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GREETINGS FROM OUR EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



Happy New Year Friends & Partners!

This year we seek to amplify wellness, prevention, safety and yes -HAPPINESS! What we know for sure is that when we leverage our trusted partnerships to build community - we help create a new sense of engagement that creates JOY!

Residents who are connected to one another - have HOPE for a better future. Youth that feel heard, seen, and valued in conversations - have HOPE for their opportunities

to lead. Partners that can live out their own goals and missions – get to CELEBRATE SUCCESS.

We want to be recognized as the changemakers that help bridge the gap between meaningful relationships that can move the needle on a safer neighborhood.

This past month our team had the opportunity to participate in a 3-day retreat in Racine hosted by the Johnson Foundation at Wingspread. We enjoyed the opportunity to work offsite unplugged and engaging in team building activities that will make us better as we learn how to lean into our strengths as a unit. Amongst the beautiful space and amazing accommodations, our team spent time brainstorming a very detailed action plan for the vision that will lead our work this year. We also had some honest conversations about what it means to be a good partner and to come up with a robust list about "the people in our neighborhood" (think Mr. Rogers) who we need to begin working with, continue working with or reconnect with. Be on the lookout for updates from a team near you!

Most importantly, we hope that you will join us in our efforts to be recognized as NEIGHBORHOOD HOPE DEALERS, amplifying the resources that are needed most in Milwaukee & Racine.

All year long, Safe & Sound will operate as a cohesive unit to become a leader in developing and enhancing neighborhood safety in Milwaukee & Racine by advocating for youth, residents, and high-quality public safety services. We will use our flexibility as a collaborative problem solver to build collective impact.

To learn more – please consider joining me for Coffee w/ Safe & Sound on March 19th from 7:30AM - 11:30AM at Safe & Sound (4422 W. Leon Terrace).

Bridget Whitaker, ED



COFFEE WITH THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Join our Executive Director at our Headquarters (4422 W. Leon Terrace) over a cup of coffee and share your thoughts on our work.

SAVE THE DATE! Tuesday March 19th 7:30 AM - 11:30AM

4422 W. Leon Terrace Milwaukee, WI 53216



Bridget Whitaker Executive Director

WHAT WE'VE BEEN UP TO



Annual Three Kings Celebration!!!

The Three Kings event, a partnership between MPD D2 and the National Latino Law Enforcement Organization (NLLEO), occurs annually on the 5th or 6th of January. This celebration corresponds to the religious observance of the birth of Jesus Christ, with the Three Wise Men, or Three Kings, symbolizing generosity by presenting gifts to the less fortunate Jesus and his family. The Safe and Sound D2 team has taken pride in being a community partner for the event for the past 10 years. The 3 Kings Day promotes community cohesion and positive relationships with law enforcement, a core part of our mission at Safe and Sound. Approximately 43 families benefited from the event, receiving essential items such as food, drinks, and clothing (including coats, hats, scarves, and gloves). Participants were able to take part arts and crafts projects while watching dance performances and enjoying music played by a live DJ.

Milwaukee Police Department officers identified families in need through referrals from social workers, educators, and their own interactions with residents expressing a need for assistance. This tradition has been ongoing for at least a decade and underscores the call for improved police-community relations. The event involves officers in all aspects, from planning and preparation to serving food and distributing items to families.

Residents and youth participated enthusiastically: singing, dancing, and engaging positively with attending officers, fostering a sense of unity and collaboration.

HEAR FROM OUR COMMUNITY

Meet Anne Bobb!

Anne is one of the newest additions to the Safe & Sound Board of Directors. She is the VP of Quality and Patient Safety at Froedtert.

In her role, she works with clinicians and leaders to improve the quality of patient care and to optimize systems to prevent medical errors from happening. She was first introduced to Safe & Sound through the philanthropic arm of Froedtert Health who felt that Anne would be a good fit for Safe & Sound and she agreed!



She has attended a National Night Out as well as the October Pop-Up Cinema at Epikos Church and enjoyed seeing how Safe & Sound fosters relationships between residents and law enforcement. Anne is most excited about being able to bring the Safe & Sound mission to fruition now that she has raised her children and has more time to dedicate to community work. She is also looking forward to ways to inform residents about employment opportunities at Froedtert so that the patients can see more diversity in the Froedtert workforce.

When asked about her passion for Safe & Sound's work Anne says, "We don't get to pick our parents or our neighborhood. So, I think the larger community providing opportunities that parents can't themselves is really important to me. In my job and as a mom, I understand how fortunate I am and anyway that I can help youth change the trajectory of their life is really appealing to me."

Join us in welcoming Anne to the Safe & Sound Board of Directors!!!

DISTRICT SPOTLIGHT - DISTRICT 7



District 7 continues to work with the residents, youth, law enforcement, and community partners in the **Sherman Park Neighborhood**.

During Q4, the team hosted a Drug Take Back event in collaboration with Milwaukee Police Department and Epikos Church -Sherman Park.

Drug Take Backs are a powerful way for residents to take ownership of safety in their neighborhoods by turning in unneeded medication and syringes for safe and proper disposal. These events help keep the community safe, clean, and healthy. While residents are dropping of their unused or unwanted medication they have a chance to interact with local law enforcement as well as our community partners.

In addition, the D7 team partnered with D7 CLO officers and Zoe the Barber to host a Brunch with Santa Event at the Mary Ryan Boys & Girls Club located in Sherman Park. This event brought families, specifically youth, together to build community amongst residents and law enforcement. Families enjoyed a meal, took pictures with Santa Claus, and received gifts. In addition, the D7 team engaged youth with prevention googles to educate them about the dangers of drug and alcohol use.

UPCOMING EVENTS



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Sigma Gamma Rho Sorority, Inc. Gamma Pi Sigma Alumnae Chapter

Presents:



February 17, 2024

Safe & Sound, Inc 4422 W Leon Terrace Milwaukee, WI 53216

10:00AM

LOOKING FOR STUDENT TEAMS OF 4 (AGES 12-18)

REGISTER BY JANUARY 17" Email or scan the code to register your team!



For questions or accommodations email: karina.tomei@gmail.com

Safe & Sound

RESIDENT LEADER TRAINING



Facilitator: Teneen Rucker, Program Manager Safe & Sound

Nurturing Grassroots Leaders

Space is limited to 40 people. Register today!



Every Wed. starting Feb.21

from **6PM-8PM** at Safe & Sound 4422 W. Leon Terrace Milwaukee, WI 53216

In 6 Weeks You Will Learn How To:

- Establish a Block Club
- Hold Monthly Meetings
- Conduct Outreach
- Use the City's Mobile App
- Plan Events that Empower the Neighborhood _____

REGISTER AT: <u>HTTPS://FORMS.OFFICE.COM/R/A13FEB8XAP</u>



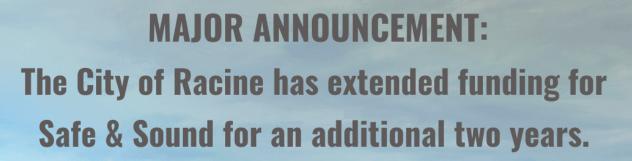
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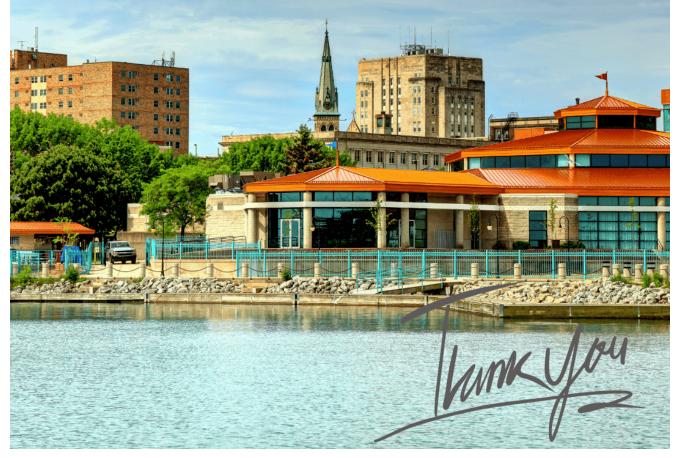
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HIGHLIGHTS FROM STAFF RETREAT



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