Palm Beach County Youth Violence Prevention Project

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Presentation Outline

- Purposes of the Project
- Summary of Previous Findings

New Findings

- Offender Demographics Recalculated to include Hispanic Population
- Profile of Homicide and Violent Offenders
- Time of Homicides and Violent Crimes
- Homicide Victim Drug Use
- Offender/Victim Relationship
- Mapping
Purposes of the Project

1. Determine the historical and current trends of violent crime in Palm Beach County, particularly aimed at predicting youth violence and incidents involving firearms

2. Identify ways to decrease the amount of violent youth crime within Palm Beach County
Purposes of the Project

3. Ensure that local agencies are involved in identifying and prioritizing evidence based violence prevention strategies throughout Palm Beach County.

Including the following agencies:

- Prevention
- Law Enforcement
- Courts
- Corrections
Summary of Previous Findings

- Reported crime rate in PBC (UCR) has been decreasing steadily over the past 15 years.

- Violent crime and violent crime involving firearms leveled off over the past five years.

- Homicide was declining moderately over the last 15 years; however 2004 had the second highest number of murders (89) since 1990.
Summary of Previous Findings

- The use of firearms in homicides increased in last 5 years

- The largest and fastest growing age group of homicide offenders is 20-24 years of age

- Over the next 5 years, age and race groups that have a high risk of violent offending are projected to increase at a much faster rate than the overall population
Characteristics of Individuals Arrested for Murder and Victims of Violent Crimes with Firearms in Palm Beach County
Victims of Violent Crimes Committed with a Firearm by Age Groups

Data Source: PBC Law Enforcement Records

[Bar chart showing the number of victims in different age groups from 14 to 60-99 years old, with the highest number of victims in the 20-24 age group and the lowest in the 60-99 age group.]
Victims of Violent Crime Committed with a Firearm by Gender and Race

Data Source: PBC Law Enforcement Records
Offenders of Violent Crime Committed with a Firearm by Age Groups

Data Source: PBC Law Enforcement Records
Offenders of Violent Crime Committed with a Firearm by Gender and Race

Data Source: PBC Law Enforcement Records
Murder Rates by Age Groups

Data Source: FDLE Computerized Criminal History Records
Profile of Homicide and Violent Offenders (2004)
84% of Violent Offenders have an arrest record before the age of 30
79% of Homicide Offenders have an arrest record before the age of 30

Data Source: FDLE Computerized Criminal History Records
Prior Offenses of Homicide and Violent Offenders Arrested in 2004

Data Source: FDLE Computerized Criminal History Records
Victims of Homicide – Drug Use
Homicides Involving a Firearm with A Victim Under 30 - Toxicology Results

45.3% of the 121 of Homicide Victims had some form of dangerous drugs in their system at the time of death.

Data Source: PBC Medical Examiner Records
Characteristics of Homicide and Violent Crimes with a Firearm
Weapons Used in Homicides

Data Source: FDLE Supplemental Homicide Reports
Percent of Violent Firearm Crimes by Day of the Week: 2000-2004

Data Source: PBC Law Enforcement Records
Percent of Violent Firearm Crimes by Time of Day: 2000-2004

- 9-12pm: 27%
- 6-9pm: 17%
- 3-6pm: 12%
- 12-3pm: 10%
- 3-6am: 7%
- 6-9am: 4%
- 12-3am: 15%
- 9-12am: 8%

Data Source: PBC Law Enforcement Records
Percent of Homicides Involving a Firearm by Time of Day: 2000-2004

- 12-3pm: 9%
- 3-6pm: 5%
- 6-9pm: 19%
- 9-12pm: 21%
- 9-12am: 0%
- 6-9am: 8%
- 3-6am: 17%
- 12-3am: 21%

Data Source: PBC Medical Examiner Records
Homicide Offender/Victim Relationships
Homicide Offender/Victim Race

Data Source: FDLE Supplemental Homicide Reports
Homicide Offender/Victim Gender

Data Source: FDLE Supplemental Homicide Reports
Homicide Offender/Victim Relative

16.3% of Homicide victims had some relationship to their offenders

Data Source: FDLE Supplemental Homicide Reports
Crime Mapping