



Safe & Sound October 2022 E-Newsletter



A Message From Our Executive Director



Greetings neighbors!

I hope this newsletter finds you in healthy and well and safe and sound. October is probably my most favorite month of the year with all the energy and enthusiasm on display in our neighborhoods for the fall season. I also look forward to finding good excuses to both indulge in sweet treats and helping to spread joy to young people dressed up for the occasion of Halloween expecting donations of candy to their stash. This month our team has been at hosting a ton of Trunk or Treat events with local community partners as well as distributing pumpkins for the taking for families. It is a good time, a cooler time, a beautiful time of the year. A wonderful excuse to grab a cup of hot chocolate or champurrado with a new friend – invite me, I'll join you!

This month our team also set aside time to dedicate raising awareness that continue to plague our city – specifically around domestic violence. Our team

committed to wearing the color purple to honor survivors of domestic violence and support the growing awareness that is necessary to put a stop to unhealthy relationships. We've also utilized our youth programming such as Barbershop Monday and S.M.I.L.E. & Slay to discuss ways to better manage conflict and to talk about how to seek help when safety issues occur. So much of our work in communities is centered on being willing to amplify the voices of those who need to be heard – and this month presented a great space for us to do that as well as provide some great resources for those who need it most.

Additionally, our team was involved in the National Drug Take Back Day on October 29, 2022 with aims to provide safe, convenient and responsible means of disposing of prescription drugs, while also educating residents and youth about the potential for abuse of medications. Too often, unused prescription drugs find their way into the wrong hands. Limiting the easy availability of drugs in homes across our city will reduce accidental use, drug issues and overdoses. Disposing of unwanted prescriptions helps alleviate the abuse

of drugs. We're proud of our ability to keep drug prevention at the center of our work.

October also began the 4th Quarter of 2022 for Safe & Sound, and it has been a culmination of the finishing touches of a busy year. Literally finishing touches as we slowly pack up our office here in downtown Milwaukee and prepare for the movers to help us get settled in our new space in the heart of Sherman Park neighborhood. More to come next month on this excitement about our official headquarters relocation.

Warm regards,

Bridget Whitaker
Executive Director

In case you missed it, check out the Facebook Live Q&A we did to learn about Bridget, her interests, background, and goals for the organization!

Q&A with Bridget Whitaker

Drug Take Back Events



Drug Take Back days have played an important role in our prevention work. Having a safe and unassuming place to take old and expired medications is a program we are thankful to be a part of. Please be sure to keep an eye out for any of our upcoming Drug Take Back events. And if you're interested in learning more or looking for a place to dispose of your unwanted medication, please reach out to any of our Neighborhood Safety Coordinators.



SAVE THE DATE

A NIGHT TO UNITE

BUCKS VIEWING PARTY

December 02, 2022 Doors open at 4:30 P.M.

Gather At Deer District
333 W Juneau Ave Ste B
Milwaukee, WI 53203

Sponsorships are available now! Tickets available soon.
Contact Mark Guzman at markg@safesound.org for more information.



Join Safe & Sound for our annual A Night to Unite on Friday, December 2nd, 2022 at Gather at Deer District (333 W Juneau Ave Ste B, Milwaukee, WI, 53202).

A Night to Unite is to celebrate our community leaders and collective impact. After the celebration, Safe & Sound will be hosting a Viewing Party to watch the Milwaukee Bucks play against the Los Angeles Lakers.

Schedule of Events:

4:30 P.M. to 5:30 P.M. Cocktails & Appetizers Happy Hour

5:30 P.M. to 6:15 P.M. Awards, Program, Raffle

Starting at 6:15 Bucks vs. Lakers Viewing Party

Food and Beverages to be served throughout Viewing Party along with Games and Drawings

Come and enjoy a night of recognizing community service and support of our local teams, on and off the court.

**Sign Up
Here!**

Faith & Blue

You know we're in the business of bringing people together, which is why we love Faith & Blue weekend! It's so important to continue building relationships across all facets of our communities because we all share a common goal of living in a safe and strong

community.

"National Faith & Blue Weekend facilitates safer and stronger communities by engaging law enforcement officers and local residents through the connections of faith-based organizations.

Thank you to everyone who helped put this event on!



"At Safe & Sound, resident and youth engagement, partnership development, and resource connecting is at the heart of what we do."

Racine Job Openings

If you haven't heard the good news, Safe & Sound is expanding to Racine! We are currently hiring a Neighborhood team, including a Community Organizer, Neighborhood Safety Coordinator, and Youth Organizers. See the job descriptions below.

Youth Organizer

Community Organizer

Neighborhood Safety Coordinator

Facebook Live on Voting

The election and voting process shouldn't be hard or confusing, but it certainly can be! We hosted a Facebook Live with Liz Aelion, a volunteer from A League of Women Voters Milwaukee, to help outline all of the great resources available to make sure everyone can exercise their right to vote and have their voices heard. Liz



took us through absentee ballot requests, looking up how to find your polling place, and getting registered. Below are a list of resources she mentioned. We highly encourage everyone to watch the live by clicking on the button as there are so many nuggets of knowledge shared!

Check out your ballot! myvote.wi.gov

Wondering what you need to bring to

the polls? bringit.wi.gov

Vote Riders 414-882-8622

Need a ride to the polls?
Souls to the Polls 414-742-1060

Election Protection Hotline
866-687-8683

Disability Rights Hotline
844-347-8683

[FactCheck.org](https://factcheck.org)

Want to run for office? Start here:
<https://elections.wi.gov/candidates>

League of Women Voters Candidate Information can be found at vote411.org

[Re-Watch the Live Here!](#)



Staff Highlight - Teneen Rucker

We are so excited to share that Teneen Rucker has accepted a new position within Safe & Sound as our Data and Evaluations Coordinator! Teneen has served as a standout Neighborhood Safety Coordinator and we are looking forward to using her invaluable knowledge and skills in a new capacity to help share the work we're doing. Let's learn a little more about Teneen!

Teneen Rucker is a proud Milwaukee Public School graduate, and Former Special Educational teacher for Milwaukee Public Schools. She joined the Safe and Sound, Inc team in spring 2021. Teneen has been a resident of Milwaukee County for the past 30 years where she has served the community through community outreach for various community

organizations as well as elected officials. Teneen is a proud mother of 3 children, her oldest son is a member of the United States Marines where he has served his country for the past 12 years. Teneen is a wife and a proud member of Sigma Gamma Rho Sorority, Inc.

During Teneen's time as a Neighborhood Safety Coordinator with the District five

team, she enjoyed working with the Community Partnership Unit of the Milwaukee Police Department District five station. Teneen and the Community Partnership Unit hosted several community events throughout the year, Coffee with a Cop, National Night Out, as well as their annual Shop with a cop event.

Teneen is most excited about the opportunity to work with different partners inside and outside of Safe and Sound, Inc. in a capacity that will serve not just the community but the pillar teams within Safe and Sound, Inc. with evidence-based data and research that will bring change to our city.

Teneen's favorite thing about Milwaukee are the limitless fairs that take place during the summer. There is so much to do so many new adventures added each year, and the food is amazing, "I like to eat."

Please join us in congratulating Teneen on her new position!

Most Powerful Women In Banking

Congratulations to Board Chair, Sodi Nichols, on being featured in American Banker as one of the Most Powerful Women In Banking! Sodi has played a pivotal role in her strategic partnership with Safe & Sound and the Access Home program. We are so thankful to have Sodi as a part of our team and her continued efforts to make Milwaukee a safer and empowered community!

2 Sodi Nichols

Vice President of National Strategic Markets



Sodi Nichols has more than 20 years of experience in the financial services industry, and is in her third year at U.S. Bank. As part of her responsibilities, Nichols manages the strategic partnerships and community impact team. During the past year, her team launched U.S. Bank Access Home, a \$1.5 million initiative dedicated to advancing Black

homeownership. She engaged with a group of nonprofits in five pilot home access markets; Minneapolis, Milwaukee, St. Louis, Little Rock, Arkansas, and Las Vegas. The nonprofits are helping to identify and reach out to consumers in their communities who might not have previously considered homeownership as a viable option. Nichols also oversaw the creation of a new mortgage loan officer training program meant to increase representation.

[Link to Article](#)

Upcoming Events

November Target Team Meeting

When: 11/8 12pm - 1pm

Where: TBD

The Target Team meeting is open to stakeholders who live or work in D2. Issues are discussed;

announcements of any community event are also shared.

Please contact Araceli at 414-242-5223 if you have any questions.

Safe & Sound's New Headquarters Ribbon Cutting Ceremony

When: 11/10 4pm - 6pm

Where: 4422 W Leon Terrace

Join us in celebrating our big move to Sherman Park! Included in this event will be tours of the building, a brief program, and light refreshments.

Access Home Financial Fitness Fair

When: 11/12 11am - 3pm

Where: Evolve Church; 6550 N 76th St

Access Home Event for new and current home buyers including breakouts on credit building, 1st time homebuying, building credit, home upkeep, when is best to refinance, and more. Lunch and child care provided. Contact max@safesound.org (414-788-1322) or donta@safesound.org for details.

Christ St. Peter Health & Resources Fair

When: 11/12 11am - 3pm

Where: Christ-St. Peter School Gym located at 2229 West Greenfield Ave

Excited to announce the 6th Health & Resources Fair here at Christ-St. Peter Lutheran School for our parents, students, and the community, our event will be taking place on 11-12-2022 from 11-3:00 pm at Christ-St. Peter School Gym located at 2229 West Greenfield Ave.

Barbershop Monday - Thanksgiving Edition

When: 11/14 5pm - 7pm

Where: Salvation Army (4129 W Villard Ave, Milwaukee, WI 53209)

Barbershop Mondays and SMILE & Slays are an opportunity for intergenerational dialogues about issues affecting everyone. Realizing the importance of proper grooming and the effect it has on self-esteem and perception, barbers offer free haircuts to youth/men and nail techs offer services.

View more upcoming events on our Safe & Sound event calendar here!

Community Organizer



We are currently hiring two community organizers. One team is in need of a bilingual organizer who speaks Spanish.

The Community Organizer at Safe & Sound is one part of a three-part strategy aimed at building collective efficacy in neighborhoods to create safer communities. Our community organizers meet residents on their front porches and at community meetings, rebuilding social networks and facilitating connections to resources to make neighborhoods safer and stronger. Community organizers work with residents to amplify their voices by helping to implement strategies of crime prevention. A critical part of the organizing function is to build community-police relationships by serving as a liaison between residents and law

enforcement providing two-way communication (prioritizing and advocating for neighborhood safety priorities within the district). Community Organizers need to operate successfully when working independently and as a member of the team.

Click [here](#) for full job description.

Youth Organizer

The Youth Organizer at Safe & Sound is one part of a three-part strategy aimed at building collective efficacy in neighborhoods to create safer communities. The Youth Organizer focuses on engaging youth in positive activities in the community, providing project-based opportunities for creativity and leadership development. Youth Organizers work with youth to amplify their voices by helping to implement strategies of crime prevention. A critical part of the organizing function is to build community-police relationships by serving as a liaison between youth and law enforcement providing two-way communication (prioritizing and advocating for neighborhood safety priorities within the district). Youth Organizers need to operate successfully when working independently and as a member of the team.

Click [here](#) for full job description.

Neighborhood Safety Coordinator

The Neighborhood Safety Coordinator (N) serves as a liaison between City of Milwaukee residents living in the assigned Milwaukee Police Department (MPD) districts and various law-enforcement, other government agencies, and the Assistant District Attorneys serving as Community Partners in these neighborhoods. The NSC works with Safe & Sound staff, the Community Partners, the MPD and community-based organizations planning and coordinating community forums, landlord meetings, block watch meetings and community collaborations that orient residents, families and businesses on the nuisance abatement process. The NSC also provides resources and advocacy to encourage crime prevention, gang prevention and crime awareness. The NSC is tasked with information gathering, organization and reporting leading to the abatement of Community Partnership Unit (CPU) reported nuisances that arise in and around properties located within the assigned Milwaukee Police District.

Click [here](#) for full job description.

Monthly Giving Campaign

COMMUNITY BUILDERS

Join our Monthly Giving Campaign!

Visit safesound.org/donate



SAFE & SOUND

Safe & Sound is committed to our mission of uniting residents, youth, law enforcement and community resources to build safe and empowered neighborhoods. One of the most important things we need to make that happen is you!

You can show your support and help us work toward our vision of a safe neighborhood for everyone in Milwaukee by becoming a Community Builder, one of monthly giving supporters!

Your ongoing and sustaining support enables us to plan out programs for the year and know that our essential work will continue.

Gifts of all sizes make a difference!

[CLICK HERE TO SUPPORT OUR 2022 WORK](#)



Check out our [website](#) and social media outlets to stay up to date with Safe & Sound and for details about how you can help us and the residents we serve!



safesound.org

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