

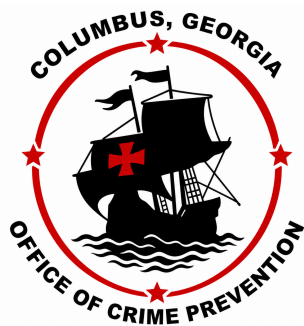
BUILDING SAFER COMMUNITIES BEFORE CRIME OCCURS

FY 2025-2026 COUNCIL COMMUNITY IMPACT REPORT

Exceptional Results from Council-Funded Prevention Programming

Forty-four prevention portfolios. Five connected pillars of public safety.

ENGAGE & EQUIP YOUTH Safe time tutoring mentoring sports arts leadership	STRENGTHEN FAMILIES & SCHOOLS Restorative practice parenting fatherhood child protection
BUILD OPPORTUNITY & REENTRY GED college credentials employment tailored support	PROTECT & STABILIZE Victim safety shelter housing food treatment connection
ACTIVATE NEIGHBORHOODS Service community leadership gardens trusted local partners	MEASURE & IMPROVE Accountability common outcomes responsible stewardship learning



Submitted to Columbus Council

Prepared by the Columbus Office of Crime Prevention
September 2026



Prevention is public safety at its best

A citywide prevention infrastructure

Council funding has built far more than a collection of activities. It has built a coordinated prevention infrastructure that surrounds residents with safe places, trusted adults, educational pathways, family support, victim protection, practical assistance, and second chances before risk becomes crisis and crisis becomes crime.

The Office of Crime Prevention is proud to present the FY 2025-2026 results of Columbus' funded community programming. The expanded record reviewed for this report includes 44 distinct prevention portfolios. Together, these partners reached children, teenagers, pregnant and parenting students, parents, survivors, fathers, returning citizens, incarcerated residents, disconnected young adults, and households facing immediate hardship.

The work is both broad and practical. Young people received tutoring, literacy instruction, sports, music, mentoring, leadership development, social-emotional learning, transportation, meals, childcare, essential baby supplies, and safe supervision. Families received evidence-based strengthening services, restorative school interventions, child-abuse prevention training, legal help, and concrete support. Adults pursued GEDs, college, certifications, trades, employment, treatment, and successful reentry. Survivors received shelter, advocacy, housing assistance, safety planning, and pathways to independence. Reports also document adult literacy, career-expo and gravity-racing STEAM programming, after-school workforce preparation, family relationship education, community orchestra access, and human-trafficking prevention and advocacy.

The results are exceptional. Partners reported strong program retention, thousands of hours of structured youth engagement, grade promotion and degree completion, GED attainment, industry credentials, employment advancement, reduced repeat court involvement, family-program graduation, treatment and shelter connections, family preservation, victim stabilization, and substantial value leveraged from volunteers and community partners. The Office also demonstrated good stewardship by reviewing program changes, redirecting resources when circumstances required it, and maintaining a diversified portfolio that can address different risks at different stages.



Prevention does not replace enforcement. It makes enforcement less necessary by changing the conditions that allow violence, delinquency, victimization, and repeated system involvement to take root. Columbus Council should be proud of this investment. The Office and its partners are doing the difficult, patient, neighborhood-level work that keeps people safe, strengthens accountability, and creates lawful paths to stability and success.

The next step is to preserve this strong portfolio while improving shared measurement, cross-program referral, and longer-term follow-up. That combination, continued investment and disciplined evaluation, will allow Columbus to protect the gains documented here and demonstrate an even clearer return to residents and taxpayers. Current Georgia benchmarks reinforce the stakes: juvenile recidivism is 36.36% over three years under DJJ's adjudication/conviction definition, while an illustrative chronic criminal career beginning in adolescence can consume more than \$836,900 in directly modeled public costs before many police, court, supervision, and victim-related government expenses are counted.

Seth Brown

Director, Columbus Office of Crime Prevention

REPORT GUIDE

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How to read the results

Local figures come from partner-submitted reports and use different units: unique residents, families, program participants, service contacts, activity hours, events, or monthly participation counts. They are presented side by side and are not added into one portfolio total. Outside studies show that the funded strategies are consistent with the broader evidence base; they do not convert local outputs into a claimed number of crimes prevented.

Council funded an exceptional, strategically balanced prevention portfolio

The FY2026 record shows our Office reached residents before delinquency, during family strain, after victimization, at educational crossroads, and as justice-involved residents prepare to rebuild their lives.

The central finding

The Office of Crime Prevention is delivering exactly what a modern prevention office should deliver: a coordinated network of trusted organizations that changes the conditions associated with offending, victimization, and repeated system involvement. The funded portfolio creates structure and belonging for young people, strengthens families and schools, opens educational and employment pathways, protects victims, stabilizes households, and builds neighborhood capacity. The fiscal case is equally practical: Georgia currently spends about \$31,614 for one adult state-prison year, and a weighted FY2025 secure-juvenile-system spending benchmark is approximately \$234,880 per occupied youth-year. Prevention is therefore not only a social investment; when it reduces deep justice-system involvement, it can protect substantial public resources.

What Council investment accomplished

- Exceptional breadth: 44 distinct portfolios spanning early childhood through adulthood and prevention through reentry.
- Meaningful depth: programs delivered recurring after-school and summer schedules, family and parenting cohorts, intensive GED and trade training, sustained music rehearsals, adult literacy instruction, career and college exposure, gravity-racing engineering, individual advising, correctional credentials, and long-term survivor advocacy.
- Strong outcomes: providers reported grade promotion, reading growth, graduation, GED attainment, bachelors degrees, industry credentials, employment advancement, family-program completion, reduced repeat court involvement, treatment and shelter placement, youth career exposure, adult literacy gains, trafficking-prevention education, and family preservation.
- Focused access: funding removed barriers through transportation, meals, testing fees, tools, uniforms, scholarships, childcare, legal assistance, emergency aid, and tuition-free participation.
- Neighborhood trust: many funded organizations work directly inside schools, public-housing communities, recreation centers, churches, shelters, jails, prisons, and neighborhood gathering places where residents already have relationships.
- Responsible adaptation: when enrollment or site conditions changed, partners and the Office adjusted plans rather than continuing ineffective spending.
- Local educational strength: MCSD reached a 96.1% four-year graduation rate for the Class of 2025, 8.9 percentage points above Georgia's 87.2% rate; all nine district high schools were at or above 92%.
- Clear risk-and-cost benchmark: Georgia's latest published juvenile recidivism rate is 36.36% over three years, and the first year after release accounts for most recidivism events - a strong case for front-loaded mentoring, family support, education, employment, treatment, and case management.

A glowing result, stated responsibly

The reports do not support one causal estimate of crimes prevented across the entire portfolio. They do support a powerful conclusion: Columbus funded well-established prevention strategies, partners delivered those strategies at meaningful scale, and providers reported substantial progress on the educational, behavioral, family, employment, recovery, and safety outcomes those strategies are designed to influence.

RESULTS AT A GLANCE

Portfolio reach and standout FY2026 proof points

2,788 books distributed Literacy Alliance	24,166 community members reached	2,082 victims served
2,998 individuals receiving food assistance	\$164,823 grant-year economic impact CarePortal on a \$15,000 City award	182 industry certifications earned Columbus Technical College
15,282.5 literacy, STREAM, and economic-literacy hours	2,820 summer reading and math hours	513 farm and service engagements Turn Around Columbus
350+ youth served through Scoutreach More than 250% participation growth	279 girls served Girls Inc.	217 children engaged through tennis CORTA TennisWorks!
173 youth served Boyz 2 Men programs	135 incarcerated residents trained Columbus Technical College	108 fathers receiving legal assistance Legitimation Station
2,886 MCSD students served Let's Grow STEAMx Readiness Program	1,200 people reached through trafficking education Micah's Promise	600 mini-car participants River City Race Program reported total



RESULTS AT A GLANCE

Additional indicators of progress

100% grade promotion Mathews Promise: 67 of 67 after-school students	87% reading at or above grade level Mathews Promise: 58 of 67 K-8 students	97% fewer than 10 school absences Mathews Promise: 65 of 67 students
162.5% one-year participation growth Youth Orchestra Academy: 8 to 21 students	90% family-program graduation Family Matters: 30 referred families	95% reduction in repeat court involvement Boyz 2 Men provider-reported indicator
82% ten-month trade-school completion Truth Spring: 14 of 17 enrollees	13 + 15 GED earners plus students one test away Goodwill BRIDGE: 44 enrolled	78% higher-wage or benefit employment BETTER WORK graduates within 3 months
9 degrees completed Columbus Scholars: 4 high school, 5 bachelor degrees	97 women entering addiction treatment Redeem Boutique	177 shelter placements Redeem Boutique
725+ pounds of produce harvested Turn Around Columbus farm	624 people served CarePortal	88.98% CarePortal requests met Family preservation and crisis response
15 donated instruments Columbus Community Orchestra provider-reported total	1620 adult-literacy class hours Literacy Alliance	16 teens served YMCA Teen Achievers after-school program

PREVENTION FRAMEWORK

Five connected pillars make the portfolio stronger than any single program

Crime and victimization emerge from multiple, overlapping risks. A serious prevention strategy therefore cannot rely on one age group, one service, or one institution. The Office has assembled five complementary pillars. Residents may enter through one program and benefit from several others as their needs change.

1 ENGAGE & EQUIP YOUTH

Fill high-risk hours with safe supervision, academic support, mentoring, sports, arts, leadership, positive peers, and meaningful achievement.

2 STRENGTHEN FAMILIES & SCHOOLS

Replace exclusion and disconnection with restorative accountability, parenting skills, father involvement, family bonding, and adults trained to protect children.

3 BUILD OPPORTUNITY & REENTRY

Convert educational and employment barriers into GEDs, college pathways, portable credentials, professional networks, treatment connection, and lawful income.

4 PROTECT & STABILIZE

Interrupt violence and crisis through shelter, legal advocacy, safety planning, housing, food, transportation, clothing, household goods, and recovery support.

5 ACTIVATE NEIGHBORHOODS

Build civic leadership, service, food production, healthy recreation, volunteer networks, and trusted community institutions that make neighborhoods stronger.

Cross-cutting strength: access and accountability

The Office does more than pay for program content. Grants fund the practical infrastructure that makes completion possible - transportation, meals, testing, tools, uniforms, scholarships, staff, childcare, and emergency assistance - while reporting requirements create a foundation for accountability and continuous improvement.

PILLAR 1

Engage and equip youth

Columbus partners are giving young people safe places, strong adults, academic challenge, creative outlets, physical activity, and visible pathways to achievement.

15,282.5 girls programming hours Girls Inc. delivered literacy, STREAM, and economic literacy.	217 tennis participants CORTA combined after-school and summer access with academics and meals.	141 summer learners Mathews Promise completed 1,410 reading and 1,410 math hours.
2,886 MCSD students served Let's Grow STEAMx Readiness Program	600 mini-car participants River City Race hands-on STEAM engagement	16 Teen Achievers served A.J. McClung YMCA after-school program

What excellence looked like

- Mathews Promise reported that all 67 after-school students advanced to the next grade, 87% were reading at or above grade level, and 97% missed fewer than ten school days.
- The Youth Orchestra Academy expanded from 8 to 21 Title I students, completed 25 rehearsals and 3 concerts, and advanced several students into the higher-level Symphonic Orchestra.
- Scoutreach grew to more than 350 youth while maintaining reported retention above 80%; 37 adults completed Youth Protection Training.
- CORTA provided 33 weeks of after-school clinics, specialized clinics for girls at the Anne Elizabeth Shepherd Home, summer camps, healthy food, and 474 volunteer hours.





- Voices of the Valley opened a tuition-free South Campus at Spencer High School; every South Campus student received tuition, uniform, and materials assistance.
- Neighborhood and school-based programs such as NFOAAY, Omega Lamplighters, Men Act This Way, Sigma Beta Club, FAITH Young Ambassadors, YoungLives, and MentalitYLife combined academics and life skills with leadership, service, character, mental-health awareness, parenting support, cultural exposure, and recognition.



- Reports add 2,886 students reached through Let's Grow STEAMx career-readiness programming, 600 mini-car participants in River City Race, 16 teens in YMCA Teen Achievers, supervised homework support through Children 1st, and donated instruments and 243 music books through the Columbus Community Orchestra.



Why this matters for public safety

Structured programs work best when they do more than occupy time. The strongest local programs combine supervision with skill-building, caring relationships, clear standards, and opportunities to succeed. That design strengthens school engagement, self-control, belonging, and future orientation - protective factors directly relevant to delinquency prevention.

Local benchmark: MCSD's 2025 graduation rate reached 96.1%, compared with 87.2% statewide. Protecting school attendance, credit accumulation, graduation, and GED completion is therefore both a youth-development and public-safety priority.

PILLAR 2

Strengthen families and schools

The Office is helping schools respond constructively, parents set effective boundaries, fathers establish legal connections, and adults recognize and prevent child abuse.


30
families served

Family Matters delivered three ten-week Strengthening Families cohorts.

108
fathers assisted

Legitimation Station provided attorney-supported legal access.

30%
participation growth

BTWCC expanded Stewards of Children training.

7
schools with All Pro Dad

Highest monthly school count reported by Family FIRST

10
parenting-course graduates

Raising Highly Capable Kids,

30
couples engaged

Amazing Marriage Chase relationship event

What excellence looked like

- Family Matters reported a 90% graduation rate and improvements in communication, monitoring, boundaries, decision-making, and accountability among court-referred families.
- Boyz 2 Men reported high engagement and a 95% reduction in repeat court involvement among its court-connected indicator group, alongside academic and behavioral progress.
- A Second Chance W.O.R.K.S. and F.L.O.W. offered restorative, social-emotional, and academic interventions in lieu of unproductive suspension time; provider tables showed few repeat offenders and declining school suspension comparisons.
- Legitimation Station helped 108 low-income fathers prepare filings needed to pursue legal fatherhood, visitation, and custody rights with support from an attorney and trained volunteers.

- BTWCC trained adults across schools, faith organizations, social services, foster care, and youth-serving agencies. Most participants reported greater confidence recognizing abuse, understanding reporting duties, and taking preventive action.
- YoungLives supported pregnant and parenting teens through school-based Lunch & Learns, one-on-one mentoring, transportation, childcare, meals, essential baby supplies, special events, and a scholarship-supported summer camp experience.
- Right from the Start extended family-strengthening work through All Pro Dad at as many as seven schools, Raising Highly Capable Kids, relationship education, and REAL Essentials; 10 participants graduated a March parenting cohort and 30 couples joined the Amazing Marriage Chase.

Why this matters for public safety

Stable, attentive family relationships and constructive school responses reduce isolation and improve supervision, communication, accountability, and problem-solving. These programs intervene early, when changes in family functioning and school engagement can still redirect a young person away from deeper system involvement.

Recidivism benchmark: Georgia's latest published three-year juvenile recidivism rate is 36.36%; 24.14% of the full release cohort recidivated in year one. Family and school interventions are especially valuable when they prevent deeper system involvement or support the first year after court contact.

PILLAR 3

Build opportunity and successful reentry

Education, credentials, employment, and individualized support give residents a lawful pathway to stability and reduce the barriers that often follow school disconnection or incarceration.

182 industry certifications Columbus Technical College trained 135 prison residents.	44 BRIDGE GED students 13 earned GEDs and 15 were one test away.	82% trade-school completion Truth Spring graduated 14 of 17 enrollees.
110 adult literacy students Literacy Alliance snapshot	140 class hours Reading, writing, math, and financial literacy	15 mentor hours One-on-one support outside regular class

What excellence looked like

- Columbus Technical College fully deployed a \$150,000 award to deliver forklift, OSHA-10, logistics, welding, plumbing, construction, and GED-related training. Tools and safety equipment become students' property at release.
- Goodwill BRIDGE produced 13 GED earners in 16 weeks or less, moved 15 additional students to within one test of completion, and connected students to certifications, technical training, and military pathways.





- BETTER WORK combined Jobs for Life instruction, coaching, volunteers, meals, childcare, transportation, employer exposure, and long-term follow-up. The provider reported 19 graduates and strong early employment advancement.
- Truth Spring achieved 88% completion of initial training and 82% completion of its ten-month trade-school program. Five students earned GEDs, two were one test away, and the program renovated an affordable home.
- Columbus Scholars sustained 45 students each quarter, selected eight new scholars, celebrated four high-school graduates entering Georgia colleges, and documented five bachelor degrees from institutions including Yale and Vanderbilt.



- My Brother's Keeper served 45 youth and 14 adults, contributed \$5,233 beyond its \$10,000 City award, and identified more than 50 additional residents seeking mentoring, education, job-readiness, and reentry support.
- The Literacy Alliance's snapshot documented 110 adult learners, with instruction in reading, writing, phonics, math, career planning, budgeting, net worth, and emergency savings.

Why this matters for public safety

The strongest opportunity programs do not rely on job placement alone. They combine education, credentials, coaching, transportation, tools, relationships, treatment or family support, and follow-up. This matches the broader evidence that services are more effective when they fit a participant's actual risks and needs.

Economic benchmark: In 2025, workers with a high-school diploma had median weekly earnings of \$966 versus \$770 for workers without one. Georgia's published adult state-prison cost is \$31,614 per offender-year, underscoring the value of education, credentials, employment, and successful reentry.

PILLAR 4

Protect victims and stabilize households

The Office is helping residents move from danger and instability toward safety, housing, treatment, food security, family preservation, and independence.

2,082 domestic-violence victims served Hope Harbour	624 people receiving CarePortal support Family preservation and crisis response	313 Redeem Boutique visits Women in homelessness, addiction, trafficking, abuse, and crisis
1,200 people reached through education Micah's Promise, Oct. 2025-Mar. 2026	20+ advocacy cases Trafficking survivors and child-protection matters	16 staff members trained CSEC, TBRI, and MindSet frameworks

What excellence looked like

- Hope Harbour combined emergency shelter, legal advocacy, safety planning, outreach, rapid rehousing, stabilization, and community education, while reaching 24,166 community members through 97 events.
- CarePortal met 88.98% of reported requests, served 624 people, helped keep 20 children with family, supported 25 reunifications, and generated \$164,823 in grant-year economic impact from a \$15,000 City award.
- The Columbus Dream Center exceeded its original goals, serving 1,014 families and 2,998 individuals with groceries, 2,734 meals, 553 holiday gifts, school supplies, clothing, hygiene products, and case-management connections.
- Redeem Boutique served approximately 150 unique women, recorded 313 visits, helped 97 women enter addiction treatment, made 177 shelter placements, and provided 253 rides. The provider also documented extensive outreach and follow-up activity outside the Boutique.
- Micah's Promise reported approximately 1,200 people reached through trafficking education, more than 1,500 through outreach and public initiatives, advocacy across 20+ cases, and continued development of the trauma-informed Girls Rise residential program.

Why this matters for public safety

Victim safety, housing, treatment, food, transportation, and concrete support are not secondary to crime prevention. They interrupt repeat victimization, survival-based offending, family separation, homelessness, probation violations, and the escalation of domestic violence. These programs make safety practically possible.



PILLAR 5

Activate neighborhoods and civic leadership

Neighborhood safety grows when residents have visible community institutions, purposeful service, healthy gathering places, and young people who see themselves as contributors.


513
farm and service engagements

Turn Around Columbus, January-June 2026

2,057
documented engagement hours

Hope Dealers, students, volunteers, families, and visitors

725+
pounds of produce

Plus 62 dozen eggs shared through community channels

What excellence looked like

- Turn Around Columbus operated a youth-centered victory garden and farm with 22 Hope Dealers, 107 volunteers, 123 students, 21 raised beds, and a network of 32 partners. Fresh produce and eggs were distributed to seniors, cancer survivors, families, and community markets.
- East Carver Heights combined Path to Shine mentoring, Boxwood Soccer, and family health and nutrition support in South Columbus. Eleven trained mentors served eleven students, every Path to Shine student advanced, and soccer provided structured neighborhood recreation at meaningful scale.

- Overflo Outreach used fishing, life-skills workshops, leadership seminars, barbering and entrepreneurship exposure, family bonding, reading, service, and recognition to engage youth.
- Across the portfolio, scouting, fraternity mentoring, youth ambassadors, public-housing study halls, recreation programs, and church-based initiatives converted volunteer time and civic relationships into direct youth development and neighborhood service.



Why this matters for public safety

Neighborhood programs build informal social control the old-fashioned way: adults know young people, young people serve others, shared spaces are active, and residents have trusted places to turn. That civic fabric is difficult to measure in one statistic, but it is essential to durable prevention.

STEWARDSHIP AND MEASUREMENT

The Office is multiplying public value while strengthening accountability

Public dollars unlocked additional value

- CarePortal reported \$164,823 in grant-year economic impact from a \$15,000 City award, mobilizing churches, volunteers, and community partners.
- The Columbus Community Center combined a \$20,000 grant with its own resources to support \$45,295 in after-school and STEAM summer programming.
- My Brother's Keeper added \$5,233 in program resources beyond the \$10,000 City grant.
- CORTA documented 474 volunteer hours; East Carver, Scoutreach, Sigma Beta Club, Men Act This Way, Turn Around Columbus, and others mobilized mentors, coaches, professionals, churches, schools, and civic groups.
- Many providers removed participation barriers through donated food, clothing, instruments, tools, uniforms, transportation, tutoring, family support, and professional expertise.

Adaptation was a sign of stewardship, not failure

The Columbus Community Center suspended an under-enrolled after-school component after health and enrollment challenges, notified the Office, and redirected remaining resources toward an intensive STEAM summer model after review. NFOAAY reported that renovation of the Warren Williams community room prevented operation at that site and concentrated delivery at Cauty Homes. These examples show why strong grant management requires honest reporting and the flexibility to protect public value when conditions change.

Bottom line on stewardship

The Office is directing modest, targeted grants into a network that attracts volunteers, partner investment, facilities, professional expertise, and community trust. The portfolio demonstrates both compassion and discipline: it responds to immediate need while insisting on structured programming, documented activity, and measurable progress.

Public-value lens: Using current Georgia budget anchors, 30 occupied secure-juvenile days represent roughly \$19,305 in system spending; one occupied secure-juvenile year about \$234,880; and ten adult state-prison years about \$316,140. These are scale benchmarks, not guaranteed cash savings from any single program, because many justice-system costs are fixed in the short run.

PUBLIC-SAFETY CONTEXT

Why prevention pays: current Columbus and Georgia benchmarks

The FY2026 program results become more meaningful when Council can see the local conditions, justice-system risks, and public costs that prevention is designed to change. These figures are context benchmarks; they do not claim that any one OCP grant caused the communitywide result or saved a precise dollar amount.

96.1%

MCSD graduation rate

36.36%

Georgia 3-year juvenile recidivism

\$836,900+

Illustrative direct taxpayer cost

What the benchmarks tell Council

- Education is a local asset worth protecting. MCSD's Class of 2025 graduation rate was 96.1%, versus 87.2% statewide. The Office's tutoring, mentoring, structured after-school time, GED, college, and career programs reinforce the protective conditions that keep young people connected to lawful opportunity.
- The first year after justice-system release is the highest-risk window. In Georgia's FY2020 release cohort, 24.14% of all releases recidivated in year one and 36.36% within three years under the state's adjudication/conviction definition. That supports intensive early follow-up, family treatment, education, work, behavioral-health connection, and case management.
- Chronic offending is expensive. A conservative illustration using current Georgia juvenile secure-custody, adult prison, and public-defense cost anchors produces about \$836,920 in captured direct public cost for a chronic career beginning at age 13. A high-incarceration illustration exceeds \$1.5 million, before many police, jail, prosecution, court, supervision, emergency-response, and victim-related government expenses are added.

Selected public-cost anchors

PUBLIC COST ITEM	CURRENT BENCHMARK	POLICY USE
30 occupied secure-juvenile days	~\$19,305	Shows the scale of intensive prevention that may be justified by avoiding even a short secure placement.
One occupied secure-juvenile year	~\$234,880	Illustrates the system resources tied to deep juvenile-justice involvement.
One Georgia adult prison year	\$31,614	Useful benchmark for successful reentry and reduced reincarceration.
Ten Georgia adult prison years	\$316,140	Shows how shortening a chronic incarceration trajectory can protect public resources.

Council takeaway: A prevention program does not have to avert an entire lifetime of crime to have fiscal value. Reducing enough detention days, repeat court involvement, prison admissions, or victimization can justify comparatively modest community-based investments.

PROGRAM PROFILES

Forty-four portfolios delivering prevention where residents live, learn, work, and recover

The profiles below preserve provider terminology and report the strongest supported results without converting outputs into unsupported causal claims.

Youth learning, arts, sport, and safe out-of-school time

Programs in this group build academic skill, discipline, confidence, health, creativity, and positive peer relationships while keeping young people safely engaged.

CORTA TennisWorks!

Tennis, academics, mentoring, and healthy meals

- 217 children ages 4-18 participated across the reporting year; 80 were unique after-school participants.
- Summer programming recorded 205 participation slots, and after-school clinics operated for 33 weeks plus 11 clinics for the Anne Elizabeth Shepherd Home.
- The program documented 474 volunteer hours and distributed donated shoes and clothing so youth could participate safely.

Public-safety value: Provides structured supervision during high-risk hours while teaching physical, academic, and social skills.

Source: 2025-26 CORTA end of year report.docx; CORTA_Crime Prevention Grant Q4Report.docx

Youth Orchestra Academy

Youth Orchestra of Greater Columbus

- Served 21 middle- and high-school students nominated from Title I schools, up from 8 in the pilot year - a 162.5% increase.
- Students completed 25 Monday rehearsals and performed in 3 season concerts at the RiverCenter.
- Full scholarships, transportation, meals, instruction, and performance access removed financial and logistical barriers; several students advanced to the Symphonic Orchestra.

Public-safety value: Pairs high expectations and sustained practice with belonging, public achievement, and access to a high-quality arts pathway.

Source: 2026-07-30 CPG - Final Comprehensive Report.pdf; YOGC Crime Prevention Quarterly Report June 2026(1).pdf

Making Music Matters

Columbus Symphony Orchestra

- Continued recurring violin instruction at two Girls Inc. sites and Open Door Community House with instruments supplied by the CSO.
- Program materials emphasize CODA - Conduct, Order, Discipline, and Attitude - as a classroom standard.
- The report also documented approximately 890 students reached through three educational outreach performances.

Public-safety value: Uses music instruction as a disciplined setting for persistence, self-control, teamwork, and positive identity.

Source: CSO Final.pdf

Girls Inc. Literacy, STREAM, and Economic Literacy

Girls Inc. of Columbus & Phenix-Russell

- Served 279 girls: 168 in grades K-4 and 111 in grades 5-12.
- Delivered 7,547 literacy hours, 7,032 STREAM hours, and 703.5 economic-literacy hours - 15,282.5 hours in total.
- Programming combined direct reading support with science, technology, engineering, arts, math, vocabulary, and financial capability.

Public-safety value: Builds academic competence and future orientation while giving girls sustained, supervised access to enrichment.

Source: Girls Inc final.pdf

Kingdom Sports

Hope for Highland youth basketball

- Launched a youth basketball league with 73 participants across two age divisions and consistent weekly practices and games.
- Transportation support enabled attendance for youth with limited access, and the provider reported strong retention.
- Coaches emphasized skill development, teamwork, confidence, sportsmanship, and communication with families.

Public-safety value: Provides structured recreation, positive coaching, and neighborhood access that strengthen belonging and prosocial behavior.

Source: Kingdom Final(1).docx

Columbus Community Center

After-school support and full-day STEAM summer camp

- A \$20,000 City grant supported a total program cost of \$45,295 through additional Center resources.
- After an under-enrolled after-school component was suspended, the Center and OCP redirected resources to a full-day summer program serving 14 campers.
- Camp included STEAM engineering, chess, physical activity, meals, field trips, teamwork, and a 1:7 counselor-to-camper ratio.

Public-safety value: Shows adaptive grant stewardship while preserving safe, intensive summer learning and supervision.

Source: End of Year Report CCCenter Crime Prevention 30 Jul 26.pdf

Mathews Promise Academy

Open Door Community House after-school and summer learning

- Collected school data for 67 after-school students; 58 (87%) read at or above grade level, 65 (97%) missed fewer than 10 days, and all 67 advanced.
- Served 141 summer students who completed 1,410 reading hours and 1,410 math hours.
- Provided transportation for 28 students, reserved places for shelter-involved children, and supported students with tutoring, STEAM, robotics, life skills, food, and enrichment.

Public-safety value: Combines dosage, academic monitoring, transportation, and safe care in a model designed to prevent school failure and unsupervised time.

Source: OD Final.docx

Voices of the Valley South Campus

Tuition-free performing arts access at Spencer High School

- Opened a South Campus serving 14 Bella Voce students who faced financial or transportation barriers.
- Every South Campus student received tuition, uniform, and materials assistance.
- In a 23-student survey, 86.9% reported at least three weekly hours in supervised structured activity after participation, compared with 47.8% before participation.

Public-safety value: Expands equitable access to a disciplined, team-based arts setting while building confidence and connection across campuses.

Source: VoV Impact Report.pdf; vov final.pdf

YoungLives and MentalitYLift

Support for pregnant and parenting teens, plus senior transition and life skills

- YoungLives delivered monthly club meetings, school-based Lunch & Learns at Jordan and G.W. Carver high schools, one-on-one mentoring, special events, and summer camp for pregnant and parenting teens.
- Transportation, childcare, meals, diapers, wipes, blankets, books, pajamas, and other essentials removed participation barriers; the annual report does not provide an unduplicated YoungLives participant count.
- MentalitYLift provided emotional intelligence, coping, communication, leadership, professionalism, workplace readiness, and decision-making instruction; 46 seniors completed the program.

Public-safety value: Strengthens school engagement, parenting stability, emotional regulation, caring-adult relationships, and two-generation future orientation.

Source: mentality-lift.pdf; Young Life EoY.pdf



Project Ready 706

Urban League college, career, and life readiness

- Reported 101 participants: 32 male, 68 female, and 1 undisclosed; 82 were ages 15-17 and 19 were ages 10-14.
- Programming uses evidence-based social-emotional learning, academic support, college culture, mentoring, and workforce preparation.
- The report includes a participant success story involving high-school graduation, a \$1,000 scholarship, and continued education planning.

Public-safety value: Helps youth make informed choices and build a practical plan for education, work, and life after high school.

Source: ULRV_Project Ready706.pdf

Canty Community Study Hall

Neighborhood academic support by NFOAAY

- Served 42 children from Pre-K through middle school through 160 after-school days and 20 summer days - 400 program hours.
- Provider review of STAR data found that nearly all students improved reading and math competency; conduct grades did not always improve.
- The Warren Williams location could not operate because of community-room renovation, so FY2026 delivery centered on Canty Homes.

Public-safety value: Brings no-cost tutoring, meals, STEM, life skills, and mentoring directly into a public-housing neighborhood.

Source: NFOAAY 2026 FINAL REPORT.pdf

Omega Lamplighters

Mentoring, academics, service, and cultural exposure

- Submitted documentation includes academic and attendance charts for 43 respondents: 93.0% had at least one A and 81.4% had at least one B in the reported quarter.
- The same charts show 88.4% reporting 0-3 tardies and 88.4% reporting 0-3 absences.
- Activity records document mentoring, college and cultural exposure, community service, veterans support, and a toy distribution reaching 110 children.

Public-safety value: Combines academic expectations, positive male role models, service, and exposure to institutions beyond the immediate neighborhood.

Source: Omega Docs.pdf

Columbus Community Orchestra

Community performance, donated instruments, and school music access

- Completed an eight-concert 2025-2026 season culminating in the "America at 250" concert.
- Reported 15 donated used instruments transferred to local school band directors for distribution primarily to at-risk students.
- The itemized report lists 243 music-method, theory, piano, and repertoire books for Rothschild Middle and Rainey-McCullers School of the Arts.

Public-safety value: Removes equipment barriers and connects students to disciplined ensemble learning, positive adult guidance, and public achievement.

Source: CCO 2025-26 City Grant Final Report.docx

Children 1st After School Program

Homework support and foundational academic skill-building

- The report describes supervised academic support and homework assistance for students in Columbus.
- The provider identified outreach, enrollment, and program visibility as next-step priorities.

Public-safety value: Provides supervised learning time and individualized academic help during hours when children may otherwise lack structured support.

Source: Children_1st_January 2026_Report.docx



Let's Grow STEAMx Readiness Program

POWER Workshops and Youth College and Career Expo

- Reported 2,886 MCSD students served across 25 schools, including elementary and high-school cohorts.
- Delivered 7 POWER Workshops and engaged 80 volunteers or mentors and 20 community partners or sponsors.
- Fully expended a \$5,000 award on an event-management platform and keynote speaker for the Youth College and Career Expo.

Public-safety value: Combines structured time, career exposure, adult mentorship, and concrete next steps that strengthen future orientation and accountability.

Source: Steam Expo EoY.pdf

River City Race Program

Hands-on gravity racing, engineering, and youth mentorship

- Reported 600 mini-car participants, including 77 camp participants and 523 community-exposure participants, plus 9 Try Gravity Racing participants.
- Engaged 80 volunteers or mentors, 9 community partners or sponsors, and participants from 11 schools or organizations.
- Hosted the sixth annual River City Gravity Race at Lakebottom Park and prepared a winning champion for the International Soap Box Derby.

Public-safety value: Uses a safe, demanding project to build engineering skill, persistence, teamwork, adult connection, and pride in constructive achievement.

Source: Steam Race EoY.pdf

YMCA Teen Achievers

After-school mentoring, workforce readiness, and life skills

- The A.J. McClung YMCA reported serving 16 teens through structured, supervised after-school programming.
- Twenty-six teens registered for the summer Powered for Life component focused on professionalism, communication, conflict resolution, financial literacy, time management, and future planning.
- The report sets targets of at least 85% regular attendance and 75% improved workforce and life skills.

Public-safety value: Fills critical after-school hours with consistent adults, workplace preparation, accountability, and positive peer engagement.

Source: YMCA EoY.pdf

Mentoring, leadership, family strengthening, and school connection

These programs build responsible relationships, improve communication and accountability, and strengthen the adults and institutions surrounding children.

A Second Chance W.O.R.K.S. and F.L.O.W.

Restorative intervention in lieu of suspension

- Operated across reported middle- and high-school sites with certified educator consultants and SMART-goal modules.
- Programming addressed choices, root causes, conflict resolution, attendance, grades, leadership, social-emotional learning, and parent-school connection.
- Provider tables reported few repeat offenders and lower out-of-school suspension comparisons at listed campuses; the data do not establish that the program alone caused the changes.

Public-safety value: Keeps students connected to instruction while replacing exclusion with accountability, skill-building, and restoration.

Source: ASCW; FLOW 2025-2026 EOY Report(1).pdf

Boyz 2 Men Development and Family Matters

Mentoring, counseling, academics, and evidence-based family strengthening

- Served 173 youth across MATCH after-school, GymRATZ summer, and court-connected Family Matters services.
- Provider indicators show 75% academic improvement, 70% behavioral improvement, 90% positive engagement, and 95% reduction in repeat court involvement.
- A supplemental report documents 30 court-referred families in three ten-week Strengthening Families cohorts with a 90% graduation rate.

Public-safety value: Addresses youth risk and family functioning together through tutoring, counseling, monitoring, boundaries, communication, and positive adult support.

Source: *Boyz 2026 Final report.docx; Family Matters Program Final Report.docx*

Men Act This Way

Whole-person mentoring for boys

- Mentored 80 boys: 50 through school-based services and 30 through community programming.
- Added three mental-health workshops, summer reading, writing and public-speaking instruction, IXL tutoring supported by 20 Chromebooks, entrepreneurship and AI exposure, community service, and cultural outings.
- Teacher and administrator feedback described improved discipline and respectful conduct; the provider also documented numerous individual academic and citizenship recognitions.

Public-safety value: Surrounds boys with structure, high expectations, coping skills, academic support, cultural exposure, and responsible male leadership.

Source: *Men Act-Whole Person EoY Report(1).docx*

Scoutreach and Exploring

Scouting America Chattahoochee Council

- Expanded Scoutreach to more than 350 youth in east and south Columbus - reported growth above 250% with retention exceeding 80%.
- Thirty-seven adults completed Youth Protection Training, and youth received a tailored safety version.
- Participants accessed STEAM, leadership training, food drives, crime-prevention seminars, career exploration, police-career pathways, and technical-college opportunities.

Public-safety value: Pairs consistent adult leadership and character development with safety training, service, career exposure, and progressive responsibility.

Source: *Scouts Final Grant Reporting(1).pdf*

Sigma Beta Club

Service for Humanity and Phi Beta Sigma mentoring

- Fifteen boys ages 11-17 participated with support from 12 certified advisors.
- All club members were promoted; the report highlights generally strong grades, one perfect GMAS math score, and two seniors preparing for college.
- Activities included leadership, business meetings, budgeting, STEM, community service, civic and cultural events, transportation, suits, and recognition.

Public-safety value: Introduces boys to professional men who model service, financial responsibility, leadership, and educational ambition.

Source: *Service for Humanity Final Activity Report.pdf*

FAITH Young Ambassadors

Academic coaching, service, safety, and leadership

- The provider reports 100% senior graduation and college enrollment, 90% of participants maintaining a 3.0+ GPA, and a 3.2 cohort GPA; the report does not state the denominator for these percentages.
- Seventy-five percent reportedly completed CPR/First Aid, 60% completed suicide-prevention and mental-health awareness training, and all completed a Black History research project.
- Young Ambassadors served 50+ families through a food pantry, 100+ families during Kindness Day, and four families through senior weather-preparedness outreach.

Public-safety value: Connects academic excellence with practical service, health and safety knowledge, and visible leadership in the community.

Source: *Young Ambassador-FAITH EoY.pdf*

Stewards of Children

Building Towards Wellness Community Coalition

- Participation increased 30% compared with the prior year.
- Training reached school personnel, faith organizations, parents, caregivers, youth-serving agencies, foster-care professionals, and community volunteers.
- Most participants reported increased confidence recognizing abuse, understanding reporting responsibilities, and taking preventive action; new content addressed boundaries, online safety, grooming, trusted adults, and reporting.

Public-safety value: Expands the number of adults equipped to prevent, recognize, and respond responsibly to child sexual abuse.

Source: *BTW Final Report 2026.docx*

Legitimation Station

Legal assistance for low-income fathers

- Assisted 108 fathers during the fiscal year, including 37 from January through May 2026.
- A Georgia-licensed attorney and 3-6 consistent volunteers helped fathers prepare Superior Court filings.
- A \$15,000 grant supported legal access for fathers who otherwise might be unable to pursue legal parenthood, visitation, and custody rights.

Public-safety value: Strengthens safe, responsible father involvement and the emotional, financial, and supervisory support available to children.

Source: *Legitimation Station Report(1).docx; Legitimation Station Report.docx*

Right from the Start - Family FIRST

Father engagement, parenting, relationships, and school connection

- All Pro Dad operated at as many as seven schools during reported months, with additional expansion planned through churches and community organizations.
- Ten women graduated the Raising Highly Capable Kids course in March; 30 couples participated in the Amazing Marriage Chase.

Public-safety value: Strengthens communication, parenting assets, father-child connection, and conflict-resolution skills that support stable families and safer school communities.

Source: *RFTS Report EoY.docx*

Education, workforce, college access, and reentry

These programs turn barriers into credentials, employment, education, and tailored support - the practical foundations of long-term self-sufficiency.

BETTER WORK Columbus

Jobs for Life workforce readiness

- The report describes 107 service engagements across community and correctional settings and a detailed demographic cohort of 44 participants, including 24 justice-involved residents.
- Nineteen participants graduated; four earned Guest Services Certification.
- Provider outcomes include 100% of graduates leaving with employment goals and an action plan and 78% obtaining higher-wage or benefit employment within three months.

Public-safety value: Combines job skills with coaching, volunteers, transportation, childcare, meals, employer exposure, social capital, and long-term follow-up.

Source: *BETTER WORK COCP Final Report_QTR 4_FY2026.docx(1).pdf*

Columbus Technical College

Workforce training at Muscogee County Prison

- Fully expended a \$150,000 award to train 135 current prison residents.
- Participants earned 182 certifications across forklift, OSHA-10, logistics, construction, welding, and related trades.
- Student tools and safety equipment become the participant's property at release, supporting immediate transition into work.

Public-safety value: Provides portable credentials and equipment before release, reducing the time between reentry and lawful employment.

Source: *FY26 Col Tech Crime Prevention Final Report.pdf*

Goodwill BRIDGE GED Program

Fast-track education and post-GED pathways

- Enrolled 44 opportunity youth and young adults ages 18-30.
- Thirteen earned GEDs in 16 weeks or less; 15 more passed three of four required subtests and were one test away.
- Nine graduates or advanced students completed, entered, or applied for workforce certifications or military service; more than 30 prospective students were waiting for access.

Public-safety value: Pairs academic attainment with case management, life skills, career counseling, and practical next steps after the credential.

Source: *Goodwill Final.docx*

Columbus Scholars

Long-term mentoring and college completion

- Maintained services for 45 students each quarter and selected eight new eighth-grade scholars.
- Four students completed high school and planned to enroll at the University of Georgia, University of North Georgia, Columbus State University, and Kennesaw State University.
- Five participants earned bachelor degrees from Yale, Vanderbilt, Albany State, the University of Georgia, and Huntingdon College.

Public-safety value: Supports promising students from low-income, single-parent families through advising, enrichment, SAT/ACT preparation, and milestone support from middle school through college.

Source: *Columbus_Scholars_End_of_Year_Report_2025-2026 (1).pdf*



My Brother's Keeper

Youth prevention and adult reentry support

- Reported 45 youth and 14 adult participants, plus more than 50 additional interested residents identified through a citywide job fair.
- Services included mentorship, tutoring, recreation therapy, transportation, food support, job readiness, conflict resolution, family support, and civic engagement.
- The program contributed \$5,233 beyond its \$10,000 OCP award; a projected 95% future engagement rate is a provider expectation.

Public-safety value: Provides wraparound, relationship-based support for residents facing the combined barriers of justice involvement, family strain, and limited opportunity.

Source: *My_Brothers_Keeper_Final_Report_Final_Updated.pdf*

Truth Spring Trade School

Ten-month construction training and community revitalization

- Seventeen adults enrolled; 15 (88%) completed initial training and 14 (82%) completed the full ten-month program.
- Of nine students entering without a diploma or GED, eight began GED coursework, five earned GEDs, and two were one test away.
- Seven of 14 graduates were employed at graduation, the one-month employment measure was still pending, and the cohort renovated one affordable home.

Public-safety value: Combines full-time work habits, trade skill, coaching, GED access, and neighborhood improvement; current-year and historical outcomes are tracked separately.

Source: *Truth Spring FINAL Report.pdf*

Literacy Alliance Adult Literacy Class

Adult literacy, numeracy, financial capability, and mentoring

- The report listed 110 adults, 66 middle school students and 24 pre-K.
- Instruction covered reading, writing, phonics, math, career budgeting, net worth, and emergency savings; one learner completed Skill Level 4.
- The Alliance also distributed 2,788 through community book nooks, a health fair, and MLK Jr. Elementary School.

Public-safety value: Builds the basic skills and financial capability adults need for work, family stability, and constructive community participation.

Source: *August 2025 Summary Lit All.pdf*

Victim safety, family preservation, recovery, and basic-needs stability

These programs stop crises from escalating by making safety, shelter, food, treatment, transportation, and material stability available when residents need them most.

Hope Harbour

Domestic-violence safety, advocacy, housing, and education

- Served 2,082 victims across the reporting year and reached 24,166 community members through 97 events.
- Services included emergency shelter, legal advocacy, protective-order support, court accompaniment, safety planning, outreach, rapid rehousing, and stabilization.
- The program helps survivors secure housing, employment, transportation, childcare, and financial independence while educating the wider community about warning signs and available help.

Public-safety value: Interrupts repeat and escalating violence while reducing homelessness, child trauma, repeated police calls, and barriers to independence.

Source: *Hope Harbour Annual Report(2).docx*

Columbus Dream Center

Food, meals, clothing, hygiene, and family support

- Exceeded its goals by serving 1,014 families and 2,998 individuals with groceries.
- Provided 2,734 meals, 462 clothing or hygiene supports, 53 free hair-care services for job opportunities, 100 back-to-school backpacks, and 553 holiday gifts.
- The \$15,000 grant was fully used by April 2026 while services continued through community partnerships and organizational resources.

Public-safety value: Reduces crisis, hunger, and financial stress while helping children return to school prepared and families maintain stability.

Source: CDC End of Year.pdf

CarePortal

Clement Arts family-preservation network

- Met 88.98% of reported requests and served 624 people during the grant year.
- Provider outcomes include 20 children kept with family, 25 reunified, 88 families strengthened, and support for 2 young people aging out of care.
- A \$15,000 City award helped generate \$164,823 in grant-year economic impact and more than \$507,000 in cumulative local impact.

Public-safety value: Mobilizes churches and volunteers to meet practical needs before a shortage of beds, utilities, transport, or household goods becomes a larger child-welfare or justice crisis.

Source: Clement Arts Report EoY.pdf; Year End Impact Report _ Clement Arts Report.pdf

Redeem Boutique

Crisis bridge for women facing homelessness, addiction, trafficking, abuse, and poverty

- Served approximately 130-150 unique women, including 95 first-time visitors, and recorded 313 Boutique visits.
- Helped 97 women enter addiction treatment, made 177 shelter placements, and provided 253 rides.
- The provider also documented treatment applications, jail pickups, check-ins, outreach encounters, prayer walks, and Bible studies outside the Boutique; some figures may overlap with broader totals.

Public-safety value: Provides practical alternatives to survival-based crime, street exploitation, missed court or probation obligations, and repeated incarceration.

Source: Redeem Boutique EoY.pdf; Redeem Boutique-take the city Final Report.pdf

Micah's Promise

Human-trafficking prevention, survivor advocacy, and residential-care development

- Reported 1,200 people reached through education and 1,500+ through outreach, media, and public initiatives.
- Reported 20+ advocacy cases, 20+ remission assessments, 25 volunteers, and 16 staff trained in CSEC, TBRI, and MindSet.
- The April-May update added more than 20 hours of survivor advocacy, child-safety intervention, a therapist, and the 13-month Girls Rise model.

Public-safety value: Links prevention education, victim protection, legal advocacy, and trauma-informed recovery for people at high risk of exploitation.

Source: Micah's Promise quarterly report; April-May update

Neighborhood development, civic service, and community capacity

These programs strengthen the visible, relational fabric of neighborhoods through service, healthy activity, food production, volunteerism, and trusted local leadership.

East Carver Heights CDC

Integrated mentoring, soccer, health, nutrition, and family engagement

- Path to Shine served 11 students with 11 trained mentors, and every participating student advanced to the next grade.
- Boxwood Soccer reported 70 spring registrants and a 50-child summer soccer camp, with uniforms, equipment, coaching, food, and family involvement.
- The wider model connects youth mentoring, sports, family nutrition and health support, volunteers, and neighborhood events in South Columbus.

Public-safety value: Builds durable relationships and positive routines directly in a high-poverty neighborhood rather than expecting families to navigate disconnected services.

Source: *East Carver Annual Report 2025 2026 final(1).pdf*

Overflow Outreach

Youth empowerment, family bonding, life skills, and recognition

- Programming included the Fisherman of Men event, leadership and personal-growth activities, grill safety and teamwork, barbering and entrepreneurship exposure, decision-making, reading, service, and awards.
- The report provides strong activity documentation throughout multiple activities.

Public-safety value: Creates positive relationships and hands-on skill experiences that help youth see themselves as capable contributors.

Source: *Overflow Outreach Report.pdf*

Turn Around Columbus Victory Garden and Farm

Hope Dealers youth leadership and neighborhood food production

- Documented 513 engagements and 2,057 hours from Hope Dealers, visitors, volunteers, families, and students during January-June 2026.
- Harvested more than 725 pounds of produce and 62 dozen eggs across 26 vegetables and herbs for seniors, cancer survivors, families, and community markets.
- Engaged 22 Hope Dealers ages 12-18, 107 volunteers, 123 students, 21 raised beds, and 32 partner organizations, 17 of which were active during the reporting period.

Public-safety value: Combines youth responsibility, agriculture, service learning, healthy food, volunteer leadership, and the activation of shared neighborhood space.

Source: *Turn Around Final.docx*

OUTSIDE EVIDENCE

Research crosswalk: youth development and structured time

Outside studies do not prove local causation. They show whether the strategies funded in Columbus are consistent with rigorous research and where implementation quality matters.

PREVENTION STRATEGY	LOCAL EXAMPLES	WHAT OUTSIDE RESEARCH FINDS	COUNCIL IMPLICATION
High-dosage tutoring	Mathews Promise, NFOAAY, Girls Inc., CORTA, Goodwill, Children 1st	A meta-analysis of experimental tutoring studies found an overall pooled learning effect of 0.37 standard deviations, with stronger average effects for teacher and paraprofessional tutors and in earlier grades (Nickow, Oreopoulos, & Quan, 2020).	Protect consistent dosage, trained tutors, small groups, alignment with school content, and progress checks.
After-school personal and social skills	CORTA, Girls Inc., Open Door, Community Center, Children 1st, YMCA, STEAMx	A meta-analysis found significant gains in self-perception, school bonding, positive social behavior, grades, and achievement when programs used sequenced, active, focused, and explicit skill-building (Durlak, Weissberg, & Pachan, 2010).	Fund structured skill development, not supervision alone.
Direct delinquency and attendance effects	All out-of-school-time programs	A separate review of programs for at-risk youth found small, non-significant average effects on attendance and externalizing behavior and substantial variation across studies (Kremer et al., 2015).	Require strong implementation, sufficient dosage, clear theory of change, and local outcome measurement.
Youth mentoring	YoungLives, Men Act, Boyz 2 Men, Sigma Beta, Scoutreach, Omega, FAITH, YMCA, STEAMx	A meta-analysis found significant positive effects across youth outcomes, with modest average effects and stronger results when relationship and program quality were high (Raposa et al., 2019).	Protect screening, training, supervision, consistency, match support, and relationship duration.
Organized sport	CORTA, Kingdom Sports, East Carver soccer, River City Race	A 2026 systematic review of 189 studies found sport participation consistently associated with higher self-esteem, belonging, prosocial behavior, and lower anxiety and depressive symptoms; team sport effects were often stronger, while observational confounding remains a limitation (Wade et al., 2026).	Use trained coaches, inclusive access, positive climate, progression, and family connection.
Music and performing arts	YOGC, CSO, Voices of the Valley, Columbus Community Orchestra	A systematic review found educational music use can support emotional development, prosocial skills, and academic-related capacities, although studies vary in quality and design (Blasco-Magraner et al., 2021).	Preserve sustained practice, ensemble belonging, performance goals, and equitable access.

OUTSIDE EVIDENCE

Research crosswalk: families, schools, and child protection

PREVENTION STRATEGY	LOCAL EXAMPLES	WHAT OUTSIDE RESEARCH FINDS	COUNCIL IMPLICATION
Social-emotional learning	W.O.R.K.S./FLOW, MentalitYLift, youth programs	A meta-analysis of 213 school-based universal SEL programs found gains in social-emotional skills, behavior, attitudes, and academic performance (Durlak et al., 2011).	Use explicit, sequenced skill instruction and monitor both behavior and school outcomes.
Restorative school practice	A Second Chance W.O.R.K.S./FLOW	A randomized district evaluation reduced suspensions and improved teacher-reported climate, while academic findings were mixed and implementation quality varied (Augustine et al., 2018).	Integrate with school discipline systems, train staff well, and track dosage and fidelity.
Family strengthening	Family Matters, Boyz 2 Men, Right from the Start	A randomized trial of a brief family intervention found lower aggressive and hostile behavior four years after baseline (Spoth, Redmond, & Shin, 2000).	Keep parent and youth skill groups, joint practice, attendance support, and follow-up.
Father involvement	Legitimation Station, All Pro Dad	A systematic review found predominantly positive associations between father involvement and child outcomes; longitudinal work with low-income families found greater nonresident father involvement predicted later decreases in delinquency (Sarkadi et al., 2008; Coley & Medeiros, 2007).	Pair legal access with safe, responsible, sustained parenting involvement and family support.
Child sexual-abuse prevention	Stewards of Children, BTWCC, Micah's Promise	An independent multi-site randomized trial found improvements in prevention knowledge and preventive behavior among childcare professionals (Rheingold et al., 2015).	Expand trained adults and reinforce reporting, boundaries, grooming awareness, and online safety.
Expectant and parenting student support	YoungLives	A federal evaluation of the school-based New Heights program found significantly better school engagement and credit accumulation among parenting students, with a marginal graduation impact. A randomized parenting and life-skills trial improved maternal self-esteem and reduced repeat pregnancy (Asheer et al., 2017; Cox et al., 2019).	Protect school-based contact, mentoring, parenting and life skills, childcare, transportation, meals, baby supplies, and case coordination; track attendance, credits, graduation, and postsecondary transition.

OUTSIDE EVIDENCE

Research crosswalk: education, employment, treatment, and reentry

PREVENTION STRATEGY	LOCAL EXAMPLES	WHAT OUTSIDE RESEARCH FINDS	COUNCIL IMPLICATION
Education and crime	Goodwill, Columbus Scholars, Truth Spring, NFOAAY, Open Door, Literacy Alliance, STEAMx Readiness	Causal economic research finds that increased educational attainment reduces incarceration and arrest (Lochner & Moretti, 2004).	Fund completion milestones - not enrollment alone - and connect credentials to next steps.
Intensive college advising	Columbus Scholars, Project Ready, STEAMx Readiness	A multisite randomized trial found that intensive, sustained advising increased bachelor-degree attainment among lower-income students, in part by improving college choice and fit (Barr & Castleman, 2025).	Preserve individualized advising through application, financial aid, enrollment, and persistence.
Correctional education	Columbus Technical College	A RAND meta-analysis found correctional education participants had substantially lower odds of recidivism and higher odds of post-release employment; vocational education was associated with improved employment (Davis et al., 2013).	Maintain portable credentials, tools, transition planning, employer connection, and follow-up.
Reentry service-need fit	BETTER WORK, My Brother's Keeper, Truth Spring	Evidence on employment programs alone is mixed. Analysis of a major reentry initiative found that better matching of services to participants' stated risks and needs was associated with lower self-reported and official recidivism (Gill & Wilson, 2017).	Bundle work with education, housing, treatment, transportation, family, and case-management supports.
Drug courts and treatment linkage	Redeem Boutique, reentry partners	A Campbell systematic review found adult drug courts reduced general and drug-related recidivism on average, with smaller effects for juvenile drug courts (Mitchell et al., 2012).	Track treatment entry, completion, court compliance, housing, and recovery support separately.
Diversion and constructive alternatives	W.O.R.K.S./FLOW, court-connected family programs	A Campbell review found police-led diversion modestly reduced reoffending among low-risk youth compared with traditional processing (Wilson, Brennan, & Olaghere, 2018).	Use proportionate, skill-building alternatives for appropriate youth and preserve accountability.

OUTSIDE EVIDENCE

Research crosswalk: safety, housing, concrete support, and neighborhood conditions

PREVENTION STRATEGY	LOCAL EXAMPLES	WHAT OUTSIDE RESEARCH FINDS	COUNCIL IMPLICATION
Domestic-violence housing and advocacy	Hope Harbour	Domestic Violence Housing First improved housing stability and reduced multiple forms of abuse over 12 months among survivors experiencing housing instability (Sullivan et al., 2023).	Preserve flexible survivor-driven advocacy, legal support, housing help, and stabilization.
Homelessness interventions	Hope Harbour, Redeem, Dream Center	A Campbell review of 43 randomized studies found that housing and case-management interventions generally improved housing stability and reduced homelessness compared with usual services, although evidence certainty varied (Munthe-Kaas, Berg, & Blaasvaer, 2018).	Fund housing navigation, intensive case management, vouchers or flexible assistance, and follow-up.
Economic and concrete support	CarePortal, Dream Center, Hope Harbour, W.O.R.K.S.	A systematic review found consistent favorable evidence that economic and concrete supports reduce child maltreatment and child-welfare entry (Cusick et al., 2024).	Treat beds, utilities, transport, clothing, food, and flexible aid as core prevention tools.
Food insecurity	Dream Center, Turn Around, CORTA, Community Center	A systematic review links food insecurity with adverse behavioral, emotional, and academic outcomes in children (Shankar, Chung, & Frank, 2017).	Pair food access with school, health, family, and case-management connections.
Vacant-land restoration	Turn Around and neighborhood activation	A citywide cluster randomized trial found that restoring blighted vacant lots reduced fear and, in lower-income neighborhoods, reduced several crime outcomes (Branas et al., 2018). The intervention is not identical to a youth farm, so the study supports the neighborhood-condition logic rather than a local effect estimate.	Value active, cared-for neighborhood spaces while measuring use, maintenance, safety, and resident participation.
Community gardens	Turn Around Columbus farm	Systematic reviews associate community gardening with food access, social connection, education, and some psychosocial benefits, but evidence quality and equity of access vary (Hume et al., 2022; Huq & Deacon, 2025).	Combine food production with inclusive participation, youth leadership, service, and durable governance.

Research findings describe study populations and interventions, not guaranteed effects for every local participant. The strongest Columbus evidence will come from pairing this research base with common OCP measures and longer-term follow-up.

COUNCIL PRIORITIES

The case for sustained and strengthened investment is compelling

The FY2026 portfolio is producing the outcomes a prevention office should produce: young people safely engaged, students learning and graduating, families functioning better, victims protected, adults earning credentials, residents moving toward work and recovery, and neighborhoods building their own capacity. Council should preserve this system and improve it - not retreat from it.

1. Sustain a diversified five-pillar portfolio. No single program can address every age, neighborhood, risk, or stage of crisis. The Office's strength is its balance.
2. Protect the participation infrastructure. Transportation, meals, testing fees, tools, uniforms, tuition, childcare, and flexible aid determine whether residents can actually complete a program.
3. We are building a formal cross-referral network. A GED student may need food or transportation; a survivor may need work and childcare; a youth may need family services. The portfolio becomes more powerful when residents can move through it intentionally.
4. Encouraging honest adaptation. Partners should be expected to report obstacles early and adjust with Office approval rather than spend money on plans that no longer fit local conditions.

Council takeaway

The Office of Crime Prevention is doing excellent, consequential work. It is converting targeted public investment into safe time, stronger families, protected victims, educational success, employability, recovery, civic leadership, and hope. Continued support is warranted.

DATA NOTES

What the results do - and do not - represent

Reporting basis

This synthesis reviews 44 submitted OCP program files representing 44 distinct prevention portfolios

Time period

Most results cover July 1, 2025 through June 30, 2026. Some reports use project periods immediately adjacent to the fiscal year or include current/planned activities. Those figures are described as reported.

Provider-reported data

Local figures come from grantee reports.

Overlap

Some residents may have participated in multiple programs. Some subgroups also overlap with a broader program total. Results are therefore presented at the program level.

Causality

Academic progress, lower suspension comparisons, employment, treatment entry, reduced repeat court involvement, and family outcomes are important.

Outside research

Research supports the logic of the funded strategies. It does not estimate the local effect size or the number of crimes prevented in Columbus.

Context benchmarks added in this edition: MCSD and Georgia graduation rates, Census/BLS education and earnings measures, Georgia DJJ recidivism outcomes, and Georgia justice-system cost anchors come from the supplemental September 2026 briefs and their cited public sources. They describe the environment in which OCP programs operate; they are not provider-reported OCP outcomes and are not used to claim a specific number of crimes or dollars saved.

LOCAL SOURCES

All 44 submitted program files reviewed

NO.	PARTNER / PROGRAM	SUBMITTED FILE
1	CORTA TennisWorks!	2025-26 CORTA end of year report.docx
2	Youth Orchestra Academy	2026-07-30 CPG - Final Comprehensive Report.pdf
3	A Second Chance W.O.R.K.S.	ASCW 2025-2026 EOY Report(1).pdf
4	BETTER WORK Columbus	BETTER WORK COCP Final Report_QTR 4_FY2026.docx(1).pdf
5	Stewards of Children / BTWCC	BTW Final Report 2026.docx
6	Boyz 2 Men Development	Boyz 2026 Final report.docx
7	Columbus Dream Center	CDC End of Year.pdf
8	Columbus Community Orchestra	CCO 2025-26 City Grant Final Report.docx
9	Columbus Symphony Orchestra	CSO Final.pdf
10	Clement Arts / CarePortal	Clement Arts Report EoY.pdf
11	Columbus Scholars	Columbus_Scholars_End_of_Year_Report_2025-2026 (1).pdf

NO.	PARTNER / PROGRAM	SUBMITTED FILE
12	East Carver Heights CDC	East Carver Annual Report 2025 2026 final(1).pdf
13	Columbus Community Center	End of Year Report CCCenter Crime Prevention 30 Jul 26.pdf
14	Columbus Technical College	FY26 Col Tech Crime Prevention Final Report.pdf
15	Family Matters / Boyz 2 Men	Family Matters Program Final Report.docx
16	Girls Inc.	Girls Inc final.pdf
17	Goodwill BRIDGE GED	Goodwill Final.docx
18	Hope Harbour	Hope Harbour Annual Report(2).docx
19	Kingdom Sports	Kingdom Final(1).docx
20	F.L.O.W.	FLOW 2025-2026 EOY Report(1).pdf
21	Legitimation Station	Legitimation Station Report.docx
22	Men Act This Way	Men Act-Whole Person EoY Report(1).docx
23	My Brother's Keeper	My_Brothers_Keeper_Final_Report_Final_Updated.pdf
24	NFOAAY Community Study Hall	NFOAAY 2026 FINAL REPORT.pdf
25	Mathews Promise Academy / Open Door	OD Final.docx
26	Omega Lamplighters	Omega Docs.pdf
27	Overflo Outreach	Overflo Outreach Report.pdf
28	Right from the Start / Family FIRST	RFTS Report EoY.docx
29	Redeem Boutique	Redeem Boutique-take the city Final Report.pdf
30	Scoutreach / Exploring	Scouts Final Grant Reporting(1).pdf
31	Sigma Beta Club / Service for Humanity	Service for Humanity Final Activity Report.pdf
32	Truth Spring Trade School	Truth Spring FINAL Report.pdf
33	Turn Around Columbus	Turn Around Final.docx
34	Project Ready 706 / Urban League	ULRV_Project Ready706.pdf
35	Voices of the Valley	VoV Impact Report.pdf
36	Youth Orchestra Academy	YOGC Crime Prevention Quarterly Report June 2026(1).pdf
37	Children 1st After School Program	Children_1st_EoY Report.docx
38	FAITH Young Ambassadors	Young Ambassador-FAITH EoY.pdf
39	Young Life - YoungLives and MentalitYLift	Young Life EoY.pdf
40	Literacy Alliance / Adult Literacy Class	Final Report Lit All.pdf
41	Micah's Promise	OCP Report EoY Micahs.pdf
42	Let's Grow STEAMx / Readiness Program	Steam Expo EoY.pdf
43	Let's Grow STEAMx / River City Race	Steam Race EoY.pdf
44	YMCA Teen Achievers	YMCA EoY.pdf



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Research interpretation

The studies were selected because they directly address the strategies funded in Columbus and include systematic reviews, meta-analyses, randomized trials, comparative evaluations, or causal economic research. Several report mixed or modest average effects. That is a strength of this report, not a weakness: it shows why local program quality, dosage, implementation, access, and measurement matter.