

Safe Takoma

Report, November 2008

Prepared by Safe Takoma, Incorporated
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Funds Expended

Washington DC, prior expenditures:	\$21,377.77
Washington DC, current month expenditures:	\$4,130.22
Washington DC, unreimbursed expenses (liabilities):	\$24.00
Takoma Park MD, prior expenditures:	\$16,877.74
Takoma Park MD, current month expenditures:	\$4,130.21
Takoma Park MD, unreimbursed expenses (liabilities):	\$16.00

Funding Balances (November 30, 2008)

Washington DC contribution:	\$75,000.00
Washington DC funding balance:	\$49,468.01
Takoma Park MD contribution:	\$30,876.86
Takoma Park MD funding balance:	\$9,852.91
Takoma Park MD pending contribution:	\$44,123.14

Status

The Safe Takoma program undertook the following organizational and programming steps in November 2008.

- Board meeting held Thursday, 11/6/08 at 6:45pm. Action items identified and responsible party assigned. Those in attendance: Seth Grimes, Faith Wheeler, Sara Green, Andy Kelemen and Operations manager Ronnie Miller. Items discussed include; programming, upcoming events/meetings and fundraising.
- Operations Manager attended Governor's Crime Prevention Summit on 11/8/08. Attendees were provided with a variety of resources and were able to network with other individuals working in the crime prevention arena. GOCCP is making up to \$150,000 in competitive grant funding available for community crime prevention projects. Each award would be \$3,000.
- The reimbursable grant is to provide seed money for community based organizations to initiate or continue grass roots, crime prevention programs in partnership with local law enforcement agencies.

- City Council meeting held on 11/10/08. Council members expressed their views and concerns about the progress that STI has made and offered suggestions for the future. The council voted to approve the disbursement of the remaining funds.
- Received approval for STIs' FY09 budget from Commander Brown, Chief Ricucci and City Manager.
- Safety Perception Survey conducted. Shared results with the Takoma Park Police Department. Tabulation and analysis are pending.
- Distributed safety fliers provided by the Takoma Park Police Department to approximately 500 households in the Philadelphia-Eastern Neighborhood. Contacted neighborhood representatives in the North Takoma, Hodges Heights, WACO, and Pinecrest neighborhoods regarding flier distribution there; pursuing, for now, the two that responded: Pinecrest and Hodges Heights.
- Discussed placement of public-safety information in the current issue of the Takoma DC Neighborhood Association newsletter. Per Safe Takoma's budget, we will fund \$100 per issue given the inclusion of this content.
- Whistle Recipient Survey also conducted with 20 responses. 55% carry the whistle daily, none have had to use it, 70% feel a little safer carrying the whistle.
- Continued attendance and participation in CTC Ward 4 Substance Abuse Prevention Coalition and Coolidge Truancy Task Force.
- Programming:
 - *Whistle Giveaway* conducted on Thursday November 6, 2008 at the Takoma metro station from 5-6:30pm. Board members, operations manager, one staff and officers from Takoma MD and MPD-4D were present. 157 commuters received safety whistles and safety tips; distributed materials from the Takoma Park and Metro police departments. Of those who completed the registration form, the following is a breakdown of the responses:
 1. I live/work in Takoma Park – 67 Washington DC – 71 Other – 22
 2. I use the Takoma metro – 142 most said daily
 3. I'd like to join a citizens/Orange hat patrol in my neighborhood – 21
 4. I'd like to arrange for a police conducted home/business inspection – 23
 5. Please add my email address to the Alert Takoma safety alert list – 76
 6. I would like to sign up as a Safe Takoma volunteer – 26
 7. I am interested in learning Conflict Resolution techniques – 53
 There were 44 respondents with DC addresses and 110 with Maryland addresses.
 - *Rites of Passage* program began Thursday 11/20/09 at the DC Rec. and Parks Center. There were 12 youth in attendance although 22 were expected. The program at the Takoma MD center has been postponed due to center staffing issues.
- Meetings attended:
 - Met with Chief Ricucci for monthly status meeting on 11/19/08. He offered suggestions /ideas for future STI planning and continued assistance.

- Met with Diane Robinson, Senior Ministry Director of Trinity Episcopal Church to discuss coordination of whistle giveaway.
- Weekly meetings held with Al Cook of the Takoma Park DC Recreation Center and Alexandria Wilson of Takoma Park Maryland Recreation Center to prepare for start of Rites of Passage programs.
- Met with Gregory Clark, Assistant Director of the MD center regarding the Rites of Passage program on 11/24/08. Mr. Clark informed me that his staff is in flux as Ms. Wilson and Mr. Gaston (co-facilitators of the program) will no longer be working at the community center. Unfortunately Mr. Clark does not think that the program should start until April. He feels that we need sufficient time to advertise and he needs to have staff in place to develop relationships with the youth prior to adding another activity.

December 2008 Plans

- Conduct Safety Meeting and Whistle Giveaway at Trinity Episcopal Church.
- Conduct Neighborhood Safety Assessment of the Takoma DC east side and conduct Takoma DC lighting reviews. Prepare findings and follow-up to request action where appropriate.
- Complete plan for Pre-Apprenticeship program targeted at youth ages 18-25.
- Apply for the Governor's Office of Crime Control and Prevention grant and research other fundraising opportunities.
- Locate a male facilitator for the Takoma MD Rites of Passage program.
- Develop additional neighborhood safety programming.
- Coordinate meeting with all three police departments (MD, DC and WMATA) to address safety concerns expressed by respondents of the Safety Perceptions Survey.
- Carry out regular planning, administrative, and reporting tasks.