



“Stand Together For A Safer Indianapolis” (STFASI)

One key aspect of the STFASI campaign is to establish relationships with Churches, IMPD, community organizations, and individuals from the community they represent to facilitate the necessary dialogue about reducing crime and gun violence in our communities that will yield actionable solutions.

The **‘Pizza with Police & Pastors’** Community Engagement Session is one way we will establish those relationships and facilitate meaningful dialogue that will ultimately have a positive impact on reducing crime and gun violence within Indianapolis communities. The event brings community members, law enforcement and local pastors together to discuss ways that we can personally, and as a community, come together to not only help reduce crime but help support each other.

Our most recent **“Pizza with Police & Pastors”** session was held at Friendship Missionary Baptist Church on June 29. The session was hosted by Pastor Ronald Covington Sr., Commander Ida Williams and Southwest District Commander, Tanya Terry. Members from the community and other IMPD Officers participated in a very engaging and productive conversation. During the meeting the Commander Terry educated everyone in attendance on the new Constitutional Carry Law that went into effect on July 1st, commonly known as the Permitless Carry. There were more than 65 Community Members, Pastors, Police and Community Organizations in attendance. During each event, the sole question and point of discussion that is proposed to each person in attendance is: ***What can I personally do to help reduce crime?***

Here are the results from the discussion:

- Get involved (community, schools, CRDC, neighborhood watch, etc)
- Embrace Social Contract
- Get to know neighbors (build relationships)
- Create unplugged opportunities to talk/build relationships
- Create pride in neighborhoods
- Watch out for each other
- Be intentional about being involved in your neighborhood
- Talk to youth/parents about new gun laws
- Getting youth involved
- Promote the James Waters Mediation Center
- Sharing love to Neighbors
- Establish/encourage respect (hurt people, hurt people)
- Increase awareness of resources (housing upkeep)

- Keep areas lit
- Educate youth in neighborhood (teach right/wrong)
- Video cameras (BLink)
- Recruit officers
- Resources regarding domestic violence, mental health
- Engage/Network
- Self-care
- Clean neighborhood
- Keeping in touch with neighbors about food, health/wellness, heat safety
- Education (inform about gun laws)
- Create more intergenerational dialogue (build bridges)
- Leverage social media to maximize communication
- Mentoring/resources (short videos)
- Seeing each other as individuals
- Stronger community involvement
- Youth engagement resources/opportunities
- Parental involvement/accountability
- Increase communication between community/police
- Consider each other as an extension of IMPD
- Identify a "go to" person reporting what is going on in community
- Create pride in your neighborhood
- Get back to basic facts ... live like Christ

All responses, ideas and solutions generated as a result of Community Engagement discussions will be consolidated and shared with individuals within communities throughout Indianapolis via the STFASI web portal and through various social media platforms (Facebook, YouTube, Twitter, Instagram), that are currently being created. In the meantime, if you attended this event and shared your contact information, you should be receiving this communication.

Please look for an upcoming communication announcing the time and location for our next “Pizza with Police & Pastors” session. If you have any questions, comments, or suggestion please contact Matthew Steward at matthew.steward@indy.gov or via Phone 317-441-4689.