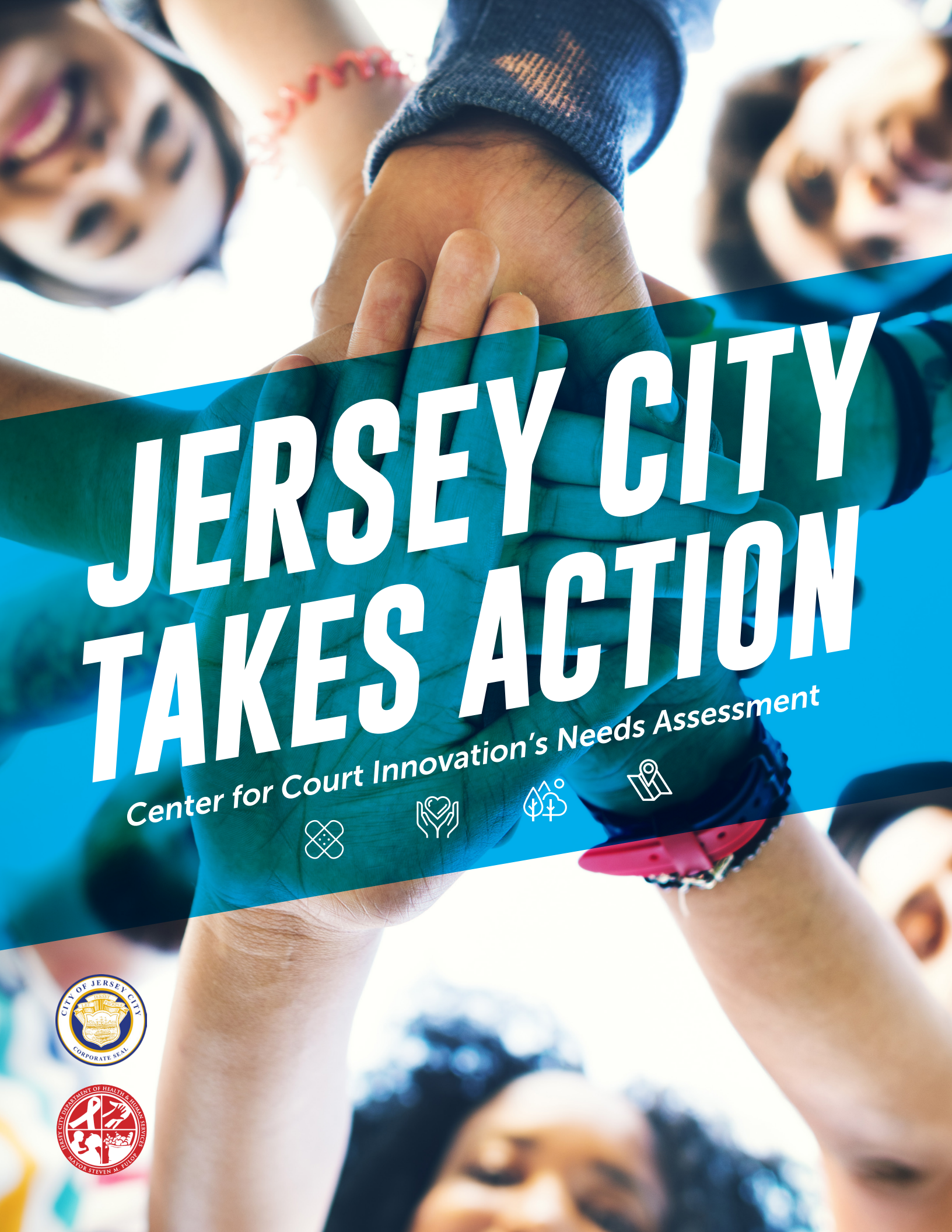
JERSEY CITY TAKES ACTION

Center for Court Innovation's Needs Assessment



In 2017 HHS solicited CURE Violence (Chicago-based program) for assistance in setting up local venture.

We were redirected to their local partner in Newark/NYC for support in starting a Jersey City CURE Violence program (See CURE Overview).

As part of this process, we asked the Council for funding to support a required Environmental Scan/Needs Assessment to be able to work with the CURE Violence team.

We were disappointed with community engagement highlighted in this report. Many of their recommendations came with proposals to hire Newark-based staff to implement this work.

Therefore, we developed a Violence Prevention Task Force to fill out missing components.

As you can see by the annotated recommendation list, we are 7 months into executing these recommendations. In order to do this, we have solicited several grants, and reorganized our work in a Chief Health Strategist framework.

If you have any questions regarding this effort, please feel free to contact myself, or Paul Bellan-Boyer Director of HHS' Division of Injury Prevention and/or Carmen Gandulla Director of HEDC's Division of Community Development.

Thank you for your support in building a #HealthierJC.

1

Interpersonal Violence & Trauma

CCI RECOMMENDATIONS	CITY ACTIONS, PROPOSALS AND ACTIVITIES
N/A	✓ May 5 symposium — gathered institutions and grassroots leaders to develop violence prevention strategies ✓ Established the Violence Prevention Task Force to make specific recommendations and commitments to violence reduction
Develop targeted outreach on violence intervention following proven models and with credible messengers	✓ Jersey City Medical Center **(JCMC)**, the Jersey City Anti-Violence Coalition Movement **(JCACM)** and Jersey City Health and Human Services **(JCHHS)** have proposed a plan to base outreach at JCMC and have applied for state Victims of Crime Act **(NJ VOCA)** funding, which would initiate a street intervention program and fund it for 18 months
Develop restorative justice options for interpersonal conflicts	✓ JC Youth Counsel/Youth Court
Invest in culturally appropriate trauma services	✓ Established JC Chaplain program to respond to community trauma ✓ JCMC has applied for funding of a trauma recovery center, also NJ VOCA-funded for a limited initial period. It would not significantly address historical or community trauma ✓ Expanding Good Grief program services into Greenville ✓ Deployed post-Dec. 10 education and supportive counseling in Greenville and in area schools ✓ Initiated Survivors Network for victims and survivors of violence with first meeting and received feedback on desired services ✓ Initiated Restorative Yoga program for victims of violence ✓ Awarded $5K grant to promote National Crime Victims' Rights Week (April 19-25) ✓ Applied for $75K Homeland Security funding for multifaceted Dec. 10 response focusing on trauma recovery and resiliency

2

Community Capacity, Engagement & Trust

CCI RECOMMENDATIONS	CITY ACTIONS, PROPOSALS AND ACTIVITIES
N/A	✓ Established grant-funded Mental Health First Aid program with 550 people trained and over 1,000 connections to help in 2019 ✓ Open community workshops and small-group clergy workshops started to build personal and community resilience
Invest in programs that build community agency in Jersey City Housing Authority (JCHA) developments	✓ Ongoing in JCHA
Develop platforms for youth input in policymaking decisions	✓ Youth Task Force
Develop opportunities to incubate and grow grassroots organizations	✓ HealthierJC grant program, established in 2018, awarded $99K in 2019 ✓ Leveraged Municipal Drug Alliance funding for new organizations working on violence prevention and youth safety ✓ HHS has trained community partners in building data-management capabilities and using data for program evaluation ✓ Division of Community Development co-leading Violence Prevention Task Force to better link community development funding ✓ Expanded participation of NGOs in Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) and Community Services Block Grant (CSBG) funding process

3

Environmental Conditions

CCI RECOMMENDATIONS	CITY ACTIONS, PROPOSALS AND ACTIVITIES
Invest in safe and accessible places for youth	✓ Reorganized the Department of Recreation, adding Youth Development to its name and mission ✓ Rec Nation started afterschool and evening activities at four schools
Invest in youth-led placemaking and neighborhood planning	✓ Summer Mural program

4

Data, Resource-Mapping & Community-Engaged Research

CCI RECOMMENDATIONS	CITY ACTIONS, PROPOSALS AND ACTIVITIES
Engage community-based organizations to build upon local resource mapping efforts	✓ HHS has engaged 200+ local organizations in use of a HealthierJC online resource search engine and calendar (aka Aunt Bertha)
Further engage local universities and researchers to enrich data collection and analysis and continue to develop data-sharing efforts	✓ JCMC/Barnabas Health is partnering with HHS and Rutgers University to collect data on gun violence ✓ New Jersey City University (NJCU) is working with the Youth Task Force to collect data
Engage community members in research	✓ Awaiting better definition and initiation of formalized research endeavors

CITY OF JERSEY CITY
CORPORATE SEAL

JERSEY CITY DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES
MAYOR STEVEN M. FULOP