



Operation Ceasefire Plainfield

The Campaign to Stop the Next Shooting!

OVERVIEW

Operation Ceasefire Plainfield is part of a statewide anti-violence campaign designed to *Stop the Next Shooting!* Operation Ceasefire, mobilizes the community and law enforcement to work in a collaborative partnership to reduce community violence by stopping the next shooting. This initiative is a strategic, data-driven, problem solving approach to reducing gun violence in selected communities through a collaborative partnership between law enforcement and the community.

MISSION:

The mission of Operation Ceasefire New Jersey: *The Campaign to Stop the Next Shooting!* is to engage the community, law enforcement, the clergy and other key stakeholders in an anti-violence crime prevention strategy to improve the quality of life by stopping the next shooting.

CORE GROUP MEMBERS:

Operation Ceasefire Plainfield is a collaborative effort between many local agencies, encompassing hospital staff, law enforcement offices, community groups, local clergy, educational groups, local business persons and elected officials. Persons / entities of which the core group is comprised are:

Mayor Sharon Robinson-Briggs – City of Plainfield

Mayor's Office

Marc D. Dashield – City of Plainfield

City Administrator's Office

Union County Prosecutors Office

Chief Edward Santiago – City of Plainfield
Police Department
Assemblyman Jerry Green’s Office
John Downs – Venture & Venture
Davy Morales – Stop the Violence, Plainfield
Al Stembridge – Neighborhood Anti-Group
Plainfield Board of Education
Muhlenberg Regional Medical Center
Melvin Cody – Rushmore Block Association
Keshia Trotman – Office of the Attorney General
Davy Morales – Community Activist
Liberty CDC – Angela Piggee
Liberty CDC Staff
Rafael Velarquer – St. Mary’s Church
Bishop Herbert Bright – Plainfield Police Chaplain

There are five (5) core components which make up the **Ceasefire Initiative**:

1. **Community Mobilization:** Developing collaboration between residents, schools, businesses and social services organizations to inform all involved that violence and shootings are not acceptable. Community Mobilizing efforts include organizing block associations.
2. **Trained Outreach Workers:** recruiting citizens from the community to interact directly with victims and their families and to assist in accessing services such as education and employment.
3. **Public Awareness:** using multiple forms of mass media communication to raise the awareness about Operation Ceasefire: The Campaign to Stop the Next Shooting!
4. **Clergy / Faith Based:** using local religious institutions to distribute public awareness materials, host prayer vigils, provide a safe haven and offer counseling to the victims and the community at-large.
5. **Law Enforcement and Prosecution:** focusing investigative and prosecutorial efforts to solve gun crimes and incapacitate and deter violent criminals.

The Agency chosen to be the lead on Operation Ceasefire for Plainfield is Liberty CDC and this agency is responsible for scheduling and hosting the regularly scheduled meetings. Meetings are necessary to discuss any crimes that have occurred in the target area, and to develop a strategy for visiting victims and mobilizing the community. At this time the law enforcement officers will give an update of any criminal activity within the target area, the prosecutor gives updates on the status of cases and the local outreach agency provides an overview of the community outreach activities.

During this time incident specific plans will also be formed and assistance will be rendered in the form of services, treatment, and support to the victim family and neighborhood.

The operation will also take into account any local environmental factors that might contribute to the disorder, crime and violence problem.

OUTREACH WORKERS:

Outreach worker training for **Operation Ceasefire Plainfield** has been coordinated through the Union County Prosecutors Office, The State Attorney General's office, the Plainfield Police department and other community organizations. Eight fully trained Outreach workers were recognized and graduated into full service for the program at the Press conference held Friday, November 9th 2007.