

RECAST Milwaukee JUSTICE • HEALING • EQUITY

“Advancing Healthy Youth and Families through Community- based Collaborations that
Promote Healing, Equity and Justice.”

Program Summary and Year Two Status Report (October 1, 2017- September 29, 2018)



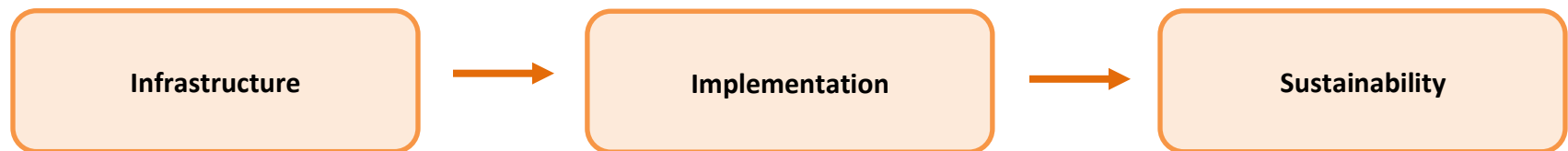
Program Overview

The Office of Violence Prevention is committed to preventing violence through partnerships that strengthen youth, families and neighborhoods. During the first year of Resiliency in Communities after Stress and Trauma (ReCAST), the City of Milwaukee engaged over 1,000 community residents in developing the Blueprint for Peace. The Blueprint is Milwaukee's first comprehensive framework for preventing violence from a public health perspective. The process resulted in six goals and 30 evidence-informed strategies for addressing violence, trauma, and healing. The Blueprint also identified ten priority neighborhoods for investment of resources and technical assistance that have been hit the hardest by structural and interpersonal violence. Many youth in these priority neighborhoods are disproportionately exposed to racism, concentrated disadvantage and interpersonal conflict which often results in trauma or loss. There is also limited access to culturally specific, trauma informed mental and behavioral health supports for the youth and families in these neighborhoods.

ReCAST MKE promotes violence prevention and healing among youth aged 12-24 and their families. It aims to reduce the impact of trauma in Milwaukee by enhancing individual and community resilience, building the capacity of organizations to provide quality trauma informed care services, and strengthening collaboration between organizations and community.

Program Timeline

In 2016, City of Milwaukee Health Department's Office of Violence Prevention was awarded a five-year grant from the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) focused on building youth, family, and community resiliency. Milwaukee was one of a dozen cities selected from a competitive national grant selection process. Cities selected for ReCAST funding have had a history of civil unrest resulting from incidents of systemic violence such as police involved shootings as well as high rates of gun violence. We are currently concluding year 2 of 5. Below is a timeline for Milwaukee's overall ReCAST effort.



Year 1 – Infrastructure

Key Objectives	Status
Complete and submit Behavioral Health Disparities Impact Statement which describes needs of youth and families that are being addressed by ReCAST	Completed
Complete a comprehensive needs & community resource assessment	Completed
Hire full-time ReCAST project manager and other key project staff	Completed
Solidify partnerships with community members and providers	Completed
Engage project evaluators to complete needs assessment and begin evaluation plan	Completed
Complete development of comprehensive violence prevention plan and align strategies specific to ReCast goals	Completed

Years 2, 3, and 4 - Implementation

Key Objectives	Status
Develop ReCAST Resiliency Framework to support continuous quality improvement among programs working to address trauma in the community	Completed
Complete project strategic plan	Completed
Deliver training in trauma- informed approaches to partners, mental health providers, first responders and out of school time providers	Ongoing
Resource evidence-based trauma informed interventions that are culturally responsive	Ongoing
Engage project evaluators to complete evaluation plans of project	In Progress
Report on performance measures	Ongoing
Support partner organizations to develop sustainability plans	2019

Year 5 Transition and Sustainability

Key Objectives	Status
Implement sustainability plans	2021
Complete final reports including lessons learned and future recommendations	2021
Conduct transitioning activities	2021

Year 2 Progress

Below is a summary of year 2 activities to date.

ReCAST MKE Activity	Description	Status (August 2018)
Provide trainings to adults working with youth and families in the areas of trauma, mental health, and healing	Youth Mental Health First Aid Training	137 practitioners trained
	Suicide Prevention Training (QPR)	30 people registered for training set for 9/25
	Trauma 101: Understanding trauma's impact on brain development	20 people trained
Engage individuals and groups to inform the priorities and strategies of ReCAST MKE	Launched ReCAST MKE Coalition	26 organizations participating 3 coalition meetings held in 2018
Provide resources and capacity building support to agencies and programs serving youth and families exposed to trauma	Provide funding for ReCAST MKE Safe Summer Community Healing Project via RFP	11 agencies funded
	Provide funding for organizational capacity building	30 agencies funded
	Sponsor community healing events throughout the city after incidents of trauma	9 events sponsored
Increase access among youth and families to evidence-informed programs focused on trauma prevention and healing.	Workshops, trainings, mentoring, and other evidence-informed activities implemented by ReCAST MKE agencies	1,684 unduplicated youth (as of 8/2018)
	Safe Summer Community Healing Project Activities	395 residents engaged as volunteers or participants in community events

ReCAST MKE Core Program Partners

Agency	Outcomes
University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee Helen Bader School of Social Welfare	UWM provided core evaluation services for ReCAST MKE. Building upon the <i>ReCAST MKE Community Needs and Assets Assessment</i> completed during year 1, they developed evaluation plans for each of the Core Partner agencies and assisted with the completion of the Strategic Plan. They also conducted focus groups and listening sessions with program participants to ascertain the effectiveness of program services.
Community Advocates	Community Advocates provided training and technical assistance support to partner agencies and service providers within the ReCast MKE network. Staff became certified to facilitate a variety of trainings in violence prevention, trauma informed care, and youth suicide prevention. They also facilitated training sessions to partners, mental health providers, first responders and out of school time providers. In addition, they supported the development of a process to increase access of youth and families to mental health resources. Over 180 practitioners have received training so far this year.
Employ Milwaukee	Career Plus programming was implemented in four area high schools including Bradley Tech, North Division, Obama SCTE and South Division. In addition to a paid work experience, students received supportive services such as referrals for tutoring, financial literacy, and career exploration experiences. ReCAST MKE also funded life skills and social-emotional learning activities that included mentorship, workshops, and group sessions. 430 youth were served during the school year.
My Sista's Keep-Her (MSK)	MSK inspires and encourages girls to love themselves and each other through self-expression including literature, writing workshops, and social-emotional development activities. As part of ReCAST MKE, sessions were provided in the following high schools: Transition, Milwaukee High School of the Arts, North Division, and Vincent. Programs were also implemented in afterschool programs and group homes. Community members, teachers and university faculty also participated in trainings offered by MSK to increase their skills in working with youth who have experienced trauma. 814 youth and adults were served this year.
The Parenting Network	The Parenting Network offered its Parent Café program in the following priority neighborhoods: Harambee, Metcalfe Park, and Muskego Way/Lincoln Village. Parent Café's engage parents in learning

Agency	Outcomes
	safe and healthy parenting skills shown to prevent child abuse and neglect. Some parents received additional training to become Parent Ambassadors where they recruited and facilitated sessions for their peers. The program supports all parent participants in developing necessary skills to connect to resources and advocate for themselves, their families and communities. Approximately 40 families were served this year. 6 parents were trained as Ambassadors.
Running Rebels*	The Be the Change program provided an 8-week cultural rites of passage program for young men ages 12-18. Participants received mentorship, academic support, and life-skills development. Participants were from a host of Milwaukee area schools such as NOVA, Grandview, North Division, Golda Meir, Washington, James Madison, WCLL, and several parochial and charter/choice schools. The program worked to increase reading comprehension, promote coping and healing; improve student confidence and attitude toward learning; improve school attendance rates among participants; and lower disciplinary referral, detention, and suspension rates.

*Milwaukee Promise Zone agency

ReCAST MKE Safe Summer Community Healing Project

Funding was allocated from a competitive RFP process for activities that support youth between the ages of 12-24 and/ or their families who reside in Milwaukee priority neighborhoods. Activities took place between June and September 2018 and were required to include culturally responsive healing practices.

This project is in accordance with ReCAST MKE goals 1 and 3.

Objectives:

- Increase capacity of community leaders and organizations to provide neighborhood based healing activities to youth and families who have experienced or who are at risk of experiencing trauma
- Increase ability of community leaders and organization staff to identify and meet the needs of youth and families
- Increase access of youth and families to culturally- specific, trauma responsive activities

Eligible community-based organizations in the City of Milwaukee were invited to respond to a request for proposal application process facilitated by the Community Development Grants Administration. An independent selection committee comprised of parents, educators,

health practitioners, mental health counselors, community residents, and a city council member was convened to determine grant recipients. A total of \$306,000 was allocated to 11 organizations.

Program Name	Outcomes
Neighborhood House	Neighborhood House facilitated the Teens on the Move program to 45 youth between the ages of 13-19. Activities included discussion groups; health and wellness activities (drug, alcohol, violence and pregnancy prevention); field trips; mentorship; visual arts and cultural history exploration.
Express Yourself	Express Yourself Milwaukee introduced young people to the world of music, dance, theater, and visual art, bringing life-changing results. Using art as a springboard, 80 youth and young people between the ages of 7-21 participated throughout the course of the summer. Activities promoted their ability to express themselves in healthy, positive ways using a variety of creative means, and in the process, discover inner strength, a sense of connection with others, and strategies to support healing.
PIVOT/The Village Group	The Village Group, in partnership with PIVOT, implemented 12 weeks of daily programming for youth between the ages on 12-24. Programming took place in Atkinson Park. Activities included basketball, martial arts and literacy, with social emotional development and group therapy components, led by trained coaches and clinicians. In addition, three family-centered events were held in the park and surrounding neighborhood.
Westcare*	Westcare's Protect, Educate, Aid, Children Everywhere (PEACE) on the East Community Healing Project included 16 weeks of programming that helped youth learn healthy ways to respond to trauma and access supportive services as needed. In addition, existing vacant lots were used to organize pop up PEACE on the East engagements, health fairs, neighborhood canvassing, food pantries and peace circles.
Southside Organizing Center*	SOC's Summer ReCAST Project focused on two key activities. The first was providing a bilingual (English/Spanish) wraparound program for the youth and families of its <i>Milwaukee Promise Zones (MPZ)</i> Summer Youth Employment Program (YEP). The second was doing the groundwork to establish resident associations in the two Near South Side priority neighborhoods identified in the Blueprint for Peace, which are Historic Mitchell Street and Lincoln Village. SOC also engaged in neighborhood canvassing to distribute resource information on culturally appropriate wellness resources.
Our Next Generation*	ONG implemented the Still I Rise program which offered community healing activities to assist youth, families and residents in reducing the risk of violence and promoting healing from trauma. Still I Rise

Program Name	Outcomes
	served 50 youth between the ages of 12-18 and facilitated instruction in an evidence based, culturally responsive curriculum, as well as restorative justice practices, arts, civic engagement, mentoring, academic support and character & leadership development.
Sojourner Family Peace Center/Priceless Incite	In partnership with Sojourner Family Peace Center, Priceless Incite implemented the Valuable Insight Project with 15 youth. Culturally specific intervention services were offered through the facilitation of a 8-week curriculum focused on healing from trauma using an African-centered approach with youth and their families.
Walnut Way	Walnut Way provided programming to 10 young men between the ages of 18-24 through the Lindsay Heights Boys to Leaders Movement. Activities included workshops and group therapeutic sessions to create a peer cohort of support to identify trauma, promote healing and accountability. Program participants were also trained to lead sessions with peers.
Grateful Girls	The Grateful Girls “EmpowerMe” program is designed and dedicated to empowering youth girls and all youth who are victims trauma, institutional racism and targets of sexual abuse and violence including sex trafficking. The program provided weekly activities which included group support sessions, healing arts, nutrition, fitness, tutoring, mentoring, and job training. The program served youth between the ages of 12-18.
Asha Project/ End Domestic Abuse WI	The ASHA Project, in partnership with End Domestic Abuse of WI provided culturally competent domestic violence and sexual assault prevention services to families of youth in the Sherman Park neighborhood. They also provided community education and gender specific events which focus on trauma and violence prevention. Furthermore, neighborhood canvassing will be completed to distribute resource information on appropriate wellness resources.
Hmong American Women’s Association (HAWA)	Through the ReCAST initiative, HAWA implemented its Building Brotherhood Program that provided a safe space and support for 20 Hmong/Southeast Asian young men ages 16-21 exposed to violence and trauma. They engaged them in culturally specific healing practices and built their leadership skills to become advocates against gender and community based violence.

*Milwaukee Promise Zone agency

ReCAST MKE Capacity Building

Organizational Capacity- Building Support

This effort provided funding to community-based organizations that offer arts and urban gardening programming for Milwaukee youth ages 12-24 and their families who have experienced trauma or who are at risk of trauma. Extensive research details the benefits of art and urban gardening as strategies to promoting individual and community healing and resilience.

Sponsorship of Events

A key strategy in the Blueprint for Peace that aligns with ReCAST MKE is to provide access to neighborhood based trauma responsive healing services. OVP partnered with a series of organizations to disseminate resources on local mental and behavioral health services. These organizations also provided activities that increased knowledge of positive coping skills.

Event	Purpose	Number of Attendees
Unplugged (Signature Dance Co.)	Signature Dance Company's presentation of "Unplugged" was a unique display of how we constantly take in information from electronic devices and people with little time to reflect on what's truly important: Peace and Purpose. The show highlighted the importance of connecting to both holistic and mental health resources. A talk-back that featured mental health clinicians was also held for student participants.	514 students and teachers from 5 Milwaukee Area High Schools
Faces of Mental Health (P Taylor Consulting)	This was a resource fair for youth and families to connect to supports that promote wellness. Mental and Behavioral Health was the focus. Sessions were also offered that included yoga, meditation and mindfulness, etc.	75 community residents
Child Abuse Prevention Month activities (Parenting Network)	Events hosted throughout the month were designed to bring awareness about positive parenting techniques and violence prevention. Events included a press conference and community trainings on the Five Protective Factors for raising safe and healthy children	Milwaukee Community (Televised Press conference)
Vincent High School Assembly	ReCAST MKE hosted an all-school-assembly in response to a student death from teen dating violence. Grief counseling and support services were provided by mental health clinicians to students and faculty. A call to action was also delivered for students to "Say Something" and interrupt the incidence of gender-based violence.	800 (Full student body and all faculty and staff)
Trauma in Our Community Conference (UWM School of Continuing Education)	The conference highlights research and practice related to trauma in Milwaukee.	15 local community leaders were sponsored to attend sessions

Event	Purpose	Number of Attendees
Garvey Fest (Vibez Art Studio)	Youth received instruction in art techniques that promote stress reduction. They also received an art kit to take home as well as resources on connecting to culturally responsive service providers.	30 youth
Heal the Hood (Vibez Art Studio)	Youth received instruction in art techniques that promote stress reduction. They also received an art kit to take home as well as resources on getting connected to culturally responsive service providers.	25 youth
Beyond Trauma (Fresh Start)	Nationally renowned researcher and author, Dr. Joy DeGruy presented four workshops on various aspects of trauma and resiliency (internal racism, structural violence, self-care, youth framework of violence prevention, etc.)	645 youth, residents, and cross-sector leaders



Healing arts activities for youth at Heal the Hood

Summary of Community Needs & Resource Assessment

Background

The Resiliency in Communities after Stress and Trauma (ReCAST) Project is intended to facilitate individual and community healing and resiliency in the aftermath of structural violence and racism by increasing access to high quality, relevant behavioral health services and ensuring psychological and physical safety of children and adolescents in some of MKE's most economically and socially disadvantaged neighborhoods. The five goals of the national ReCAST initiative, as defined by the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) are the following:

1. Build a foundation to promote *well-being, resiliency and community healing* through *community-based* participatory approaches.
2. Create community change through community-based, participatory approaches which promote *community and youth engagement, leadership development, improved governance, and capacity building*
3. Facilitate *equitable access to trauma-informed* community behavioral health resources
4. Ensure program services are *developmentally appropriate* and *culturally specific* to youth, families, and the communities served
5. Strengthen the *integration of behavioral health services and community systems* to address *social determinants of health*. In doing so, it is imperative to acknowledge transportation, law enforcement practices, employment and housing policies as contributing factors of health outcomes.

ReCAST MKE is staffed by the City of Milwaukee Health Department's Office of Violence Prevention (OVP) which is committed to advancing youth and community driven solutions for violence prevention and healing. Community engagement and grass roots participation will improve the quality of the results and help to ensure that data, strategies and outcomes are more relevant to the needs and goals of our community.

The mission of ReCAST is to advance healthy youth and families through community- based collaborations that promote healing, justice and equity. ReCAST MKE will focus on youth ages of 12 to 24. Current research documents that consistent exposure to violence puts youth at higher risk for trauma which frequently results in lasting adverse effects on mental, physical, social, emotional and spiritual well-being. These youth have also been most affected by pervasive institutional and/or structural racism, which has been proven to interfere with their functioning in schools, their ability to find meaningful work, their functioning as parents, and their fundamental safety in their own neighborhoods.

ReCAST MKE target areas align with those identified as priority neighborhoods in the Blueprint for Peace: Old North Milwaukee, Harambee, Franklin Heights, Silver Spring, Amani, Harambee, Historic Mitchell, Lincoln Village, North Division, Sherman Park and Midtown.

Process

During the first year, ReCAST MKE was required to complete an initial *Community Needs & Resources Assessment* was completed to help identify priorities, stakeholders and to inform the development of key strategies to address the identified needs. This process was designed to provide a balanced and informed perspective on the needs and strengths of Milwaukee communities. It included the following steps: (a) reviewing and integrating relevant reports on violence, trauma and mental illness in Milwaukee (completed within the last four years); (b) gathering data through “community listening sessions” hosted by OVP; (c) summarizing survey data collected from youth regarding their perspective on violence prevention; (d) conducting an environmental scan to identify MKE’s most economically distressed neighborhood and MKE’s community resources and assets; (e) conducting stakeholder interviews with community and agency representatives to gain multiple perspectives on how to address MKE’s primary problems.

Several of the community members and leaders interviewed emphasized the need for community involvement in the design and implementation of violence prevention efforts. Notably, respondents suggested: “nothing about us without us,” “take into account the youth voice” and “shared responsibility with the community having equal authority.” Community leaders also underscored that over the years they have heard lots of talk, but have seen too little action. It is imperative to fulfill expectations that constructive action will follow, as a next step in the project.

Identified Needs

The following “needs” emerged as top priorities in community listening/discussion sessions and stakeholder interviews.

Need to improve the social and economic conditions of youth at risk for violence.

Neighborhoods with the highest rates of violence have the highest rates of (a) poverty; (b) segregation; (c) unemployment and (d) high school non-completion.

Need to improve youth safety by reducing exposure to violence. While the overall rates of violence have decreased in many of Milwaukee’s neighborhoods and communities, the rates of violence in communities with concentrated disadvantage has been persistently high. We defined violence broadly to include: gun violence, domestic violence, child abuse, bullying, dating violence, rape, molestation and exploitation. Finally, we also examined structural violence – such as mass incarceration and hyper-segregation - that causes harm by denying basic human rights and/or depriving access to fundamental resources.

Need to increase access to appropriate psychological services. It is estimated that 18% of young people have a mental health disorder and about 4.1% of youth/young adults have had a serious mental illness (SMI). The rate of serious mental illness for low-income young adults is significantly higher (about 7.7%). Recent evaluations of the public mental health system reveal a lopsided funding structure that emphasizes last-ditch inpatient services rather than community based services designed to identify problems early and intervene to promote healthy development. There is also a need to decrease distrust in the mental health systems by making services more relevant and meaningful to users of the services. Despite advances in the development of mental health programs for youth at the national level, there has been little improvement in the overall mental health of youth in Milwaukee.

Need to build the capacity of informal places of hope and healing within the community as identified by youth and families. There is a shortage of culturally competent mental health providers able to meet the needs of youth and young adults in distressed communities. Promoting this sort of “integrative behavioral health” approach is community centered and place-based which has been shown to diminish disparities.

Need to promote Positive Youth Development by teaching young people how to invest in their own communities. In addition to treating mental illness, there is a need to support positive youth development through programs situated in schools, health clinics, after school program and employment programs in their own communities. This could include activities that support social emotional learning, youth expression, creativity, advocacy, collaboration and leadership skills.

Need to improve access to higher education for mental and behavioral health fields. Milwaukee has several institutions of higher education that would benefit from increasing efforts to recruit and retain minority students, including those attending local high schools. This is a problem in two respects: underutilizing these institutions to promote diversity in the workforce and under-actualizing the talents of local youth.

Identified Resources

Milwaukee already has many of the key ingredients needed to build an integrated system of support for youth in high risk environments including (a) high quality mental health service providers; (b) programs that provide alternative forms of healing and support to disenfranchised youth; (c) strong after-school programs that provide youth with valuable opportunities in safe settings; (d) employment programs that provide young people with job training, work experience and career exploration services; (e) evidence-based programs in schools designed to help students feel safe and to ensure that the classroom is a secure learning environment that supports growth and success.

Milwaukee has the fundamental resources needed to develop an assessment and referral system that could help connect at risk youth to appropriate resources and services. An opportunity exists to effectively develop systems and processes that connect local youth to appropriate programs and services based on specific interests and needs. This would allow institutions and organizations to collaborate more effectively to support the city’s under-served and under-resourced populations.

Milwaukee has the expertise and resources to: (a) educate frontline public services providers about how to deliver trauma sensitive care; (b) provide parents with specialized support and coaching to diminish risk for child abuse; (c) provide relationship education and interpersonal skills training to prevent domestic violence and partner abuse; and (d) provide conflict resolution services to help defuse arguments that lead to violence. Currently, there is no central system for accessing and disseminating these services as needed.

Milwaukee has leaders in the business and workforce development community who are well positioned to address the current “skills gap” by training and mentoring local young men and women to fulfill specific tasks. It is possible to integrate mental health and workforce development/job placement services to help employees be more successful and help

employers provide sufficient guidance and support through trauma informed employment practices.

Milwaukee is developing expertise in alternative, non-traditional forms of healing and youth empowerment. Milwaukee has under-utilized expertise in cultural competency training. Such training would help employers, youth development professionals, first responders and mental health professionals provide more relevant and effective support to the City's diverse population.

Summary and Conclusions

Although Milwaukee has many valuable programs and services, the lack of an integrative entity to connect youth and families to those services means that many young people are under-served and many resources may be under-utilized or not providing culturally appropriate services. Furthermore, it is necessary to recognize that in addition to strengthening support systems for youth and families, it is also essential to address "upstream factors" that perpetuate chronic stress, violence and trauma. The "upstream factors" consist of segregation, poverty, unemployment and underperforming schools.

As a result of the *Community Needs & Resources Assessment*, the following set of recommendations have been recognized that reflect needs identified by the community stakeholders:

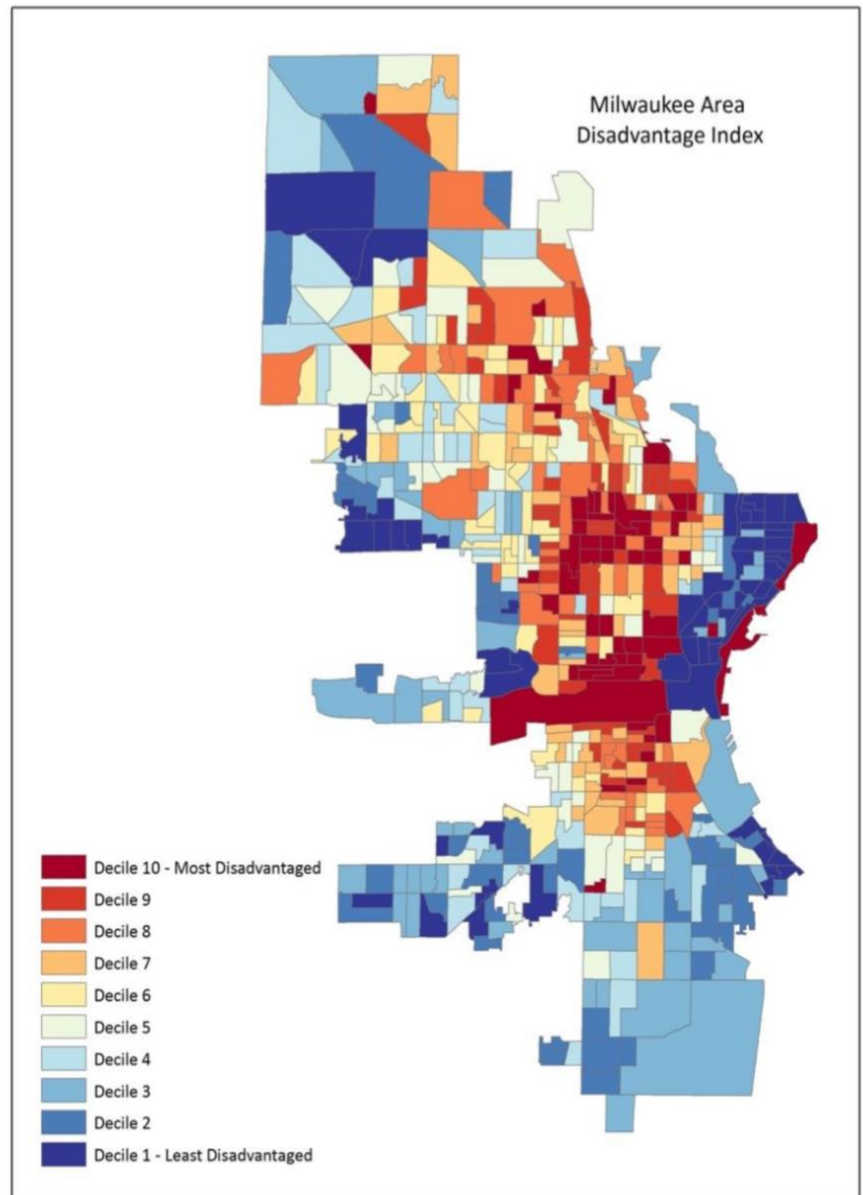
1. Promote long-term trauma reduction and healing support to residents, professionals who address violence, and others experiencing secondary/vicarious trauma
2. Increase coordination of mental health and trauma services across agencies to support children, youth and families who have been exposed to multiple forms of violence.
3. Build a pipeline of culturally-competent mental health care providers from neighborhoods most affected by violence
4. Promote and restore a connection to and sense of cultural identity to promote individual and community healing and resilience
5. Promote culturally rooted healing, resilience, and social development
6. Offer ongoing, collaborative opportunities for training and capacity-building for organizational partners and community stakeholders to better understand best and promising practices in preventing violence and reducing trauma
7. Offer training to providers, professionals and first responders to better identify, engage, assess and support youth and families who have experienced trauma
8. Promote inclusive and protective school environments
9. Decrease teen dating violence and sexual assault in youth
10. Strengthen treatment and services for sexual and domestic violence
11. Support, encourage and advocate for the delivery of services in settings where youth and families live, learn, play and work
12. Use assessment strategies to determine which social services are trauma informed, culturally responsive and useful for youth and families-- An efficient system will match individual needs to specialized services/programs.

Summary of Behavioral Health Disparities Impact Statement

The Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) issued the Action Plan to Reduce Racial and Ethnic Health Disparities in 2011. This plan described a disparity impact statement (DIS) as a system intervention to reduce disparities. Since that time, SAMHSA has required that all grant recipients submit a DIS that describes how the grantee will address behavioral health disparities. The SAMHSA DIS has a strategic focus on reducing behavioral health disparities and/or disproportionalities (D/D) among racial and ethnic populations.

Structural violence in the form of policies such as urban renewal, redlining, segregation and racism has negatively impacted communities, families and youth in Milwaukee. The map displays areas within the City of Milwaukee most affected by 17 indicators of disadvantage such as distance to a hospital, level of education and income. Concentrated disadvantage contributes to a young person's likelihood of being exposed to trauma, loss and forced displacement.

ReCAST MKE focuses on youth ages 12-24 and their families who reside in priority neighborhoods and who have experienced trauma or who are at risk of experiencing trauma.



Areas indicated by dark red are most disadvantaged, while dark blue areas are least disadvantaged. Eight of the ten most disadvantaged areas have populations of 79-100% African Americans. These areas directly overlap with the priority neighborhoods identified in the Blueprint for Peace. Many of these areas also lack access to activities that promote youth development and health outcome achievement, including culturally responsive mental and behavioral health resources.

Summary of Blueprint for Peace



What is the Blueprint?

The Blueprint for Peace is a comprehensive strategy for preventing violence in Milwaukee. Informed by hundreds of Milwaukee residents, the Blueprint is comprised of six goals and 30 evidence-informed recommendations for reducing the prevalence and impact of violence in our city. The Blueprint is a community driven plan focused on 10 priority neighborhoods. These neighborhoods have been identified based on persistent and concentrated levels of poverty, aggravated assaults, nonfatal shootings, and homicides. The Blueprint offers a vision for a safer city and a core set of goals and strategies to improve the coordination and focus of violence prevention efforts.

Why?

Violence is preventable. If we invest the necessary resources for coordinated action over a sustained period of time, we can have a generational impact on violence in this city. Public safety is everyone's issue--every individual and sector of our community is impacted by the physical, emotional, and economic toll that violence has on our community. We have to invest early, often, and consistently across the life-span to decrease violence in our families, neighborhoods, schools, and workplaces.

Goals

1. Stop the Shooting
2. Promote healing and restorative Justice
3. Strengthen children youth and families
4. Advance economic opportunity
5. Foster safe neighborhoods
6. Strengthen capacity and coordination of violence prevention efforts

Criteria for Strategies

- Ability to leverage existing resources and capacity
- Builds upon existing political and community will
- Greatest potential to reduce rather than exacerbate inequities in rates of violence
- Clearly addresses identified risk and resilience factors
- Prevention focused
- Advances individual and community assets
- Rooted in research and evidence informed practice
- Compliments or integrates with other local intervention

Implementation Priorities

- Leadership and Oversight
- Neighborhood Engagement
- Youth and School Engagement
- Funding
- Communications
- Policy
- Data
- Evaluation

Evaluation and Metrics

The Blueprint calls for a systematic evaluation of violence prevention efforts—looking at the impact of collective and coordinated strategies instead of individual programs alone. Violence prevention requires a long-term commitment where risk and resilience factors are measured, in addition to longer-term outcome measures of violence. This Blueprint offers relevant indicators to assess changes in rates of violence in the long-term as well as measures to track annual progress toward advancing goals in the Blueprint.

- Rates of nonfatal shootings in priority neighborhoods
- Rates of homicides in priority neighborhoods
- Number of retaliatory homicides in priority neighborhoods
- Youth employment rate in priority neighborhoods
- Youth engagement in after-school and summer programs
- Youth and adult safety index in priority neighborhoods
- Public and philanthropic investment for violence prevention efforts serving residents from
 - priority neighborhoods in Milwaukee
- Number of programs, practices, and policies that employ a public health approach to address the structural and social determinants of health and safety
- Awareness and use of domestic violence and sexual assault prevention services among residents in priority nei

ReCAST MKE and Blueprint for Peace Alignment

ReCAST MKE	Blueprint for Peace					
Key Activities	Goal 1	Goal 2	Goal 3	Goal 4	Goal 5	Goal 6
Access to neighborhood based trauma responsive healing services						
Promotion of positive messages that address stigma and harmful norms which create a culture of fear and hopelessness						
Youth and family– centered cultural healing activities						
Parent education and peer support						
Community building and resident engagement						
Training and technical assistance						
Coaching and financial investment to build capacity of community based organizations						
Coordination of partnerships with families, residents, institutional and community systems						



ReCAST MKE Logic Model

Mission Statement: Advancing healthy youth and families through community-based collaborations that promote healing, equity and justice.

Situation: Milwaukee youth in priority neighborhoods, between the ages of 12-24, are disproportionately exposed to experiences of racism, concentrated disadvantage and violence which may lead to trauma or loss. Many also have limited access to culturally specific, trauma responsive healing resources.

