

**Date:** February 17, 2016

**To:** City Council

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## **FOCUS Toronto**

### **What is FOCUS Toronto?**

Furthering Our Community by Uniting Services (FOCUS) is an innovative Community Safety and Well-Being Initiative led by the City of Toronto, United Way Toronto and Toronto Police Service that aims to reduce crime, victimization and improve community resiliency and well-being. This Collaborative Risk Driven Approach to Community Safety and Well-Being model consists of 4 main areas:

#### **1. FOCUS Situation Tables at the Local Level**

- The model brings together the most appropriate community agencies in a situation table model to provide a targeted, wrap around approach to vulnerable individuals, families and places that are experiencing heightened levels of risk in a specific geographic location. Sites include:
  - FOCUS Rexdale (23 Division TPS) – Operational since January 2013
  - FOCUS North Scarborough (42 Division TPS) – Launching April 2016
  - FOCUS Downtown East (51 Division TPS) – Development begins 2016, Potential Launch September 2016
  - FOCUS Downtown West (14 Division TPS) – Development begins 2016, Potential Launch September 2016
- The Expansion of FOCUS is TYES Action 21b

#### **2. FOCUS Toronto**

- FOCUS Toronto supports local situation tables with coordination, administration and special tools that strengthen service delivery.
- This structure also analyzes and evaluates the information being collected at the situation tables and key program areas to identify trends, gaps, operational/system level barriers and best practices in human service delivery systems for vulnerable and at-risk populations.
- Recommendations identified by FOCUS Toronto will influence local planning and generate new priorities and outcomes geared at Crime Prevention.
- FOCUS Toronto will develop partnerships necessary to advance local situation table development, to further the mandate of Toronto's Collaborative Risk Driven Approach and to enhance the development of safety and well-being strategies in the City of Toronto.

### **3. FOCUS Toronto Steering Committee**

- The FOCUS Steering Committee provides strategic oversight of the operations of the FOCUS Toronto model

### **4. System Reform and Innovation Table on Vulnerability in Toronto**

- The role of the table is to drive system-level reforms that will increase the capacity of the City and its partners to respond effectively to complex health and safety risks involving vulnerable Torontonians, their homes or property, and their neighbours

### **FOCUS Toronto Funding Request \$220,000**

**1 x Community Development Officer**

**1 x Policy Support Analyst**

### **Outcomes**

- Operationalization of multiple collaborative risk driven situation tables.
- Mobilization of interventions targeted at emerging violence before it escalates into critical incidents
- Increased capacity of the community to address some of the root causes of youth violence
- The development of an evidence base that can support further enhancement to the City of Toronto's Human Service System.
- Targeted recommendations to support ongoing Crime Prevention in the City of Toronto
- Enhance development of community safety and well-being strategies in the City of Toronto.