



“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 4th of Pizza with Police, Pastors & Community session was held at True Tried Missionary Baptist Church on August 9th. The session was hosted by Pastor Richard L. Curry Jr., Commander Ida Williams, and Northwest District Commander, Lorenzo Lewis. A very lively, engaged, and effective group of almost 75 people: Pastors, Community Members, Police and Community Organizations came together to discuss and come up with ideas and solutions to address a very important issue.

Reducing crime and gun violence in our communities.

During this event, the sole question and point of discussion that was proposed to each person in attendance was: ***What can I personally do to help reduce crime?***

Here are the ideas and solutions that came out of the discussion:

- See Something, Say Something
- Utilize Social Media Groups in Neighborhoods
- Get To Know Neighbors and Build Relationships
- Have conversations with our youth/mentor and nurture them to prepare them for the real world
- Give youth options for resolving conflict
- Educate community on outreach resources
- Try to help cool a heated situation
- Attend community events
- Collaborate with law enforcement/Politicians and youth
- Invest More money in direct community resources
- Invest More in security cameras and city lights

- Turn on porch lights at dusk/Be aware of your neighbors addresses and possible whereabouts
- Neighborhood walks with Law Enforcement
- Encourage more of the community to join B-Link and actively engage with police
- Feed The Kids
- Community Prayer
- Plan More Community Events
- Career Training
- Financial Literacy
- Real Estate Advice
- Community Clean Up
- Community Crime Watch
- Positive Community Marketing
- Support Wellness of First Responders
- Support/Encourage Community Programs
- Hold Individuals Accountable
- Lobbying the government (Federal) for more resources
- Listen to everyone/Be present
- Use Gifts and Talent to help others
- Find others with the same vision
- Support Wellness of Law Enforcement

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 suggestions please contact Matthew Steward at matthew.steward@indy.gov or via Phone 317-441-4689.