



City of San Antonio

Agenda Memorandum

File Number:

Agenda Item Number: 1

Agenda Date: January 24, 2024

In Control: City Council B Session

DEPARTMENT: Health Department

DEPARTMENT HEAD: Claude Jacob

COUNCIL DISTRICTS IMPACTED: Citywide

SUBJECT:

A briefing by Metro Health on the collaborative development of a communitywide Violence Prevention Strategic Plan

SUMMARY:

The San Antonio Metropolitan Health District (Metro Health) led a collaborative effort to develop the first Violence Prevention Strategic Plan for the San Antonio / Bexar County area.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

In April 2022, Metro Health launched its SA Forward plan that provides the strategic direction for the department to protect and improve the health of the San Antonio community. This plan focuses on six priority areas including, among others, violence prevention. Metro Health is currently undergoing a quality improvement effort to enhance its infrastructure and renew its public health mission following an extended mobilization to respond to the COVID-19 pandemic.

The City continues its efforts to address violence prevention utilizing a public health approach, and Metro Health used the momentum of several converging opportunities to plan long-term, evidence-based strategies to shift the landscape of health in the community. Representatives from Metro Health, the San Antonio Police Department (SAPD), St. John Baptist Church, and the

University of San Antonio participated in a national public health leadership training program which involved coordinating development of the Violence Prevention Strategic Plan. Together, these organizations engaged stakeholders and community residents to provide input and participate in the development of the plan.

Using a public health approach to prevent violence and work collaboratively with stakeholders, the multisectoral strategic plan can combine and amplify resources to increase positive outcomes in the community. The Violence Prevention Strategic Plan:

- Identifies and defines strategies to prevent and intervene in violence along a continuum and throughout the lifespan.
- Updates the 2019 City of San Antonio Domestic Violence Plan.
- Incorporates prevention strategies for other community violence issues such as shootings, child abuse and neglect, sexual abuse, and acts of mass violence
- Complements SAPD's Violent Crime Reduction Plan.

Briefings to the Public Safety Committee were provided by Metro Health in February and November of 2023 to describe the process to develop the strategic plan and the result. This briefing to the City Council will summarize the development process and highlight the strategies and projected outcomes of the Violence Prevention Strategic Plan.

ISSUE:

Metro Health led a collaborative effort to develop the first communitywide Violence Prevention Strategic Plan for San Antonio / Bexar County. The plan will provide a road map to implement evidence-based strategies to prevent violence. This briefing to the City Council will summarize the development process and highlight the strategies and projected outcomes of the strategic plan.

ALTERNATIVES:

This item is for briefing purposes only.

FISCAL IMPACT:

This item is for briefing purposes only.

RECOMMENDATION:

This item is for briefing purposes only.