

Black Centered Design Issue Response Survey: Policing

Problem Statement: Brutality, over-policing, and unnecessarily fatal interactions with law enforcement in the Black community of Minnesota’s seven-county metro area.

Survey Questions/Listening Session Prompts:

- *When you hear “defund police” what does that mean to you?*
- *What are the systems at play which must be addressed in the context of this problem?*
- *What tools / strategies need to be developed for safer policing?*
- *Who are the key influencers & experts in solving this problem?*

SURVEY RESPONSES

When you hear "Defund Police" what does that mean to you?
Reallocation of funds - removing 'power' from the police and fund more community-based strategies/solutions.
That mean lack of confidence with the present model of policing. Scratching the old system and rebuilding a design that reflect the community values. In order to achieve the objective. Citizens must be willing to yank the rug (funding) from underneath, to send a clear message no more tax funds will go toward your inequitable justice system.
Stop funding the organization in an effort to demand change.
Allocate funds from the department to other community-based programs that help support positive outcomes and address disparities that may lead to historical trauma/crime
it means a re-allocation of tax payer dollars from law enforcement to other community based initiatives and organizations.
That we move our money from things that hurt black people to the things that help us. Move funds from teargas, riot gear and flash grenades to mental health treatment, recreation centers and affordable housing.
Decrease funding for the police and limit what the police can do and when they might be called. Limiting resources resulting in limited interventions.
Shifting funding from policing to community centered patrolling, more funding for education and job training
Subtract dollars from the police budget and funnel that money into organizations better skilled and equipped at handling preventative measures as well as crisis response.

What are the systems at play which must be addressed in the context of this problem?
Judicial systems, police departments, educational systems, intergovernmental departments, healthcare systems, real-estate development
1) Require residency in the City of Minneapolis 2) Cade taring from the community 3) Bail and Bond Fairness 4) Restore Elements of the Civilian Review Authority 5) Weed out the officers with ties to the Aryan Nation, KKK, Neo-Nazi and Militias.
Systemic racism, white supremacy, anti-blackness

Local, state politics, community led organizations, all ethnic communities, schools, organizations, neighborhood associations
Police brutality, Police corruption, police unions protecting bad police practices, over policing of communities of color
The Police department was created to protect property and to catch enslaved Africans who dared to run for freedom. Since then, we have spent a lot of resources trying to train them, create different policies, and make minor changes that we call reform. The institution itself was created to work against black people. It is time that black people have a serious conversation about how to gradually create something different.
We should discuss how police are being used when other social services should instead be used such as social services, counseling, mediation, etc.
Institutionalized Racism Prison to pipeline Criminalization of black bodies
Healthcare (chemical dependency and mental health) Housing (specifically working with people who are unsheltered)

What tools / strategies need to be developed for safer policing?
community outreach, engagement and collaboration, sustainable organizational change, racial equity research, community-oriented 'policing'/interventions.
1) Consider placing the Mpls Police Department into Federal Receivership until community agree on a new standard. 2) Downgrade minor offenses to tickets/fees 3) Regional partnership between government, community colleges, and non-profits for future officers 4) Elimination of choke holds 5) Nation wide database to track offending officers 5)
We need to not only defund but de-power the police. Officers that live in and know and reflect the communities that they police needs to happen as well.
Better community relations between police and community, no firearms on traffic cops, only federal agencies such as DEA, CIA pullover drug busts, no police in schools or at sporting events unless private security firm hired.
More mental health resources, more economic opportunities for African Americans and education reform. Education needs major reform also.
Ridding ourselves of the term policing is a good first step. While it is understandable that people associate safety with police, the reality is, that there are many communities who have far less, or no police, and they live in safer places. We can have harm reduction and departments that handle what to do when harm happens, that do not need to look like what we now think of when we think of police. We can use many of the organizations, and agencies that we already have and under fund to do much of this work with proper funding. And we can have a just transition for the officers who are in the current understanding of police work to a better system of actually creating more safe places and protection for people.
Increased accountability, requirements for police to train in de-escalation and community building, repeal civil asset forfeiture permissions, demilitarize the police, always-on body cameras accessible to the public
Community oversight boards Bias training Mandate that officers live in the neighborhoods they serve Accountability for crimes committed by police
Cultural competency and trauma informed crisis response.

Who are the key influencers and experts in solving this problem?
n/a
The elimination of the greatest enemy 'poverty' Restore funding to community organization that help create pathways to prosperity Deputize community groups to police their own neighborhoods, while partnering with local professional networks. Developing a network of mental health practitioner's. Community members taking ownership of action within the village The Faith community coming out of the four walls to do the work.
Law makers, police union, police department, community
Urban League Twin Cities, NAACP, Minnesota DA & AG offices, Governor, Congress, MN Senate, Mayor, and most of all the community!
NAZ
Community headers, violence prevention experts, healers/wellness/health specialist, public health experts, small biz owners, housing specialist, and community organizers.
elected policymakers, community group leaders. This has to be done in a way led by selected but with community leaders providing input and guidance on how rules are written and implemented.
Historians Teachers Sociologists Community leaders Equity stewards
Organizations that have specific human services/non-profit or public health experience.