<u>Problem</u>: High rates of youth violence are disproportionately impacting at-risk, minority youth living in North St. Louis County, Missouri.

Contributing Factors

Strategies and Practices

High rates of bullying and electronic aggression peaking in approx. 8th grade

Stark disparities in household incomes and school resources

Racial segregation

Lack of economic mobility

Fragmented municipalities and policing jurisdictions

Strained relationships between community and police

High incarceration rate

Evidence of racial bias and disparities in education and criminal justice systems

Cycles of poverty and family / community violence

Poor health outcomes for racial minorities

Transient youth population

- 1. Implement Whole-School Restorative Justice Framework in three partner school districts.
- 2. Evaluate the efficacy and impact of Implicit Bias training delivered to St. Louis County Police Department officers.
- 3. Actively engage, support and foster parental involvement and understanding across all project activities and protective factors for preventing youth violence and criminal behavior.
- 4. Expand, promote and evaluate Police Athletic League programming to include academic year and Summer Program activities for MYVP Cohort youth.
- 5. Implement, supervise and evaluate a structured curriculum of life skills / resilience education delivered by TeenAge Health Consultants (Peer Educators).
- 6. Ensure provision of academic tutoring for a minimum of four hours per week for MVYP Cohort youth.

Project RESTORE

PROJECT GOAL: Plan, implement and evaluate a series of coordinated, multi-disciplinary interventions tailored for minority, at-risk youth that improve academic, disciplinary and health-related protective factors and reduce risk factors for violent behaviors among participating youth.

SHORT TERM IMPACT (PROJECT PERIOD)

Measurable Outcomes

- Increase the cultural competency skills of school personnel and law enforcement officers working with at-risk youth.
- Decrease the number of disciplinary actions, suspensions and expulsions among MYVP Cohort youth.
- Strengthen family engagement to create a positive / healthy home environment.
- Identify opportunities to refine or improve upon Implicit Bias training for law enforcement personnel.
- Increase youth violence protective factors for MYVP Cohort youth (i.e., positive, healthy relationships).
- Reduce stress and improve behavioral health for MYVP Cohort youth.
- Reduce youth arrests, court referrals, crimes, homicides and gun violence.
- Improve academic outcomes of MYVP Cohort youth.

Performance Metrics

students retained in MYVP Cohort

students retained in Comparison Grp

of arrests reported in MYVP Cohort

of arrests reported in Comparison Grp

#/rate of arrests in school district

of disciplinary actions in MYVP Cohort

of disciplinary actions in Comparison Grp

#/rate of disciplinary actions in district

Change in responses to YRBSS questions for

MYVP Cohort and Comparison (C&C)

District and local graduation rate

Promotion rate to next grade in MYVP C&C
Promotion to next grade in district/locally
GPA of MYVP C&C
of STI MYVP C&C

TAHC peer educators

TAHC lessons delivered

students receive TAHC

MYVP cohort enrolled in PAL

PAL after-school activities offered

PAL Contact hours

students enrolled in PAL summer program

Engaged adults by program

Academic Tutoring Contact hours

teachers / school staff trained

Self-report surveys of risk / protective factors Aggression, Peer Violence scale assessments

Child and Youth Resilience Measures Implicit Bias pre/post test

LONG TERM PROJECT IMPACT

Create protective school and community environments in north St. Louis County.

Increase recognition and awareness of implicit bias among adults who work with at-risk youth.

Promote family environments that support healthy youth development.

Strengthen youth life skills (e.g., conflict management) and bolster youth resiliency, self-efficacy and health literacy.

Connect north St. Louis County youth to caring adults and prosocial activities.

Support and foster academic achievement of students attending north St. Louis County schools.

Foster positive peer connections among target youth.