes are crimes of opportunity. If you eliminate the opportunity, you may avoid the crime.

In order for a crime to happen, there must be both an offender and a victim. The offender must have the desire, ability and opportunity to commit a crime. The chances of us affecting the offender's desire and ability are relatively small. Crime Prevention, therefore, primarily focuses on opportunity.

Opportunity is the element of crime upon which citizens can have the most direct and immediate impact. Offenders tend to attack victims offering the easiest opportunity and least risk. If citizens take a few simple precautions, they can reduce their risk of becoming a victim. Reducing the opportunity for crime is crime prevention.

The objectives of this manual are:

1. To contribute to the understanding of the nature, significance and implications of criminal behavior in public housing and low income communities.
2. To contribute to the awareness of historical attitudes prevalent among residents of public housing and low income communities.
3. To provide ideas for the exercising of citizenship and leadership in the area of crime prevention.
4. To explain the roles of public agencies in preventing crime.
5. To identify resources for community crime prevention.

Understanding the Problem

Throughout the country, crime rates in public housing communities have a tendency to be higher than in the cities where they are located. In some public housing areas, crime rates are five to ten times higher than the national average.²

In one large scale Delaware survey, the majority of public housing residents did not perceive any problems with the housing structure, management or social services in their units. However, residents did express a strong fear of crime.³ A majority of the residents sensed danger from robbery and vandalism. They also expressed concern over the possibility of assault, rape and car theft. In other similar surveys, crime has been listed as the number one concern of residents, even when compared to inflation and unemployment. These and other studies have led to the conclusion that crime or the fear of crime is the most serious concern of residents of public housing.

An indirect consequence of crime is the fear of crime. While residents who are fearful of crime may not become police statistics, they are victims of crime indirectly.

Studies show that the fear of crime has led many residents to stay behind locked doors; avoiding public transportation, night shopping, and nights out on the town for entertainment. Fearful residents also avoid involvement with strangers, even when they are in need of help. One Boston study showed that 60% of the residents were afraid to wait for the bus alone, ride the elevators, or even to walk down the hallway at night.⁴ In effect, activities that are common occurrences for most Americans become impossibilities for the fearful resident of public housing.

Research has shown, however, that the extent of the fear of crime in a community does not always coincide with the actual crime rate. Often, more people express fear than have actually been victims of crime. Victimization, then, is not always the key to fear.

One possible explanation is the increasingly bad image of public housing over the past few decades. So called "crisis literature" has had the effect of dubbing all public housing as the housing of last resort; laden with crime, poverty, destruction and even mental illness.⁵ Such publicity tends to isolate residents of public housing from the general population. While such a description may fit some public housing communities, it also serves as an injustice to others.

There is no national profile of public housing. Every state, public housing authority and public housing unit have

individual characteristics which determine the presence or absence of a crime problem. No statewide profile exists for the public housing of North Carolina either. To say that all public housing in North Carolina suffers unduly from crime would be unfair and untrue.

Another possible explanation for the high rate of fear among public housing residents is the degree of vulnerability which exists. While not all housing communities experience higher crime rates, a certain degree of vulnerability to crime is apparent throughout most public housing areas. There are two dimensions to vulnerability of crime: a physical dimension and a social dimension.⁶ Physical vulnerability involves the openness to attack, lack of power to resist, and exposure to significant physical and emotional consequences if attacked. Social vulnerability refers to a frequent exposure to victimization, with limited social and economic means for coping with victimization. Public housing residents are both physically and socially more vulnerable to crime.

Research has shown that women and elderly persons possess the highest physical vulnerability to crime.⁷ According to crime statistics, a criminal confrontation would most likely involve a young male or perhaps a group of young males as criminals. Consequently, women and the elderly are less likely to be able to defend themselves physically.

National census information shows that more and more older Americans are living alone, rendering them even more helpless in dangerous situations. Female headed households are also on the rise. Without a husband or father, the responsibility of protecting the family is placed upon the woman. Offenders are aware of these potential weaknesses, and are ready to exploit them.

Not only are women and elderly people more likely to be physically disadvantaged, they also face the most extreme consequences if confronted. Physical injuries could become critical to older victims, and women face the added threat of sexual assault.

While women and the elderly possess the highest physical vulnerability to crime, black people and poor people are also more socially vulnerable to crime.⁸ Recall that social vulnerability involves frequent exposure to victimization and a lack of the social and economic means of dealing with it. Among major population groups, blacks and poor disproportionately bear the risk of victimization from violent crimes. For example, national victimization rates for robbery and rape are more than two times as high for blacks as they are for white people. Black males die from homicide at six times the rate of white males.⁹

Additionally, people in lower income brackets have reported victimization rates three times that of their counterparts in

higher income levels.¹⁰ These groups are usually less able to deal with the consequences of crime. Stolen items are expensive to replace, and time off from work could prove devastating.

Summary. National studies have shown that women, elderly people, black and lower income groups are most vulnerable to crime. Notice the similarities between this group of people and public housing residents. According to sociologists, the typical public housing resident is likely to be poor, black and dependent on welfare.¹¹ Additionally, elderly people and female headed households constitute large proportions of tenant populations. Other factors such as high unemployment rates, low educational levels and large youth populations also exist in public housing that contribute to increased vulnerability.

But what about the residents of public housing in North Carolina? Are they socially and physically more vulnerable to crime than other segments of the statewide population? Unfortunately, due to social, economic and demographic characteristics of these residents, the answer is yes.

Characteristics

Unemployment:

In 1937, public housing programs began to supply temporary housing for middle class families left homeless by the Depression. Over the years, however, public housing has come to house not the "temporarily unemployed" but the "infrequently employed." Many housing communities across the United States have unemployment rates more than ten times the national average.¹² Unfortunately, this fact also holds true for North Carolina. In May of 1984, the unemployment rate among North Carolinians was 5.8%.¹³ In some public housing areas, the adult unemployment rate was projected as high as 58%, 64%, 70% and 73%.

While not conclusive, a bulk of research exists supporting a positive correlation between unemployment, property crimes, juvenile delinquency and homicide rates.¹⁴ Absent legitimate employment opportunities, an unemployed person will be tempted to use crime as a primary means of earning a living, creating a cycle of crime. Once a resident becomes suspected or accused of a criminal activity, the prospects of gaining employment grow even slimmer. According to 1983 North Carolina crime reports, 40% of all offenders were unemployed, while 12% were working only part time.¹⁵

Education:

The cycle is further complicated when the educational level of public housing residents is considered. In one national study, less than one-third of the residents had received a high school diploma.¹⁶ While North Carolina does fare somewhat better than this, reason for concern still exists.

According to census data, approximately 55% of the statewide population over twenty-five years of age had graduated from high school.¹⁷ However, ten of the eighteen North Carolina housing authorities who provided information on the educational level of their residents, reported that 60% or more of their residents had less than a high school education. The number may be even higher because many housing authorities do not keep data on education.

In addition to a low adult educational level, the youth in various North Carolina housing communities also face severe learning setbacks. A 1982 study showed that 71% of its public housing youth population in grades kindergarten through six were one or more grades behind. Sixty percent of public housing students drop out before completing the twelfth grade, and 50% who remained could not pass the competency test. In addition, several housing authorities reported a problem with high suspension rates.

According to 1983 North Carolina crime reports, 60% of all criminal offenders had not completed high school. 18 Poor educational levels contribute to crime in several ways. Legitimate employment opportunities become particularly scarce for the undereducated and uneducated. Self-esteem, self-confidence and self-motivation are suppressed, making illegal temptations harder to resist. Youths who have quit or have been suspended from school often end up on the streets unsupervised.

Female Headed Households:

Perhaps one of the most striking characteristics among public housing residents across the state is the large proportions of female headed households. While approximately 27% of households in North Carolina are headed by females, various public housing authorities report that as many as 75%, 82%, 88% and 95% of their households have females as heads.¹⁹

In 1977, the North Carolina Department of Human Resources conducted a study isolating various problems common to single parent households in North Carolina. At the time of the study, 90% of the single parent households were headed by females. Below is a list of some of the problems that the study revealed:²⁰

- High unemployment
- High poverty levels
- Low educational levels
- Presence of child behavior problems
- Potential for child abuse
- Social isolation
- Psychological stress
- Presence of alcohol or drug problems

In addition to these problems, female headed households also offer another area of concern to public housing officials. A high concentration of female headed households often result in a large number of men from outside the community continually moving on and off the site, with some living on site for various periods of time. This movement provides an obstacle to security. In fact, in interviewing various public housing authorities across the state, many reported problems with the boyfriends committing crimes on the site.

Youth Population:

Also characteristic of public housing today is the existence of large youth populations. In North Carolina, 42% of the statewide population is under 25 years of age. Yet a majority of the public housing authorities surveyed reported

youth proportions above this rate. National studies show that the majority of crime and vandalism in public housing is committed by people in the 13-25 age bracket.²¹

In North Carolina, 56% of all arrests made in 1983 involved people 24 years of age or under. This age group constituted the majority of arrests made for such crimes as robbery, burglary, vehicle theft and larceny. More than 28% of all murders and over 46% of all rapists were under 25 years old. In addition, the most common offenders of aggravated assault and property crimes were 22 years old and 18 years old respectively.²²

On the other side of the coin, recent data indicates that teenagers are the most frequent target of crime.

- Once every 19 seconds, a teen in the U.S. is a victim of crime.
- In 1983, over 1.7 million crimes of violence and 3.6 million crimes of theft were committed against teens.
- One in four rape victims in 1983 was a teenage girl; one in five assault victims was a teenage boy. But teenagers represent only about one tenth of our population.

In fact, teenagers are more frequent targets of crime than any other age group in the U. S.²³

While these figures make no correlation between poverty levels, educational setbacks and the absence of a two parent household, all work against the youth of public housing by increasing the odds that they will become involved in or victimized by criminal activity. In addition, young residents also experience above average unemployment rates. Various public housing authorities across the state projected teenage unemployment rates as high as 65%, 75%, 80% and 90%.

Black Population:

As was mentioned earlier, black people are considered more vulnerable to crime. Across the nation, victimization rates are consistently higher for blacks than for whites. While the black population constitutes 22% of the statewide population, blacks make up as much as 85%, 90%, 95% and 97% of public housing residents in North Carolina.

Black North Carolinians also bear an unequal burden of victimization. For example, in 1983, 53% of all murder victims and more than 51% of all rape victims were black.²⁴ Approximately 51% of all murder offenders in 1983 were black (35% were white). In addition, young black males were also the most frequent offenders for aggravated assaults and

property crimes--crimes commonly found throughout public housing. Almost 80% of all North Carolina's crimes are interracial. So, not only do blacks make up a large proportion of victims, but they also constitute a large number of offenders.

As with the youth population, an interrelated set of factors such as high unemployment rates and low education levels work against the black public housing resident. Blacks also experience markedly different poverty rates than other segments of the population. Nationally, the poverty rate for blacks is more than two and a half times the poverty level for whites. The poverty level for blacks is even higher than for Hispanics.²⁵

Elderly Population:

A current trend in the United States is the increase in the number of elderly Americans who are residing in public housing. In North Carolina, people sixty-five years of age and older constitute slightly more than 10% of the statewide population.²⁶ However, a majority of the public housing authorities surveyed reported an elderly population one-and-a-half to two times this rate.

As mentioned earlier, older people are physically more vulnerable to crime. Not only are they less likely to defend themselves, they are also less likely to recover quickly if confronted. Fortunately, elderly people are victimized less than the rest of the population, with the possible exception of purse snatching and fraud. However, as was noted before, victimization also means being affected by the fear of crime. Many elderly residents become self-imposed prisoners in their own homes.

Lack of Social Organization and Cohesion:

Many experts who have studied public housing have written about the low levels of social organization and cohesion among residents. Statistics show that public housing residents in general are less likely than other residents to participate in group activities. ²⁷ Often a great deal of distrust exists among residents. Many residents report feeling alienated. A "sense of community" is absent. The result is a community where everyone looks out for himself and not for the community as a whole. North Carolina's public housing also suffers from this lack of cohesion and social organization.

When various public housing authorities in the state were asked to name the major obstacles they confronted when trying to implement crime prevention activities, the most common responses were resident apathy, indifference and a low level

of participation. Many reported that residents are afraid to get involved.

Related to low levels of social cohesion is the lack of "territoriality." Residents do not feel that they have control over the environment. As a result, they are not willing to make personal sacrifices to improve their communities. Perhaps a good example illustrating this lack of territoriality among public housing residents is the reluctance on the part of residents to report crime.

A sixteen city study conducted by the Police Foundation between 1981 and 1983 revealed that fewer than four out of every ten offenses experienced by the residents were being reported.²⁸ In fact, reporting rates among public housing residents were ten to fifteen percent lower. One contributing factor was the fear of retaliation.

In addition to fear, many residents have come to accept crime as a part of living in public housing. They assume the attitude that they can not change things, so why try. Not only does this reluctance to report crimes hinder attempts at eliminating troublemakers, but it also clouds attempts to determine the real amount of crime that exists. The true picture is often deflated.

An interrelating set of factors exists in the public housing of North Carolina which render residents socially and physically vulnerable to crime. However, to say that a "potential" for crime is present is not meant to imply that all public housing areas in North Carolina are overly burdened with high crime rates. On the contrary, such a statement is false. A more correct statement would be that crime is present in most communities across the state. The actual degree of crime that exists varies from place to place, depending on their crime prevention efforts.

A recent survey conducted by the North Carolina Crime Prevention Division asked both private housing and public housing residents to name significant problems of crime in their neighborhoods. The survey showed that incidents of crime and the fear of crime were greater amongst public housing residents than private homeowners.

The most frequent crimes listed by public housing residents were assaults among neighbors, alcohol abuse, drugs, theft, purse snatching, sexual assaults and muggings. Domestic violence was mentioned often, yet rates varied.

For example, one housing authority reported as few as five to ten assaults a year throughout their entire area, while another reported as many as twenty-two in just one community

in half that time. Both areas were located in the Piedmont section of the state.

A majority of the housing authorities surveyed expressed a definite problem with outsiders committing as much as 20%, 50% and 58% of the crimes. The types of crimes varied from vandalism to drugs to assaults. Most of these "outsider" crimes were committed by boyfriends, ex-spouses, friends and relatives of the residents. Some may actually be living on the site unofficially. In addition, some offenders upon apprehension use a public housing address, but are not actually on the lease. Either they are living on the site illegally, or they are using a public housing address to avoid detection.

Unfortunately, "outsider" crime has a tendency to perpetuate the image of crime in public housing to the rest of the community and public housing residents themselves. The effect is an increase in both the alienation and fear among residents, which can then lead to an increase in vulnerability and crime itself.

The Crime Prevention Coordinator

Concept and Overview:

The concept of safe, decent, sanitary housing for low and moderate income families represents the foundation upon which housing authorities have developed and expanded. Until recently, the primary emphasis has been on creating and maintaining the physical environment, leaving the social aspects of housing to other agencies. During the last decade, there has been an increasing shift toward assuming more responsibility for the social or human aspects of housing, as they reflect on the provision of safe, decent and sanitary conditions.

During the first phase of the shift, authorities moved to hire community and social service workers to provide direct services and coordinate the activities of other social service agencies. At the same time, HUD provided for increased involvement of residents through the formation and funding of residents' organizations.

During the first few years, monies were available for the expansion of resident services. Many authorities decreased their reliance on external agencies and substituted in-house professional staff. Some authorities employed not only social workers but their own security forces, making them almost entirely independent of the traditional community agencies.

However, the last few years have brought an end to many of these services as the Federal Government trimmed its budget and reduced spending in social service areas. Unfortunately, these budget cuts have affected traditional community social services agencies as well as housing authorities. More importantly, the rise of in-house resident services during the 1970's severed many of the traditional ties with other social service agencies. When the budget cuts reduced the in-house services, the traditional services were no longer available to fill the voids.

The gap in services caused by budget cuts has forced housing authorities to again look at a coordinative role which their staff has traditionally played. A review of 1970's managerial literature shows that project managers were traditionally viewed as service coordinators, especially in the area of safety and security. The manager was viewed as coordinator of a vast array of services for residents from maintenance to security to general counseling. Unfortunately, the rise of the in-house services and security staffs took those responsibilities out-of-the-hands of the

manager, leaving this individual with the accounting and maintenance functions. Thus today's manager is not prepared to reassume the coordinative role he or she once was expected to play.

It has been the purpose of the Crime Prevention Seminars, sponsored by the HUD Area office and the N. C. Crime Prevention Division, to suggest the emergence of a "Crime Prevention Coordinator" within housing authorities as a potential solution to the gap in services created by budgetary cutbacks in all areas of resident services, especially those related to creating a safe, crime-free environment for low and moderate income families (See Appendix I, "Memorandum of Agreement"). The concept of "coordinator" is used in its implied sense--to coordinate the activities of others rather than provide direct services. The coordinator would establish communication channels between persons with problems and those with resources capable of solving them. The coordinator would also organize training activities so that the roles of providers of direct services can be expanded or made more effective.

One thing that housing authorities have learned from their experiences in providing direct services is that unless residents define and participate in these services, programs will not be successful in the long run. Thus, the coordinator's role should also include assisting residents' organizations in becoming more effective in expressing needs and developing linkages with those agencies capable of addressing those needs.

In sum, the coordinator's role is to match people with needs to people who have access to resources addressing those needs. In many cases, the coordinator would assist public housing in developing (or redeveloping) appropriate resources so that they can better coordinate those resources to address the problems in their communities.

Suggested Job Description:

1. MAJOR RESPONSIBILITY:

The coordination of all activities related to the safety and security of residents, both physical and psychological.

2. DUTIES:

A. The crime prevention coordinator will be responsible for coordinating groups to analyze problems and recommend solutions. In doing this, the crime prevention coordinator will:

- (1) become familiar with criminal justice and social services agencies in the local community and establish mutual working relationships with their staffs;
- (2) invite representatives of criminal justice and social services agencies to meet regularly with representatives of residents' organizations and management to discuss needs and problems facing both in public housing authority developments;
- (3) assist in examining the impact of crime prevention related programs offered by criminal justice and social services agencies in public housing authority developments;
- (4) coordinate public housing authority resources to assist agencies and residents in carrying out crime prevention related programs in public housing authority developments.

B. The crime prevention coordinator will be responsible for implementing special programs to promote the security and safety of residents, including the:

- (1) coordination of the review of public housing development and modernization plans with security experts to insure that appropriate security features are taken into consideration;
- (2) coordination of the security analysis by

crime prevention officers of the local police/sheriff's department of all public housing authority properties;

- (3) coordination of "Operation ID" programs; to mark the possessions of the housing authority and the residents;
- (4) the coordination of neighborhood watch training programs in each community;
- (5) the monitoring of crime prevention programs in order to make recommendations for improvements as the need arises.

C. The crime prevention coordinator will work closely with residents' organizations to both identify crime prevention and social service needs, and assist the organizations in planning and carrying out self-help programs to address them. The crime prevention coordinator will:

- (1) meet regularly with representatives of the residents' organizations;
- (2) coordinate training programs through local schools and agencies to strengthen the organizational skills and functioning of residents' organizations, as well as their knowledge of and ability to carry out crime prevention programs;
- (3) assist the residents' organizations in establishing effective communications with residents and assist them in carrying out programs;
- (4) assist the residents' organizations in building effective linkages between residents and management, and residents and local law enforcement agencies.

D. The crime prevention coordinator will establish linkages between managers and agencies capable of assisting them. The crime prevention coordinator will:

- (1) coordinate training programs for managers to increase their knowledge of crime prevention and social service resources;
- (2) assist managers in coordinating crime prevention related programs for their communittes.

How to Organize An Effective Crime Prevention Program For Public Housing and Inner-City Communities

Now that you have an understanding of the obstacles and task which may confront you in attempting to implement a crime prevention program, let's explore ways to deal with them.

Historically, residents of low income and public housing communities were subjected to programs designed to reduce poverty, create jobs, increase educational levels and reduce crime. When funding for these federally-sponsored programs was eliminated, the programs died. As these old programs died, new programs continually took their places, once again giving residents hope that things would be better.

Residents of these communities became citizens by "proxy," with no concern for their neighborhoods or communities. They were, in effect, tenants of the Government or some federal program.

Residents within these communities were frustrated at attempts by outsiders to eliminate their existing problems. They were not consulted, nor were they involved to a large degree in the program operation.

Resentment of authority, both government, management and law enforcement, flourished. The police were seen as the enemy since the only time they came into the community was to make an arrest.

Setting The Stage

Today, as new programs are introduced into these same communities, the attitude prevails that, "we were promised before and it did not work." Residents believed and trusted in many of the old programs. They don't trust the new program attempts.

It is, therefore, imperative that in introducing new crime prevention programs into a community, old myths be destroyed. Residents must be aware that no outside agency is going to solve their problems. Traditional concepts such as "self help" must be restored. The residents must perceive a problem exists, and seek a solution. Residents must be challenged--only they can solve their own problems.

Once this groundwork is laid and residents themselves perceive that a problem such as vandalism, burglary or drug abuse exists in their community, the coordinator should not offer magic solutions, quick fixes or a blue print for an

approach. Use the vehicle of an existing residents council or other existing community organization to involve as many residents as possible in discussing the problem. It is the role as crime prevention coordinator to suggest strategies, and offer technical resources and support.

It is vital to the success of the crime prevention program to involve the residents. Let them come up with a solution or design an activity to eliminate the problem of crime in their community.

Elements of Success

There is no substitute for a relationship built on trust. If residents of the community trust and have faith in you as an individual or agency, your crime prevention program is off to a good start. On the other hand, if residents perceive that your involvement with the community is just a job or that you don't care, be prepared for failure.

The task of crime prevention coordinator is not an easy one. It will require meeting with residents at their convenience. Your working relationship with individual residents of the community must be one-on-one with the young, the parents and the elderly.

The crime prevention coordinator should do his/her homework prior to any attempt to organize a public housing or inner-city community crime prevention program. Find out what has been attempted in the past, and why it failed. Don't get hung up on traditional names like Crime Prevention, Community Watch or Secret Witness, etc. Rather, work with proven "concepts" and tailor them to your needs.

The crime prevention coordinator should never make promises to community groups that he/she or the agency cannot keep. Make sure you have the support of management, and are assured of the support and resources necessary to accomplish what is planned.

The successful organization of a crime prevention program does not rest in a model that can be applied across the board. No perfect model or guaranteed organizational structure exists which adapts to every local community. As we learned earlier in this manual, each community is different and has its own unique set of problems and obstacles to overcome.

There are, however, four common elements which exist in all communities. These are necessary elements in the making of a successful crime prevention partnership:

- (1) Law Enforcement
- (2) Management
- (3) Residents
- (4) Local Service Providers

Although not entirely limited to this group, the absence of any one of these four partners will hamper your crime prevention program efforts. Enlist the support of law enforcement, management, residents and service providers. Each of these partners should be involved from the ground up in program planning and implementation.

Other local resources exist in your community that traditionally have not been tapped. Networking and building partnerships with the business and corporate community may provide a source of funding necessary to carry out your program goals.

To promote your local crime prevention efforts, use the media as a positive resource. The media can help reverse the negative images of public housing and low income communities. Inform the media about positive, community-oriented programs designed to reduce crime. The media can inform and print statistics, and offer tips to prevent victimization by crime. The success of every crime prevention program is dependent on the commitment and involvement of its residents. Networking with others helps build the strength necessary to support the commitments required.

Motivation

Ask yourself, how do you like to be treated? What about the significance of the task you would like to be assigned? Motivating residents in public housing and inner-city communities, as strange as it may seem, is based on the sensitivity of being perceived as and treating others as equals.

Resident involvement can be further motivated by rallying behind pro-active situations. As a crime prevention coordinator, think about what excites you as well as turns you off. The answers may lie in such self-addressed questions as, "What is in it for me?" or, "How much of my time will it take?"

The art of motivation should take much into consideration, but nothing for granted.

A good example of this is the resident who refuses to assume a role of leadership, yet has exhibited such skills on prior occasions. This may be the result of the fear of a formal meeting or an inability to read or write. A pro-active response to overcoming this and similar obstacles may be to arrange a session on leadership skills. Such a session could

be conducted by the county agricultural extension service or other agencies.

While issues other than crime prevention may be pursued as a rallying point, ultimately the same result of preventing crime can be achieved. If communities are involved in constructive activities, a sense of togetherness and "neighborhood" become more apparent. When neighbors come together and stand committed and motivated to control their destiny, crime cannot flourish.

As a crime prevention coordinator, make yourself available. Also, influence management to be sensitive to the concerns of others. Management cannot support and motivate its residents if management refuses to leave the office.

The First Meeting

Start and end meetings promptly as notified. Also adhere strictly to the items listed for discussion. Nothing can deflate a meeting quicker than to lose control and get off the subject.

You may wish to invite your crime prevention officer and a representative of the housing administration. Be sure to keep control and not place these guests on the firing line. You don't want to turn law enforcement or the administration off to your efforts.

The first meeting should include topics of discussion that interest all segments of the resident or community population. Of equal importance to planning of your first meeting is the selection of a site.

Traditionally, churches within public housing neighborhoods and black inner-city communities serve as the hub of community activity. The church is a good place to bring together residents of these communities to embark on their crime prevention program.

While certain environments offer an atmosphere of comfort and familiarity, others may inhibit your efforts to involve the community in crime prevention. If possible, avoid city halls, police or sheriff's stations, courtrooms or schools for the initial meeting.

While schools, city hall, courts and police stations may not be good places to meet, representatives of these agencies would be excellent resource persons to speak to a group on crime prevention.

A Strategy

If a resident's organization does not already exist, crime prevention alone may be reason enough to start such an organization. A resident's organization is uniquely suited for gathering the initial data to form the foundation for a crime prevention program.

Through the use of a survey (See Appendix II, "Crime Prevention Attitudes and Perception Survey"), residents of the public housing community can be polled, to determine their concerns and fears, and even their willingness to become involved. Your local law enforcement agency may be able to assist you with other statistics. Once the data has been collected, a newsletter to residents on the findings would be most appropriate. This will set the stage for an initial planning meeting to address the listed concerns.

In addressing the concerns expressed by residents, don't rely solely on a few activities (See Appendix III, "Suggested Activities"). Rather, develop strategies that identify resources and local talent necessary to reach your intended objectives. In the early planning stages, it is suggested that the objectives be short ranged and produce quick payoffs. Long range objectives should be tackled much later to prevent "burn-out" of residents.

Ideally, the initial strategy session should be limited to identifying current concerns of the community, for example a lack of suitable recreational activities for youth. Once identified, the next step should involve a recognition of the perfect situation, or how the residents would like it to be. This process alone will be timely, and notes should be kept. The process, however, will include all in attendance and keep their interest.

At a later meeting, start with a recap of the previous meeting. The agenda should identify the ways to achieve the desired outcomes. Available resources should be identified, and responsibility delegated to pursue the strategy.

An evaluation of your accomplishments after the fact should be documented to substantiate the progress of your group in attaining its goals, i.e., percent of vandalism reduced, percent of responses to site by law enforcement, the removal of undesirable loiterers from a specific corner, or the number of abandoned cars removed from the development. It is also suggested that the initial survey be redone to measure the attitudes and perceptions of residents regarding crime since your efforts began.

Documentation of your successes provides an excellent tool for formulating grant proposal to acquire funds from public and private sources.

A Management Tool

There are additional factors to consider in developing a total and effective crime prevention program. One item worthy of note is a strict lease enforcement policy. Lease violations should not be tolerated. To allow continued violations to go unchallenged will surely guarantee a swift decay of the community.

Also noteworthy is the identification of problem family units, prescreening of resident applicants and counseling is by far the best solution. Yet, after occupancy, what can be done? A proven method utilized by many housing authorities is the "Problem Locator" (See Appendix V).

The problem locator is merely a scale map of the buildings of your development on which are posted the number of incidences involving law enforcement response. The crime prevention coordinator, by reviewing the response files of law enforcement over a period of three to six months, can visually document and readily locate that building and unit with the most disturbances. The occupants should be counseled to correct the problem disturbance.

The police column published in newspapers is also a source for identifying problem individuals who reside within the authority.

No Need To "Reinvent The Wheel"

It is not necessary to reinvent the wheel. Programs and organizations already exist for just about any concern or problem arising in a community. Look to local community resources such as social services, girl scouts, boy's clubs, agriculture extension agencies and mental health services and youth and civic organizations (See "Resources" Appendix IV, "Resources").

In fact, you should network with existing programs already in place to effect your objective.

Conclusion

The ultimate success of your crime prevention efforts in public housing and inner-city communities is dependent on many things. Managements strengths lie in physical security and design, prescreening of applicants and enforcement of the lease agreement. Recognition of problem residents should be addressed promptly with warnings, and if necessary, eviction.

Housing Authorities should not enter the business of organizing their own police agency, but should look to the police and sheriff's departments for enforcement. Excellent examples of successful partnerships with law enforcement and housing authorities exist in Fayetteville and Wilmington, North Carolina.

We encourage networking with local, state and federal agencies. Partnerships with the business and corporate communities can provide additional opportunities for success.

As mentioned earlier, to determine the success and creditability of your program efforts in crime prevention, you must be able to evaluate what was accomplished. The importance of statistics and monitoring will not only serve as a tool to determine if program objectives are being met, but can also highlight trouble areas. They can be used to support a proposal for funding by documenting a proven track record that works.

Finally, it is not the goal of the N. C. Crime Prevention Division to dictate to public housing and inner-city communities a "solution." Instead, the division is attempting to provide these communities with information and technical assistance that will allow them to solve their own problems.

The results to date are very encouraging.

FOOTNOTES

- 1 Lawrence Maloney, "Public Housing: Same Old Sad Tale," U. S. News and World Report, 27 October 1980, p. 89.
- 2 Victor Rouse and Herb Rubenstein, U. S., Department of Housing and Urban Development, Crime in Public Housing, Volume 1, 1978, p. 1.
- 3 Albert Rubushka, Caseworkers or Police: How Tenants See (California: Hoover Institution Publication, 1977), p. 49.
- 4 Rouse, p. 2.
- 5 Rubushka, p. 15.
- 6 Wesley Skogan, Coping With Crime: Individual and Neighborhood Reactions, (London: Sage Publications, 1981), p. 69.
- 7 Skogan, p. 70.
- 8 Skogan, p. 71.
- 9 "Problems of Black Males Linked to Crises in Family." The Raleigh Times, 1 August 1984, p. 21-B.
- 10 Skogan, p. 71.
- 11 Rubushka, p. 40.
- 12 Rouse, p. 37.
- 13 Data obtained from the North Carolina Employment Security Commission, August 1984.
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- 17 U. S., Department of Commerce, General Social and Economic Characteristics: North Carolina 1980 Census of Population, 1983, Table 56, p. 55.
- 18 Statistics provided by N. C. Crime Prevention Division, Raleigh, North Carolina, 1984.
- 19 U. S. Department of Commerce, Table 64, p. 59.
- 20 Yevonne Brannon, N. C. Department of Human Resources "Single Parent Households in North Carolina," 1977, pp. 1-17.
- 21 U. S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, Interagency Urban Initiatives Anti-Crime Program, 1980, p. 41.
- 22 N. C. Department of Justice, Crime in North Carolina: 1983 Uniform Crime Report, pp. 36-44
- 23 National Crime Prevention Council, Excerpts from the Teen Action Kit, 1985.
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- 25 "Poverty Level Highest in 18 Years, Census Reports," The News and Observer, 3 August 1984, p. 1-A.
- 26 U.S. Department of Commerce, Table 62, p.57
- 27 Rouse, p. 27.
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APPENDICES

MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT	I
CRIME PREVENTION ATTITUDES AND PERCEPTIONS SURVEY	II
SUGGESTED ACTIVITIES	III
RESOURCES	IV
SAMPLE/PROBLEM LOCATOR	V

APPENDIX I

Memorandum of Agreement

On February 13, 1985, the Greensboro Manager of the U. S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, Region IV, and the Secretary of the North Carolina Department of Crime Control and Public Safety met in Raleigh to reaffirm their commitment to crime prevention. From that meeting, it was mutually agreed that:

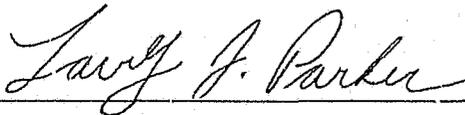
Both parties will promote the concept of crime prevention for the purpose of reducing crime within public housing communities;

Both parties will cooperate fully toward the implementation of crime prevention strategies within public housing communities;

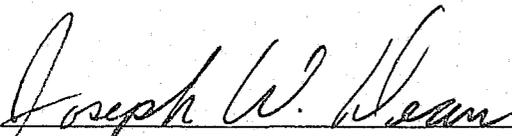
The N. C. Crime Prevention Division will work closely with the Carolina's Council and its crime prevention subcommittee in addressing crime prevention and crime prevention strategies within public housing; and will continue to provide technical assistance to all public and nonprofit multifamily housing communities, and sponsor various crime prevention training opportunities for the Crime Prevention Coordinators and the public housing community;

Public and nonprofit multifamily housing communities within the Greensboro Manager's jurisdiction are strongly encouraged to appoint a Crime Prevention Coordinator who will assist his or her community in developing, implementing and maintaining crime prevention programs, and serve as liaison to the N. C. Crime Prevention Division;

The Greensboro Manager of HUD will disseminate a copy of this memorandum to all executive directors of public and nonprofit multifamily housing communities under his jurisdiction.



Larry J. Parker
Greensboro Manager
U. S. Department of Housing and Urban Development



Joseph W. Dean
Secretary
N. C. Department of Crime Control and Public Safety

APPENDIX II

CRIME PREVENTION ATTITUDE AND PERCEPTION SURVEY

1. VICTIMIZATION

During the past 12 months, have you or a member of your family been a victim of:

A. Assault	_____ NO	_____ YES	How Many Times?	_____
B. Burglary	_____ NO	_____ YES	How Many Times?	_____
C. Deliberate Car Damage	_____ NO	_____ YES	How Many Times?	_____
D. Larceny	_____ NO	_____ YES	How Many Times?	_____
E. Mailbox Break-in	_____ NO	_____ YES	How Many Times?	_____
F. Purse Snatching	_____ NO	_____ YES	How Many Times?	_____
G. Robbery	_____ NO	_____ YES	How Many Times?	_____
H. Sexual Assault	_____ NO	_____ YES	How Many Times?	_____
I. Vandalism	_____ NO	_____ YES	How Many Times?	_____

2. CONCERN FOR NEIGHBORHOOD

Indicate whether each of the following is a big problem, somewhat of a problem or not a problem at all in your community (mark "X" under answer).

	<u>BIG</u>	<u>SOMEWHAT</u>	<u>NOT</u>	<u>DON'T KNOW</u>
A. Neighbors fighting with each other	_____	_____	_____	_____
B. Fear of elderly being victimized	_____	_____	_____	_____
C. People drinking too much	_____	_____	_____	_____
D. People being mugged, robbed	_____	_____	_____	_____
E. People using drugs or dope to get high	_____	_____	_____	_____
F. Rape or other sexual attacks	_____	_____	_____	_____
G. People breaking in or sneaking into homes to steal	_____	_____	_____	_____
H. People selling drugs	_____	_____	_____	_____
I. Groups of teenagers hanging around and causing trouble	_____	_____	_____	_____
J. People being robbed or having their purses or wallets taken	_____	_____	_____	_____
K. People living here who are not on the lease	_____	_____	_____	_____
L. Outside lighting, street lights	_____	_____	_____	_____
M. Police patrol of the neighborhood	_____	_____	_____	_____
N. Crime	_____	_____	_____	_____

3. CONCERN FOR YOUTH

How worried are you about your children:

	<u>NOT WORRIED</u>	<u>WORRIED</u>	<u>VERY WORRIED</u>
A. Being beaten in the neighborhood	_____	_____	_____
B. Being robbed in the neighborhood	_____	_____	_____
C. Being exposed to drugs	_____	_____	_____
D. Lack of positive constructive activity in the neighborhood	_____	_____	_____

4. FEAR OF CRIME

How worried are you about:

	<u>NOT WORRIED</u>	<u>WORRIED</u>	<u>VERY WORRIED</u>
A. Having your home broken into while you are away	_____	_____	_____
B. Having your home broken into while you are at home	_____	_____	_____
C. Being robbed in your neighborhood	_____	_____	_____
D. Being beaten up in your neighborhood	_____	_____	_____
E. Being sexually assaulted or molested (women only)	_____	_____	_____
F. Having your car deliberately damaged	_____	_____	_____
G. Having your home vandalized	_____	_____	_____
H. Having your mailbox broken into	_____	_____	_____

5. QUESTIONS

	<u>YES</u>	<u>No</u>
A. Are you a member of a Community Watch?	_____	_____
B. Is there a Community Watch in your neighborhood?	_____	_____
C. Have you marked your valuables with an Operation Identification Number?	_____	_____
D. Do you have double cylinder deadbolt locks on your doors?	_____	_____
E. Do you have a youth council in your neighborhood?	_____	_____
F. Do you report suspicious or criminal activity to the police?	_____	_____
G. Are you willing to do your part in helping to reduce crime in your neighborhood?	_____	_____
H. Do you have a working relationship with your local police department?	_____	_____
I. Do you work as a volunteer with a youth group?	_____	_____

6. RESPONSIBILITY FOR CRIME PREVENTION

How much do you think you and your neighbors can do to reduce crime?

- _____ A lot to reduce crime
- _____ Some things, but not very much
- _____ Very little to reduce crime
- _____ Nothing at all to reduce crime
- _____ Don't know

How good of a job do you think the police do in providing protection in your neighborhood?

- _____ Good job
- _____ Fair job
- _____ Bad job
- _____ Don't know

Do you live in: Public Housing___; Other Subsidized Housing___; Private Housing___?

SUGGESTED ACTIVITIES

Tragedy is the usual result when people become involved in or victimized by crime. Solutions are many: stricter laws, more police and heavier criminal sentences.

A more positive alternative rests in active citizen involvement with law enforcement. Working together, citizens and local law enforcement develop and implement crime prevention programs for the total community. Preventing crime--both criminal behavior and victimization--is cheaper and more effective than programs which deal with criminals and victims after crimes are committed.

The N. C. Crime Prevention Division challenges you and your organization to take an active role in developing and implementing crime prevention programs in your community.

The activities are only suggestions. You are welcome to create other activities that may fill a more beneficial gap in your local crime prevention efforts.

Urban Communities

Specific crimes such as vandalism and burglary are in higher numbers in urban areas.

Activities:

- Produce and present a slide show containing slides of insecure conditions around home, school and community. Emphasize corrective measures of crime prevention strategies.
- Assist in organizing a "Safe House" or "Safety Haven" program for your community.
- Tutor a group of elementary school children within public housing communities for 6 weeks.
- Organize a crime prevention seminar and educate target group.
- Sponsor a schoolwide or communitywide poster or slogan contest. This is an excellent follow-up to a classroom presentation, especially for lower grades. The radio could assist in announcing the winner. The theme should reflect your crime prevention project topic.
- Organize a talent show for community youth.
- Assist in organizing a community watch group in a public housing community.
- Assist the Crime Prevention Division in its Athletes Against Crime Project.
- Have the Mayor sign a proclamation designating a day in support of your crime prevention project.
- Sponsor a fund raiser to purchase a film to donate to your local police or sheriff's department.

Activities:

- Develop a puppet show or skit on the "dangers of strangers" for presentation to elementary school children in your community.
- Initiate a "Safe House" or "Safety Haven" program in an elementary school area.
- Develop a presentation on the dangers that runaways face such as prostitution.
- Produce a slide show with pictures of unsafe conditions or deserted areas where children should not be alone.
- Develop a list of babysitting safety strategies.
- Initiate a "call back" program in school to the parents of children who don't show up.
- Develop coloring sheets for distribution to elementary and preschoolers with prevention tips such as, "don't talk to strangers."

Child Safety

The vulnerability of young children is an ever present threat. Through the education of children, young adults, parents and professionals, you can play an important part in assisting young potential victims from falling prey to the grim threats of accidents or intentional harm.

Activities:

- Sponsor a child abuse seminar and invite a panel of local professionals, i.e., police, prosecutors, medical examiners, and social service case workers to discuss the subject.
- Prepare a list of abused children indicators for distribution to parents, teachers and preschoolers.
- Learn the laws covering child victimization. Invite a lawyer to speak to your group on the subject at a question and answer seminar.
- Invite a doctor to speak to your group on the long term effects of child abuse.
- Start a scrapbook of newspaper articles on reported incidences of child abuse.
- Develop and distribute babysitter tips.
- Develop and distribute safety tips for children.
- Sponsor a Bicycle Rodeo and Bike Safety Clinic for the youngsters in your community.
- Work with law enforcement and develop a "say Hi" program, whereby one receives a complimentary token redeemable with local merchants for speaking to policeman or sheriff.
- Sponsor a fund raiser to support local police or sheriff's department's child safety programs.
- Have McGruff, the crime dog, appear at one of your crime prevention events.

Missing Children

Each year an estimated 1.8 million children are missing nationally, and some are never found. Throughout this state, there is a continuing need to:

- Educate parents on strategies to foil the abduction of their children, and
- Educate youngsters in a positive manner to prevent their abduction.

Crimes Against Women

Sexual assaults are among the ugliest and most psychologically devastating of violent crimes. They threaten, violate and deprive victims of their basic human right.

Activities:

- Learn the procedures for reporting a crime. Prepare posters for placement in your community, school or meeting place.
- Prepare and distribute a listing of services to victims of sexual assault for distribution in your community.
- Sponsor a resistance seminar and invite an officer to instruct your group on how to avoid becoming a victim through physical and environmental precautions for home and away.
- Learn the law dealing with sexual assaults. Invite the police or sheriff's department to discuss its application for residents of your community.

Domestic Violence

Domestic violence is a growing problem, both in North Carolina and the nation. Domestic violence is a term which describes many types of violence such as child abuse, spousal and sibling abuse. In the majority of cases, the woman is the victim, known as the "battered woman." Often the pattern of abuse is cyclical, escalating from angry words to frequent acts of violence.

Activities:

- Sponsor a domestic violence seminar using local professionals to educate your group on the problem.
- Develop a resource list of counseling centers, safe houses and organizations that assist victims of domestic violence. Distribute the resource list in your community.
- Sponsor a workshop using local professionals to educate your group on how the Criminal Justice System works to assist the victim of domestic violence.
- Invite a law enforcement representative to explain the dangers to his profession when answering domestic complaints.
- Initiate an ad campaign in laundromats and female restrooms with phone numbers for abused spouses to call for help.

Defensive Living

No longer is there simply the possibility that you may become the victim of criminal activity, but a probability that you will. Educating the public in simple precautionary measures is an effective crime prevention technique.

Activities:

- Invite your police or sheriff's department to speak to your group on defensive living strategies.
Areas of consideration may include:
 - (a) safety at home
 - (b) safety in the community
 - (c) safety at school
 - (d) personal safety.
- Organize volunteers for a "call back" program in school in conjunction with the PTA.
- Prepare a slide presentation with pictures of unsafe conditions that invite criminal activity for presentation to your class, school PTA and civic groups.
- Plan a Rape Prevention Seminar using local professional resources.
- Distribute brochures of safety tips in shopping centers, schools and in your community.
- Develop list of tips for jogging safety.
- Start a community watch, bus watch, or school watch in your community.
- Organize a program on how to prevent falling victim to con games.
- Perform security surveys for your home and in your community.
- Mental health attitudes and perceptions — plan a seminar using local professionals.
- Initiate an "Operation Identification" program in your school, home, community, and church.
- Conduct an attitude and perception survey on the fear of crime by students at your school.

Crime Stoppers

Each year in the state, hundreds of committed crimes remain unsolved. With the help of the community, the media, law enforcement and business working together, many of these crimes can be retired to the "solved" file and bring the criminal to justice.

Activities:

- Invite law enforcement, citizens, members of the business community, representatives from your local chamber of commerce and merchants association.
- Organize an annual fund raiser to support your local Crime Stoppers program.
- Volunteer your services with a theatrical group for reenactment of crimes or answer phones at a crime stoppers phone bank.
- Have representative of your group volunteer to serve on Crime Stoppers board of directors.
- Organize a silent or secret witness program for your school to report acts of vandalism, theft and other crimes.
- Invite your sheriff or police department to discuss the "how to's" of reporting a crime and being observant to suspicious activity.

Corrections

The sad but true facts of prison life could serve as a deterrent to crime if everyone knew what it was like. Educating youth on the ills of a life in prison could reduce the number of young people destined to serve time if they pursue or continue a life of criminal activity.

Activities:

- Ask your local police or sheriff's department about the "Think Smart" program, and sponsor a presentation for your group. ("Think Smart" is available through the Crime Prevention Division.)
- Visit a North Carolina prison.
- Sponsor a seminar on alternatives to incarceration using professionals from the Department of Corrections. Assist in organizing an alternatives program in your community.
- Visit a court and follow a criminal case.
- Give a presentation on crime and sentencing to your group. Ask professionals from the corrections field to assist.
- Sponsor an essay contest on "why you don't want to go to jail."

Juvenile Justice System

In 1982 in North Carolina, an estimated 8,667 juveniles appeared before the court for the first time. In 1983, 13,655 juvenile complaints were filed and a total of 13,000 juveniles were arrested for criminal acts.

Activities:

- Visit a district court session and ask the judge to explain the Juvenile Court.
- Have a lawyer, juvenile court counselor and juvenile police officer talk to your class or group about Juvenile Court procedures.
- Study the effects of truancy on juvenile crimes and sponsor a seminar on the results.
- Visit a training school and interview some of the students. Organize a seminar for your group in which an alcohol law enforcement agent explains and discusses ABC laws for minors.
- Check with your local library for a film on juvenile crimes to be shown to your group or class.
- Conduct a survey on the attitudes of your classmates on juvenile crime.

Vandalism

Sociologists define vandalism as a "senseless and motiveless crime." These crimes often are written off as jokes, pranks or fads within a certain age group. The costly effects of vandalism and theft affect us all. We do not have to accept vandalism as an insolvable crime.

Activities:

- Prepare a slide presentation containing acts of vandalism around in your community. Attach a cost factor and show how these acts affect everyone.
- Organize a campaign to post no loitering and anti-vandalism posters and signs about the community.
- Develop a secret witness program in your school.
- Organize a community pride campaign.
- Sponsor a seminar on vandalism and effective ways to combat it.
- Sponsor a poster or essay contest for students.

Community Watch

Community/Neighborhood Watches have been a cornerstone in local crime prevention efforts. But because of the decreasing crime rate and the increasing professionalism of law enforcement, the numbers of active community watches are declining. Signs alone do not deter criminals.

Activities:

- Sponsor a crime prevention scavenger hunt in your community, hiding crime prevention clues about the community. This activity is designed to strengthen the family and the neighborhood.
- Organize a bus watch in your community for the safety of younger children.
- Organize a school watch or church watch to prevent theft from or vandalism of the facilities during evenings, holidays and weekends.
- Use the secret witness system of reporting incidents of criminal activity to your local crime prevention officer.
- Organize an escort service for the elderly in your community. Assist them in running errands. Call them periodically during cold weather.
- Invite the police or sheriff's department to speak to your community on how to involve residents or start a community watch.
- Contact as many Community Watch chairmen as possible and organize a meeting on how to revitalize the community watch program.
- Develop new programs for local community watches in such areas as domestic violence, auto theft, child safety and drug abuse.
- Start neighborhood "turn in a pusher" programs.

Crimes Against the Elderly and Handicapped

The elderly and handicapped represent special population groups with unique concerns. The elderly are more vulnerable to being victimized and the handicapped have a need for specialized prevention strategies.

Activities:

- Sponsor an "Adopt a Grandparent Project," matching a youth with a senior citizen. The youth can perform services for the elderly and can gain through informative discussion of the life experiences of the senior citizen.
- Organize an escort service for senior citizens.
- Organize a group to call senior citizens and check periodically on their needs.
- Conduct a seminar on crime prevention strategies for residents of senior citizen homes, retirement villages and nutrition centers.
- Organize a "whistle stop" program for the elderly, the blind, etc. ...
- Identify the concerns of the handicapped in a workshop format, emphasizing ways to eliminate their fear of crime. Record the concerns of these citizens and present them in written form to the housing agency for the handicapped resident.
- Organize a seminar on consumer con games and schemes.
- Explore ways to develop braille literature on crime prevention strategies for the blind. Consider approaching civic groups to underwrite cost of publications.

Alcohol and Drug Abuse

Alcohol and Drug Abuse by our youth population is reaching a staggering level. Statistics show that at least 60% of all high school students have tried alcohol and drugs. The highest cause of teenage death is by motor vehicle as a result of drinking and driving.

Activities:

- Distribute brochures to school groups and the PTA.
- Invite a speaker from your local mental health agency or police or sheriff's department to speak on the subject.
- Sponsor a seminar on the dangers of alcohol or drug abuse.
- Request the media to assist in promoting a "say no" to drugs and alcohol campaign.
- Develop an awareness campaign on the effects of alcohol or drug abuse on employees on the job.
- Develop a "free ride" program in your community for peers who drink and shouldn't drive.

Consumer Protection

An educated public is the best deterrent to being victimized by fraud. North Carolinians spend millions of dollars each year on the fraudulent schemes of confidence men, swindlers, promises of untold riches and other misleading promotions that appeal to human weakness.

Activities:

- Sponsor a meeting, invite a member of the police or sheriff's department, United States Postal Service, or Merchants Association to speak to your group on con games and how not to become a victim.
- Organize a consumer alert to keep neighbors informed of schemes and cons attempted in your area. Ask the police or sheriff's departments to keep your group president informed.
- Publish tips in your organization newsletter on various con games and list tips on how to avoid and report suspected cons.
- Consult your local library, police or sheriff's department for films and information on con games to establish materials for resources.
- Sponsor on site programs in senior citizen homes and retirement communities for its residents who, according to statistics, are more prone to be victimized by con games.

Crime On Wheels

One-fifth of all crimes in the United States are auto thefts. A car is stolen every 33 seconds, every day of the year. Bicycles, mopeds, farm machinery and other vehicle theft are on the rise.

Activities:

- Sponsor a Bicycle Rodeo. Invite a crime prevention officer to speak on safety tips for bicycle loss prevention and safety for residents of your community.
- Conduct a training seminar on the effects of drinking and driving.
- Schedule the police or sheriff's department to speak at local community watch meetings on ways to protect vehicles and bikes.
- Sponsor a "lock your door" campaign by placing tags on cars at shopping malls which warn owners about leaving keys in their cars or doors unlocked when unoccupied.
- Invite the police or sheriff's department to speak to your community on how farmers can protect farm vehicles.
- Sponsor an auto safety day at local shopping centers.

- Conduct a seminar on how to buy a new or used car without being taken.

Business Crimes

Theft from businesses cost merchants millions of dollars annually. The ultimate victim is the consumer who pays higher costs in the market place to cover a merchant's losses to shoplifting, employee theft and embezzlement.

Activities:

- Produce and develop a slide presentation with pictures of store displays that aid in concealing a theft or cause blind spots to store manager. Emphasize corrective measures to prevent shoplifting.
- Develop and distribute a list and explanation of frequent consumer con games that victimize unsuspecting citizens and residents in your community.
- Set up an exhibit at fairs, community businesses, government workshops, shopping malls and school bulletin boards.
- Invite a guest speaker from the Merchant's Association to explain the cost of theft from businesses and the effect it has on the consumer.
- Develop a credit card abuse campaign, and instruct people on how they can protect their cards.

Shoplifting

According to a security manager for a large retail store chain, "The average retailer opens his doors for three months every year just to pay for pilferage (i.e., shoplifting and employee theft). The food industry retailing business loses enough food annually to feed a million people a year."

Activities:

- Become familiar with and distribute copies of North Carolina's Shoplifting Law.
- Conduct an anti-shoplifting seminar using local resources and professionals.
- Sponsor an anti-shoplifting poster contest for elementary school students with awards donated by local merchants.
- Video tape a skit on shoplifting for use by elementary school students.
- Invite merchants and law enforcement officers to discuss the effect of store security techniques in preventing shoplifting.

APPENDIX IV

Resources

Use this list as a starting point from which to build upon. Some resources are applicable only to certain topics.

Local Resources

Attorneys
Local District Attorney
Churches
Civic Organizations
 Exchange Clubs of America
 Jaycees
 Rotary Clubs
 Youth Organization
College Fraternities and Sororities
Colleges and Universities
Farmer's Administration
Housing Authority
Juvenile Court Counselor
Library
Media
Merchant's Association
Parks and Recreation Department
Department of Social Services
Utility Company
Women's Center
Alcohol Law Enforcement Officer
Police/Sheriff's Department
4-H Agriculture Extension Office
Boys Club of America

State Resources

N. C. Association for Retarded Citizens
2400 Glenwood Avenue
Raleigh, NC 27608
Phone (919) 782-4632

N. C. Department of Administration
Council On The Status of Women
526 North Wilmington Street
Raleigh, NC 27611
Phone (919) 733-2455

N. C. Department of Corrections
Division of Prisons
Randall Building
831 West Morgan Street
Raleigh, NC 27603
Phone (919) 733-3226

N. C. Department of Crime Control and
Public Safety

Victim and Justice Services Division
(919) 733-7974

or
Crime Prevention Division
Phone (919) 733-5522

or
Division of Alcohol Law Enforcement
(919) 733-4060

P. O. Box 27687
Raleigh, NC 27611

N. C. Department of Human Resources
Division of Aging
708 Hillsborough Street
Raleigh, NC 27603
Phone (919) 733-3669

N. C. Department of Human Resources
Division of Services for the Blind
309 Asle Avenue
Raleigh, NC 27606
Phone (919) 733-9822

N. C. Department of Human Resources
Division of Youth Services
705 Palmar Drive
Dorothea Dix Hospital
Raleigh, NC 27609
Phone (919) 733-3011

N. C. Department of Human Resources
Careline
Albemarle Building
325 North Salisbury Street
Raleigh, NC 27611
1-800-662-7030

N. C. Department of Human Resources
*Division of Mental Health, Mental Retardation
and Substance Abuse Services*
(919) 733-4506

or
Division of Social Services
(919) 733-3055
or
Division of Day Care Services
Albemarle Building
325 North Salisbury Street
Raleigh, NC 27611
Phone (919) 733-6650

N. C. Department of Justice
Attorney General's Office
Consumer Protection Section
Justice Building
Raleigh, NC 27604
Phone (919) 733-7741

North Carolina Association of Chiefs of Police
Suite 1100
5 W. Hargett St.
Raleigh, NC 27601
(919) 821-1435

North Carolina Sheriff's Association
Suite 1212, BB&T Building
Post Office Box 67
Raleigh, N.C. 27602
(919) 821-4600

North Carolina League of Municipalities
P.O. Box 3069
Raleigh, N.C. 27602
(919) 834-1311

North Carolina Association of County
Commissioners
P.O. Box 1488
Raleigh, N.C.
(919) 832-2893

Federal Bureau of Investigation
6010 Kenley Lane
Charlotte, N.C. 28210
(704) 529-1030

Governor's Highway Safety Program
215 East Lane St.
Raleigh, N.C. 27601
(919) 733-3083

U. S. Postal Service
Postal Inspections Service
General Mail Facility
Charlotte, NC 28228
Phone (704) 393-4470

N. C. State Bureau of Investigation
3320 Old Garner Rd.
Raleigh, N.C. 27626
(919) 779-1400

N. C. Department of Justice Services
North Carolina Justice Academy
P. O. Drawer 99
Salemberg, NC 28385
Phone (919) 525-4151

N. C. Department of Public Education
School Public Relations
or
Coordinator for Child Abuse Prevention
Education Building
114 West Edenton Street
Raleigh, NC 27611
Phone (919) 733-4258

Southern Bell
Annoyance Call Center
P. O. Box 30188
Charlotte, NC 28280
Phone (704) 378-7221

N. C. Department of Transportation
N.C. Bicycle Safety Program
P.O. Box 25201
Raleigh, N.C. 27611
(919) 733-2804

Youth Advocacy and Involvement Office
Elks Building
121 West Jones Street
Raleigh, NC 27611
Phone (919) 733-9296

National Resources

National Center for Missing and
Exploited Children
1835 K. Street, N.W., Suite 700
Washington, DC 20006
Phone (202) 634-9821

American Association of Retired Persons
1909 K. Street, N.W.
Washington, DC 20006
(202) 728-4363

Chamber of Commerce of the United States
1615 H. Street, N.W.
Washington, DC 20062
(202) 659-6000

Crime Stoppers International, Inc.
8100 Mountain Road, N.E./Suite 104
Albuquerque, New Mexico 87110-7822
(505) 841-9405

National Crime Prevention Council
805 Washington Street, N.W., Room 705
Washington, DC 20005
Phone (202) 393-7141

Alcohol, Drug Abuse, and
Mental Health Administration
5600 Fisher's Lane
Rockville, MD 26851

National Center for the Prevention
and Control of Rape
5600 Fishers Lane, Room 6C12
Rockville, MD 20857
(301) 443-1910

National Coalition Against Domestic Violence
1500 Massachusetts Avenue, N.W., Suite 35
Washington, D.C. 20005
(202) 347-7017

National Congress of Parents and Teachers
700 North Rush Street
Chicago, IL 60611
(312) 787-0977

National Institute on Drug Abuse
5600 Fishers Lane
Rockville, MD 20857
(301) 443-4577

National Network for Runaway and
Youth Services
905 6th Street, S.W., Suite 411
Washington, D.C. 20024
(202) 488-0739

National School Safety Center
7311 Greenhaven Drive
Sacramento, CA 95831
(919) 427-4600

Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency
Prevention
U.S. Department of Justice
633 Indiana Avenue, N.W., Room 1142
Washington, D.C. 20531
(201) 724-7751

National Center on Child Abuse and Neglect
*Children's Bureau/Administration for Children,
Youth and Families*
J.S. Department of Health and Human Services
P.O. Box 1182
Washington, D.C. 20013
(202) 245-2856

National Coalition Against Sexual Assault
P.O. Box 7156
c/o Austin Rape Crisis Center
Austin, TX 78713
(512) 472-7273

National Committee for the Prevention of
Child Abuse
332 South Michigan Avenue, Suite 1250
Chicago, IL 60604
(312) 663-3520

National Organization for Victim Assistance
National Headquarters
1757 Park Road, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20010
(202) 232-8560

The American Bar Association
*National Legal Resource Center for
Child Advocacy and Protection*
1800 M Street, N.W., Suite 200
Washington, D.C. 20036
(202) 331-2250

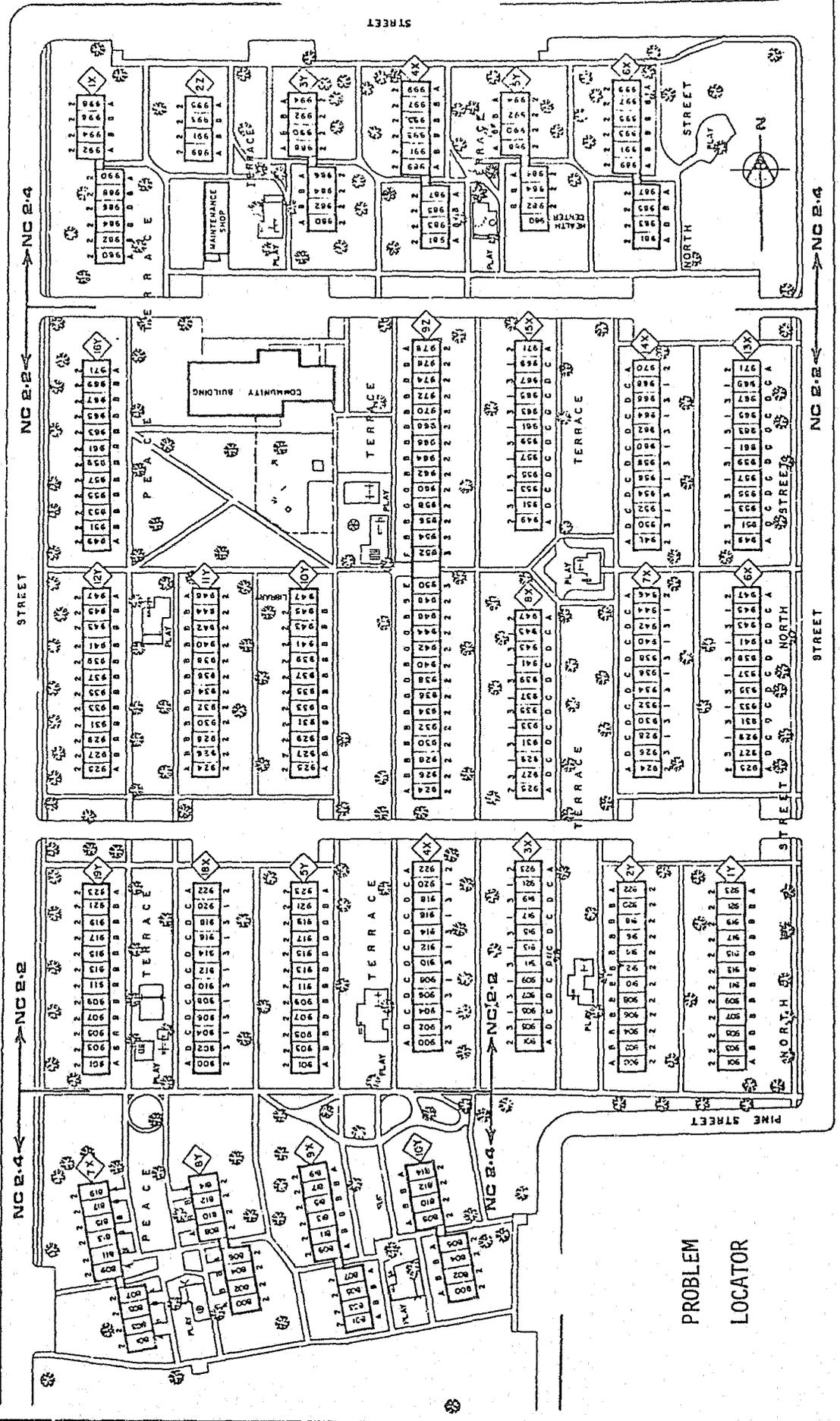
The National Rifle Association
1600 Rhode Island Avenue, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20036
(202) 828-6000

The National Association of Black
Law Enforcement Executives
Executive Director
8401 Corporate Drive, Suite 360
Landover, Maryland 20785
(301) 459-3847

The American Correctional Association
Executive Director
4321 Hartwick Road, Suite L-208
College Park, MD 20740
(301) 699-7600

APPENDIX V

Sample



PROBLEM
LOCATOR

Management can do a scale of each development and identify problem Building's by reviewing police responses to the Building, unit and individual family.

