

# Ottawa Street Violence and Gang Strategy

February 7, 2019

# Approach

- A complex approach to a complex problem
- Focused on high risk activity and prolific offenders
- Aligned with other general strategies:
  - Ottawa Child and Youth Initiative
  - Community Development Framework

2007 – 2012  
Ottawa  
Youth Gang  
Prevention  
Initiative  
(informal)

2012  
Public  
consultation  
following  
increase in  
incidents

2013  
Strategy  
presented to  
CPO Board

2016  
Evaluation  
results to  
City Council

2017  
New strategy  
approved by  
CPO Board

# Progress to date



Increased access to services



Enhanced cross-agency collaboration and service coordination



Improved service delivery to children, youth and families



Improved and sustained community partnerships



Positively engaged young people, families, schools and communities



Prevented individuals from entering gang life by addressing risk factors



Prosecuted and convicted gang members

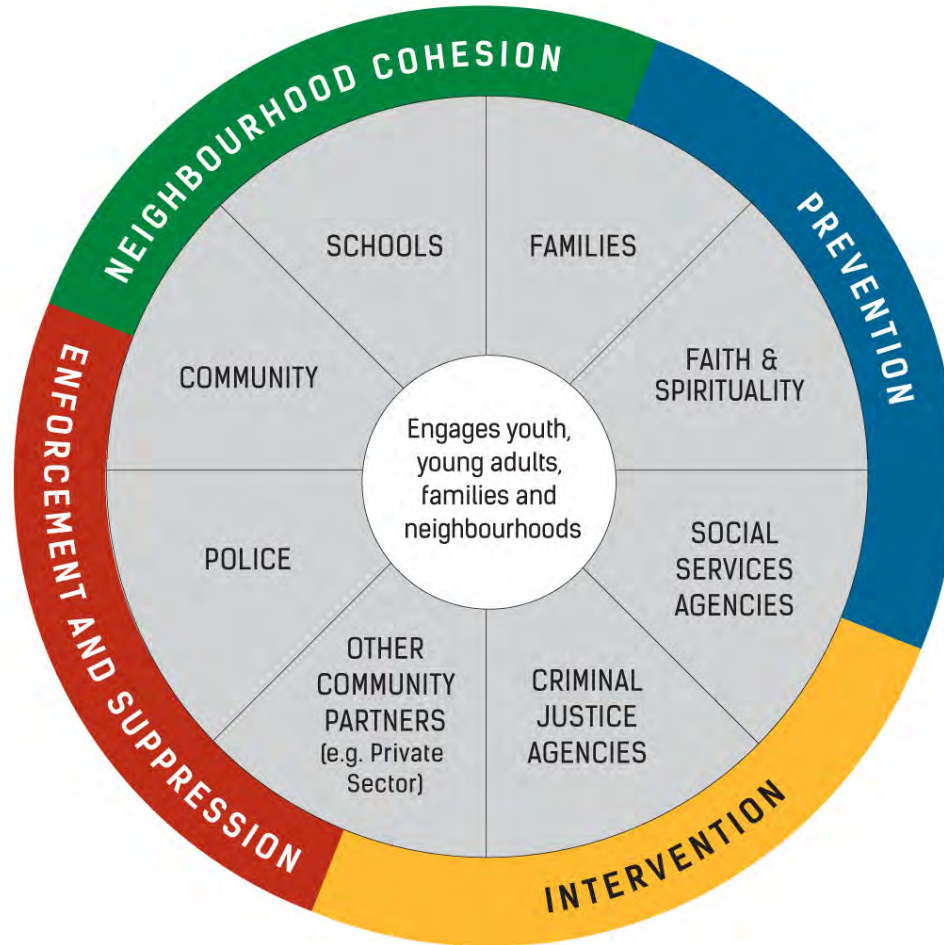
# Refresh 2017: Research & Consultations

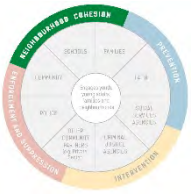
Method	Respondents
Presentations to service providers	CPO partners
Online survey	104 respondents
Gathering of local studies & reports	7 reports (involving over 450 people)
Targeted focus groups with people in affected neighbourhoods	21 participants (9 youth)
Individual interviews with those with lived experience of street violence/gangs	22 respondents
Public consultation forum	Over 70 participants

# Refresh 2017: What we heard

- Loose organization re: street-level and gang violence in Ottawa
- ‘Low level’ violence is a top concern
- The Strategy is focused on the right pillars
- Collaboration has improved across sectors and agencies
- Need to better support people ‘transitioning’ from one system to another
- Each pillar of the Strategy has some successes, more still needs to be done

# Ottawa Street Violence and Gang Strategy





# Neighbourhood Cohesion

*New!*  
'Low-level' violence in neighbourhoods  
- Arts based approach underway

*New!*  
Culture and Presence of weapons

United Neighbours, Levers of Change

Community Leadership Network for Families

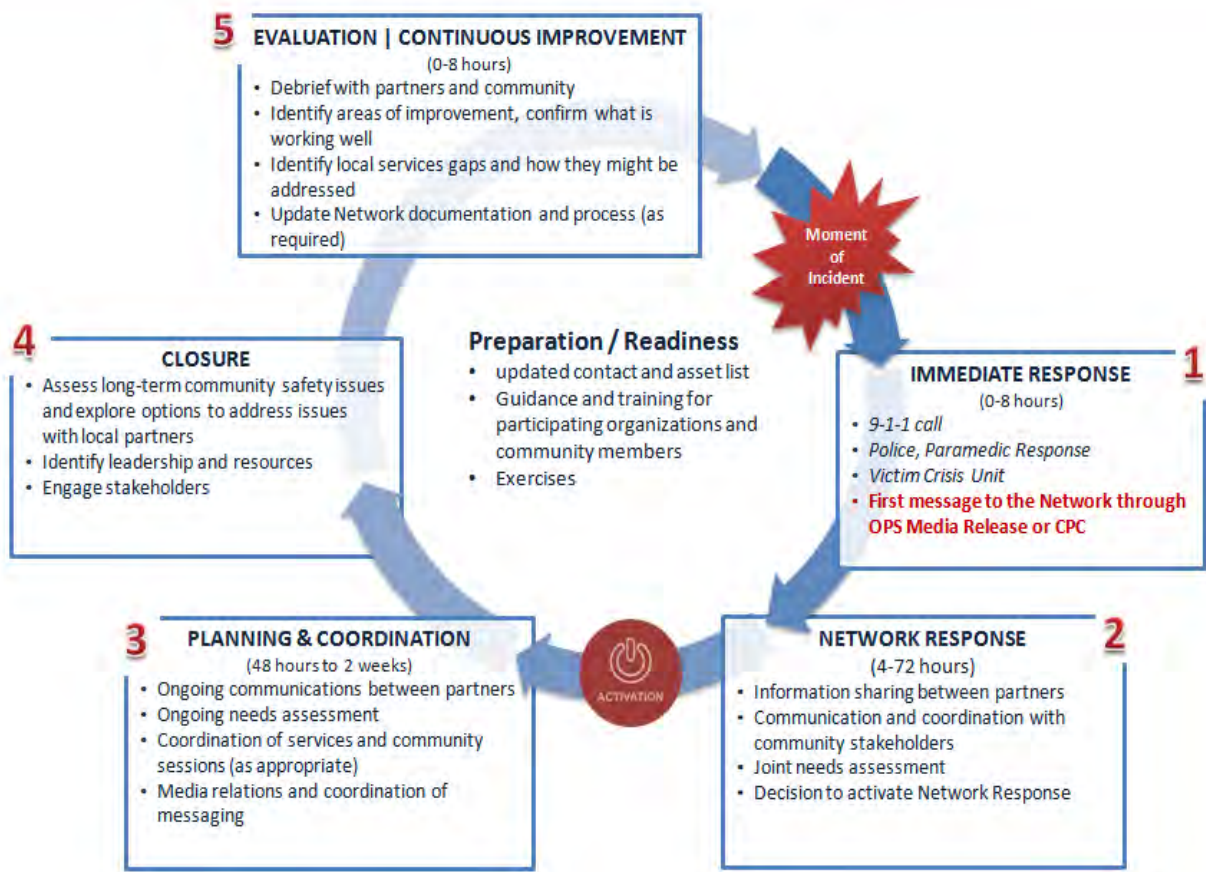
Post-Incident Support Networks Framework





# Post-Incident Neighbourhood Support Network

## Stages of the Network Response







# Prevention

*New!*  
Increase access to wide range of activities for youth

*New!*  
Increase access to mentors & positive role models for youth

*Aligning with OBYPAP; research; considering a community of practice*

Ontario Justice Education Network (OJEN)  
"Real Talk"

Youth Outreach Workers (YOW) Program

Shared training events & Enhanced Risk Identification Tool

On Point: Supporting Families (Previously Siblings at Risk)



# Supporting Families: Siblings at Risk Project

**14 families**  
**18 parents**  
**45 siblings**

**Improved  
school lives  
& behaviour**

**Offered pro-  
social  
activities**

**Connected  
parents to  
services**



# Intervention

*New!*

Increase tangible  
and respectful  
supports for  
parents and  
families

*New!*

Increase access  
to tangible  
supports to  
employment and  
entrepreneurship

*Application to  
NCPC*

Ottawa  
Community  
Youth  
Diversion  
Program

Time for Change



# Time for Change



	<b>41</b>	Achieved goals
	<b>23</b>	Education and training
	<b>20</b>	Gained employment
	<b>18</b>	Housing
	<b>14</b>	Cultural / Spiritual
	<b>12</b>	Counseling / Health

# Focus for 2017-2020



## Enforcement & Suppression:

### 5.1 Continue to enforce laws

- Evidence based, targeted proactive firearms and drug investigations
- Reactive incident driven firearms violence investigations

# Focus for 2017-2020



## Enforcement & Suppression:

5.2 Improve the consistency of respectful policing

*(active participation in YPD)*

5.3 Support positive and effective responses of police and other institutions



# Moving Forward

- Developed a new Evaluation Framework, first report coming this spring
- Exploring the full context of weapons related violence
- Working towards new employment and entrepreneurship programming
- Aligning with Ontario Black Youth Action Plan programs
- Recommendation 6: Remain responsive to the needs of the community through attention to other emerging or pressing issues that arise.
  - Issue of roving shootings, less connected to the neighbourhoods, more associated with vehicles



# Questions?

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