**CURE Violence: Bull City United/Violence Prevention Program**

**In response to the senseless shootings and violence that occurred in Durham, NC during calendar year 2014, the Durham County Board of Health tasked the Durham County Department of Public Health with implementing a public health approach to reduce and stop the aggravated assaults and homicides taking place in the county. Upon completing its research and due diligence, the department settled on a program called Cure Violence based out of Chicago, ILL.**

Bull City United/CURE Violence is a public health approach to reduce violence (shootings and homicides). Bull City United uses highly-trained violence interrupters and outreach staff, public education campaigns, Neighborhood Action Teams and community mobilization to reverse the violence epidemic in Durham, NC. Bull City United focuses on the neighborhood factors that most often contribute to violence, helping those who are considered at highest risk of committing offenses due to their living or employment situation.

The Bull City United/CURE Violence program began its development in the fall of 2015 and is based on the Cure Violence: Stop the Shooting project in Chicago. Bull City United will be focusing its efforts on the City of Durham’s Census Tract Areas 1301 and 1400. Our hope is that as we succeed in reducing shootings and violence in these two Census Tract areas we will begin implementation in other areas of the City disproportionately impacted by shootings and violence. Bull City United is committed to making neighborhoods safer.

The U.S. Department of Justice awarded through Project Build a grant to put in place 2 Violence Interrupters in support of Bull City United with a two year $327,000.00 grant in September 2016. The grant will provide resources to allow Bull City United to expand its staffing and services.

**Services:**

**Violence Interruption**

1. **Violence Interruption**
2. Trained violence interrupters
3. Outreach staff
4. Public education campaigns
5. Neighborhood Action Teams
6. Community mobilization
7. **Hospital Team**

Through the Hospital Prevention Program, workers respond to gunshot and violence-related trauma situations, intervene in conflicts and aim to prevent further violence. Working with emergency department staff, Aim4Peace reaches out to community members who are most at risk of being involved in future shootings.

**Community Classrooms**

1. Life skills learning programs
2. Life skills courses (grades 5-12 and ages 19-40)
3. Delinquency prevention
4. Personal development
5. Education about the dangers of involvement in gangs and/or street organizations

The Bull City United **Life Skills Learning Program** will work to prevent school delinquency and drop-outs, supporting community actions to keep students in school. Bull City United will offer both community and school-based courses:

* Life skills courses (grades 5-12 and ages 19-40)
* Delinquency prevention
* Personal development
* Education about the dangers of involvement in gangs and/or street organizations

1. Job readiness and Anger Management programs

The **Job Readiness and Anger Management programs** will be four-week courses that we hope to hold every month. Job Readiness helps participants prepare for obstacles that can happen when they enter the workforce, providing tips for keeping and maintaining steady employment. The Anger Management course focuses on problem solving, communication skills, personal qualities, money management and budgeting, and work ethics. These courses will be open to the community.

Through a Job Fair Initiative, Bull City United hopes to help our clients and Durham residents seeking employment by connecting them with local employers and specialized skill or trade educational institutions. At the events, Bull City United will also provide information on housing assistance and resume building, will conduct mock interviews and link attendees with local social service agencies.

**Other Services of Bull City United/Cure Violence Durham**

1. Workforce Counseling
2. Youth, adult and parent mentoring (My Brothers Keepers)
3. Advocacy and Support
4. Human and social support services
5. Transportation to classes, job interviews and employment
6. Access to employment resources and educational institutions

**Hospital Team**

Through the Hospital Prevention Program, workers respond to gunshot and violence-related trauma situations, intervene in conflicts and aim to prevent further violence. Working with emergency department staff, Bull City United reaches out to community members who are most at risk of being involved in future shootings.