



Advance Peace Overview:

Mayor Michael Tubbs sees public safety and reducing violent crime as a top priority for his office. Gun violence has plagued our community for far too long, leaving in its path wrecked lives and a city with a tarnished image. The Mayor believes that improving public safety requires more than simply rounding people up and making arrest. In the 21st century you must have a comprehensive approach that is driven by data and is based on results. To reach our goals, the Mayor is advocating for a program founded in Richmond California known as "Advance Peace."

Advance Peace Richmond:

Advance Peace is an 18-month fellowship that focuses on the known shooters in a community and is aimed at reducing violent gun crime. This program was started in Richmond California and now the founder, DeVone Boggan, is looking to expand. Earlier this year, Sacramento's city council voted unanimously 7-0, in favor of bringing Advance Peace to our state capitol. That leaves open just one more city for expansion. We hope that city will be Stockton.

In Richmond as in Stockton, a handful of individuals are responsible for the majority of gun violence. In Stockton, less than 1% of the population is responsible for the majority of violent crime. Advance Peace, focuses on these individuals through an intensive seven touchpoint program. Advance Peace requires 7 days of week, multiple times a day interaction between participants and mentors. Each participant focuses on life mapping and setting goals, internships and opportunities, social service navigation, daily check ins, mentorships, known as the Elders Circle and transformative travel. This aggressive interaction provides a support system that creates a strong deterrence away from criminal activity.

Results:

Richmond saw a 60% reduction in firearm assaults between 2010 – 2016. Of the 84 Richmond fellows between 2010-2015: 94% are still alive, 83% have had no gun injuries or hospitalizations, and 77% have not been a suspect in a firearm activity.

Current Efforts:

As a result of record homicides and police layoffs, voters, in 2014, passed Measure A, a three-quarter cent sales tax. The money is designated for the hiring of 40 police officers per year, and also launched the Office of Violence Prevention (OVP). The goal of OVP is to significantly reduce violence through partnerships and working with the community. Through current efforts, crime has generally stabilized.

Advance Peace Stockton

The Mayor views Advance Peace as an important addition to the efforts already taking place in Stockton. We must act with a sense of urgency when it comes to public safety. As of November 2017, Stockton police report 46 homicides.

No Tax Dollars:

Unlike other cities, Advance Peace Stockton will not cost the tax payers any dollars. All of the funding for this program will come from the private sector. The Record Newspaper notes that using private funds is "a huge factor for a city that not that long ago dealt with the woes of bankruptcy." The Record goes on to say that this idea "appears to be low-risk, out-of-the-box thinking."

The True Cost of Homicides

If you include expenses such as hospital stays, legal fees and detective work, Mother Jones Magazine estimates that a single homicide cost tax payers over \$400,000, not to mention the emotional and personal losses to the community.

Stipends

After six months of participation, individuals are eligible to earn a stipend. The more you follow the program the greater your stipend. Although the maximum is \$1,000 the average amount ranges between \$300-\$700 per month. The media says that Advance Peace pays for criminals not to commit crime. This is simply not the case. The threat of death or life in prison does not deter these folks from committing crime, surely a few hundred bucks will not stop them either. Rather, the stipends are like any other fellowship program; they are used to help stabilize the basic financial needs of participants. As a reminder, none of the cost of this program comes from tax payer dollars and that includes stipends.

The Path Forward.

Improving public safety is not only a matter of policy, but a matter of personal tragedy for our Mayor. Prior to running for office, gun violence claimed the life of his cousin. This incident sparked the Mayor's original run for city council. We ask that you join us in support of this effort by sharing the facts with friends and family. To learn more contact the office of the Mayor.

Record: <http://www.recordnet.com/opinion/20171021/our-view-unusual-solutions-for-two-of-stocktons-prolonged-problems>
Mother Jones <http://www.motherjones.com/politics/2015/04/true-cost-of-gun-violence-in-america/>