

# Safe Takoma

## Report, September 2008

Prepared by Safe Takoma, Incorporated on behalf of the  
Takoma DC Neighborhood Association  
7106 Piney Branch Road  
Washington, DC 20012

Contact: Ronnie Miller, Operations Manager, Safe Takoma Incorporated, 202-722-7122

### Funds Expended

Washington DC, prior expenditures:	\$15,599.52
Washington DC, current month expenditures:	\$3,214.02
Washington DC, unreimbursed expenses (liabilities):	\$24.00
Takoma Park MD, prior expenditures:	\$11,278.16
Takoma Park MD, current month expenditures:	\$3,035.35
Takoma Park MD, unreimbursed expenses (liabilities):	\$16.00

### Funding Balances (September 30, 2008)

Washington DC contribution:	\$75,000.00
Washington DC funding balance:	\$56,162.46
Takoma Park MD contribution:	\$30,876.86
Takoma Park MD funding balance:	\$16,547.35

### Status

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

- Board meeting held. Action items identified and responsible party assigned.
- Compilation of Whistle Program sign-up information completed, and responses to questions aggregated. Twenty-nine individuals requested a police home safety inspection. Individual names and contact information was forwarded to Commander Brown and Capt. Coursey to arrange inspection and follow up. Also, reached out to the thirty individuals who expressed an interest in volunteering for Safe Takoma.

- Continued attendance and participation in CTC Ward 4 Substance Abuse Prevention Coalition and Coolidge Truancy Task Force.
- STI Directory completed.
- Phone and other essential items purchased. Voicemail set up.
- Researched DC sales tax exemption. STI would have to submit a separate application to DC.
- Obtained final conflict resolution report from CR trainers.
- Continued efforts to develop and implement youth development programs. Began draft of Rites of Passage program to be conducted at TPMD and TPDC Recreation Centers.
- Coordination and planning for Fall Festival (scheduled for Oct. 5th) and Stakeholders/Programming Meeting (scheduled for Oct. 7th) continued and completed.
- Meetings attended:
  - Met with Commander Brown for monthly status meeting on 9/10/08. She was pleased with STI progress thus far and is supportive of future programming. Commander Brown expressed concern regarding continued and future funding for STI, and was eager to approve requests for disbursement of funds.
  - Met with Chief Ricucci for monthly status meeting on 9/23/08. Discussed the Fall Festival and Advisory meeting. He will not be able to attend meeting but will send a representative. He also agreed to provide police when we conduct the neighborhood assessment activity.
  - Meeting held with Alexandria Wilson of Takoma Park Maryland Recreation Center on 9/11/08. Programming needs were discussed. Determined need for young male and female programs, possibly Rites of Passage program. Also brainstormed possible parent involvement activities. Ms. Wilson also provided feedback regarding this summer's conflict resolution training.
  - Met with Al Cook and Mr. Jenkins of the Takoma Park DC Recreation Center on 9/24/08 to discuss youth programming. It was determined that a female empowerment program would definitely meet the needs of the female youth in the community. Although it may require some recruitment activity, it would be a positive addition to the Recreation Center's scheduled activities.
  - Attended scheduled meeting with TP Community Action Group on 9/23/08. STI board members and Operations Manager discussed future programming ideas and ways to collaborate with the Community Action Group.
  - On 9/23/08, we also participated in a meeting with neighborhood association heads and Chief Ricucci. The Chief informed the group about current crime trends as well as what can be expected as daylight savings time approaches. Chief Ricucci addressed safety concerns expressed by the group, and provided helpful crime prevention tips that the community could use.
  - Attended meeting at the Joint School of Carpentry regarding pre-apprenticeship program on 9/25/08. The meeting was very positive as far as

their willingness to work with us and the youth we refer. They can tailor the program to our needs to include what will be taught and length of program (can be anywhere from 1 week every other month to 6 consecutive weeks). ST would have to provide transportation and they would prefer that a representative also be present initially. They would also require 4 months lead time to coordinate. In addition, due to safety issues, they have a zero tolerance policy for behavior issues and require that all participants have a negative drug screen. Therefore, prior to recommending youth, ST needs to develop some type of screening process that would include job readiness (they do not provide) and a drug screen. In order to get the most for our money, it is imperative that the youth we send are serious about the program.

### **October 2008 Plans**

- Hold Stakeholders/Programming meeting.
- Continue planning meetings with DPR staff to develop and implement fall programming.
- Develop Rites of Passage program implement and conduct programming per the Safe Takoma Work Plan. Locate a male facilitator for the male youth programs.
- Develop additional neighborhood safety programming.
- Carry out regular planning, administrative, and reporting tasks.