

# A LANDSCAPE ANALYSIS OF WASHINGTON, DC COMMUNITY BASED SERVICES AND SUPPORTS



PublicWelfare  
Foundation

NICJR★  
National Institute for  
Criminal Justice Reform

# INTRODUCTION

The District of Columbia (District) is home to nearly 700,000 people and a wide range of numerous community based services, supports, and opportunities. Through government programs and philanthropic initiatives, significant funding exists to support a plethora of non-profit organizations throughout the city.

In partnership with the Public Welfare Foundation, the National Institute for Criminal Justice Reform (NICJR) conducted an Analysis of Violence Reduction, Re-Entry, and Youth Development (Landscape Analysis or Analysis) services in the District; close to 70 programs were identified through this effort. The Landscape Analysis is provided as Attachment A.

This summary overview provides a framework for understanding the Landscape Analysis. In addition, the summary describes the criminal justice reform measures that have been undertaken in the District in recent years.

Beyond providing an in-depth overview of the significant number of services currently being offered in the District, the Analysis provokes questions about the level of intentionality in, and thus efficacy of, the existing service mix and design. The Analysis identified more than 100 programs and services in the District. that can be generally referred to as violence prevention or youth development. The sheer volume of programs, and the multi-faceted and overlapping goals and target populations identified by many service providers, suggest a need for greater coordination and collaboration at a minimum. It is important to emphasize the urgency of the need to deliver services in a smarter and more effective manner: Washington DC experienced a significant increase in violent crime, namely shootings, in 2020. There were 922 people shot in the District in 2020, and 198 homicides, representing increases of 33 and 19 percent respectively as compared to 2019.

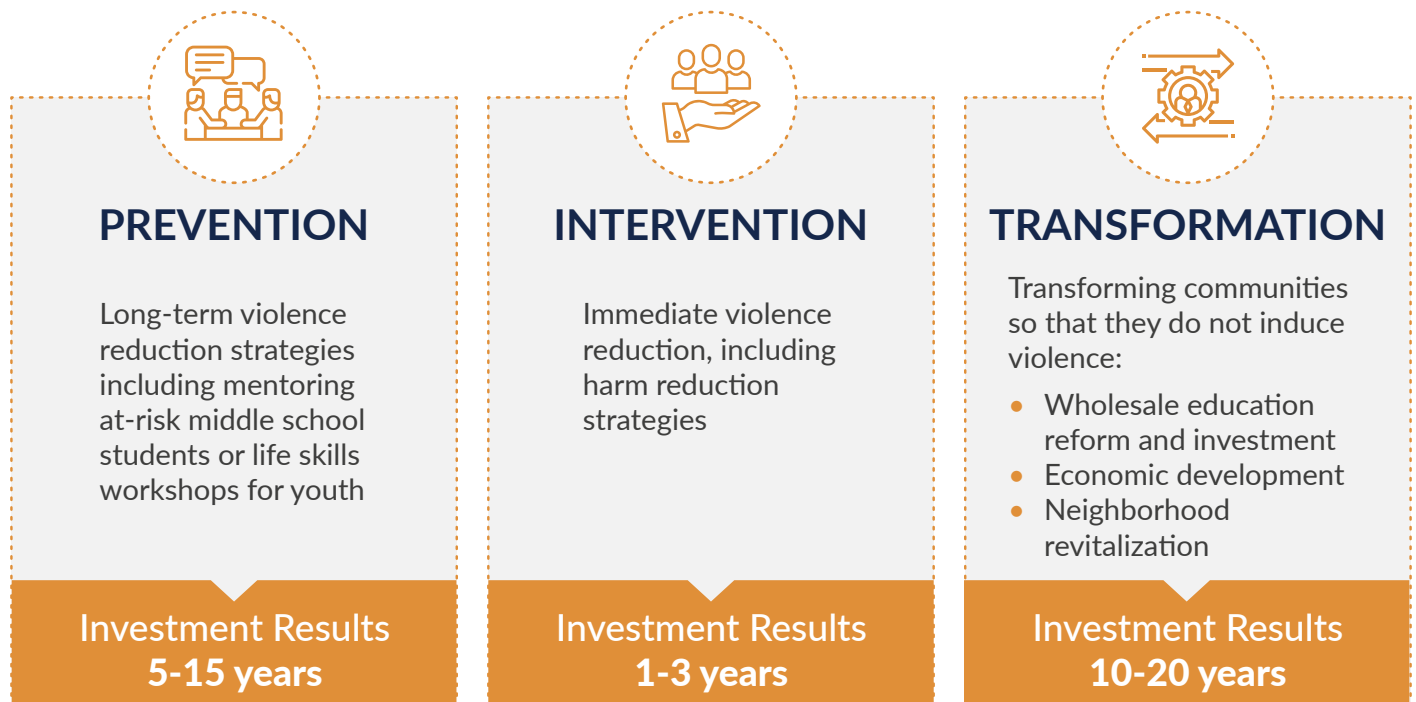
Despite the existence of so many programs and services, it appears as if those in greatest need and of highest risk are not being served. It may have been said best during a forum hosted by the Criminal Justice Coordinating Council in March 2020, when a youth organizer commented: “DC is resource rich and coordination poor.”

# A FRAMEWORK FOR UNDERSTANDING THE LANDSCAPE ANALYSIS

The Landscape Analysis is comprised of three broad programmatic categories: Violence Reduction, Re-Entry, and Youth Development. The Analysis also includes a review of criminal justice reform initiatives.

## I. VIOLENCE REDUCTION

Violence reduction efforts can be broken down into three domains: violence prevention, violence intervention, and community transformation.



*A clear understanding of how various strategies and interventions will address specific violence reduction goals, and how each level of the violence reduction continuum is resourced and managed, is critical to the success of an overall violence reduction plan.*

**Violence prevention** refers to the elimination or reduction of the underlying causes and risk factors that lead to violence.<sup>1</sup> Violence prevention efforts are thus designed to prevent violence from occurring in the first instance. **Violence intervention** efforts on the other hand are designed to prevent the reoccurrence of violence or intervene and prevent the imminent act of violence. Both violence prevention and intervention hinge on deploying services that identify and address age and context-appropriate risk and protective factors. Violence prevention efforts are most often targeted towards children and youth whereas violence intervention efforts are focused on the people who are at the greatest immediate risk of violence, which are usually young adults. While violence prevention is a broad field encompassing various types of programs, effective violence intervention is more defined and narrowly focused.

<sup>1</sup> [https://www.who.int/violenceprevention/about/intersectoral\\_action.pdf](https://www.who.int/violenceprevention/about/intersectoral_action.pdf)

Community transformation refers to the elimination of factors that give rise to violence in a neighborhood, like poverty, blight, low performing schools, disinvestment, and chronic unemployment. While community transformation is a long-term strategy that can take 15-20 years to achieve, if successfully implemented, it can also be most effective at permanently reducing violence. There are several neighborhoods in cities with high rates of violence that do not need violence intervention programs because there is little violence in those particular communities. All neighborhoods should have a goal of not needing violence intervention programs.

## II. RE-ENTRY SUPPORTS

Re-entry services support formerly incarcerated individuals in successfully “reentering” their communities at the conclusion of their in-custody period, thereby reducing recidivism, increasing public safety, and improving individual outcomes. Key re-entry services include the “Big Six”: housing, employment, education, mental health services, drug treatment if needed, and a connection to a supportive adult (mentor, life coach, etc.).

## III. YOUTH DEVELOPMENT

Youth Development is a program model that builds on the strengths and assets of youth as well as addressing youth needs. Youth Development includes acquisition of attitudes, competencies, values, and social skills that will carry youth forward into successful adulthood. Youth Development experiences are connected to positive outcomes in youth, including pro-social attitudes, self-efficacy, academic achievement, and employment readiness. Although there is often overlap between violence prevention and youth development services, the latter are broader and more far-reaching in nature, with no specific focus or goals related to reducing the likelihood of youth involvement in the justice system.

# LANDSCAPE ANALYSIS OVERVIEW

The Landscape Analysis includes an overview of of close to 70 programs, services, and organizations. The summary below only includes a few brief examples in each category as well as descriptions of larger initiatives.

## VIOLENCE REDUCTION

### Violence Prevention

There are a number of programs operating in the District that can be categorized as violence prevention initiatives. These range from services loosely tied to a stated violence prevention outcome to those that are designed to more directly target youth or young adults evidencing high-risk behaviors. Examples of each are provided below.

#### *Access Youth Inc*

Access Youth Inc. provides at-risk youth with access to the skills, resources, and support they need to stay in school and out of the criminal justice system. The program aims to curb the school-to-prison pipeline through early intervention focused on three critical points along this spectrum: when youth first begin to exhibit excessive un-excused absences, school behavior issues, and first-time arrest by the police. Given the high correlation between elementary and middle school truancy and future delinquency, the program's use of attendance data to direct interventions and supports is positive.

#### *Peace Walks DC/Peace Fellowship Church*

Peace Fellowship Church is a multi-ethnic, multi-socioeconomic, gospel-centered church in Deanwood. The church leads bi-monthly Peace Walks to prevent violence and trainings for attending organizations. The stated goal of these efforts is to prevent gun violence.

Many more programs and services are described as violence prevention but when NICJR reviewed these programs, many were best categorized as youth development or violence intervention services.

### Violence Intervention

Violence intervention strategies and programs are designed to intervene immediately to reduce violence in the near-term. The District has several violence intervention initiatives that involve numerous programs and organizations, some of which are highlighted below.

#### *Office of Neighborhood Safety and Engagement: Family and Survivor Support, Violence Intervention, and Pathways Programs*

The Neighborhood Engagement Achieves Results (NEAR) Act of 2016 was passed by the DC City Council in response to an increase in homicides in 2015. The NEAR Act covers a wide range of public safety initiatives designed to reduce violent crime, reform criminal justice, and improve community-police relations. The Office of Neighborhood Safety and Engagement (ONSE) was created by the NEAR Act. ONSE is a government agency with the mission to “foster community-based strategies to help prevent violence and increase public safety.”

ONSE, with an annual budget of \$7-8 million and 30 staff, operates three primary initiatives.



The Pathways Program focuses annually on the top 50 individuals most at-risk of being involved in violence through a public health based approach in the areas of employment, education, mental health, conflict resolution and housing stability. The Pathways Program also includes ONSE Caseworkers and Credible Messengers that provide additional long term support to each participant.

The Violence Intervention & Prevention Program is managed by ONSE and contracts with three community based organizations to provide nearly 40 violence intervention specialists in the neighborhoods in the District with the highest rates of violence. ONSE contracts with three community-based organizations that cover priority communities: [Collaborative Solutions for Communities](#) in Wards 1-5; [Training Grounds](#) in Wards 6-7 and the [Far Southeast Collaborative](#) in Ward 8. Contracted CBOs provide supports and services focused on moving high risk individuals and their families towards positive change that disrupts cycles of violence. ONSE manages and monitors each contract to ensure that quality services are being provided to priority communities through daily and weekly meetings, monthly reviews of neighborhood plans, and quarterly site visits and scorecards.

The Family & Survivor Support Services program is utilized as the framework for the District's emergency critical response planning in reaction to all homicides and any shootings suspected of being gang/crew related. Through the facilitation of cross-agency critical response teams, ONSE immediately connects families to government programs and services.

One challenge identified by NICJR while conducting this Landscape Analysis is that contracted service providers are not required to provide ONSE with information regarding the specifics of who they are serving through the violence intervention programs. Service providers report the number of people they serve and the type of services, but do not identify specific individuals.

### *DC Cure the Streets Initiative*



Cure the Streets (CTS) is a public safety pilot gun violence intervention program that was launched in 2018 by the Office of the Attorney General in partnership with the National Association for the Advancement of Returning Citizens. CTS uses a data-driven, public-health approach to treat gun violence as a disease that can be interrupted, treated, and stopped from spreading. CTS is working in six neighborhoods with some of the highest rates of gun violence in Wards 5, 7 and 8.<sup>2</sup> CTS is a replication of the Cure Violence street outreach model developed in Chicago.

CTS uses violence interrupters and outreach workers to reduce the potential for new or continued conflict and community partners to build coalitions and develop strategies to reduce violence. CTS Violence Interrupters (VIs) are hired for their credibility, relationships, and influence within targeted neighborhoods and trained to resolve conflicts. Violence Interrupters engage with the community to learn

about brewing conflicts and resolve them peaceably before they erupt in violence. If a shooting does occur, CTS works with those affected by the incident to prevent retaliation.

CTS Outreach Workers recruit and work with individuals at high risk for involvement with violence. Outreach Workers meet with program participants several times a week to implement individualized risk reduction plans. They also help connect participants with needed services, such as housing, counseling, and employment assistance, and develop more long-term goal-oriented action plans.

<sup>2</sup> <https://oag.dc.gov/public-safety/cure-streets-oags-violence-interruption-program>

CTS also works with a variety of community partners to organize forums and public events where residents can gather and interact safely without fear of conflict and violence.

A challenge identified by NICJR while conducting the Analysis is the lack of coordination and at times tension between CTS and ONSE. Despite consensus among many of those interviewed that CTS should become a program of ONSE, that has not happened. Communication between the two initiatives has improved but consistent coordination appears to remain minimal.

### *District of Columbia's Hospital-Based Violence Intervention Programs*

Hospital-Based Violence Intervention Programs (HVIPs) are located in or work with trauma centers and emergency departments. HVIPs engage gunshot wound patients while they are still in the hospital, often just hours after a violent injury, to reduce the chance of retaliation and provide needed victim services. HVIPs are based on the premise that there is a unique window of opportunity to engage victims of gun violence in the immediate aftermath of a traumatic injury.

The District of Columbia's HVIP works with victims of violence connecting them and their families with government and community-based services to promote healing and reduce re-victimization and retaliation. Launched by the Office of Victim Services and Justice Grants (OVSJG) in 2016, the program uses supportive approaches tailored to the individual victim including:

- Engaging with victims and their families in the aftermath of life-threatening intentional trauma to assist them with the short-term consequences of violence
- Maintaining long-term connection with victims and their families to help them heal from the lasting consequences of violence
- Connecting victims and their families with government and community-based services, including crisis intervention, case management, trauma-informed mental health services, and other support services

There are five HVIP programs in the OVSJG network: Medstar Washington Hospital Center, Howard University Hospital, UMD Prince George's Hospital, United Medical Center, and George Washington University Hospital.<sup>3</sup>

The Wendt Center for Loss and Healing has recently launched another hospital-based program in partnership with the Metropolitan Police Department and Medstar Hospital. The program dispatches mental health counselors to provide crisis support on-site at the hospital and in the community in the aftermath of an attempted homicide. It is unclear if this program is distinct from the existing Medstar HVIP effort led by the OVSJG.

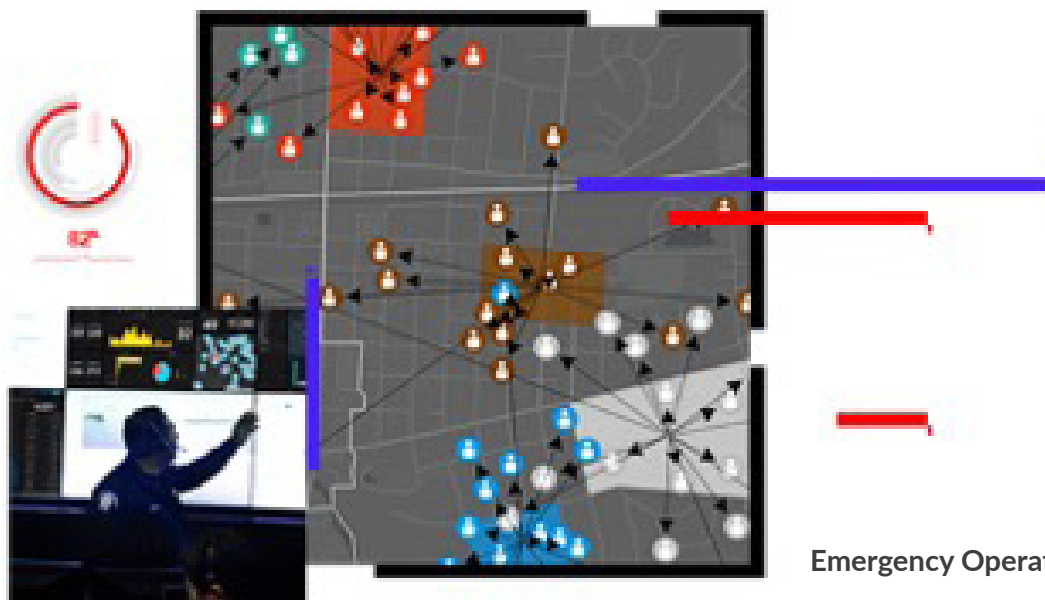
The Far Southeast Family Strengthening Collaborative also provides HVIP services, specifically targeting Ward 8. Again, it is unclear how these services relate to those provided pursuant to the OVSJG.

### *Gun Violence Prevention Emergency Operations Center*

On February 17, 2021, Mayor Muriel Bowser **announced** the launch of a first-of-its kind Gun Violence Prevention Emergency Operations Center (EOC), part of a new comprehensive gun violence prevention program, Building Blocks DC. The EOC, is located at Shannon Place in Ward 8 and is staffed with top personnel from various DC government agencies. The idea of the EOC is to respond to gun violence as an urgent crisis similar to how the District has responded to the Covid-19 pandemic.

<sup>3</sup> <https://saferstronger.dc.gov/sites/default/files/u23/HVIP%20One-Pager%20v3.pdf>

The focus of this new strategy is on people and places with the very highest rates of gun violence. Building Blocks DC's mission is to "adopt a whole of government response that facilitates a placed-based and person based strategy offering access to services within agencies/organizations responsible for education, job placement and training, housing, and mental health services in a streamlined way."



Emergency Operation Center

## Community Transformation

Neighborhoods with high rates of shootings are marred with a mixture of poverty, institutional racism, subpar education, generational trauma, and crime and violence, with an overlay of blight, historic under investment, and economic isolation. Institutional racism in the form of government sanctioned oppression of Black communities led to the "ghettoization" of inner-city neighborhoods across the country, with stark examples in the District. Redlining, housing covenants, employment discrimination, education funding based on the local tax base, and the policies and design of public housing, all led to conditions of concentrated poverty, despair, economic immobility, and high crime rates.

Reversing these conditions often comes with gentrification. Transforming communities while maintaining the historic demographics has proven elusive. But there is great hope in President Joseph Biden's American Jobs Plan, known as the Infrastructure Bill, which promises \$2 trillion of investment in cities across the country and an emphasis on communities and people of color. There are other, much smaller in programs that have achieved incremental progress.

## A Note on Violence-Related Data Initiatives

In addition to a number of violence intervention programs operating in the District, there are also several initiatives that seek to collect, track, and use data to better understand the violence problem in the District. The following are formal and informal data initiatives regarding gun violence in D.C.:

- **Gun Stat:** GunStat is a citywide effort, which began in 2008. GunStat tracks cases as they progress through the criminal justice system and identifies trends, strengths, and weaknesses of the process. GunStat focuses on deterring and preventing repeat offenders from future offenses through a coordinated interagency effort guided by information sharing, regular contact and engagement of law enforcement in communities, swift and certain sanctions, and risk-appropriate pre- and post-trial supervision.
- **Fatality Reviews:** The Office of the Chief Medical Examiner provides services through its Fatality Review Division, which is



Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED) is a multidisciplinary approach that focuses on designing a physical environment that positively influences human behavior. The theory is based on four principles: natural access control, natural surveillance, territoriality, and maintenance.<sup>4</sup> CPTED is defined as the “proper design and effective use of the built environment that can lead to a reduction in the fear and incidence of crime and an improvement in the quality of life.”<sup>5</sup>

Communities across the country that have applied CPTED principles have reported decreases in gun violence, youth homicide, disorderly conduct, and violent crime. Communities have also reported positive impacts on residents’ stress, community pride, and physical health. Some examples of CPTED activities include:

- Repairing abandoned building and vacant lots
- Cleaning and maintaining neighborhood green spaces
- Upkeep of neighborhood housing

In the District, community development and CPTED projects have been led by local Community Development Corporations (CDCs). There are thousands of CDCs across the country. CDCs are nonprofit, community-based organizations focused on revitalizing the areas in which they are located.

### *Anacostia Economic Development Corporation*

The Anacostia Economic Development Corporation (AEDC) provides services and programs designed to help strengthen the economic base of the Anacostia community. The AEDC emphasizes housing rehabilitation, commercial revitalization, and business development activities.

### *Development Corporation of Columbia Heights*

The Development Corporation of Columbia Heights (DCCH) supports responsible, community-focused economic development in Columbia Heights. DCCH focus areas include commercial and residential development, store front façade improvement, and increasing the capacity of small and local businesses.

responsible for reviewing the circumstances of the deaths of individuals within certain populations, including their interaction with District government services. The purpose of the reviews is to provide analysis and recommendations to the public and District entities serving defined populations so they can address systemic problems and provide better services. There are three review committees:

- Child Fatality Review Committee
  - Developmental Disabilities Fatality Review Committee
  - Domestic Violence Fatality Review Board
- **Gun Violence Problem Analysis:** In partnership with the Criminal Justice Coordinating Council, the National Institute for Criminal Justice Reform (NICJR) is conducting a detailed analysis of homicides and injuries in DC over a recent one to two-year period, and every single injury shooting over a recent one year period. The study will examine the circumstances of each shooting, the background of each victim and suspect, and the dynamics surrounding the incident. The study will produce an analysis of the nature of gun violence in the District and identify the risk factors of the small population of DC residents who are at the very highest risk of gun violence.
  - **DC Witness:** A non-profit news agency that tracks each homicide in the District, DC Witness makes all public information available on its interactive [website](#). DC Witness says it tracks “every homicide from act to a judicial resolution to inform residents and policymakers of the District of Columbia about the trail of murders that often go underreported.”
  - **The Lab @ DC:** A new DC government agency housed in the Mayor’s Office that is focused on data analysis and evaluation, including in the areas of public safety and justice. The lab specifically [examined](#) the Metropolitan Police Department’s Crime Gun Intelligence Center.

4 <https://www.ncpc.org/resources/home-neighborhood-safety/crime-prevention-through-environmental-design-training-program/>

5 Crowe TD. 2000. Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design: Applications of Architectural Design and Space Management Concepts. Boston: Butterworth-Heinemann.

## *Empower DC*

Since 2003, Empower DC has advanced racial, economic, and environmental justice by investing in the leadership and organized political power of the District's lowest income residents and communities. Empower DC's current advocacy campaigns include Public Housing Power, an effort designed to improve and preserve public housing in the District.

## *Washington D.C. Promise Neighborhood Initiative*

In 2010, in an effort to replicate the renowned Harlem Children's Zone which transformed several blocks of impoverished Harlem, the federal government launched the Promise Neighborhood Initiative to improve education outcomes and revitalize neighborhoods.

The DC Promise Neighborhood Initiative (DCPNI) received a planning grant from the U.S. Department of Education in 2010, and then received a \$20 million, five-year federal implementation grant in 2012. On the premise that higher quality education improves economic mobility, education programming is at the heart of the DCPNI. DCPNI partners with four schools in the Kenilworth-Parkside neighborhood to improve the educational experience and support academic excellence for all children. The schools are:<sup>6</sup>

- **Educare of Washington, D.C.:** Educare Washington, D.C., is an early childhood education school and community center built to serve the children and families of Ward 7.
- **Neval Thomas Elementary School:** At Neval Thomas Elementary School, the mission is to help students excel academically while becoming well-rounded, global citizens.
- **Cesar Chavez Public Charter School for Public Policy (Middle and High School):** The Parkside campus of Cesar Chavez Public Charter Schools for Public-Policy—a combined middle and high school—opened in the Kenilworth-Parkside community in Ward 7 in 2005. The Chavez Schools' mission is to prepare scholars to succeed in competitive colleges and to empower them to use public policy to create a more just, free and equal world.

The DCPNI also has an early learning approach with two major initiatives: 1) continuum programming, comprised of direct services to parents and children, and 2) technical support and resources to community providers. The goals of the early learning programming are to 1) ensure that children have access to high-quality early education opportunities from birth, 2) that families are equipped with knowledge, tools and resources to be their children's first and best teachers, and 3) that the community provides nurturing environments to support children's development across multiple domains.

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6 <https://dcpni.org/education-and-learning/>

# RE-ENTRY SERVICES

Although re-entry programs can include various types of services, they are characterized by having a primary goal of supporting those recently released from incarceration and thereby reducing recidivism.

As of 2018, the District had a 60 percent 5-year recidivism rate<sup>7</sup>. According to Bureau of Justice Statistics data, emerging adults are particularly vulnerable to reoffending in the District: 68.1 percent of them are arrested within two years of release, and 84.1 percent within 5 years.<sup>8</sup> The District offers a significant number of reentry programs in an attempt to address this need. Highlighted below is a network which appears to serve as a coalition or coordinating body for District re-entry service providers (or has the potential to do so), and two target population specific reentry programs.

## D.C. Reentry Action Network (RAN)

RAN is a coalition comprised of D.C.-based nonprofit organizations that provide direct services to returning citizens. The mission of RAN is to bring together a network of client-centered reentry services providers to exchange information, strengthen services, discuss and address issues of mutual concern, and be a collective voice in order to best meet the complex and varied needs of DC's incarcerated persons and returning citizens based on mutual respect, collaboration, and progressive policy and program development.

RAN is comprised of reentry providers in the District, many of whom also provide other services. All reentry grantees of the Office of Victims Services and Justice Grants are members of RAN; however, any reentry service provider is eligible to apply for membership to RAN.

## Community Family Life Services

Community Family Life Services, Inc. (CFLS) is a women-focused reentry organization providing wraparound services to help families move into self-sufficiency. CFLS achieves its mission by providing short-term crisis assistance. CFLS works within the DC Jail and women's halfway houses, and with community partners, to establish connections with justice-involved women prior to their release.

## Credible Messenger Initiative

The Credible Messenger Initiative of the Department of Youth Rehabilitation Services (DYRS) is a transformative, mentoring intervention program for youth committed to the agency. The mission of the initiative is to connect all young people in the care and custody of DYRS to healthy homes and supportive communities, and to provide preventative supports to all youth in the District.

Credible messengers are neighborhood leaders, experienced youth advocates and individuals with relevant life experiences, whose role is to help youth transform attitudes and behaviors around violence. They serve young people whose needs go far beyond the traditional mentoring services of companionship, confidence-building, and academic, social, or career guidance.

The guiding principles of the Credible Messenger Initiative are to:

7 <https://www.grooseveltinstitute.org/blog/dcs-untapped-solutions-for-recidivism#:~:text=The%20National%20Institute%20of%20Justice,%25%20isn't%20much%20better>

8 <https://www.bjs.gov/search/index.cfm?q=recidivism&btnG=Search+BJS#gsc.tab=0&gsc.q=recidivism&gsc.page=1>

- Promote family and community engagement
- Engage Parent Peer Coaches
- Connect young people to caring adults in their home communities
- Provide healthy family/community placement
- Enhance the DYRS' role in citywide violence prevention efforts
- Improve services to youth in the community
- Connect youth to resources and relationships to ensure their success
- Create job opportunities for DC residents as Credible Messengers

## YOUTH DEVELOPMENT

Youth Development is a program model that builds on the strengths and assets of youth as well as addressing their needs. Youth Development includes acquisition of attitudes, competencies, values, and social skills that will carry youth forward into successful adulthood. Youth Development experiences are connected to positive outcomes in youth, including pro-social attitudes, self-efficacy, academic achievement, and employment readiness.

The number of programs in the District that fall under this very large umbrella are too extensive for this Landscape Analysis to fully capture. Particularly illustrative models or strategies are highlighted below.

### Mayor Marion S. Barry Summer Youth Employment Program

This program is arguably the most popular program in the District and one that is known across the country. Launched by the renowned, late Mayor Marion Barry, the summer jobs program has grown to employ thousands of District youth each year. Managed by the Department of Employment Services, the Marion S. Barry Summer Youth Employment program provides District youth ages 14 to 24 with enriching and constructive summer work experiences through subsidized placements in the private and government sectors.

In addition to the summer jobs program, the Mayor's Youth Leadership Institute (MYLI) was re-designated as the "[Marion Barry Youth Leadership Institute](#)" (MBYLI). MBYLI was founded in 1979 as a year-round program to train District of Columbia youth in the concepts of leadership and self-development. The MBYLI training model emphasizes practical, hands-on experience and a holistic approach to developing leaders for the 21st century. Each year, 150 young people participate in the year-round program and 350 youth participate in the Summer Training Program.

### Healthy Families/Thriving Communities Collaborative

For nearly 30 years, Washington, D.C.'s [Child and Family Services Agency](#) (CFSA) has teamed with neighborhood partners to support families where they live through the Healthy Families/Thriving Communities Collaborative. This network includes five neighborhood collaboratives, each based in specific wards of the District and focused on the particular needs of that community and its residents. Each of the five collaboratives also offers a unique array of services targeted to the ward they serve.

A key element of the Healthy Families/Thriving Communities Collaborative is community input in service design. For example, when one neighborhood collaborative learned that its tutoring program attracted no students, it sought community input. High school students pointed out what they needed most was a place where they could do their homework before going to their jobs; the collaborative developed an afterschool study hall, which immediately became popular.

While community-based organizations exist in neighborhoods across the country, the longstanding, intentional partnership across multiple organizations and, in particular, with the child protection agency, sets this network apart.

Other more traditional District youth development programs include:

### College Tribe

College Tribe aims to cultivate the character, scholarship, and social competence of 3<sup>rd</sup> to 8<sup>th</sup> grade boys living in the District. The program partners with four schools in Wards 7 and 8. Its focus is on promoting STEM education and matching youth with mentors.

### Urban Ed, Inc

Through its Pathways to Prosperity Initiative, Urban Ed, Inc, is transforming youth and young adults into high-performing, well-paid members of society through technology education and skill development.

## CRIMINAL JUSTICE REFORM INITIATIVES IN WASHINGTON, DC

The District has undergone and continues to implement a series of criminal justice reforms initiatives that have resulted in a drastic reduction in incarcerated youth and a burgeoning reduction in adults in custody. In addition to the plethora of services and supports cataloged in this Landscape Analysis, it is important to also review some of these reform efforts to gain a full picture of the current environment in the District when it comes to criminal justice reform and investments in alternatives to traditional punitive models.

### Amended Youth Rehabilitation Act of 2018 (YRA)

First enacted in 1985, the Youth Rehabilitation Act (YRA) was amended most recently in 2018. Key provisions of the 2018 amendments include:

- A requirement that the Corrections Information Council submit an annual report on the conditions of confinement and programming provided to District of Columbia youth offenders in the custody of the federal Bureau of Prisons



- Modified definitions of “committed youth offender”, “treatment”, and “youth offender”
- A requirement that the Mayor submit a strategic plan to the Council in regards to the provision of facilities, treatment, and services to certain youth offenders and persons at risk of becoming youth offenders
- Clarification of the YRA’s application to the sentencing of youth offenders convicted of offenses with mandatory-minimum terms
- A list of factors to guide the court in making the determination of whether a youth offender should be sentenced under the act or have his or her conviction set aside
- A requirement that written statements of judges’ sentencing and set aside decisions
- A shift in the timing of the decision of whether a youth offender’s conviction should be set aside from sentencing to after the completion of the youth offender’s probation or sentence of incarceration, supervised release, or parole

## Incarceration Reduction Amendment Act

In November 2016, the Council of the District of Columbia passed the Incarceration Reduction Amendment Act of 2016 (IRAA), providing a sentencing review opportunity for some individuals sentenced in adult court who were convicted of an offense that occurred before they reached the age of 18. In December 2018, the Council passed the Omnibus Public Safety and Justice Amendment Act of 2018, which included clarifying amendments as to the retroactive application of the earlier legislation.

The IRAA amendments went into effect on May 9, 2019. Under the amended provision an individual may petition for a sentencing review if:

- 1) They were convicted of a violation of the D.C. Code in the District of Columbia Superior Court (not federal court in D.C.), and
- 2) They were convicted in adult court for an offense that occurred before their 18<sup>th</sup> birthday, and
- 3) They have served at least 15 years in prison.

## Second Look Act (SLA)

The Second Look Amendment Act of 2019 (passed in December 2020), also known as IRAA II, extended the IRAA to include those who were under 25 when they committed their crime.<sup>9</sup>

Those who may receive resentencing under the Second Look Act are uniquely qualified to serve as credible messengers and violence interrupters, having caused harm during their younger years, matured, and gained wisdom. Those released under the SLA now return to support at-risk youth in the District, serving a peacemaking role that many likely played in the Bureau of Prisons as they aged and matured.<sup>10</sup>

## DC Task Force on Jails & Justice

The DC Task Force on Jails and Justice (TF) is an independent advisory body dedicated to redefining and reinventing the local approach to corrections, ensuring that jail is one part of a just and equitable overall system. The TF was developed in order to understand and change the approach to incarceration, and to address the current system’s inability to keep people safe and stop the cycle of crime and incarceration.<sup>11</sup>

<sup>9</sup> [https://rethinkjusticedc.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/12/history-of-iraa-related-legislation\\_2019-11-01.pdf](https://rethinkjusticedc.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/12/history-of-iraa-related-legislation_2019-11-01.pdf)

<sup>10</sup> The Second Look Amendment Act of 2019 Fact sheet PDF

<sup>11</sup> <http://www.courtexcellence.org/what-we-do/civil-justice/task-force>

The goal of the TF is to create a new correctional plan for the District, make recommendations about who should and should not be held in local facilities, and articulate the community's priorities for jail population, location, design, and services. The TF is an interdisciplinary group that includes community leaders who are directly impacted by jails, organizations that work to serve currently or formerly incarcerated people, government leaders, judges, research and policy experts, and other civic leaders.<sup>12</sup>

The TF has a two-phase plan. Phase I (2019) included several community engagement events where people directly impacted by corrections, including incarcerated people, returning citizens, their families and friends, jail staff, neighbors of the jail, and other concerned residents, had the opportunity to share their experiences and make recommendations for the future. The TF analyzed that feedback and other data sources to develop the [Phase I Plan](#), published in November 2019.<sup>13</sup>

During Phase II, which is currently underway, TF experts will further dive into issues identified as priorities in the blueprint, while continuing to engage the community and to develop a detailed plan for the District to use as it begins to fund and build any new facility or make changes to its justice system.<sup>14</sup>

## Criminal Code Reform Commission

The Criminal Code Reform Commission (CCRC) is an independent agency in DC government that began in October 2016. Its mission is to develop comprehensive recommendations for the D.C. Council and Mayor on revision of District criminal statutes. The agency is an advisory body with no regulatory, legislative, or judicial authority. Any changes to District criminal statutes recommended by the CCRC will require legislative action by the District's elected officials.<sup>15</sup>

The agency's work is currently focused on reforming the District's substantive criminal statutes which have not undergone a comprehensive review since Congress first codified the DC Code in 1901.<sup>16</sup>

## Police Reform Commission

The Police Reform Commission (Commission) was launched as part of the Comprehensive Policing and Justice Reform Second Emergency Amendment Act of 2020<sup>17</sup>, which the D.C. Council passed in June 2020. The Commission will examine and analyze policing practices in the District and generate evidence-based recommendations for reforming and revising policing addressing topics including: the role of police in schools, alternatives to police responses, police discipline, and the integration of conflict resolution strategies and restorative justice practices into policing.<sup>18</sup>

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12 <http://www.courtexcellence.org/what-we-do/civil-justice/task-force>

13 <http://www.courtexcellence.org/what-we-do/civil-justice/task-force>

14 <http://www.courtexcellence.org/what-we-do/civil-justice/task-force>

15 <https://ccrc.dc.gov/page/ccrc-mission>

16 <https://ccrc.dc.gov/page/ccrc-mission>

17 <https://code.dccouncil.us/dc/council/acts/23-336.html>

18 <https://thedcline.org/2020/08/03/press-release-chairman-mendelson-announces-appointees-to-dc-police-reform-commission/#:~:text=The%20Council%20has%20asked%20the, police%20officers%20in%20public%20schools>

# CONCLUSION

There are numerous programs and organizations that provide violence reduction, youth development, and re-entry services in the District. However, it appears that many of these programs and services may be uncoordinated, disjointed, and unintentionally serving a duplicative client base. All the while, those at the highest risk and need appear to not be connected to needed resources. A key next step and area of focus for the District then is investing in increased collaboration and coordination of violence intervention services.

The time for action is now. 2020 saw the highest homicide rates in the District in 16 years; 2021 homicide rates to date are nearly 50 percent higher than 2020 at the same point in time. In order to reverse this tide, District leadership must be intently focused on establishing the necessary service coordination and accountability infrastructure to effectuate a radical transformation of the existing diffuse and decentralized violence prevention network.

## RECOMMENDATIONS

### 1) Develop an Efficient and Effective Service Delivery System in the District

What is clear is that the District needs a service delivery system to connect those in need of supports with the many resources available. This can happen in a number of ways, but we suggest implementing all of the following steps:

- Hire, train, and deploy enough Credible Messengers so that every youth and adult being released from custody or after sentencing/disposition is assigned a Credible Messenger to support them with mentoring, life coaching and service navigation. The District can reinvest savings from dwindling incarceration rates as well as partner with philanthropy, to hire and train a cadre of Credible Messengers at community-based organizations across the District, with emphasis on Wards 7 & 8. Then DYRS, Court Social Services, Pre-Trial Services, and CSOSA must mandate that all staff, especially case carrying staff, connect their clients to a community-based organization near their home so that they can be assigned a Credible Messenger.
- Open a series of Neighborhood Hubs/Resource Centers primarily in Wards 7 & 8 staffed with outreach workers/case managers who can help people navigate and connect to needed services. Employ a “no wrong door” approach so no matter what services and supports people need, they can gain access at any Neighborhood Resource Center.

### 2) Expand the Healthy Families/Thriving Communities Collaborative (HFTCC) Model to Violence Reduction Services

HFTCC members rely on each other to share expertise, solve problems, and advocate. The five Executive Directors and their leadership teams meet on monthly calls for information sharing and planning. There is a practice standards manual that all the collaboratives follow, which keeps their work aligned across organizations. In addition, they track information the same way, sharing a data system with CFSA so that citywide reports can be generated about trends in the numbers of children and families receiving services, as well as data on the timeliness of connecting families to services and the percentage of families completing the goals associated with each service. Each collaborative has a community board of directors and holds neighborhood meetings and events to learn from the community about what families need.

This type of structure, coordination, and performance management could help violence reduction service providers improve their effectiveness and increase their reach. Such an initiative could be managed through the new Emergency Operation Center.

### 3) Establish a Gun Violence Reduction Strategy that Focuses Effective Interventions Solely on those at Highest Risk of Gun Violence

While there are impressive initiatives underway in the District to address gun violence, it is not clear if any have the type of sole focus on the very highest risk people that is needed to achieve significant gun violence reduction in the near-term. NICJR is currently conducting a Gun Violence Problem Analysis in partnership with CJCC<sup>19</sup> to determine the risk factors of those at the very highest risk of gun violence. This static assessment of risk factors must be paired with a weekly dynamic assessment of recent shootings to identify specific people for focused intervention. Interventions should include the type of intensive, structured, consistent relationship-based services described in this report.

### 4) Service Type Clarification

Services providers should identify clearly the type of programs they offer and their target service population in order to create a systematic indexing of existing service providers, target populations, and geographic areas served. Data fields would include:

- Service Type
  - Violence prevention
  - Violence intervention
  - Re-entry
  - Youth development
  - Community Transformation
- Target Population
  - Children (0-12)
  - Youth (12-17)
  - Transition Age Youth/Young Adults (18-21)
  - Adults (21 and older)
  - Gender-specific
  - Re-entry specific
  - Homeless specific
  - Other specific populations
- Target Geographic Area

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<sup>19</sup> Criminal Justice Coordinating Council

# APPENDIX A

## Landscape Analysis



# VIOLENCE PREVENTION

## ACCESS YOUTH INC.

### Address:

1101 30th Street NW, #500,  
Washington, D.C. 20007

### Organization Overview:

Access Youth provides at-risk youth with access to the skills, resources, and supports, they need to stay in school and out of the criminal justice system. The program aims to curb the school-to-prison pipeline through early intervention focused on three critical points: when students are truant from school, when students have behavior issues that could result in suspension from school, and when young people are arrested for first-time, low-level offenses. Key partners include D.C. Public Schools, D.C. Department of Human Services, Fair Chance, and Public Allies.

### Programs/Services:

Access Youth provides early intervention and prevention programs when youth first begin to exhibit excessive unexcused absences, school behavior issues, and arrests by the police. Services provided include but are not limited to mediation with students and families, individual and group coaching, and life skills instruction.

**Population Served:** Access Youth serves at-risk youth.

**D.C. Area Served:** Washington, D.C.; Districtwide

**Annual Budget:** 2018: \$998,016

**Website:** <http://accessyouthinc.org>

# DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION

## ROVING LEADERS PROGRAM

### Address:

1275 First Street NE, 8th Floor  
Washington, D.C. 20002

### Organization Overview:

The Roving Leaders Program aims to prevent, neutralize, and control hostile behavior in youth and youth groups through the development of positive relationships between teens and outreach workers. Roving Leaders utilize recreation and leisure time activities as the intervening mechanisms for redirecting antisocial and aggressive behaviors.

### Programs/Services:

Roving Leaders build trusting relationships with teens, youth, professionals, community leaders, and public/private sector organizations. They interact one-on-one with targeted teens and youth in order to develop a plan of action that matches an individual's needs and aligns with the program's priorities. The program hosts summer programs and camps; provides access to gang intervention services, counseling and employment referrals; and facilitates conflict resolution workshops. Roving Leaders also hosts special programs/events for youth, conducts school and playground visits, and organizes mobile recreation activities.

**Population Served:** Roving Leaders serves at-risk youth.

**D.C. Area Served:** Washington, D.C.; Districtwide

**Annual Budget:** 2020 DPR Budget: \$54,642,227  
Roving Leaders Budget not available; 2018 requested budget was \$138,253.

**Website:** <https://dpr.dc.gov/service/dpr-roving-leaders>

# EAST OF THE RIVER CLERGY POLICY COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIP

## Address:

Main Office  
4105 First Street SE  
Washington, D.C. 20032

## Organization Overview:

East of the River Clergy Police Community Partnership (ERCPCP) is a faith-based program that partners with the police and community to prevent crime in the East River area.

The goals of ERCPCP are to:

1. Decrease community involvement with crime, violence, and drugs in Wards 7 & 8
2. Increase educational and vocational achievement among youth
3. Develop youth with strong family, moral and spiritual values
4. Create healthy and safe neighborhoods
5. Mobilize the faith-based community, law enforcement, government, businesses and nonprofits to provide leadership, mentors, and other resources
6. Become a world class, pace setting nonprofit organization while remaining God focused, family-oriented, non-bureaucratic, and mission centered.

## Programs/Services:

The ERCPCP provides mentoring services, community wellness services, workforce development, and housing/transitional residency support.

**Population Served:** ERCPCP serves returning citizens.

**D.C. Area Served:** Wards 7 & 8

**Annual Budget:** N/A

**Website:** <http://www.ercpcp.org/>

## FAIR GIRLS

### Address:

2021 L Street NW, #101-254  
Washington, D.C. 20036

### Organization Overview:

FAIR Girls (formerly known as the FAIR Fund) provides intervention and holistic care to survivors of human trafficking for individuals who identify as young women. Through prevention education and policy advocacy, FAIR Girls also works to eradicate human trafficking and create brighter outcomes for survivors. The FAIR Girls home office in Washington, D.C. offers compassionate care to prevent the exploitation of all girls.

### Programs/Services:

Clients receive personalized long-term case management including counseling, education and career guidance, and legal support. FAIR Girls also offers a variety of trainings, outreach, and prevention education workshops for organizations. The organization provides women with supportive services in lieu of criminal charges while also giving a voice to victims in order to protect them from previous charges, prevent future trafficking, and prosecute their traffickers. Fair Girls has also established the first safe, empowering transitional home in Washington, D.C. exclusively for female-identifying survivors of human trafficking or commercial sexual exploitation ages 18-26. Known as the Vida Home, this residence services up to 50 young women each year. Fair Girls also provides HOPE court-involved youth who are victims of or at risk of becoming victims of commercial sexual exploitation with the support, tools, and advocacy they need to lead free and productive lives.

**Population Served:** Fair GIRLS serves survivors of human trafficking.

**D.C. Area Served:** National but based in Washington, D.C.

**Annual Budget:** 2018: \$879,505

**Website:** <https://www.fairgirls.org/>

## PEACE WALKS DC / PEACE FELLOWSHIP CHURCH

### Address:

1027 45th Street NE  
Washington, D.C.

### Organization Overview:

Peace Fellowship Church is a multi-ethnic, multi-socioeconomic, and gospel-centered church in the heart of Deanwood. The organization is committed to loving God and loving their neighbors. Peace Fellowship Church organizes bi-monthly Peace Walks to prevent violence and hosts trainings for attending organizations.

### Programs/Services:

Peace Fellowship Church leads Peace Walks every other Friday, where participants are asked to join at least one Peace Walk training.

**Population Served:** Peace Fellowship Church serves people committed to ending gun violence in Washington, D.C.

**D.C. Area Served:** Deanwood

**Annual Budget:** N/A

**Website:** <http://peacefellowshipchurch.org/dc-peace-walks/>



# THE TRIGGER PROJECT

## Address:

N/A

## Organization Overview:

The True Reasons I Grabbed the Gun Evolved from Risks (TRIGGER) Project aims to destigmatize gun violence in communities of color across the nation. The project focuses on changing the norm and narrative of gun violence in communities of color by authentically telling the untold stories of everyday gun violence users to the general public. The TRIGGER Project is made up of a dynamic team of advocates, survivors, shooters, volunteers, and youth committed to bring awareness and transformation to gun violence. The organization aims to reduce the number of total intentional homicides to zero in communities of color by the year 2100.

## Programs/Services:

The TRIGGER Project provides services such as summer youth employment, emotional regulation programming, communication education, and awareness building. Youth Voice is a program that organizes focus groups of individuals ages 12-25 in order to communicate the point of view of the shooter. Activities involve storytelling, script writing, art therapy, interviews, and collaboration with solution-based think tanks. Produced by Straight to the Point Media, the TRIGGER Project developed a short documentary called *The True Reasons I Grabbed the Gun Evolved from Risks*. The organization also creates spaces for students to explore their interests, grow their knowledge, and build a gun violence prevention network. The TRIGGER Project also oversees the Advocating and Intervening through Mentorship (AIM) program in order to groom innovation and build advocacy skills in youth. Through internships, shadowing, and community service, students are exposed to and gain experience in their field of interest.

**Population Served:** TRIGGER Project serves youth.

**D.C. Area Served:** National; Washington, D.C.; Districtwide

**Annual Budget:** N/A

**Website:** <https://thetriggerproject.org>

# TRAINING GROUNDS, INC.

## Address:

Minnesota Ave TNC  
4193 Minnesota Avenue NE,  
Washington, D.C. 20019

Suitland TNC  
4710 Auth Place  
Suitland, MD 20746

## Organization Overview:

Training Grounds Inc. (TGI) is committed to preparing economically disadvantage individuals for living wage careers and self-sufficiency by assisting youth and adults. TGI is one of three partners selected by the Office of Neighborhood Safety and Engagement (ONSE) to lead violence prevention and interruption efforts in the District. TGI's mission is to assist youth and adults with personal, career, and leadership development through various trainings, programs and collaborations.

## Programs/Services:

TGI partners with the District's ONSE in a joint effort to create a violence-free D.C. The organization's Live in Peace Not Rest in Peace Movement promotes the five pillars of peace: prosperity, education, access, commitment, and equity. TGI also hosts interactive and resource-filled experiences in a safe and inviting environment that encourages the community to co-design solutions for a community of peace. Live in Peace Forums are a day of community-building, empowerment, and information sharing that enlists individuals to take part in bringing a resolution to the violence plaguing their community. Other services provided include Transformational Thursdays, a weekly empowerment forum providing assistance with personal and career success; Training Grounds to Work (TG2Work), a workforce development program that helps transition unemployed community members to continuing education, on-the-job training, and/or career opportunities; L.O.V.E. Youth Initiative, an after-school and summer drop-in programs for youth ages 6-16 in Wards 5, 6, 7 and 8; Love More Movement, a partnership to create healing stations and provide transformational life coaching; and Biz N Hoops, a leadership basketball league for youth and young adults ages 13-30.

**Population Served:** TGI serves youth and adults up to 30 years of age, specifically in high-poverty, high-crime and socioeconomically challenged communities.

**D.C. Area Served:** Wards 6 and 7

**Annual Budget:** 2012: \$419,472

**Website:** <http://traininggroundsdmv.org>

# VIOLENCE INTERVENTION

## ALLIANCE OF CONCERNED MEN AND WOMEN

### Address:

3227 Dubois Place SE,  
Washington, D.C. 20019

### Organization Overview:

The Alliance of Concerned Men (ACM) is dedicated to saving the lives of youth and families residing in high crime areas by providing holistic services including violence prevention and intervention, social services, cultural and educational enrichment, job and skills training, and recreational activities to at-risk youth and returning citizens. ACM is a recipient of the D.C. Fund for Just & Peaceful Neighborhoods, a project of Public Welfare Foundation and the Greater Washington Community Foundation. ACM is also a D.C. Cure the Streets partner in Wards 7 and 8.

### Programs/Services:

The ACM provides services such as gang prevention, intervention, and mediation; location and return of absconded youth; substance abuse and prevention; job readiness; family strengthening; fatherhood initiative; cultural enrichment; education programs (STEM); college preparation; life skills training; after school program; re-entry programs; leadership coaching; and mental health services.

**Population Served:** ACM serves at-risk youth, formerly incarcerated youth, and returning citizens.

**D.C. Area Served:** Washington, D.C.; Wards 7 and 8

**Annual Budget:** 2013: \$437,318

**Website:** <http://www.allianceofconcernedmen.org>

# COLLABORATIVE SOLUTIONS FOR COMMUNITIES

## Address:

3333 14th Street NW  
Washington, D.C. 20010

## Organization Overview:

Collaborative Solutions for Communities (CSC) is a D.C.-based organization committed to helping families and neighborhoods realize a brighter future through the provision of family services, rapid rehousing for homeless individuals and families, violence intervention, and building of community partnerships. CSC is one of three community-based organizations selected by the DC Office of Neighborhood Safety and Engagement (ONSE) to provide violence intervention services in D.C.

## Programs/Services:

The CSC provides violence intervention services in Wards 1-5. Program services include community outreach, community engagement, violence interception and interruption, case management, Critical Incident Protocols, partner engagement, peacemaking retreats, and school-based educational support. The CSC also hosts Critical Incident Meetings, which are held within 24 hours of a homicide or serious incident. The organization holds community-based “cool-down” activities to help communities heal from violence and build collective efficacy. As a youth violence diversion effort, the CSC engages up to 10 ONSE participants in its Progressive Employment Program (PEP), a workforce development program serving returning citizens and those who are currently unemployed or underemployed. The CSC provides job and life skills training as well as job placement services in 15 sessions over the course of three weeks. Comprehensive services are offered including family-oriented strength-based case management, and follow-up support to facilitate job retention through referrals.

**Population Served:** The CSC serves youth, families, and organizations. Specific populations served vary by program (i.e., the rapid rehousing program serves youth ages 18-24).

**D.C. Area Served:** Wards 1-5

**Annual Budget:** 2018: \$4,959,410

**Website:** <http://wearecsc.org/>

## DC CURE THE STREETS INITIATIVE

### Address:

Office of the Attorney General  
441 4th Street NW  
Washington, D.C. 20001

### Organization Overview:

Cure the Streets (CTS) is a public safety pilot program working to reduce violence in the District. CTS uses a data-driven, public-health approach to treat violence as a disease that can be interrupted, treated, and stopped from spreading. CTS was launched in 2018 by the Office of the Attorney General (OAG) in partnership with the National Association for the Advancement of Returning Citizens (NAARC). Community partners employ 60 Cure the Streets frontline staff at partner sites. The organizations partnering with OAG to expand Cure the Streets in the District are: The Alliance of Concerned Men (ACM), which will be operating a Ward 8 and a Ward 7 site, and Father Factor Inc. (Murder Free DC), which will be operating a Ward 8 and a Ward 5 site.

### Programs/Services:

CTS Violence Interrupters (VIs) are hired for their credibility, relationships, and influence within targeted neighborhoods and then trained in order to resolve conflicts. VIs engage with the community to learn about brewing conflicts and resolve them peacefully before violence. If a shooting does occur, CTS works with those affected by the incident to prevent retaliation. CTS also organizes rallies or vigils when shootings occur to ensure that violence is not normalized. CTS Outreach Workers (OWs) recruit and work with individuals at high-risk for involvement with violence in order to reduce their risk factors. OWs meet with program participants several times a week to implement individualized risk reduction plans. They also help connect participants with needed services, such as housing, counseling, and employment assistance, and develop action plans for a positive future. CTS engages with residents, community leaders, local businesses, faith leaders, service providers, and high-risk individuals to build coalitions and develop strategies to reduce violence. CTS works with these partners to organize forums and public events where residents can gather and interact safely without fear of conflict.

**Population Served:** CTS serves individuals at high-risk for violence.

**D.C. Area Served:** Six sites with highest rates of gun violence in Wards 5, 7 and 8

**Annual Budget:** *From Testimony for the 2020 Budget Oversight Hearing:* Cost per site ranges from \$625,000 to \$800,000 per year.

**Website:** <https://oag.dc.gov/public-safety/cure-streets-oags-violence-interruption-program>

# DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA HOSPITAL-BASED VIOLENCE INTERVENTION PROGRAM

## Address:

D.C. Office of Victim Services and Justice  
Grants One Judiciary Square  
441 4th Street NW, Suite 727N,  
Washington, D.C. 20001

## Organization Overview:

The District's Hospital-based Violence Intervention Program (HVIP) provides services to individuals who are experiencing a life-threatening intentional injury. Partners engage with victims and their families while they are in the hospital recovering to create a support system that can lead to long-term change. HVIP staff connect program participants with government and community-based services to promote healing, reduce revictimization, and prevent future violence. Participating hospitals employ social workers to engage with victims and their families.

## Programs/Services:

Victims receive an array of services based on the individual needs of the victim, including crisis intervention services, case management, and referrals to other supportive services such as mental health services, job training and employment services, and pro-social support.

**Population Served:** D.C.'s HVIP serves individuals and their families who have experienced a life-threatening intentional injury.

**D.C. Area Served:** Washington, DC - District-wide. Services at five area hospitals:

- Medstar Washington Hospital Center (MWHC)
- Howard University Hospital (HUH)
- George Washington University Hospital (GWUH)
- United Medical Center (UMC)
- UMD Prince George's Hospital Center (UMDPGHC)

**Annual Budget:** 2019: \$1.4 million

**Website:** <https://ovsjg.dc.gov/service/district-columbia-hospital-based-violence-intervention-program>

# FAR SOUTHEAST FAMILY STRENGTHENING COLLABORATIVE

## Address:

Administrative Office  
2041 Martin Luther King, Jr. Ave SE  
4th Floor  
Washington, D.C. 20020

Community Impact Centers  
Barry Farm  
2616 Martin Luther King Jr. Ave, SE  
(2nd floor of Matthews Memorial Church)  
Atlantic Homes - 4315 3rd Street, SE

Malcolm X - 1351 Alabama Avenue, SE  
(Malcolm X Opportunity Center)

## Organization Overview:

The mission of the Far Southeast Family Strengthening Collaborative is to act as a catalyst to develop, nurture, and sustain partnerships of residents, agencies, and institutions in the Southeast community. The FSFSC works to create a healthy socioeconomic environment in which every child and family has an opportunity to achieve their maximum potential and lead a productive life.

## Programs/Services:

FSFSC provides both community and hospital-based violence intervention services to Ward 8's primary and secondary victims of violent crime. FSFSC's Community-Based Violence Intervention Program, funded through the Office of Neighborhood Safety and Engagement, responds to MPD DC Alerts (specifically shootings and stabbings in Ward 8) and accepts referrals from community members, residents, governmental agencies, and non-governmental agencies. Services provided include Hospital-Based Violence Intervention Program, case management services, Violence Interrupters, and the Credible Messengers program.

**Population Served:** FSFSC serves children, youth and families. FSFSC's Violence intervention services specifically focus on victims of violence.

**D.C. Area Served:** Ward 8

**Annual Budget:** 2018: \$6,481,312

**Website:** <https://www.fsfsc.org/home>



## FATHER FACTOR, INC. (MURDER FREE DC)

### Address:

N/A

### Organization Overview:

Father Factor, Inc. is a D.C. Cure the Streets partner in Ward 8 and Ward 5.

### Programs/Services:

Services offered include provision of food and resources to the community; hosting of community events, concerts, and vigils; community organization and advocacy; conversations on violence prevention; outreach events at schools; and community health and resource fairs.

**Population Served:** Through Cure the Streets partnership, Father Factor Inc. serves individuals at high risk for involvement with violence.

**D.C. Area Served:** Wards 5 and 8

**Annual Budget:** 2018: \$14,286

**Website:** <https://twitter.com/murderfreedc?lang=en>

## GUN VIOLENCE PREVENTION EMERGENCY OPERATIONS CENTER (EOC)

### Address:

Shannon Place  
Ward 8

### Organization Overview:

Mayor Muriel Bowser announced the launch of the Gun Violence Prevention Emergency Operations Center (EOC) as part of a new comprehensive gun violence prevention program, Building Blocks D.C.

### Programs/Services:

Building Blocks D.C. will focus on the people and places contributing the most to gun violence, mobilize a government response, create clear protocols to deal the situation, and coordinate the development of a long-term strategy to reduce gun violence.

**Population Served:** Building Blocks D.C. will serve individuals who have been repeatedly arrested for gun-related offenses, are under active supervision, have been directly impacted by gun violence, or have felt the ripple effects of gun violence.

**D.C. Area Served:** 151 target blocks

**Annual Budget:** 2020-2021 Budget: \$15 million

**Website:** N/A

# INNERCITY COLLABORATIVE COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

## Address:

5219 Call Place SE,  
Washington, D.C. 20019

## Organization Overview:

InnerCity Collaborative Community Development Corporation is committed to serving D.C. as a prime resource for youth and families. The organization builds lives through hope, builds ministry through service, and builds community through outreach. High-risk mentoring and wrap around support is provided for the family and the youth.

## Programs/Services:

InnerCity Collaborative Community Development Corporation provides credible messenger mentoring. Through the Credible Messenger Initiative of DYRS, the organization has been able to work with youth engaging in some of the riskiest behavior. These children and adolescents are at important periods of development and are vulnerable to taking the wrong step, which is why mentors are important for them. Mentors serve as a positive influence by sharing their worldviews, experiences, knowledge, support, and advice. By introducing youth to new experiences and positive values, mentors can help young people avoid negative behaviors and achieve success.

**Population Served:** InnerCity Collaborative Community Development Corporation serves at-risk youth.

**D.C. Area Served:** Washington, D.C.; District-wide

**Annual Budget:** 2018: \$1,040,955

**Website:** N/A

## OFFICE OF NEIGHBORHOOD SAFETY AND ENGAGEMENT (ONSE) FAMILY AND SURVIVOR SUPPORT (FSS)

### Address:

100 42nd Street NE  
Washington, D.C. 20019

### Organization Overview:

The Family and Survivor Support Division of the ONSE is responsible for coordinating the District's critical response if a violent incident becomes a homicide, if a shooting/ stabbing involves a juvenile, or if an incident is believed to be gang related.

### Programs/Services:

Qualifying individuals and their immediate families are referred to ONSE for supports and services after a violent incident occurs in the District. To qualify for FSS services, the violent incident must be a homicide or a stabbing/shooting that involves a juvenile or is believed to be gang or crew related. Once a violent incident occurs, a critical incident notification is sent to ONSE. The FSS team facilitates a critical incident conference call with 12 government agencies to determine previous involvement and to discuss the potential needs of the family. After the conference call, FSS team members conduct home visits with families who are willing to receive services. Service requests include but are not limited to behavioral health supports, burial assistance, childcare subsidies, clothing, food supports, funeral police escorts, vital records, and workforce development.

**Population Served:** The FSS serves juveniles involved in shootings and stabbings as well as their families.

# OFFICE OF NEIGHBORHOOD SAFETY AND ENGAGEMENT (ONSE) PATHWAYS PROGRAM

## Address:

100 42nd Street, NE  
Washington, D.C. 20019

## Organization Overview:

The ONSE Pathways Program is a transitional employment program that aims to decrease participants' involvement in the criminal justice system and improve their employment, education, and training outcomes. Individuals referred to the program are ages 20-35 and have been identified as being at risk of participating in and/or being victims of violent crime.

## Programs/Services:

The Pathways Program follows a three-phase model. The first phase is an intensive, nine-week classroom-based training that focuses on life and job skills. Phase two offers six months of subsidized employment, which helps participants gain real work experience, build positive work habits, and establish a record of employment. The third phase offers long-term retention and support services aimed at ensuring participants successfully transition to permanent unsubsidized employment, retain said employment, and continue to pursue their other self-identified personal and professional goals. Pathways offers participants a host of wraparound services including but not limited to transportation benefits, nutritional services, mental health services, housing assistance referrals, clothing and/or uniform assistance, and access to a variety of pro-social extracurricular activities.

**Population Served:** The Pathways Program serves individuals ages 25-30 years old who have been identified as being at risk of participating in, and/or being victims of violent crime. The organization does not use an open enrollment process. Individuals are referred to the program by ONSE violence intervention initiative contractors or by government agencies.

**D.C. Area Served:** Wards 1-8

**Annual Budget:** 2021: \$431,000

**Website:** <https://onse.dc.gov/service/pathways-program>

# OFFICE OF NEIGHBORHOOD SAFETY AND ENGAGEMENT (ONSE) VIOLENCE INTERVENTION INITIATIVE

## Address:

100 42nd Street NE  
Washington, D.C. 20019

## Organization Overview:

Through its Violence Intervention Initiative, the Office of Neighborhood Safety and Engagement (ONSE) works to successfully and significantly reduce violence. ONSE contracts with three community-based organizations (CSC, Training Grounds, Far Southeast Family Strengthening Collaborative) that cover priority communities in Wards 1-5, Wards 6-7, and Ward 8. Each contractor is charged with developing a neighborhood plan that tailors intervention services to specifically build upon the strengths and meet the needs of each priority community.

## Programs/Services:

ONSE provides the following to significantly reduce violence: community engagement that promotes active participation in violence reduction strategies and implementation; intense violence intervention for the top individuals in each priority community who are at the highest risk of participating in or being victims of violence; and supports and services focused on moving high risk individuals and their families towards positive change that disrupts cycles of violence.

**Population Served:** ONSE serves individuals in each priority community who are at the highest risk of participating in or being victims of violence.

**D.C. Area Served:** Wards 1-8

**Annual Budget:** 2021: \$3,686,000

**Website:** <https://onse.dc.gov>

# WENDT CENTER FOR LOSS AND HEALING

## Address:

4201 Connecticut Avenue NW, Suite 300  
Washington, D.C. 20008

2041 Martin Luther King Jr. Avenue SE, Suite 234  
Washington, D.C. 20020

## Organization Overview:

Since 1975, the Wendt Center for Loss and Healing has helped people in the Greater Washington area rebuild a sense of safety and hope after experiencing a loss, life-threatening illness, violence, or other trauma. Nationally recognized for its expertise in grief, trauma and mental health, the Center provides an array of holistic services for children, teens, adults, families, and local communities.

## Programs/Services:

The Wendt Center employs licensed clinicians, program staff and carefully trained volunteers with expertise in the areas of traumatic loss, crime victimization, and violence in order to provide comfort, information, and practical assistance to people of all ages mourning the death of a loved one whose life was taken by homicide or to those who are survivors of domestic violence, child abuse, sexual violence, or other crimes. The Wendt Center also runs the Homicide Outreach Project Empowering Survivors (HOPES), providing comfort and support as well as information and practical assistance to families, individuals, and communities coping with homicide-related deaths. The Wendt Center also dispatches highly experienced mental health counselors to provide crisis support on-site at the hospital and in the community in the aftermath of an attempted homicide as a part of Project Change. Project Change is an innovative new program launched this year as part of HOPES that is implemented in coordination with the Metropolitan Police Department and Medstar Hospital. The program is designed to promote healing at the family and community level and facilitate violence de-escalation.

**Population Served:** The Wendt Center serves individuals who have experienced a loss, life-threatening illness, violence, or other trauma.

**D.C. Area Served:** Washington, D.C.; District-wide

**Annual Budget:** 2018: \$3,994,695

**Website:** <https://www.wendtcenter.org>

# COMMUNITY TRANSFORMATION

## DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION OF COLUMBIA

### Address:

2604 Georgia Avenue NW,  
Washington D.C., 20001

### Organization Overview:

The Development Corporation of Columbia (DCCH) supports responsible, community-focused economic development in Columbia Heights by increasing the number of local businesses and retail options, responding to unmet community needs, increasing employment opportunities, and expanding affordable housing in the District.

### Programs/Services:

DCCH provides commercial and residential development assistance including the improvement and revitalization of store fronts. DCCH fosters business and entrepreneur development by providing support services and technical assistance designed to expand the capacities of small businesses and aspiring entrepreneurs in the Columbia Heights area.

**Population Served:** DCCH serves residents and business owners in Colombia Heights.

**Website:** <https://www.dcch.org/>



# DREAMING OUT LOUD

## Address:

80 M Street SE  
Washington D.C.

## Organization Overview:

Dreaming Out Loud, Inc. (DOL), is a D.C.-based nonprofit with a mission to create economic opportunities in low-income communities through the development of a healthy, equitable food system.

## Programs/Services:

DOL is rebuilding urban, community-based food systems through social enterprise, helping to increase access to healthy food and improve community health, develop low-income entrepreneurs and cooperatives, and train at-risk adult residents for sustainable, family-supporting wages. DOL seeks to make healthy food accessible through farmers markets, urban farming, and distribution to communities. DOL grows economic opportunity through workforce development, small business support, and social enterprise. DOL runs a 2-acre farm and supports community gardens in Wards 6, 7, and 8. The organization's five community farmers markets provide healthy food access to consumers, as well as marketing and distribution opportunities for local food entrepreneurs. The organization's DREAM (DOL's Ready for Entrepreneurship Accelerator Model) initiative is a four month "boot camp" program for start-up food businesses. AyaUplift is DOL's workforce development program, which offers intensive employment skills training, pays a fair wage to participants in the program, and helps them connect to jobs. DOL also advocates for public policies that promote food justice in all communities.

**D.C. Area Served:** Primarily serves Wards 6, 7, and 8

**Annual Budget:** N/A

**Website:** <https://dreamingoutloud.org/>

## EMPOWER D.C.

### Address:

N/A

### Organization Overview:

Since 2003, Empower D.C. has advanced racial, economic and environmental justice by investing in the leadership and organized political power of D.C.'s lowest income residents and communities. The mission of Empower D.C. is to enhance, improve, and promote the self-advocacy of low- and moderate-income D.C. residents in order to bring about sustained improvements in their quality of life. Empower D.C. accomplishes its mission through grassroots organizing and trainings, leadership development, and community education. Empower D.C. is a citywide, multi-issue, membership-based community organizing project. Empower D.C. builds campaigns to address key issues that directly impact its membership.

### Programs/Services:

Current advocacy campaigns include Ivy City, where Empower D.C. is fighting for community use at the historic Crummell School instead of condos. Empower D.C. is committed to improving and preserving D.C.'s public housing which is a vital lifeline for thousands of lowest income residents. Work includes regular outreach within public housing communities and support for public housing residents who attend monthly D.C. Housing Authority Board meetings and D.C. Council oversight and budget hearings.

Empower D.C. also maintains the D.C. Grassroots Planning Coalition, a citywide network of individuals and organizations who are committed to furthering racial, economic, and environmental justice by challenging rampant development that contributes to gentrification and displacement of existing residents. The Coalition supports community-led development that uplifts, creates opportunity, and fosters ownership for low-income communities of color. Empower D.C. is organizing against displacement and building support for a resident-led vision for the future of Barry Farm public housing community.

**Population Served:** Empower D.C. serves low and moderate-income community members.

**D.C. Area Served:** Washington, D.C.; Districtwide

**Annual Budget:** N/A

**Website:** <https://www.empowerdc.org>

## H STREET COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

### Address:

916 Pennsylvania Ave, SE  
Washington, D.C. 20003

### Organization Overview:

The H Street Community Development Corporation (CDC) strives to create, preserve, and increase the availability of affordable housing and economic opportunities for District of Columbia residents through advocacy, investments, and partnerships.

### Programs/Services:

The H Street CDC has addressed the needs of Washington area residents and businesses through its commercial and residential projects, business services, small business loan programs, and community empowerment projects.

**Population Served:** The H Street CDC primarily serves residents and business owners in Wards 2, 5, 6 and 7.

**D.C. Area Served:** Primarily Wards 2, 5, 6 and 7

**Website:** <http://www.hstreetcdc.org/>

## THE ANACOSTIA ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

### Address:

1800 Martin Luther King Jr. Ave. SE, Suite 100  
Washington, D.C. 20020

### Organization Overview:

AEDC provides multifaceted programs and services designed to help strengthen the economic base of the Anacostia community. AEDC places emphasis on housing rehabilitation, commercial revitalization, and business development.

**Programs/Services:** AEDC provides housing development, commercial revitalization (including small/minority business development), job creation, and venture development services.

**D.C. Area Served:** Anacostia/Far Southeast

**Website:** <https://www.anacostiacdc.com/>

## THE NON-PROFIT COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION OF WASHINGTON DC

### Address:

1330 New Hampshire Ave, NW, Suite 111  
Washington, D.C. 20036

### Organization Overview:

The Non-Profit Community Development Corporation's (NPCDC) mission is to initiate, sponsor, and operate housing and economic development projects that create economic stability and upward mobility for low-income families.

### Programs/Services:

NPCDC operates low-income housing developments where the organization sponsors and supervises an on-site resident services program staffed by a licensed social worker. NPCDC provides both mixed use commercial and residential development services.

**Population Served:** NPCDC serves low-income residents of the District.

**Website:** <https://www.npcdc.org/>

## WHEELER CREEK ESTATES COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

### Address:

1130 Varney Street SE  
Washington D.C. 20032

### Organization Overview:

Wheeler Creek Community Development Corporation's mission is to facilitate the revitalization of the physical, social, and economic fabric of communities by coupling the promise of affordable housing with the education, career training, and other resources low - and moderate-income communities need to prosper.

### Programs/Services:

The Wheeler Creek Community Development Corporation operates a homeless prevention program providing family and landlord/tenant mediation; financial assistance in the form of rental and utility assistance; budgeting and financial management; and comprehensive case management. Wheeler Creek also permanent housing and supportive services to chronically homeless individuals and families.

**Population Served:** Wheeler Creek serves low-income and homeless residents of the District.

**Website:** <https://www.wheelercreekcdc.org/>

# REENTRY

## AMAZING GOSPEL SOULS, INC

### Address:

25 - 53rd Street NE  
Washington D.C. 20019

### Organization Overview:

Amazing Gospel Souls, Inc.'s mission is to provide a safe and nurturing housing environment, workforce development training, and comprehensive case management, to help returning citizens restore themselves after incarceration and become assets to their communities.

### Programs/Services:

Amazing Gospel Souls Inc. provides housing support, workforce development, comprehensive care management, mentoring, and substance use disorder services.

**Population Served:** Amazing Gospel Souls Inc. serves returning citizens.

**D.C. Area Served:** Washington, D.C.; Districtwide

**Annual Budget:** N/A

**Website:** <https://www.amazinggsouls.com/>

## BUILDING FUTURES CONSTRUCTION PRE-APPRENTICESHIP PROGRAM

### Address:

815 16th Street NW, Suite 1100  
Washington, D.C. 20006

### Organization Overview:

Building Futures has been serving returning citizens interested in construction careers since 2007. The program offers occupational training and industry-recognized certifications as well as job placement and wraparound services to ensure retention.

### Programs/Services:

Support services offered include case management, job counseling, and follow-up support. Graduates are placed into registered apprenticeships and construction jobs.

**Population Served:** Building Futures serves returning citizens.

**D.C. Area Served:** Washington, D.C.; Districtwide

**Annual Budget:** N/A

**Website:** <http://www.communityservicesagency.org/building-futures-pre-apprenticeship.html>

## CHANGING PERCEPTIONS

### Address:

36 18th Street SE  
Washington, D.C. 20003

### Organization Overview:

Changing Perceptions provides supportive services and job training to the re-entry community—ex-offenders and formerly incarcerated individuals—in Washington, DC. The array of therapeutic services and business development training programs are designed to prepare returning citizens for career pathways that will help them advance into the middle class and equip them with life skills that will allow them to be productive members of society.

### Programs/Services:

Services offered include life coaching, reentry navigation, mindful warrior (interpersonal development), entrepreneurial skills, financial literacy, startup planning, volunteering, and Pancake Saturday/ Summary Saturday (community engagement opportunities).

**Population Served:** Changing Perceptions serves returning citizens.

**D.C. Area Served:** Washington, D.C.; Districtwide

**Annual Budget:** N/A

**Website:** <https://changingdcperceptions.org/>

## CHECK IT ENTERPRISES

### Address:

1920 Martin Luther King Jr Avenue SE  
Washington, D.C. 20020

### Organization Overview:

Check It Enterprises is a social enterprise derived from the positive transformation of leaders of the only documented LGBTQ gang in America and perhaps the world. The organization is made up of former gang members ages 16-22. At its height, the Check It LGBTQ gang had 300 members in Washington, D.C. Now working to end violence, Check It Enterprises creates a safe space and opportunities for youth in the LGBTQ community. The organization also helps LGBTQ and returning citizens fight through barriers of hopelessness by creating opportunities and a positive outlet with a strong voice of advocacy. This organization is driven by entrepreneurship and the arts. Originally established as a small clothing store, Check It Enterprises has become a community resource for LGBTQ residents, returning citizens, and young entrepreneurs in Washington, D.C. In 2012, the organization started designing t-shirts. In 2017, they opened their store and event space in Anacostia.

### Programs/Services:

Check It Enterprises hosts bi-weekly returned citizens support groups in partnership with the National Association for the Advancement of Returning Citizens; provides HIV testing, food bank access, and counseling in partnership with Damien Ministries; hosts community events and meetings; produces free cultural events for the community; conducts a six-week fashion bootcamp every summer for LGBTQ youth and girls; and hosts work-force development programs and skills trainings for young LGBTQ or returning citizens.

**Population Served:** Check It Enterprises serves LGBTQ youth and returning citizens.

**D.C. Area Served:** Anacostia

**Annual Budget:** N/A

**Website:** <https://www.checkitenterprises.com/>



## COMMUNITY FAMILY LIFE SERVICES

### Address:

305 E Street, NW,  
Washington, D.C. 20001

### Organization Overview:

Community Family Life Services, Inc. (CFLS) is a women-focused reentry organization providing wraparound services to help families move into self-sufficiency. CFLS achieves its mission by providing short-term crisis assistance and working within the D.C. jail, Bureau of Prisons, and women's halfway houses, and with community partners in order to establish connections with justice-involved women prior to their release.

### Programs/Services:

CFLS staff visit the Correctional Treatment Facility multiple times a week to conduct life skills groups, prepare intakes and release plans, engage women in employment sessions and the Nurturing Parenting curriculum, discuss women's health and HIV prevention, and hold domestic violence awareness workshops. CFLS is also in the Fairview Halfway House twice a week and visits Bureau of Prisons facilities monthly to meet women preparing for release. Clients undergoing intensive case management work with CFLS's case manager to implement their release plans, design treatment plans, locate resources, and navigate community relationships. CFLS staff follow up with each woman for up to one year post-release. When clients link with CFLS reentry case managers, they are connected to a range of other services including but not limited to employment, parenting, housing, financial literacy, HIV testing, and domestic violence prevention. Reentry women are welcome to stop into the Drop-In Center for hygiene items, snacks, clothing, and grocery bags. Those who go through the READY Center (located behind the DC Jail) are eligible to receive Welcome Home bags as well.

**Population Served:** CFLS serves returning women citizens.

**D.C. Area Served:** Washington, D.C.; Districtwide

**Annual Budget:** 2019: \$2.5 million

**Website:** <http://www.cflsdc.org/>

## CRIMINION NEW LIFE D.C.

### Address:

1921 Florida Avenue, NW #53101  
Washington, DC 20009-9997

### Organization Overview:

Criminion New Life D.C. delivers a unique program providing individuals with life skills they can use to improve their decision-making and reverse negative life habits. This puts them in a condition to be able to successfully navigate reentry into their families and communities. It also makes them better able to take advantage of other reentry services such as housing and employment. The program includes courses that directly address the specific factors that contribute to poor decision-making, negative life habits, and a loss of personal self-respect which led to involvement in the criminal justice system. It teaches literacy skills, drug education, and training to identify and overcome anti-social behaviors, situations, and individuals.

### Programs/Services:

Criminion New Life D.C. offers its reentry participants skill development in literacy and learning skills, how to communicate effectively, how to handle negative influences in life, understanding the effects of drugs, knowing how to overcome addiction, and successful parenting skills.

**Population Served:** Criminion provides services for those reentering their communities from incarceration as well as for individuals under some form of post-incarceration supervision.

**D.C. Area Served:** Washington, D.C.; Districtwide

**Annual Budget:** N/A

**Website:** <https://criminionnewlifedc.org/>

## D.C. REENTRY ACTION NETWORK

### Address:

Office of Victim Services and Justice Grants  
One Judiciary Square  
441 4th Street, NW, Suite 727N,  
Washington, D.C. 20001

### Organization Overview:

RAN is a coalition comprised of D.C.-based nonprofit organizations that provide direct services to returning citizens. The mission of RAN is to bring together a network of client-centered reentry services providers to exchange information, strengthen services, discuss and address issues of mutual concern, and be a collective voice in order to best meet the complex and varied needs of D.C.'s incarcerated persons and returning citizens based on mutual respect, collaboration, and progressive policy and program development.

### Programs/Services:

RAN provides professional and educational development opportunities for reentry service providers; promotes collaboration between reentry service providers in D.C.; identifies gaps in services and work with government agencies to develop new services and policies; develops and promotes minimum standards of care for all service provider agencies; promotes respect for the profession of reentry services; and promotes respect for justice-involved individuals.

**Population Served:** RAN is comprised of reentry providers in the District of Columbia, many of whom also provide other services (e.g., victim services). All reentry grantees of the Office of Victims Services and Justice Grants are members of RAN. However, any reentry service provider is eligible to apply for membership to RAN.

**D.C. Area Served:** Washington, D.C.; Districtwide

**Annual Budget:** N/A

**Website:** <https://dc-ran.org/>

## D.C. PROJECT CONNECT

### Address:

9103 Woodmore Centre Drive  
Lanham, MD 20706

### Organization Overview:

D.C. Project Connect works to strengthen families by providing social support programs and mentoring for returning citizens, using evidence-based practices and research, advocating for social justice by collaborating with community partners, and raising awareness about mass incarceration's adverse effects on families and communities.

### Programs/Services:

D.C. Project Connect recruits volunteers from the community to provide on-site mentorship for mothers and women who are preparing to transition from prison and reunite with their families. It provides on-site, one-on-one mentoring and group support circles at D.C.'s Residential Reentry Center for women. All services are rendered on-site at client locations and via online portals.

**Population Served:** D.C. Project Connect serves returning women citizens.

**D.C. Area Served:** Washington, D.C.; District-wide

**Annual Budget:** N/A

**Website:** <https://www.dcprojectconnect.com/>

# GEORGETOWN UNIVERSITY PIVOT PROGRAM

## Address:

Pivot Program  
37th and O Streets NW,  
Washington D.C.

## Organization Overview:

The Georgetown Pivot Program is a new, non-credit-bearing certificate in business and entrepreneurship created specifically for formerly incarcerated individuals. Designed in partnership with the D.C. Department of Employment Services and delivered by Georgetown faculty, the Pivot Program is a one-year transition and reentry program centered on a blend of academic work and supported employment.

## Programs/Services:

The Pivot Program is a one-year transition and reentry program centered on a blend of academic work and supported employment that takes place at the Georgetown Venture Lab and the University's downtown campus. Applicants to the Pivot Program must be D.C. residents age 25 and above with a high school diploma or GED who have been incarcerated within the past two years. Up to 20 individuals will be invited to participate in each cohort.

**Population Served:** The Pivot Program serves returning citizens.

**D.C. Area Served:** Washington, D.C.; District-wide

**Annual Budget:** N/A

**Website:** <https://pivot.georgetown.edu/>

## MAYOR'S OFFICE ON RETURNING CITIZENS AFFAIRS (MORCA)

### Address:

2100 Martin Luther King Jr Avenue SE, Suite 100,  
Washington, D.C. 20020

### Organization Overview:

The Mayor's Office on Returning Citizen Affairs (MORCA) provides useful information for the empowerment of previously incarcerated persons in order to create a productive and supportive environment where persons may thrive, prosper and contribute to the social, political, and economic development of self, family, and community.

### Programs/Services:

Services provided include voting information for returning citizens; financial education classes; health care assistance including mental health/substance abuse services (in collaboration with Departments of Health and Mental Health); ID voucher program; Commercial Driver's License (CDL) training program; education, training, and employment; and reentry case management. MORCA also hosts bi-weekly support groups for returning citizens with The Hope Foundation, offering mentoring, addiction prevention services, workforce development, and job/employment training opportunities. MORCA conducts prison outreach activities to inform residents incarcerated in the Federal Bureau of Prisons (FBOP) of the resources available to facilitate successful reentry. As part of outreach efforts, MORCA leads family reunification trips as well.

**Population Served:** MORCA serves previously incarcerated persons (focused on adults).

**D.C. Area Served:** Washington, D.C.; District-wide

**Annual Budget:** In FY 2020 Budget, "Office of Returning Citizens" appears under the Department of Corrections Budget but budget totals are listed as \$0 for 2018-2020, \$61,000 for 2017.

**Website:** <https://orca.dc.gov>

# NATIONAL ASSOCIATION FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF RETURNING CITIZENS

## Address:

1920 Martin Luther King Jr. Avenue SE,  
Washington, D.C. 20020

## Organization Overview:

The mission of the National Association for the Advancement of Returning Citizens (NAARC) is to improve the quality of life of returning citizens, their families, and communities by addressing the broad range of social and economic needs through strategic management of public and private partnerships, political advocacy, community relations/organizing, and economic empowerment. NAARC's vision, implemented through its nonprofit association and coalition building, is to affect the reintegration process in a unique way that empowers returning citizens. The overarching goal is to ensure that returning citizens have a real chance at becoming self-sufficient via collaborative community-based programs/services, political advocacy, community relations/organizing, and economic empowerment.

## Programs/Services:

Services provided include reentry support (care packages, identification, employment placement, family visitation trips, financial education); bi-monthly support groups for returning citizens in partnership with Check It; policy advocacy; and violence interruption through partnership with Cure the Streets program. NAARC also hosts community events with law enforcement (Community and Police Truth and Reconciliation event, softball games with DC Police).

## Population Served:

NAARC serves returning citizens (focused on adults). Through the Cure the Streets partnership, individuals at high risk for involvement with violence are served.

**D.C. Area Served:** Reentry services are Washington, D.C.; Districtwide Violence interruption work focuses on Wards 5 and 8

**Annual Budget:** 2018: \$579,107

**Website:** <https://naarcdc.com>



# NATIONAL REENTRY NETWORK FOR RETURNING CITIZENS

## Address:

3227 Dubois Place SE  
Washington D.C.

## Organization Overview:

The National Reentry Network for Returning Citizens (NRNRC) strives to improve the quality of life of returning citizens, their families, and communities by addressing the broad range of social and economic needs through strategic management of public and private partnerships, political advocacy, community relations/organizing and economic empowerment.

## Programs/Services:

NRNRC's Reentry Initiative starts with a peer-to-peer mentoring model that features a relationship with a successful returned citizen and matches them up with a returning citizen. This process not only helps the returning person navigate services and programs, but also helps to temper the barriers and discrimination the individual will experience. NRNRC also offers a job readiness component that is curriculum-based along with a proven method pipeline to employment. NRNRC offers restorative justice circles that include conflict resolution, harm reduction, peace circles, and community and family reunification. NRNRC also promotes voter registration, voter education campaigns, and information sharing in partnership with the Board of Ethics. Finally, NRNRC has incorporated a diversion program that supports alternatives to prison, divesting in the police, and helping communities to look within to resolve issues and problems as they arise. There are no restrictions on which returning citizens NRNRC serves.

**Population Served:** NRNRC serves returning citizens.

**D.C. Area Served:** Washington, D.C.; Districtwide

**Annual Budget:** N/A

**Website:** <https://thenationalreentrynetwork.org/>

## THE READY CENTER

### Address:

1901 E Street  
SE Washington, DC 20003  
Located behind the Correctional Treatment Facility (CTF)

### Organization Overview:

The Resources to Empower and Develop You (READY) Center is a consolidated location where formerly incarcerated D.C. residents can access services from community-based organizations and government agencies.

### Programs/Services:

The READY Center engages participants within 30 days of release from custody. Soon-to-be released participants complete interest forms and undergo a screening process to determine their needs. The READY Center then connects participants to available services through D.C. government agencies and community-based organizations.

**Population Served:** The READY Center serves District residents released from the Central Detention Facility, Correctional Treatment Facility, and the Bureau of Prisons.

**Website:** <https://doc.dc.gov/service/ready-center>

## THRIVE D.C.

### Address:

1525 Newton St NW,  
Washington, D.C. 20010

### Organization Overview:

Thrive D.C.'s reentry program, New Directions Reentry Program, is designed to assist people who have been recently incarcerated and/or released from jail or prison, back on the road to becoming successful returning citizens.

### Programs/Services:

Thrive D.C. provides case management, basic needs assistance (i.e., meals, toiletries, clothing), life skills education, access to sobriety maintenance assistance, employment assistance, transportation assistance, monetary stipends, and access to training programs such as customer service training and certification and real opportunity job training.

**Population Served:** Thrive D.C. serves both returning citizens and individuals experiencing homelessness.

**D.C. Area Served:** Washington, D.C.; Districtwide

**Annual Budget:** N/A

**Website:** <https://www.thrivedc.org/>

## VOICES FOR A SECOND CHANCE

### Address:

1422 Massachusetts Avenue SE,  
Washington, D.C. 20003

### Organization Overview:

Voices for a Second Chance (VSC) empowers justice-involved individuals with the opportunity to reengage in their communities and ultimately build better futures for themselves and their loved ones.

### Programs/Services:

VSC provides outreach and direct support services to incarcerated clients; case management services; individual and group counseling; vital records acquisition (i.e., birth certificates, identifications, and police clearances); mail services; clothing and personal toiletry provision; referrals to external supports (i.e., housing, employment, education, training, substance abuse, and mental health treatments); voter registration application assistance; provision of Metro tokens or SmartTrip cards; assistance for SNAP and Medicaid application; peer support group access; and conflict resolution assistance.

**Population Served:** VSC serves returning citizens.

**D.C. Area Served:** Washington, D.C.; Districtwide

**Annual Budget:** N/A

**Website:** <https://www.vscdc.org/>

## WOMEN INVOLVED IN REENTRY EFFORTS (THE WIRE)

### Address:

N/A

### Organization Overview:

The Women of the WIRE endeavor to raise awareness about the need for gender-responsive programs, services, and policies to enable formerly incarcerated women to successfully reintegrate into society. The Wire also advocates for humane conditions of confinement and alternatives to incarceration that support women who have been impacted by the criminal justice system.

### Programs/Services:

Services offered include mentoring women returning from incarceration; speaking, writing, and networking; panels, forums, and community events; advocacy and civic engagement; and family reunification activities, including visitation provision to children of incarcerated mothers.

**Population Served:** The Wire serves formerly incarcerated women and youth.

**D.C. Area Served:** Washington, D.C.; Districtwide

**Annual Budget:** 2018: \$32,624

**Website:** <https://thewiredc.org>

# YOUTH ADVOCATE PROGRAMS

## Address:

D.C. Youth Advocate Program  
100 42nd Street NE  
Office 2141  
Washington, D.C. 20019

## Organization Overview:

YAP Adult Services offers intensive supervision programs as a condition of probation, and re-entry programs as a condition of parole. Both offer intensive in-home and in-community support that both holds offenders accountable and safely meets their rehabilitative needs within the community. The program focuses on working with parolees to establish stability in key life areas such as housing, employment, transportation, family, substance abuse, and mental health supports. The YAP model of reintegration services combines elements of wraparound, mentoring, family support, and mutual assistance to reduce recidivism for adult offenders. Beginning with a unique strength-based assessment process and fortified by an empirically proven risk assessment tool, YAP engages participants in identifying specific needs required for each individual to successfully transition into the community. Post-release plans carefully address public safety concerns and services mandated by terms of release while also providing parolees with opportunities to be successful, gain skills, and become valued members of the community.

## Programs/Services:

YAP offers individualized planning that occurs while the parolee is still incarcerated. Appointments, intake, and interviews are conducted in advance of the participant's release to ensure smooth transition. Ongoing support is provided once the parolee is released including but not limited to 24/7 crisis on call and response with flexible hours, life coaching, referral to services such as transportation assistance, obtaining a driver's license, finding employment, enrolling in school, setting up doctor's appointments, buying clothes and other essentials, and determining the parolees' legal obligations. Weekly formal meetings with YAP Advocates and support groups are available. YAP provides connection to community resources and supports, opportunities to give back to the community, mentoring, and positive role modeling.

**Population Served:** YAP serves returning citizens.

**D.C. Area Served:** Washington, D.C.; Districtwide

**Annual Budget:** N/A

**Website:** <http://www.yapinc.org/>

# YOUTH DEVELOPMENT

## COLLEGE TRIBE

### Address:

3845 South Capitol Street SW,  
Washington, D.C. 20032

### Organization Overview:

College Tribe aims to cultivate character, scholarship, and social competence of 3rd to 8th grade boys living in Washington, D.C. The organization utilizes STEM education to provide hands-on learning opportunities to boys in Wards 7 and 8. College Tribe partners with four schools: Garfield Elementary, Stanton Elementary, Saint Francis Xavier Middle, and Center City Congress Heights. College Tribe also offers a mentoring program matching youth with men of color who have either received a college degree or achieved a military rank of Staff Sergeant or higher.

### Programs/Services:

College Tribe provides peer and adult mentoring services. In the last three years, College Tribe has moved from in-house “Becoming a Gentlemen” curriculum to advanced curriculum created by the Mendez Foundation, “Too Good for Violence Social-Emotional Learning Curriculum,” an evidence-based, peer-reviewed curriculum with pre- and post-curriculum assessments. Mentors and mentees meet two times per month for three-hour sessions. The organization develops and implements nine-week long STEM programming for D.C. schools to foster intellectual ability. This programming was developed with the assistance of the United States Coast Guard and members of the National Society of Black Engineers and the National Association of Minority Architects. College Tribe provides genius tutoring to help boys improve skills in STEM subjects and increase their intellectual ability. This tutoring utilizes IXL tutoring software, providing continuous diagnostic information available to each boy and their family. The work and the diagnostic are calibrated to the District’s Common Core standards and leveled for each grade.

**Population Served:** College Tribe serves young boys from the 3rd to 8th grades.

**D.C. Area Served:** Wards 7 and 8.

**Annual Budget:** 2018: \$129,288

**Website:** <https://www.collegetribe.org>

## D.C. CREATIVE WRITING WORKSHOP

### Address:

601 Mississippi Avenue SE,  
Washington, D.C. 20032

### Organization Overview:

The D.C. Creative Writing Workshop unites parents, teachers and professional writers-in-residence to transform the lives of at-risk youth through the joys of self-expression and the power of the written word.

### Programs/Services:

The D.C. Creative Writing Workshop offers a creative writing program. Writers-in-residence introduce students to the joys of self-expression and the written word. Students from participating schools have attended readings, plays, and other literary works. Many have won hundreds of writing awards and enjoyed a wealth of new experiences not otherwise available to young people in Ward 8.

**Population Served:** The D.C. Creative Writing Workshop serves students at Charles Hart Middle School, Ballou High School, Simon Elementary, and nearby charter schools.

**D.C. Area Served:** Ward 8

**Annual Budget:** 2018: \$135,073

**Website:** <https://dccww.org>

## DO THE WRITE THING DC

### Address:

56 T Street NW,  
Washington, D.C. 20001

### Organization Overview:

Do the Write Thing uses a whole-child approach to promote the long-term development and success of children and youth across multiple developmental domains, including social-emotional, physical, and cognitive development. The organization is connected to National Campaign to Stop Violence's Do the Write Thing Challenge, which gives middle school students an opportunity to examine the impact of violence on their lives in classroom discussions and in written form by communicating what they have seen to be the causes of youth violence and solutions to help decrease violence in their communities.

### Programs/Services:

Do the Write Thing operates the Raising Our Youth As Leaders Multi-Media Arts Program: Leadership program using multi-media arts to give middle and high school youth a voice in addressing the violence that permeates their communities. Student involvement is activated through published anti-violence poetry, writing stop-the-violence lyrics, recording their songs in a mobile sound recording studio, producing stop-the-violence music videos, and producing Stop- The-Violence public safety announcements. The organization oversees the Living Storybook Program, a literacy program for primary grade children that teaches literary concepts such as theme, narrative voices, characters and settings through group writing and publishing of books. Children dress in costumes to portray the characters for their books, and independent readers record the text in a mobile sound recording studio. Do the Write Thing's Kindness Project helps elementary students build valuable social and emotional skills by teaching them how small acts of kindness can have a big impact and create powerful moments of shared humanity. The project reduces incidences of bullying and supports school efforts to create a safe environment that is conducive to learning. Do the Right Thing recently partnered with other youth-serving nonprofits to expand programs to include BizMusic, an expansion of the Raising Our Youth As Leaders Program for middle and high school youth; STEM and Entrepreneurship for K-5th graders; arts integration for K-5th graders; and Fairy Tale Mock Trails for K-5th graders.

**Population Served:** Do the Write Thing serves at-risk youth ages 5-19.

**D.C. Area Served:** Washington, D.C.; Districtwide

**Annual Budget:** 2017: \$284,199

**Website:** <https://www.dothewritethingdc.org/>

# FAR SOUTHEAST FAMILY STRENGTHENING COLLABORATIVE

## Address:

Admin Office:  
2041 Martin Luther King, Jr. Ave SE  
4th Floor  
Washington, D.C. 20020

## Community Impact Centers:

Barry Farm  
2616 Martin Luther King Jr. Ave SE

Atlantic Homes  
4315 3rd Street, SE

Malcolm X  
1351 Alabama Avenue, SE

## Organization Overview:

The Far Southeast Family Strengthening Collaborative (FSFSC) aims to create a healthy socioeconomic environment in the Southeast community by developing partnerships between residents, agencies, and institutions, offering family services, fostering community engagement, and measuring outcomes through data tracking and quality assurance.

## Programs/Services:

The FSFSC has established Community Impact Centers, which are resource centers that provide a wide array of services and support for Ward 8 residents. FSFSC's 'Show Up, Stand Out' program is focused on providing academic supports, family engagement, and case management services. FSFSC's Resilient Communities D.C. initiative partners with Ward 8 caregivers of children five years and below to promote family wellness and healthy childhood development by connecting caregivers to resources, services, and referrals. The FSFSC also operates at the Congress Heights Senior Wellness Center, where comprehensive programs and services are provided that promote the health and wellness of D.C. senior residents. Services focus on wellness, health promotion, and disease prevention. The FSFSC's HVIP program offers case management services, violence interrupters, and credible messengers.

**Population Served:** FSFSC serves individuals from early childhood to senior residents.

**D.C. Area Served:** Southeast

**Annual Budget:** N/A

**Website:** <https://www.fsfsc.org/>



## GOOD PROJECTS

### Address:

1440 G Street NW  
Washington, D.C. 20005

### Organization Overview:

Good Projects designs opportunities for youth and their families to live fulfilling lives, free from poverty and violence with improvements to their health and wellness. The organization recently transitioned away from their credible messenger initiative and clean team. Good Projects now focuses on serving families living in the GOODZone (D.C. Housing Authority properties in Southwest D.C.).

### Programs/Services:

Since the first establishment at Anacostia High School in 2016, Good Project's GOODCamp initiative has kept hundreds of dreamers off the streets and out of harms way during the summer when gun violence spikes in the GOODZone. Youth ages 7 to 13 years old attend GOODCamps where they are exposed to a rigorous academic environment, fed three times per day, and given the space to have fun while working through the traumas they have experienced. This year, 160 parents of dreamers will be admitted into the first cohort for Family Success Planning. Those selected will be paired with a team of Family Success Managers who will guide them and their children on their pathway to self-sufficiency and out of poverty. Since October 2019, Good Project has provided 4 hours of 1:1 academic support and a field trip to middle schoolers on GOOD Saturdays. In 2020, Good Projects began hosting monthly community event for volunteers to get to know Dreamers and their families.

**Population Served:** Good Projects serve at-risk youth and their families living in the GOODZone.

**D.C. Area Served:** D.C. Housing Authority properties in Southwest Washington, D.C.

**Annual Budget:** 2018: \$1,108,442

**Website:** <https://goodprojects.org>

# JUST 4 US FOUNDATION

## Address:

8207 Cryden Way  
Forestville, MD 20747

## Organization Overview:

Established in 2009, Just 4 Us Foundation's original purpose was to provide specialized activities and services that were accessible to children and adults with special needs and to foster positive community involvement. The organization has more recently shifted focus to serving more at-risk young people.

## Programs/Services:

Services focus on special needs children and adults. Acting classes for persons with disabilities; adaptive and wheelchair line dance and bop instruction; and youth mental health first aid training all are offered by Just 4 Us Foundation. The organization also hosts community events supporting D.C. youth and young people such as the father mentoring movement and is partnered with Diamonds in the Ruff (boxing/fitness program for at-risk youth).

**Population Served:** Just 4 Us focuses on special needs children and adults as well as at-risk youth and families.

**D.C. Area Served:** Washington, D.C.; District-wide

**Annual Budget:** 2017: \$21,510

**Website:** <https://just4usfoundation.org/>

## LATIN AMERICAN YOUTH CENTER

### Address:

1419 Columbia Road NW,  
Washington, D.C. 20009

### Organization Overview:

Latin American Youth Center (LAYC) empowers a diverse population of youth to achieve a successful transition to adulthood through multi-cultural, comprehensive, and innovative programs that address youths' social, academic, and career needs. LAYC creates safe spaces to work alongside youth through a variety of services. The organization provides bilingual programs and opportunities in academics, arts and recreation, job readiness, safe housing, and health and wellness assistance to help youth make a successful transition to young adulthood. LAYC also advocates for policies and laws that create opportunities for youth and their families in the region.

### Programs/Services:

Services offered by LAYC include academic support, arts and recreation, job readiness, safe housing, health and wellness, advocacy, sustainability/environmental programming, and youth development training. The Promoter Pathway program is the Center's signature youth development model, combining individualized support with mentoring and high-quality services to transform lives. The goal is to eliminate as many barriers as possible in young people's lives, including homelessness, substance abuse, mental health issues, crime, school drop-out rates, unemployment, and gang activity.

**Population Served:** LAYC serves low-income youth ages 11-24 of all backgrounds.

**D.C. Area Served:** Washington, D.C.; Districtwide (Center and Drop-In Center)

**Annual Budget:** 2018: \$16,292,902

**Website:** <https://www.layc-dc.org/>

## MEN AIMING HIGHER

### Address:

12138 Central Avenue, Suite 157  
Mitchellville, MD 20721

### Organization Overview:

Men Aiming Higher, Inc. was created in 2009 with the mission to successfully mobilize at-risk young men through educational tutoring, leadership training, mentoring programs and community service projects to be a catalyst in directing their paths away from negative peer pressure, unacceptable moral behavior, as well as gangs and other negative urban-living obstacles. The organization empowers these young men to become future leaders and thinkers as well as socially, culturally, and community conscious. Men Aiming Higher is a broad-based collaborative initiative to improve the lives of young people, mentoring them as they complete their education and achieve economic self-sufficiency through the development of empowerment skills and meaningful employment. Men Aiming Higher serves to energize and encourage positive self-esteem and life values on which to build a successful and productive life.

### Programs/Services:

Men Aiming Higher focuses on providing mentoring but also offers educational tutoring, leadership training, and community service projects.

**Population Served:** Men Aiming Higher serves at-risk young men.

**D.C. Area Served:** N/A

**Annual Budget:** N/A

**Website:** <http://menaiminghigher.org/>

# ONE COMMON UNITY

## Address:

Josephine Butler Parks Center  
2437 15th Street NW  
Washington, D.C. 20009

## Organization Overview:

One Common Unity breaks cycles of violence and builds compassionate, healthy communities through the transformative power of music, arts, and peace education.

## Programs/Services:

One Common Unity operates a Fly By Night program, which brings together educators, artists, musicians, and community leaders in order amplify youth voices and to lead a community-wide shift away from violence and poverty. Youth emerge from Fly By Light as more active and engaged community members, empowered to create positive impact in their own lives and throughout their communities. Innovative curriculum combines social-emotional learning, leadership development, mindfulness, restorative justice, and non-violence practices through the medium of art and music. The organization also provides training in leading the curriculum. One Common Unity produces music, music videos, and film as well. One Common Unity's Intention not Detention initiative is a restorative justice-centered alternative to in-school suspension. The Intention Room delivers an effective strategy for preventing long-term out-of-school suspension, truancy, violence, mental health issues, and offers the potential to interrupt the school-to-prison pipeline. This program incorporates artistic expression, conflict resolution, mindfulness, restorative justice circles, and social emotional literacy. One Common Unity also offers community based mental health services alongside school-based mental health program in fourteen schools across Washington, D.C.

**Population Served:** One Common Unity serves youth, families, teachers, and community members.

**D.C. Area Served:** Washington, D.C.; Districtwide

**Annual Budget:** 2018: \$1,074,114

**Website:** <https://onecommonunity.org>

# SASHA BRUCE YOUTHWORX

## Address:

741 8th Street SE  
Washington, D.C. 20003

## Organization Overview:

Sasha Bruce Youthwork is one of the largest and most experienced providers of services to youth in Washington, D.C. Sasha Bruce helps young people find safe homes, achieve and maintain good physical and mental health, create and strengthen supportive and stable families, and explore opportunities in education and careers.

## Programs/Services:

Sasha Bruce Youthwork oversees safe homes. These safe homes offer counseling and classes that can lead youth back to a more stable and supportive family situation and the path to true independence and self-sufficiency. We believe that our work should not only contribute to the individuals and families we serve but that we should help youth and families develop life skills to advocate on their own behalf. Sasha Bruce Youthwork provides a variety of programs to help educate young people and prepare them for meaningful and satisfying careers in the workforce. The primary objective of the work is to encourage young people to be civically engaged.

**Population Served:** Sasha Bruce Youthwork serves at-risk youth.

**D.C. Area Served:** Washington, D.C.; Districtwide

**Annual Budget:** 2018: \$8,690,514

**Website:** <http://www.sashabruce.org/>

## SAVING OUR NEXT GENERATION (SONG)

### Address:

3007 Central Avenue NE  
Washington D.C. 20018

### Organization Overview:

SONG is a community-based nonprofit organization with an ambitious vision to transform a generation of youth and young adults into productive citizens. The organization aims to provide a one-stop powerhouse within the community offering holistic programs, mentoring, counseling, social services, educational programs, and extracurricular activities that give hope to a generation of youth and young adults.

### Programs/Services:

Services offered by SONG include the Mentor Program, which serves to empower youth with the necessary framework to build a strong and steady foundation for a self-sufficient life; helping the homeless, returning citizens, disabled, and elderly with the goal to be a place where members of the community can feel safe, a sense of belonging, and obtain a sense of ownership in their community; and community service events in partnership with other nonprofit organizations, schools, and recreation centers.

**Population Served:** SONG serves at-risk youth, homeless individuals, returning citizens, disabled individuals, and the elderly.

**D.C. Area Served:** Washington, D.C.; Districtwide

**Annual Budget:** 2018: \$127,853

**Website:** <http://www.savingournextgeneration.com/>

## SCHOOL TALK D.C.

### Address:

1301 Connecticut Avenue NW, Suite 350  
Washington, D.C. 20036

### Organization Overview:

SchoolTalk's youth leadership, restorative justice, and secondary transition programming creates spaces that promote self-determination and a voice for youth with disabilities and their peers by encouraging collaborative problem-solving. SchoolTalk supports the D.C. education community in collaboratively addressing complex challenges and creating practical solutions for assisting youth of all abilities achieve success. Programs actively work to improve post-secondary outcomes for youth through both proactive initiatives such as youth leadership and mentoring, skill-building, workforce development, and direct intervention to resolve issues in productive ways, such as mediation and restorative justice.

### Programs/Services:

D.C. Youth Leadership Network uses a positive youth development approach to promote self-determination and youth voice for youth with disabilities and their peers through youth-centered capacity building workshops, community-based activities, and civic engagement experiences. Restorative D.C., a program of SchoolTalk, is a community-based initiative that provides technical assistance and professional development to support D.C. schools in the integration of restorative justice philosophy and practices into school communities. SchoolTalk also provides secondary transition services, which are the supports that youth with disabilities receive to help them understand and direct their movement from high school to adult life. SchoolTalk secondary transition programming includes Student-Led IEPs, SYEP JumpStart, Assistive Technology, Interagency Collaboration and Systems Change, and Professional/Resource Development.

**Population Served:** SchoolTalk serves youth with disabilities and their peers.

**D.C. Area Served:** Washington, D.C.; Districtwide

**Annual Budget:** 2018: \$1,348,396

**Website:** <https://www.schooltalkdc.org>



## SERVE YOUR CITY (SYC)

### Address:

732 15th Street SE, Unit #1  
Washington, D.C. 20003

### Organization Overview:

Serve Your City (SYC) provides life-changing experiences and opportunities for at-risk D.C. students through inspiring programming and the support of passionate volunteers.

### Programs/Services:

Serve Your City provides afterschool programs that inspire students to believe in themselves and offers youth the critical tools necessary to succeed in life. Volunteer tutors work with our partner organizations and schools to educate on study skills, college preparation, career exploration, and financial literacy. Volunteers, parents, and students work together to strengthen their communities and create significant change that has a lasting impact. Events range from Equal Access to Arts and Book Drives to Community Clean Up Events and more. SYC empowers students to experience sports they would normally never have access to. The organization has the only rowing program in Southeast D.C. and facilitates opportunities to try swimming, scuba diving, tennis, and yoga.

**Population Served:** SYC serves vulnerable students throughout the D.C. area.

**D.C. Area Served:** Washington, D.C.; Districtwide

**Annual Budget:** N/A

**Website:** <https://www.serveyourcitydc.org/>

## TEENS RUN D.C.

### Address:

218 9th Street SE Rear Alley  
Washington D.C. 20003

### Organization Overview:

Teens Run D.C. empowers youth to envision and work toward the achievement of personal goals through distance running, mentoring, and social emotional learning programs. Students train alongside coaches and individual mentors who challenge and guide them to develop greater responsibility, discipline, perseverance and goal-setting skills as they train for progressively longer distance races. Students meet with coaches twice a week at their home schools and on weekends as a larger community with their individual mentors. Mentors and mentees have regular contact throughout the week and have social activities at least once monthly outside of practice. The organization partners with Browne Education Campus, Cardozo Education Campus, Center City Public Charter School - Brightwood Campus, Columbia Heights Education Campus (CHEC) - Lincoln Middle School, Eliot-Hine Middle School, Jefferson Middle School Academy, Kelly Miller Middle School, and KIPP DC - WILL Academy.

### Programs/Services:

Services provided by Teens Run D.C. include a school-based weekday program; lunch clubs; an after-school running program; Saturday mentoring program; races; community social events; and service learning opportunities.

**Population Served:** Teens Run D.C. serves middle and high school students.

**D.C. Area Served:** Washington, D.C.; Districtwide

**Annual Budget:** 2019: \$419,018

**Website:** <https://www.teensrundc.org/>

## THE GREEN SCHEME

### Address:

The Green Scheme works at various schools, community centers, and D.C. Parks and Recreation locations throughout the District. The program primarily focuses on Wards 7 and 8.

### Organization Overview:

The Green Scheme provides leadership, education, training, and awareness on a wide variety of environmental topics from food justice to health and wellness. The program seeks to address food insecurity and other environmental issues in Southeast D.C. by empowering communities through education and community revitalization projects such as urban gardens.

### Programs/Services:

The Green Scheme delivers and facilitates workshops for youth and young adults on urban gardening, social entrepreneurship, and healthy cooking skills. The organization develops community gardens in Southeast D.C., operates afterschool and summer programs to teach youth how to grow and produce their own healthy and sustainable food sources, and educates youth on best practices in nutrition and health.

**Population Served:** The Green Scheme is primarily focused on youth and young adults.

**D.C. Area Served:** Wards 7 and 8

**Annual Budget:** \$112,000

**Website:** <http://www.greenscheme.org/>

## THE TRARON CENTER

### Address:

700 Pennsylvania Avenue SE, Second Floor  
Washington, D.C. 20003

### Organization Overview:

The Traron Center exposes survivors of gun violence to therapeutic modalities centered around creative arts to encourage healthful healing while promoting community health and solidarity. The Center is a recipient of the D.C. Fund for Just & Peaceful Neighborhoods, a project of the Public Welfare Foundation, and the Greater Washington Community Foundation.

### Programs/Services:

The Traron Center provides services such as creative arts summer camps, after-school programs, peer support and trauma counseling, organizing and political training, trauma-informed education, and consultation for other community-based organizations.

**Population Served:** The summer camps and after-school programs focus on youth/elementary students. The Center also serves loved ones of gun violence victims through their creative arts camps.

**D.C. Area Served:** Ward 8

**Annual Budget:** N/A

**Website:** <https://traroncenter.org>

## URBAN ED INC.

### Address:

2041 Martin Luther King Jr Avenue SE, Suite M-2  
Washington, D.C. 20020

### Organization Overview:

Urban Ed Inc. provides District of Columbia children, youth, and adults with technology-driven education, information, and skill development for sustained futures.

### Programs/Services:

Through its Pathways to Prosperity Initiative, Urban Ed Inc. is transforming youth and young adults into high-performing, well-paid members of society through technology education and skill development. The organization also utilizes technology training to support academic performance and truancy. Current programs include TechnoForce STEM Acad, SUSO TechnoAcademy, and Lil Bitties TechnoCamp.

**Population Served:** Urban Ed Inc. serves children, youth, and families.

**D.C. Area Served:** Washington, D.C.; Districtwide

**Annual Budget:** 2018: \$432,508

**Website:** <https://www.urbaned.org/home.html>

## YAA Y ME (AMIN'S ANGELS)

### Address:

316 34th Street NE  
Washington, D.C. 20019

### Organization Overview:

YAA Y ME aims to transform communities through transforming youth, their families, and those who serve them. This is achieved through principles of leadership (self & community), self-education, character education, and career exploration.

### Programs/Services:

Services offered by YAA Y ME include entrepreneurship skills workshops, free online bookstore, peace walks, community town hall meetings, voting resources, and civic engagement opportunities. According to a 2019 Washington Informer article titled, "Mentoring Program to be Launched in Amin Muslim's Honor," YAA Y ME will become the mentoring program, Amin's Angels, in honor of the late Amin Muslim, a highly regarded community advocate who worked to build a bridge between disaffected residents and D.C. officials and agencies. The program aims to pair DC adolescents and young adults with adults who exemplify the qualities needed to overcome obstacles. Amin's Angels will continue the work done under YAA Y ME.

**Population Served:** YAA Y ME serves young people, families, educators, and youth workers.

**D.C. Area Served:** Washington, D.C.; Districtwide

**Annual Budget:** 2018: \$78,525

**Website:** <http://yaayme.org/>

# A LANDSCAPE ANALYSIS OF WASHINGTON, DC COMMUNITY BASED SERVICES AND SUPPORTS



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