

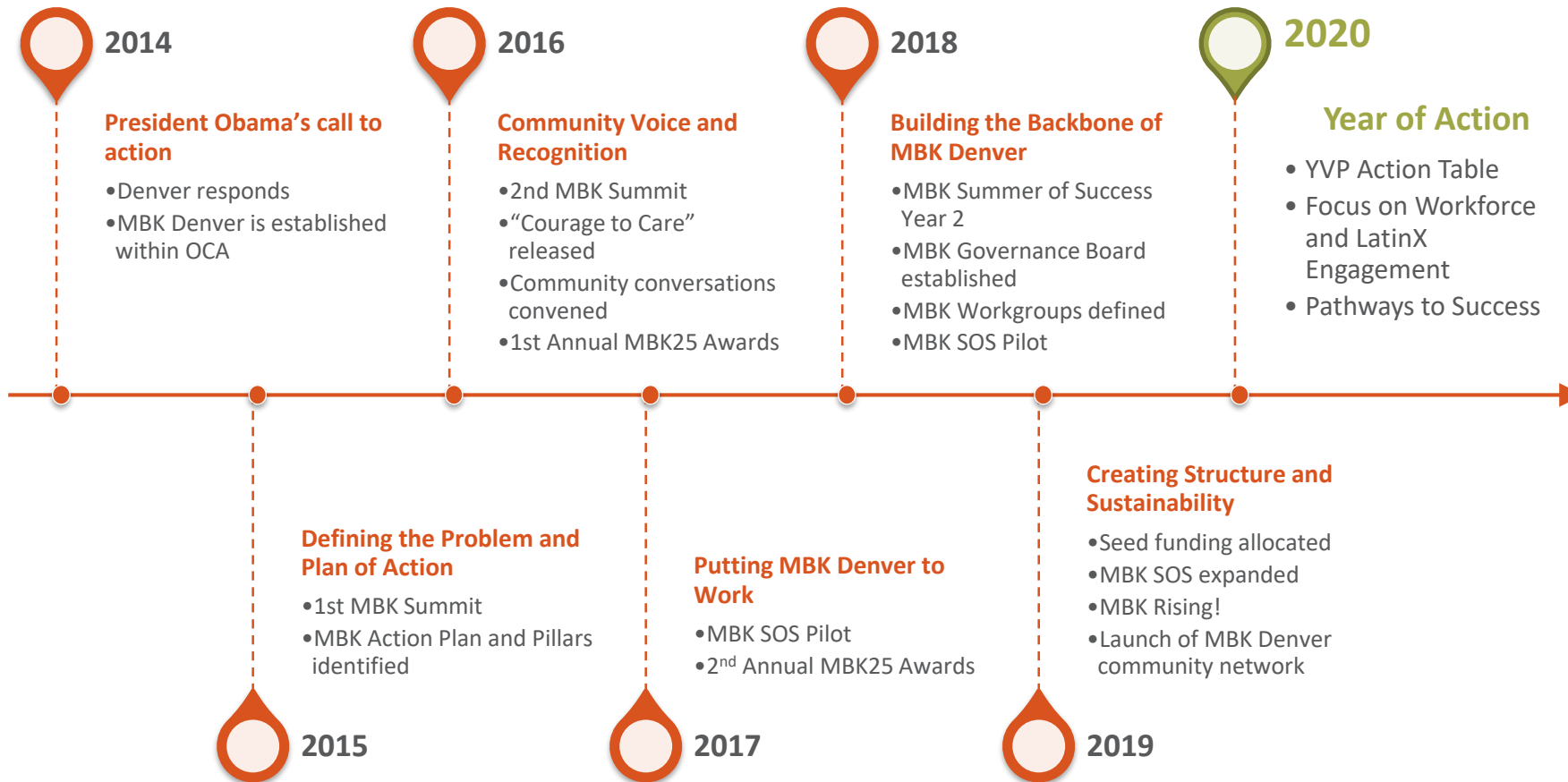


Youth Violence Prevention Action Table

Serving Youth in Denver

Presentation to Denver City Council Safety, Housing, Education
and Homelessness Committee

December 16, 2020



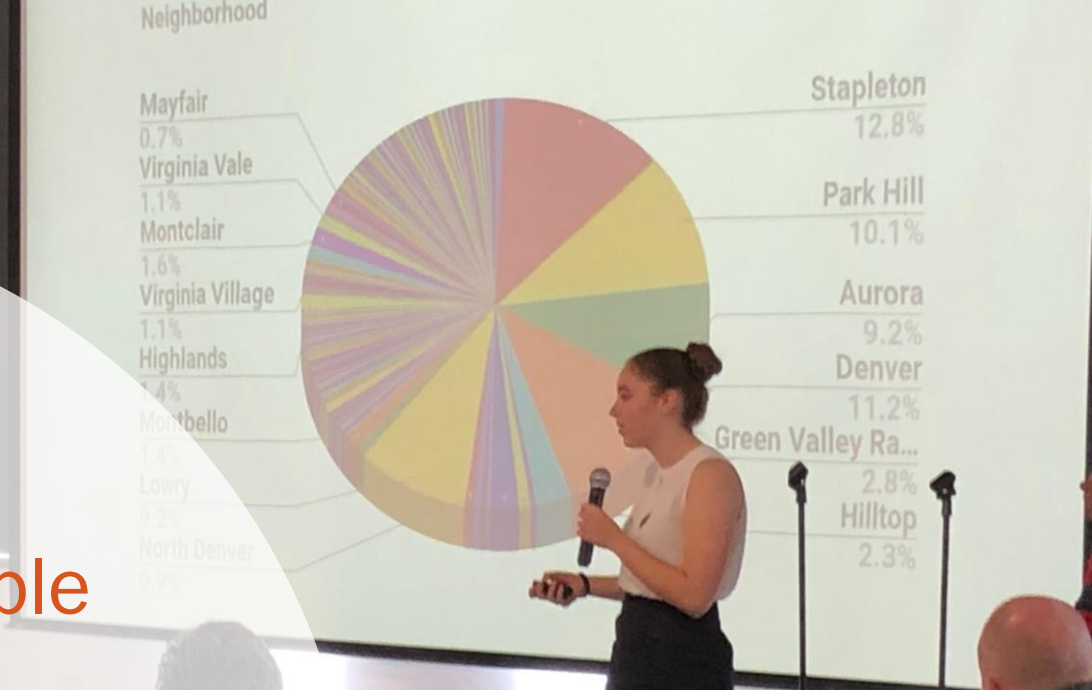
Youth Violence Prevention Action Table

- **September 2019:** Denver Public Health releases report on impact of gun violence on Denver's youth
- **November 2019:** Mayor Hancock convenes the Youth Violence Prevention Action Table to increase collaboration and information sharing and address gaps and opportunities in youth violence prevention and intervention efforts
- **December 2020:** YVP Action Table report due setting forth public health strategies for YVP in Denver



Youth Violence Prevention Action Table

- The Action Table has over 120 members from various agencies and departments within the city and external stakeholders like the University of Colorado, Denver Health, Denver Housing Authority, Denver Public Schools, and the courts
- The Action Table centers community voices and leads with an eye on equity.
- 2020 Denver honored by Cities United for leading the field in creating safe, healthy and hopeful communities for young Black men and boys, and their families



Youth Violence Prevention Council Elevating Youth Voice



- Youth Involvement has been a central element in creating our public health strategy.
- Our Youth Violence Prevention Council consists of young people ranging 15-20 of age. All have lived experiences with youth violence and come from Denver communities most impacted by youth violence.
- These advisors provide our exec committee advice and recommendations and are paid for their expertise.
- The council currently has 7 members: 3 males, 4 females; 3 Black/African-American, 4 Latinx

COVID-19 & Youth Violence Prevention Short-Term Strategy

- Workshop: Tackling Two Public Health Crises at Once
- 4 work groups were created in 6 policy areas:

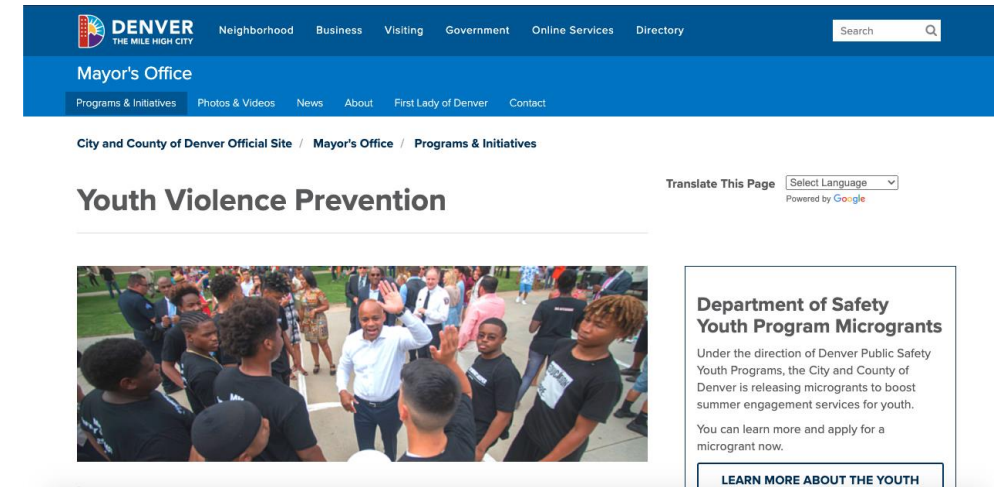


- 26 Action items were created and completed throughout the fall.

Youth Violence Prevention Webpage

Community members and partners can stay up-to-date with our on-going work on the Mayor's Office webpage on Youth Violence Prevention and signing up for email updates!

www.denvergov.org/content/denvergov/en/mayors-office/programs-initiatives/youth-violence-prevention



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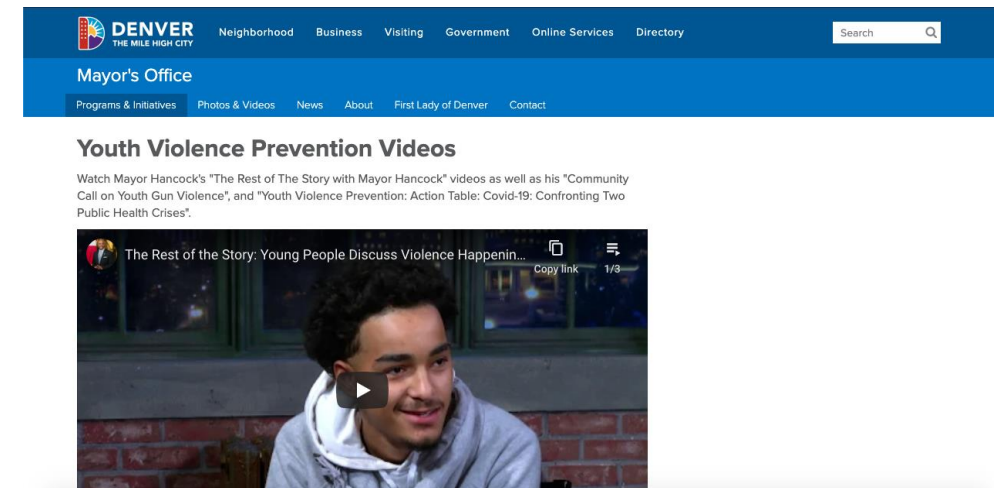
Youth Violence Prevention



Department of Safety Youth Program Microgrants

Under the direction of Denver Public Safety Youth Programs, the City and County of Denver is releasing microgrants to boost summer engagement services for youth. You can learn more and apply for a microgrant now.

[LEARN MORE ABOUT THE YOUTH](#)



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Youth Violence Prevention Videos

Watch Mayor Hancock's "The Rest of The Story with Mayor Hancock" videos as well as his "Community Call on Youth Gun Violence", and "Youth Violence Prevention: Action Table: Covid-19: Confronting Two Public Health Crises".



The Rest of the Story: Young People Discuss Violence Happenin... Copy link 1/3

COVID-19 & Youth Violence Prevention Long-Term Strategy

- Denver's plan includes 22 long-term strategies consistent with the public health approach endorsed by CDC and The Prevention Institute
- Prepared in conjunction with needs assessment by CU Denver
- Through the 2021 budget process we secured an additional \$500k in specific YVP funding on top of \$71 Million in youth services.

Center for Disease Control (CDC) - YVP Strategic Framework

- Recognizes youth violence is an interaction of multiple factors
 - Risk and Protective
- Requires a comprehensive approach
- Youth violence is preventable



CDC Strategic Framework – Denver’s Approach

Promote Healthy Family Environments

- *Increase access to family and parent programs*
 - Strengthening Families/Familias Fuertes Programs
 - Strong African American Family Program



Intervene to lessen harms and prevent future risk

- *Early identification and response for youth at-risk*
 - Screening and support
 - Regional Multi-Disciplinary Teams
- *Data sharing agreement with Denver Public Health*
 - Cardiff Model

CDC Strategic Framework – Denver’s Approach

Creating Protective Community Environments

- Youth Centers
 - Managed by community collective.
 - Community identified services
 - ✓ *Building Purchased (CDBG)*
 - ✓ *2021 Operational Budget Approved*

Creating Protective Community Environments

- Safe Zone Program
 - Piloted in 2020
 - RFP to fund multiple sites
 - Activities and connection to others
 - ✓ *2021 Budget Approved*

Creating Protective Community Environments

- Promote Safe Storage
 - Lock Out Public Awareness Campaign
 - Collaboration with Mayor’s Youth Commission
 - Gun Lock giveaway program

CDC Strategic Framework – Denver’s Approach

Connecting Youth to Caring Adults & Activities

- *City Employee Mentoring Program*
 - City employees granted leave to mentor youth
 - Individual or group
 - Pittsburgh & Louisville examples

Connecting Youth to Caring Adults & Activities

- *City Corps Program*
 - Hire 18-24 year old
 - Serve as peer navigators to support youth.
 - Connection to Youth Centers

Connecting Youth to Caring Adults & Activities

- *YVP Micro Grants*
 - Partnership with DPS
 - \$125,000 available in 2020
 - 62 applicants – 17 funded
 - ✓ *2021 Budget Approved*

YVP Support Strategies

- Youth Violence Prevention is a public health crisis that requires a comprehensive set of strategies that can address multiple risk factors
- To realize tangible benefits of these strategies, the work must be supported on multiple levels



Support Strategies – Governance & Accountability

Creating Support Infrastructure

- Work must be rooted in an agency to support long-term sustainability
- Identify lead city agency (OCA)
- Maintain Action Table to support work

YVP Program Coordinator

- Coordinate implementation of YVP strategies with support from Action Table
- Housed in OCA
- Liaison to community

Higher Education Partnership

- CU Boulder - CSPV
 - Database of evidenced-based program (Blueprints)
 - Communities that Care
- Community College of Denver
 - Academic and career support

Support Strategies – Alignment of Services & Strategies

Align existing YVP efforts

- Analysis of existing YVP efforts (city and community)
- Maximize existing resources and combine duplicative efforts
- Expand or enhance effective strategies/programs

Denver/Aurora Regional YVP Compact

- Compact to work collaboratively to address youth violence
- Common strategies such as Safe Zone Events
- Expand to other municipalities

Alignment of city-led youth services

- Expand use of Youth Program Locator
- Roadmap to align youth services
 - Public Safety Youth Programs
 - Other youth violence prevention programs

Support Strategies – Alignment of Services & Strategies

DDPHE support of YVP strategies

- Utilizing a public health approach to address youth violence.
- DDPHE to include YVP work within agency staff duties

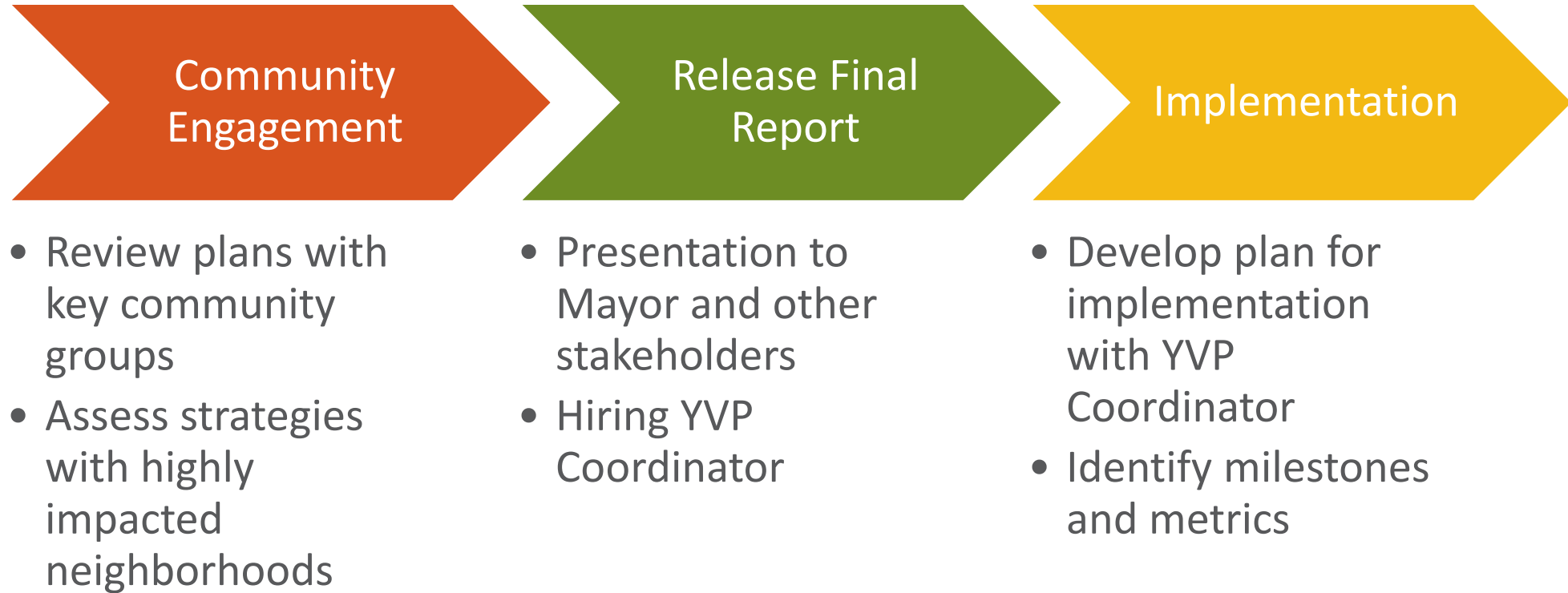
Parks and Recreation support of YVP strategies

- CPTED Report
- Night Moves & Safe Zone events support
- Programming space for YVP-related services

Expand supports Juvenile Justice involved youth

- Work with juvenile justice system to:
 - Prevent involvement
 - Reduce recidivism
- 2nd Judicial District Juvenile Services Planning Committee

Implementation, Timeline & Next Steps





Thank you.

For more information about how Denver is serving youth, sign up for our YVP newsletter or visit us at:

<https://www.denvergov.org/content/denvergov/en/mayors-office/programs-initiatives/youth-violence-prevention.html>

www.denvergov.org/childreaffairs