
URBAN RECREATION AND CRIME PREVENTION

JOINT OVERSIGHT HEARING

BEFORE THE

SUBCOMMITTEE ON
NATIONAL PARKS, FORESTS AND PUBLIC LANDS

AND THE

SUBCOMMITTEE ON
OVERSIGHT AND INVESTIGATIONS

OF THE

COMMITTEE ON
NATURAL RESOURCES
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

ONE HUNDRED THIRD CONGRESS

SECOND SESSION

ON

URBAN RECREATION AND CRIME PREVENTION

HEARING HELD IN WASHINGTON, DC
MARCH 10, 1994

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URBAN RECREATION AND CRIME PREVENTION

THURSDAY, MARCH 10, 1994

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, SUBCOMMITTEE ON OVERSIGHT AND INVESTIGATIONS, JOINTLY WITH SUBCOMMITTEE ON NATIONAL PARKS, FORESTS AND PUBLIC LANDS, COMMITTEE ON NATURAL RESOURCES,

Washington, DC.

The subcommittees met, pursuant to call, at 10:04 a.m. in room 1324, Longworth House Office Building, Hon. George Miller (chairman of the Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations) presiding.

STATEMENT OF HON. GEORGE MILLER

Mr. MILLER. The Committee on Natural Resources, Subcommittee on Oversight and Subcommittee on National Parks joint hearing will come to order.

Our hearing today is one of the most important subjects facing the Congress and the American people. The issue of crime, and especially juvenile crime, has understandably angered and outraged our Nation.

Today, perhaps 60 percent of the violent crimes are committed by young people between the ages of 10 and 20 years old. For millions of these young people, the only social network and family structure they know are the urban gangs that deal drugs, foster crime, and slaughter one another on our Nation's streets.

Elsewhere on Capitol Hill today committees are preparing massive anti-crime legislation. They for the most part are addressing the aftermath of crime. Today, we are looking at ways of providing young people with constructive, supportable alternatives to street life and to gangs.

As the chairman of the Select Committee on Children, Youth and Families, I held several hearings on the subject of youth crime and violence, and what we heard over and over is that most of these young people have no opportunities for constructive activity in their neighborhoods and their cities.

Nowhere is the need for accessible and well-maintained parks, open spaces, and recreation centers greater than in our urban neighborhoods. Nowhere are there fewer of those parks and facilities, and nowhere are the ones that do exist in worse shape than in our urban neighborhoods.

Public parks and recreation facility services do more than just give young people something to do and a place to go. They are magnets that draw these young people into contact with adults who

are mentors and to programs to teach them the important lessons of discipline, self-respect and respect for others, personal responsibility, and teamwork, as well as job skills and other practical tools for living everyday life.

Accessible, well-maintained neighborhood parks are focal points for community pride and a place for youth to learn. Deteriorating parks are breeding grounds for crime and youth gangs and are visible symbols that nobody cares.

Expanding and rehabilitating urban recreational sites is not a new idea. The idea of investing in parks and recreation centers to help lead young people away from crime is still a very good one.

In 1978, under the leadership of the late Phil Burton, this committee created the Urban Parks and Recreation Recovery Program. It offers matching grants to cities to rehabilitate and repair parks, rec centers, playing fields, and other facilities. It also helps to pay for programs targeted at youths at risk.

But despite a record of success and a huge backlog of applications, nothing at all was spent in this vital area from 1985 to 1990, and we haven't been doing much better since then.

This committee can make a significant contribution to preventative and rehabilitative programs in our cities by revitalizing Phil Burton's idea.

This is not about coddling criminals. It is about cost effectively giving our young people an alternative to gangs, to crime, and to jail. These programs work. The police say so. The experts say so. And the kids say so.

[Background information on Urban Recreation and Crime Prevention follows:]

BACKGROUND INFORMATION FOR JOINT OVERSIGHT HEARING
ON URBAN RECREATION AND CRIME PREVENTION

Overview

The Natural Resources Subcommittee on National Parks, Forests and Public Lands and Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations are holding a joint oversight hearing on "Urban Recreation and Crime Prevention". The hearing will review existing federal, state, local and non-profit programs which provide park and recreation opportunities in urban areas. It will examine the importance of urban park and recreation programs in promoting positive youth development and reducing juvenile crime and delinquency. The hearing will review the achievements and funding history of the two urban recreation programs under the jurisdiction of the Committee on Natural Resources, the Urban Park and Recreation Recovery program (UPARR) and the state grant program of the Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF). The hearing will also review other federal programs involved in recreation and juvenile delinquency prevention and the recreation provisions of the pending Senate omnibus crime bill and related measures.

House and Senate Crime Legislation

According to the Bureau of Justice Statistics, 22.1 million households were affected by crime in 1992. Last year 1.9 million violent crimes were reported. This is 23% higher than in 1988. The incidence of crime peaks between the ages of 16 to 18 and drops after age 21. Fifty to sixty percent of all crime in the United States is committed by people 10 to 20 years of age. According to the Department of Justice, there are over 5,000 gangs with over 250,000 gang members.

In 1992 there were an estimated 2.3 million arrests of juveniles, a 57% increase since 1983. Arrests of juveniles for murder increased by 128 percent during this same period. In 1988, juvenile arrests accounted for less than eight percent of all murder arrests. By 1992, juveniles accounted for 15 percent. Each year the United States spends over \$7.7 billion on incarcerating convicted youth -- a national average of \$29,000 per juvenile delinquent.

The House of Representatives passed several crime measures on November 3, 1993. These measures were H.R. 3355, authorizing \$3.5 billion for 50,000 new police officers; H.R. 3354, authorizing \$300 million for state drug treatment efforts; H.R. 3350, mandating drug treatment in federal prisons and H.R. 3353 authorizing \$200 million to help states fight youth gangs and drug trafficking. The Judiciary Committee is planning to bring other crime provisions to the House floor by the April recess.

On November 19, 1993, the Senate passed the Violent Crime Control and Law Enforcement Act (H.R. 3355, S. 1607). This comprehensive 51 Title bill contains a number of provisions including funding

for 100,000 new police officers in the next five years, expansion of the federal death penalty, the construction of 10 regional prisons, boot camps for non-violent offenders, police corps programs, community policing grants and gang prevention grants.

The Senate bill contains a Violent Crime Reduction Trust Fund. This provision would apply all savings achieved by the reduction of 252,000 federal government employees towards a new Violent Crime Reduction Trust Fund. The personnel reductions are expected to generate five year savings of \$22.3 billion, all of which would be only available to fund programs authorized by the crime bill.

Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention

There have been three phases of reform within the juvenile justice and court system at the state level. The first phase stretched from the 19th century until the early 1960s, when reformers envisioned the creation of a separate courts for juveniles, with the objective of rehabilitating youthful offenders. The second phase in the 1960s and 1970s sought to tailor the juvenile justice system to respond to the growing number of drug abusers and violent youth gangs. In the late 1970s and 1980s, policies moved away from treatment towards more punitive approaches.

Although state and local governments have the primary responsibility for crime control, the federal government has assisted states by providing financial and technical assistance. Initiatives to combat juvenile delinquency at the federal level began around 1953 and culminated in the passage of the Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Control Act of 1974. This Act created the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP) in the Justice Department to administer grants for the improvement of the juvenile justice system and the prevention of juvenile delinquency. The Act required states to separate juveniles from adults in secure facilities and placed an emphasis on diverting youth from the legal system into community based treatment centers. Subsequent reauthorizations included new themes such as removal of juveniles from adult detention centers and a mandate for strengthening and maintaining family values. The 1988 reauthorization contained in the Anti-Drug Abuse Act established grant programs within OJJDP for prevention and treatment relating to juvenile gangs, drug abuse and drug trafficking.

In 1992, Congress reauthorized the Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Act of 1974. This reauthorization established Title V Incentive Grants for Local Delinquency Prevention Programs in response to the need for local comprehensive delinquency prevention planning and programs for youth who have had or are likely to enter the juvenile justice

system. In creating a separate title and appropriation for prevention in the JJDP Act, Congress recognized the importance of prevention programs within OJJDP.

Title V authorizes OJJDP to make grants to states to be transmitted through State Advisory Groups (SAG) to qualified units of local government. The FY94 appropriation for Title V is \$13 million. OJJDP will award these funds to States based on a formula determined by each State's population of youth below the maximum age limit for original juvenile court delinquency jurisdiction, with a minimum award of \$75,000. States will then subgrant their Title V funds to localities or combinations of localities through a competitive process. The number and size of the grants will be determined by the SAG. Title V funds must be matched by the State or localities with 50 percent of the amount of the grant. The match may be made in cash or the value of in-kind contributions. OJJDP recently issued a funding guideline for Title V Delinquency Prevention Programs. This guideline emphasizes that prevention programs must be based on positive research or results on crime prevention, must incorporate a system of data collection and analysis to evaluate program outcome and performance, must be directed by a coalition of public, private and volunteer resources and must operate pursuant to a comprehensive plan.

LWCF and UPARR

The Land and Water Conservation Fund Act was enacted in 1964 (P.L. 88-878). This law created a permanent trust fund to maintain a nationwide legacy of recreation and parklands. The Act authorized the acquisition of national park, conservation and recreation areas and grants in aid to state and local government for the acquisition and development of outdoor recreation facilities. Since its inception, the state grants program has provided over \$3.3 billion for 36,000 state and local projects in all 50 states. Many of these programs have benefitted parks in inner cities. Funds are provided on a 50/50 matching basis and all park projects must be maintained as parkland in perpetuity. Although the funding level for the state grants programs has exceeded \$300 million in one year, the level has significantly diminished during the past decade. The FY95 budget request of the Administration is \$25 million for the state grants program.

The Urban Park and Recreation Recovery Program (UPARR) was established in 1978 by Public Law 95-625. The program provides competitive matching grants to cities and urban counties for rehabilitation of recreation facilities and innovative recreation programs. The law encourages systematic planning and local commitments to continuing operation and maintenance of recreation programs, sites and facilities.

Three kinds of grants are available under the UPARR program: Rehabilitation grants (70% federal and 30% local) for urban recreation sites of facilities that have deteriorated to the point where public health or safety are endangered. Since 1979, some \$160 million has been awarded for 459 rehabilitation grants in more than 250 cities. Innovation grants (70% federal, 30% local) cover the cost of personnel, facilities, equipment, supplies or services associated with the development of innovative cost-effective ideas and approaches for the delivery of recreation services. More than 170 Innovation grants totalling \$25 million have been awarded to localities. Planning grants (50% matching) are awarded to cities to develop Recovery Action Plans which contain plans for expanding urban recreation system. To date, some 350 localities have completed Recovery Action Plans.

From 1978 through 1992, the UPARR program provided approximately \$222.9 million for 1,284 grants to 400 local jurisdictions in 42 States, the District of Columbia, and Puerto Rico. Benefits of UPARR grants include the return of facilities to full use, increases in recreation program activities and number of users, reductions in vandalism, increased awareness of local recreation needs, and greater commitments of resources to continue projects past the UPARR grant. In total, the UPARR program has rehabilitated 273 playgrounds, 200 recreation centers, 194 ball fields, 254 tennis and/or basketball courts, 169 swimming pools and 140 picnic areas.

History of UPARR Appropriations for Grants
FY1979 - FY1992
\$ in millions

Fiscal Year	1979	1980	1981	1982	1983	1984	1985 -90	1991	1992	Total
Grants \$\$	19.2	62.2	62.4	7.6	40.0	6.7	0	19.9	4.9	222.9

Mr. MILLER. At this point I would like to recognize Chairman Vento.

STATEMENT OF HON. BRUCE F. VENTO

Mr. VENTO. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

I want to second your remarks and just emphasize some of the points that I think are or should be foremost in our mind as we begin to try and put together legislation, not just to deal with crime, but hopefully to prevent it.

The rediscovery, basically, of parks and the built environment in our urban areas that has deteriorated has been an odyssey that has gone on for about 100 years. It starts out, I suppose, looking at the plight of some of the urban spaces and infrastructure or recreation facilities that have been built in places like New York City, whether it is a Gateway or some of the other features that great city planned with a lot of foresight.

But in terms of that policy path, the city government, the State, and the national government, which established some of these areas as national parks in the early seventies, has really lost focus. Today, we have bathhouses that sit boarded up, as sort of a testament to the lack of concern and consideration and the lack of value to, perhaps, the concern. The impact and the impression left on young people or others in that particular community is that we just haven't met the challenge or that these resources are wasted.

Across the urban landscape we see this. Cities unable to raise the revenue through property taxes or through other means to support and maintain the vital recreation and urban open spaces that are really thought to be an integral part of a caring and concerned community. And it is the young people in these communities that feel the effect or the lack and neglect in these areas.

Ironically, the statistics bear out that we spend about \$7.7 billion a year to incarcerate our young adults, juveniles, and our society, because of the demographics, between the ages of 10 and 20 are the highest incidence of crime. Unfortunately, that has become increasingly violent crime, the use of guns.

I read these morbid stories and see the results in everyday life, whether it is in St. Paul, Minnesota, whether it is in Martinez, California, or certainly in Washington, DC, where we have these inexplicable crimes that are occurring and violent, where young adults are planning their funerals as teenagers.

I think we can do better. We need to do better. We need to address and reinvest in these particular recreation sites to provide a positive alternative. Schools can do a lot. As a former teacher, I understand the role there. But kids only spend about 10 percent of their life before 18 in the school setting. There is a lot of time after school.

There are a lot of parents—two-parent working families or single parent working families—where they don't have the time, maybe the energy, don't have the extended family, they don't have the networks in the community. Recreation and other alternatives in the community can fill that particular vacuum, can provide a positive orientation.

This is really a rediscovery of, I think, something that was recognized as a common value in these urban settings and the need for

this across our Nation. So I hope that we can put back to work the Land and Water Conservation Fund to help establish and in some cases rehabilitate or put back to work the programs of your mentor, Mr. Chairman, Phil Burton, the Urban Parks and Recreation Recovery Program that really has only had a small amount of money spent on it in past years. Yet I can see positive results in my community from that very program, and I am sure others will testify today to the same phenomenon.

So, I think as we look to spend \$22 billion over the next five years, while we need to face the result of violence, the reality of violence on the street, we need to face the reality of more police and many other problems that we have, I hope that we will get upstream a little bit before this results in a waterfall crisis that we see today in America and begin to provide positive activities and alternatives to provide and prevent some of the crime in our urban and other areas of this Nation.

I look forward to making and working with the Congress and the other body in terms of achieving the objectives of crime prevention that are possible through urban recreation and the programs that we have to deal with through this committee.

Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

[Prepared statement of Mr. Vento follows:]

Bruce F. Vento

CONGRESSMAN - 4th DISTRICT MINNESOTA

CONGRESSMAN BRUCE F. VENTO
 JOINT OVERSIGHT HEARING STATEMENT
 URBAN RECREATION AND CRIME PREVENTION
 MARCH 10, 1994

THE JOINT OVERSIGHT HEARING OF THE SUBCOMMITTEE ON NATIONAL PARKS, FORESTS AND PUBLIC LANDS AND THE SUBCOMMITTEE ON OVERSIGHT AND INVESTIGATIONS WILL COME TO ORDER.

TODAY THE SUBCOMMITTEES ARE FOCUSING ON THE PROBLEM OF CRIME IN AMERICA AND THE ROLE THAT URBAN PARKS AND RECREATION PLAY IN CRIME PREVENTION. CRIME -- ESPECIALLY VIOLENT CRIME -- IS THE NUMBER ONE CONCERN OF THE AMERICAN PEOPLE. THIS CONCERN IS UNDERSTANDABLE. EACH YEAR, SOME 22.1 MILLION HOUSEHOLDS ARE AFFECTED BY CRIME. LAST YEAR THERE WERE 1.9 MILLION VIOLENT CRIMES REPORTED, A 23 PERCENT INCREASE SINCE 1988. A VIOLENT CRIME OCCURS EVERY 22 SECONDS IN THIS COUNTRY.

THE FACT THAT THE OVERALL CRIME RATE IS SLIGHTLY DOWN IS OF LITTLE COMFORT TO THE MILLIONS OF AMERICANS WHO LIVE IN AN ENVIRONMENT OF VIOLENCE AND FEAR. HORRIFYING CRIMES ARE OCCURRING IN PLACES WHICH WERE FORMERLY SAFE - OUR SCHOOLS, NEIGHBORHOODS, WORKPLACES, HIGHWAYS AND COMMUTER TRAINS. AS A FORMER JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL TEACHER, I AM APPALLED BY THE FACT THAT WE HAVE TO SPEND PRECIOUS EDUCATION DOLLARS ON METAL DETECTORS AND COPS IN THE HALLWAYS. GANGS ARE SPREADING FROM LARGE METROPOLITAN AREAS INTO MID SIZED CITIES AND SUBURBS. DRIVE BY SHOOTINGS ARE TERRORIZING NEIGHBORHOODS AND MAKING PEOPLE AFRAID TO GO OUT AT NIGHT. EIGHTH GRADERS GROWING UP BLOCKS FROM THIS HEARING ROOM ARE SO ACCUSTOMED TO GUNS AND VIOLENCE THAT SOME OF THEM HAVE ALREADY PLANNED THEIR OWN FUNERALS.

THE BATTLE AGAINST CRIME IS ONE OF THE TOP PRIORITIES OF THIS CONGRESS AND THE CLINTON ADMINISTRATION. PRESIDENT CLINTON PROPOSED A COMPREHENSIVE CRIME BILL LAST YEAR AND URGED CONGRESS TO COMPLETE ACTION IN HIS STATE OF THE UNION ADDRESS. THE SENATE PASSED A COMPREHENSIVE CRIME BILL LAST NOVEMBER WHICH CONTAINS FUNDING FOR NEW PRISONS, BOOT CAMPS AND 100,000 MORE POLICE ON THE STREET AND STIFFER PENALTIES FOR CERTAIN CRIMES. THE HOUSE PASSED SEVERAL INDIVIDUAL CRIME MEASURES LAST YEAR AND THE JUDICIARY COMMITTEE IS PLANNING TO BRING MORE CRIME PROVISIONS TO THE HOUSE FLOOR BEFORE THE EASTER RECESS.

OUR COMMITTEE, THE NATURAL RESOURCES COMMITTEE, HAS A CRITICAL CONTRIBUTION TO MAKE TO THE FIGHT AGAINST CRIME. THE URBAN PARK AND RECREATION PROGRAMS UNDER THIS COMMITTEE'S JURISDICTION ARE AN ESSENTIAL PART OF THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT'S RESPONSE TO THE EPIDEMIC OF CRIME IN AMERICA. URBAN RECREATION AND SPORT PROGRAMS ARE A PROVEN, COMMON SENSE AND COST EFFECTIVE MEANS OF PREVENTING CRIME AND DELINQUENCY, ESPECIALLY AMONG OUR YOUTH. THEY PROVIDE MUCH MORE THAN "SOMETHING TO DO" DURING NON-SCHOOL HOURS, THEY TEACH IMPORTANT LIFE SKILLS AS WELL. THESE SKILLS INCLUDE SELF-ESTEEM, RESPECT FOR OTHERS, TEAMWORK, DISCIPLINE AND LEADERSHIP.

THE REASON WHY URBAN PARK AND RECREATION PROGRAMS ARE SO VITAL TO ANTI-CRIME EFFORTS IS BECAUSE THEY TARGET THE AGE GROUP

MOST PRONE TO CRIME -- OUR YOUTH. IRONICALLY, FIFTY TO SIXTY PERCENT OF ALL CRIME IN THE UNITED STATES IS COMMITTED BY PEOPLE 10 TO 20 YEARS OF AGE. THE INCIDENCE OF CRIME PEAKS BETWEEN THE AGES OF 16 TO 18 AND QUICKLY DROP AFTER AGE 21. IF WE CAN REACH YOUNG PEOPLE THROUGH SPORTS AND RECREATION PROGRAMS BEFORE THEY TURN TO A LIFE OF CRIME, WE WILL SAVE DOLLARS AND LIVES. IT COSTS THE AMERICAN PEOPLE OVER \$7.7 BILLION TO INCARCERATE CONVICTED YOUTH -- A NATIONAL AVERAGE OF \$29,000 PER JUVENILE DELINQUENT. SURELY RECREATION IS FAR LESS COSTLY AND CERTAINLY MORE SOCIALLY BENEFICIAL THAN INCARCERATION.

TODAY WE WILL HEAR FROM PEOPLE WHO ARE ON THE FRONT LINES IN THE BATTLE AGAINST CRIME -- MAYORS, POLICE OFFICERS, COMMUNITY LEADERS, PARK DIRECTORS AND CREATORS OF UNIQUE INNER CITY RECREATION PROGRAMS LIKE MIDNIGHT BASKETBALL AND SOCCER IN THE STREETS. WHILE WE WILL HEAR SUCCESS STORIES, I EXPECT WE WILL ALSO HEAR ABOUT HOW MANY YOUNG PEOPLE ARE SLIPPING THROUGH THE CRACKS BECAUSE PROGRAMS ARE UNDERFUNDED OR FACILITIES ARE FALLING APART. ALL ACROSS AMERICA, ALL ACROSS THE URBAN LANDSCAPE, RECREATION CENTERS ARE FALLING INTO DISREPAIR AND RECREATION PROGRAMS ARE BEING CUT. PARKS AND REC CENTERS THAT ARE NOT WELL-MAINTAINED BECOME THE BREEDING GROUNDS FOR CRIME AND YOUTH GANGS AND TANGIBLE EVIDENCE THAT THE PEOPLE THEY WERE INTENDED TO SERVE DON'T COUNT.

DESPITE THE IMPORTANCE OF PUBLIC RECREATION PROGRAMS IN REDUCING CRIME, THESE PROGRAMS ARE CHRONICALLY UNDERFUNDED AND OFTEN DO NOT REACH MILLIONS OF AT-RISK YOUTH. EFFECTIVE PROGRAMS ARE ON THE BOOKS, BUT THEY HAVE BEEN NEGLECTED IN THE FUNDING PROCESS IN RECENT YEARS. ONE PROGRAM IS THE LAND AND WATER CONSERVATION FUND WHICH CONTAINS A GRANT PROGRAM TO ASSIST STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENTS IN ACQUIRING PARK LAND AND DEVELOPING BALLFIELDS, PARKS AND OTHER OUTDOOR RECREATION FACILITIES. SINCE 1965, LWCF HAS PROVIDED OVER \$3 BILLION IN GRANTS TO SOME 36,000 STATE AND LOCAL PARK PROJECTS, MANY IN URBAN AREAS. HOWEVER, THIS PROGRAM HAS SUFFERED A STEADY DECLINE IN FUNDING OVER THE PAST DECADE, DESPITE ITS STATUS AS A TRUST FUND SUPPORTED BY THE RECEIPTS FROM OFFSHORE OIL AND GAS LEASING.

IN 1978, CONGRESS PASSED THE URBAN PARK AND RECREATION RECOVERY (UPARR) PROGRAM. UPARR PROVIDES MATCHING GRANTS TO ECONOMICALLY DISTRESSED CITIES FOR REPAIR OF PARK AND RECREATION FACILITIES AND FOR INNOVATIVE RECREATION-BASED PROGRAMS FOR YOUTH. UPARR IS COST EFFECTIVE BECAUSE IT REQUIRES A LOCAL MATCH AND BECAUSE OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE OF RENOVATED FACILITIES IS TAKEN CARE OF BY THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT PARTNER. THE IDEA BEHIND BOTH LWCF AND UPARR IS SIMPLE -- WITHOUT ACCESSIBLE AND WELL MAINTAINED PLACES TO RECREATE, THERE CAN BE NO RECREATION. THE PERPETUITY REQUIREMENT OF BOTH OF THESE PROGRAMS ENSURES THAT PARK AND RECREATION FACILITIES BE OPEN FOR PUBLIC RECREATION FOREVER.

WHILE THE UPARR PROGRAM HAS PROVEN TO BE EFFECTIVE, IT HAS SUFFERED FROM A LACK OF STABLE FUNDING. UPARR RECEIVED NO FUNDING FROM 1985 TO 1990, AND THE PAST TWO YEARS IT HAS RECEIVED ONLY \$5 MILLION ANNUALLY. THE NUMBER OF REQUESTS FROM CITIES WHICH HAVE MATCHING FUNDS READY TO GO IS 10 TO 20 TIMES WHAT THE UPARR PROGRAM IS ABLE TO FUND. I WONDER IF OUR URBAN YOUTH

CRIME RATE WOULD BE DIFFERENT IF THESE PROGRAMS HAD NOT BEEN NEGLECTED IN THE PAST DECADE.

RECREATION IS NO PANACEA TO OUR CRIME ILLS. WE NEED A COORDINATED RESPONSE. BUT IN OUR ZEAL TO GET TOUGH ON CRIME, WE SHOULDN'T LOSE OUR COMMON SENSE AND IGNORE PROGRAMS THAT ARE AIMED AT PREVENTING CRIME BEFORE IT HAPPENS. TODAY'S HEARING WILL EXAMINE THE ROLE THAT URBAN PARK AND RECREATION PROGRAMS CAN PLAY IN PREVENTING CRIME AND WILL REVIEW THE PROVISIONS OF THE SENATE CRIME BILL WHICH MENTION RECREATION. CHAIRMAN MILLER AND I PLAN TO FOLLOW UP THE HEARING WITH AN INITIATIVE TO EXPAND URBAN PARK AND RECREATION PROGRAMS ON THE CRIME BILL, AND I WELCOME THE PARTICIPATION OF ALL MEMBERS IN THIS EFFORT.

Mr. MILLER. Thank you.

Mr. Hansen.

Mr. HANSEN. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

I ask unanimous consent that my opening statement be included in the record.

Mr. MILLER. Without objection.

STATEMENT OF HON. JAMES V. HANSEN

Mr. HANSEN. And I welcome our former colleague, Tom McMillen. Good to see you, Tom.

And I will just look forward to the statements and information that will be given to us in this hearing today. I appreciate the opportunity to be here.

Mr. MILLER. Thank you.

With that we will hear from our first witnesses. The first one will be our former colleague, the Honorable Tom McMillen, who is the co-chair of the President's Council on Physical Fitness and Sports, and Mr. Leonard Coleman, who is the president of the National League, representing Major League Baseball.

Welcome to the committee. We look forward to your testimony. We thank you in advance for your time and for your consideration and your involvement in this subject.

And, Tom, you may proceed in the manner in which you are most comfortable.

PANEL CONSISTING OF HON. THOMAS McMILLEN, CO-CHAIR, PRESIDENT'S COUNCIL ON PHYSICAL FITNESS AND SPORTS; AND LEONARD COLEMAN, PRESIDENT, NATIONAL LEAGUE, MAJOR LEAGUE BASEBALL

STATEMENT OF HON. THOMAS McMILLEN

Mr. McMILLEN. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. It is an honor and a pleasure for me to appear before my former colleagues, and I want to commend the two subcommittees for holding these hearings. I think it is a very important link between crime, violence, and recreation, and I thank you for this opportunity.

I would like to submit my whole statement for the record, but just summarize it now.

Mr. MILLER. Without objection.

Mr. McMILLEN. When President Clinton appointed Florence Griffith Joyner and myself as co-chairs of the President's Council on Physical Fitness and Sports, he gave us a very specific mandate: He said sports and physical fitness for all Americans.

The President understood that by providing opportunities in sports and recreation for young people, we are preventively dealing with the problems of health care and crime and violence. Prevention is, I think, the keyword in steering our youth away from juvenile violence.

The Surgeon General has also echoed that feeling. She has said with more organized physical and sports activity we could have supervised positive gangs rather than negative gangs. If we don't organize positive gangs for them our youth form negative gangs we don't like.

So it is very, very important. If we don't increase the money for parks and recreation and community-based youth organization programs, providing sports and recreation, we are not making a wise investment in our future.

My co-chair, Flo Jo, is a dramatic example of the positive influence of sports on an individual coming from a disadvantaged background in an urban environment. She was the seventh of 11 children. She grew up in Watts. But she was turned on to running, and then she turned on the world to her great skills as she went on to win three gold medals.

Today, she is a role model, an athlete, a wife, a mother, an entrepreneur, and a philanthropist. But even though both of us participated in the Olympics, at the highest level of sports that this country can provide for an amateur athlete, both of us feel that our mission is not about elite athletes. It is about providing opportunity for the broad-based sports participation in this country.

Let me tell you what I think you are up against, and I say this philosophically, as a matter of perspective. We have a sports pyramid in America. Unfortunately, in America, unique to almost any nation in the world, more and more of our dollars are going to the top of that sports pyramid. Athletes are making millions of dollars. Professional teams are making millions of dollars. But the bottom of the pyramid, our inner city programs, our park and recreation programs, our community-based programs, our school programs are seeing a scarcity of funds.

You have to also understand that the government has created in many respects, fostered the sports entertainment complex. They have given them anti-trust monopolies, taxpayer-built stadiums, tax deductible skyboxes—all that has fostered this economic boom at the top, but we see scarcity at the bottom.

And this is not a free market. The consumer is paying more and more for this. At what point does the consumer reach the breaking point? When they have to pay \$200 to go see the Redskins, either in their living room or at home, and there are no programs in their schools, their kids can't find a park or recreation area to play in, or that there are no community-based programs? When does America wake up and say, "We have to get our priorities in balance?"

Now, I am certainly not opposed to professional sports, in all due respect. I think government has to realize that we have to get our priorities in balance.

I just went to the Olympics in Norway. Norway is a country that realize that putting the Olympics on in a country of 4 million people is not about many watching few, it is about 4 million people being engaged to participate, to recreate. That is what the Olympics is about.

And I think when we talk about the sports pyramid and we talk about it in this relationship to providing opportunities for parks and recreation there are two primary points. One is, I am not opposed to the dominance of professional sports as long as it does not diminish opportunities for our children. And number two, the sports entertainment complex makes its very money off of sedentary America sitting in their living rooms or in the stands watching these gladiator athletes. And that, we have to do something to turn those values around.

Turning to the point of what I think can be most effective in turning this around is the greatest resource coming out of the sports entertainment complex, and that is the athletes, professional athletes of this country. Michael Jordan is literally a god amongst the youth in this country. There are many role models and athletes who have benefited from the sports entertainment complex, and I believe should give something back.

Can you imagine the park and recreation programs in this country if we had all the great athletes in this country giving something back to their country in national service. You would bring these recreation programs alive and create the kind of role models I think that can make a difference.

The third point I would like to make is that America has many facilities. Unfortunately, many of them are underutilized. In DC, right around the Capitol here, we have military facilities not used. Yet we have at-risk children nearby. Roger Lewis in the *Washington Post* this week talked about the great plethora of military facilities that are closing down. The chairman knows how with the Presidio they are taking 70 percent of that facility and making it into a recreation area. In my own district, in Fort Meade, we took that facility and turned it over to Fish and Wildlife. Those are wonderful examples of what we can do.

When I was a high school student—I would not be here sitting today as a former athlete if it were not for the fact that my principal allowed me to open the window on Sunday afternoons and Saturday afternoons in my school, literally break in, to go play basketball.

We have locked our children out of opportunity in this country, and unless we begin to take inventory of what we have and utilize it efficiently, we are not going to see the results.

The last point I would like to make is that just as we talk about Enterprise Zones for revitalizing urban areas I believe we need Recreation Zones, both a government and a private sector commitment to that. To give you an example, in Harlem, in June, the State of New York opened a wonderful facility, 10 city blocks long, football fields, track and field, basketball courts, and handball courts.

This is a facility that is an unbelievable facility on top of a sewerage treatment facility. We don't need one of those facilities. We need hundreds of those mega-facilities in this country.

And I believe one of the things that we could do is provide tax advantages for industry to go in and build these kind of facilities to give opportunity for recreation for our inner city youth.

Mr. Chairman, President Clinton said, "The healthier we are as individuals, the healthier we are as a Nation." I can only add that children are our future. Let's not deny them the same opportunities that we have had as children.

Thank you very much.

Mr. MILLER. Thank you very much.

[Prepared statement of Mr. McMillen follows:]



THE PRESIDENT'S COUNCIL ON PHYSICAL FITNESS AND SPORTS
WASHINGTON DC 20004

**TESTIMONY OF THOMAS McMILLEN
CO-CHAIR, PRESIDENT'S COUNCIL ON PHYSICAL FITNESS AND SPORTS**

Before the
Subcommittee on National Parks, Forests and Public Lands
Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations

JOINT OVERSIGHT HEARING ON

Urban Recreation and Crime Prevention

THURSDAY, MARCH 10, 1994 - 10:00 AM
LONGWORTH HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING - ROOM 1324

IT IS BOTH AN HONOR AND A PLEASURE TO APPEAR BEFORE MY FORMER COLLEAGUES. I COMMEND THE TWO SUBCOMMITTEES FOR TAKING THE INITIATIVE TO SHED NECESSARY LIGHT ON THE CRITICAL NEED TO IMPROVE AND STRENGTHEN PUBLIC RECREATION PROGRAMS AND FACILITIES, WHICH ARE WOEFULLY UNDERFUNDED, AND IN MANY CASES, UNDERUTILIZED.

WITH YOUR PERMISSION, MR. CHAIRMAN, I WILL SUMMARIZE MY STATEMENT, AND SUBMIT THE FULL TEXT OF MY REMARKS FOR THE RECORD.

SINCE PRESIDENT CLINTON APPOINTED FLORENCE GRIFFITH JOYNER AND MYSELF AS CO-CHAIRS OF THE PRESIDENT'S COUNCIL ON PHYSICAL FITNESS AND SPORTS, WE HAVE BEEN ENGAGED IN THE EFFORT OF FULFILLING THE PRESIDENT'S MANDATE TO US OF "PHYSICAL FITNESS AND SPORTS FOR ALL." TO ACCOMPLISH THAT MANDATE, THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN JUVENILE CRIME AND SPORT AND RECREATION PROGRAMS MUST ALSO BE ADDRESSED.

IT IS CLEAR THAT PRESIDENT CLINTON SEES THE DIRECT CONNECTION BETWEEN THE SCOURGE OF CRIME AND VIOLENCE, AND THE PREVENTIVE "INOCULATION" THAT SPORTS AND RECREATIONAL PROGRAMS CAN PROVIDE TO COMBAT THEM. AND THE PRESIDENT CLEARLY SEES THIS PROBLEM AS A PRIORITY.

AN INTEGRAL COMPONENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH POLICY IS *PREVENTION*. AND AN INTEGRAL COMPONENT OF ANY ANTI-CRIME LEGISLATION SHOULD ALSO BE *PREVENTION*. IN BOTH CASES, THE LOGIC OF PREVENTING PROBLEMS *BEFORE* THEY ARISE, BY PROVIDING CIRCUMSTANCES THAT ENCOURAGE HEALTHFUL, POSITIVE BEHAVIOR AND ALTERNATIVES TO THE TEMPTATIONS OF THE STREET, IS UNDENIABLY SOUND. AND IN THE INSTANCE OF SPORT PROGRAMS FOR YOUTH —BODY, CHARACTER, SELF ESTEEM, AND RESPECT FOR OTHERS, ARE STRENGTHED AND NOURISHED.

THE SURGEON GENERAL, DR. JOYCELYN ELDERS HAS SPOKEN ABOUT ORGANIZED GANGS IN THE STREET. SHE HAS SAID, CORRECTLY, I BELIEVE, THAT WITH MORE ORGANIZED PHYSICAL AND SPORTS ACTIVITIES, WE COULD HAVE SUPERVISED, OR "POSITIVE GANGS," RATHER THAN THE "NEGATIVE GANGS." AND IF WE DON'T ORGANIZE "POSITIVE GANGS" FOR THEM, OUR YOUTH FORM "NEGATIVE GANGS" THAT WE DON'T LIKE. I AM HERE TO URGE, LIKE THE SURGEON GENERAL, THAT WE START CREATING MORE OPPORTUNITIES FOR "POSITIVE GANGS" FOR OUR YOUTH.

KIDS THAT ARE KEPT BUSY BUILDING STRONGER, HEALTHIER BODIES AND MINDS THROUGH SPORTS AND PHYSICAL FITNESS ACTIVITIES, ARE KIDS WHO ARE JUST TOO BUSY TO GET IN TROUBLE, OR EVEN *THINK* ABOUT GETTING IN TROUBLE. BY SUBSTANTIALLY INCREASING FUNDING — THROUGH CRIME PREVENTION LEGISLATION — FOR GRANTS TO EXISTING COMMUNITY BASED YOUTH ORGANIZATIONS PROVIDING SUPERVISED SPORTS AND RECREATION ACTIVITIES, WE CAN SHOW THAT WE ARE INDEED SERIOUS ABOUT CRIME *PREVENTION*.

SPORTS AND RECREATION PROGRAMS ARE AMONG THE WISEST INVESTMENT OPPORTUNITIES FOR THE U.S. TO PROTECT AND CULTIVATE CHILDREN AS OUR MOST VALUABLE NATURAL RESOURCE. AS A BUSINESSMAN MYSELF, I CAN SAY WITHOUT HESITATION THAT ANYONE IN THE BUSINESS COMMUNITY PERFORMING A CRITICAL COST-BENEFIT ANALYSIS OF PARKS AND SPORTS RECREATION PROGRAMS, WOULD HAVE TO CONCLUDE THAT THE VAST MAJORITY OF THOSE PROGRAMS ARE AMONG THE WISEST INVESTMENTS THAT A NATION COULD HAVE IN ITS INVESTMENT PORTFOLIO.

NO DOUBT, SOME OF THOSE WHO SERVE AS MEMBERS OF THESE TWO SUBCOMMITTEES BENEFITTED IN THEIR YOUTH — AT A TIME WHEN THE STREETS WERE NOT AS MEAN AS THEY ARE NOW — FROM SPORTS AND RECREATION PROGRAMS IN THEIR COMMUNITIES.

PARK, RECREATION AND SPORT PROGRAMS AND FACILITIES HAVE PROVEN TO BE HIGHLY EFFECTIVE AS “VACCINATIONS” FOR OUR AT RISK YOUTH, AGAINST ANTI-SOCIAL BEHAVIOR THAT YOUNG PEOPLE ARE VERY SUSCEPTIBLE TO. KIDS CAN BE IMMUNIZED FROM THE TEMPTATIONS OF GANGS, VIOLENCE, AND VANDALISM THAT CAN BE SO APPEALING, BUT IT WILL REQUIRE SOME SOCIALLY RESPONSIBLE BEHAVIOR BY OUR POLITICAL LEADERS TO PROVIDE THE FUNDING NECESSARY TO DO THE JOB.

FLORENCE GRIFFITH JOYNER, MY CO-CHAIR AT THE PRESIDENT’S COUNCIL — AND THREE TIME OLYMPIC GOLD MEDAL WINNER — STANDS AS A DRAMATIC EXAMPLE OF THE POSITIVE INFLUENCE OF SPORTS AND RECREATION PROGRAMS ON DISADVANTAGED YOUTH. FLORENCE WAS THE SEVENTH OF ELEVEN CHILDREN BORN AND RAISED IN THE WATTS SECTION OF LOS ANGELES. AT AGE SEVEN SHE BEGAN RUNNING, WITH THE GUIDANCE AND SUPPORT OF THE SUGAR RAY ROBINSON YOUTH FOUNDATION. BY HIGH SCHOOL, SHE HAD BECOME ONE OF THE TOP RUNNERS IN CALIFORNIA.

AND NOW, OF COURSE, SHE SHINES AS ONE OF OUR NATION’S PREEMINENT ROLE MODELS — ESPECIALLY FOR GIRLS GROWING UP IN URBAN ENVIRONMENTS — AS AN ACCOMPLISHED ATHLETE, WIFE, MOTHER, ENTREPRENEUR, AUTHOR, AND FOUNDER OF THE FLORENCE GRIFFITH JOYNER FOUNDATION. FLO JO NEVER ACCEPTED THE CONVENTIONAL WISDOM THAT BARRIERS WERE INSURMOUNTABLE. FOR HER, BARRIERS WERE THERE TO BE CONQUERED. FROM WORLD CLASS SPRINTER IN THE 1988 OLYMPICS TO HER PRESENT TRAINING FOR THE WOMEN’S MARATHON AT THE 1996 OLYMPICS, FLO JO IS STILL PUSHING THE ENVELOPE ON THE DEFINITION OF POSITIVE ROLE MODEL.

TODAY, ONE OF THE GREATEST FORCES FOR CHANGE IN THIS COUNTRY ARE PROFESSIONAL AND OLYMPIC ATHLETES, AS ROLE MODELS FOR OUR KIDS. MANY OF

OUR BEST ATHLETIC HEROES HAVE OVERCOME ADVERSITY AND TREMENDOUS ODDS TO ACHIEVE THEIR GOALS. THEY DEMONSTRATE THE DIRECT LINKAGES BETWEEN SETTING GOALS, AND MAINTAINING THE DISCIPLINED EFFORT NEEDED TO ACHIEVE THOSE GOALS. ROLE MODELS CAN BE A FUNDAMENTAL COMPONENT OF THE SOLUTION TO CRIME AND VIOLENCE. AS DIRECT BENEFICIARIES OF THE SPORTS-ENTERTAINMENT SYSTEM, THEY SHOULD FEEL AN OBLIGATION TO GIVE SOMETHING BACK.

MR. CHAIRMAN, I BELIEVE THERE IS A RESPONSIBILITY INCUMBENT UPON THOSE WHO ARE, WHAT I CALL, OUR "ELITE ATHLETES" — OUR PROFESSIONAL SPORTS STARS — TO GIVE BACK SOMETHING THAT IS REAL, THAT IS SIGNIFICANT TO THE NATION AND TO OUR COMMUNITIES. WITHOUT DENYING THESE ATHLETIC ELITES ANY CREDIT FOR THEIR ABILITIES AND ACHIEVEMENTS, I WOULD HASTEN TO NOTE THAT IN SEVERAL WAYS, THEIR FAME, AND FORTUNE UNDENIABLY RESULT — DIRECTLY AND INDIRECTLY — FROM SUCH MECHANISMS AS GOVERNMENTS SANCTIONED ANTI-TRUST EXEMPTIONS FOR SPORTS MONOPOLIES, AND FROM TAXPAYER BUILT STADIUMS, COMPLETE WITH TAX DEDUCTIBLE LUXURY SKYBOXES.

AS A NATION, WE SPEND MILLIONS UPON MILLIONS ON OUR ATHLETIC ELITES, BUT SO OFTEN SEEM TO BE SHORT OF MONEY FOR THE GRASS ROOTS. WE DIRECT OUR RESOURCES, BOTH PUBLIC AND PRIVATE, TO THE TOP OF THE SPORTS PYRAMID, AND FAIL TO PROPERLY SHORE UP IT FOUNDATION, THE GRASS ROOTS. IN MANY CASES, THE MORE IMPORTANT NEEDS OF THE GRASS ROOTS — WHICH CONSIST MORE OF BASIC PARK, RECREATION, AND SPORTS PROGRAMS AND FACILITIES — ARE IGNORED, OR MARGINALLY SUPPORTED.

THERE ARE, IT SHOULD BE NOTED, THOUSANDS OF POSITIVE ROLE MODELS WHO LABOR AND SERVE EVERYDAY IN THE PARKS AND RECREATION AREA. THEIR DIRECT ACCESS TO AT RISK YOUTH AND THEIR DEMONSTRATION OF CHARACTER AND LEADERSHIP, SET AN EXAMPLE WHOSE IMPACT IS DIRECT AND PROFOUND. WE NEED TO INCREASE OUR SUPPORT FOR PROGRAMS AND PEOPLE LIKE THAT WHO ARE MAKING A DIFFERENCE, AND DOING US ALL A GREAT SERVICE.

WE ARE A NATION RICH IN ATHLETIC AND PARK FACILITIES, BUT THEY DESERVE MORE CONSIDERATION AND SUPPORT THAN THEY HAVE RECEIVED FROM OUR POLITICAL ESTABLISHMENT OVER THE LAST DECADE OR SO.

MANY OF THOSE FACILITIES ARE SCANDALOUSLY UNDERUSED BECAUSE THEY ARE NOT ACCESSIBLE TO THE PEOPLE WHO NEED THEM MOST. IN WASHINGTON, D.C., FOR EXAMPLE, WE HAVE AN ABUNDANCE OF SPORTS AND RECREATION FACILITIES ON MILITARY BASES AND OTHER GOVERNMENT OWNED PROPERTIES, AND AN ABUNDANCE OF KIDS AT RISK. BUT THE KIDS HANG OUT — AND GET IN TROUBLE — INSTEAD OF WORKING OUT TO GET IN SHAPE — BECAUSE THEY'RE NOT GIVEN ACCESS. OUR CALL SHOULD BE "DON'T LOCK ME OUT."

ON A PERSONAL NOTE, IN MY HIGH SCHOOL DAYS, I HAD "BACK DOOR" ACCESS TO MY HIGH SCHOOL GYM BECAUSE MY PRINCIPAL WOULD LOOK THE OTHER WAY, AND PERMIT ME TO CLIMB IN THROUGH A SIDE WINDOW TO PRACTICE. THAT KIND OF INFORMAL ACCESS IN A SMALL TOWN ENVIRONMENT IS IMPRACTICAL TODAY, BUT THE NEED FOR ACCESS — ESPECIALLY BY OUR AT RISK YOUTH — IS GREATER THAN EVER.

THROUGH THE MILITARY SERVICES, THE NATIONAL GUARD, AND OTHERS THAT CONTROL FEDERALLY OWNED PROPERTIES, WE HAVE MUCH OF THE RECREATIONAL AND SPORT FACILITIES INFRASTRUCTURE IN PLACE, BUT WE ARE NOT USING IT. JUST THIS SATURDAY, THE *WASHINGTON POST* RAN A COLUMN BY ROGER K. LEWIS (AN ARCHITECT AND PROFESSOR AT THE UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND) ENTITLED "WHEN 'ARMY SURPLUS' IS REAL ESTATE." LEWIS WRITES THAT THE RAPIDLY EXPANDING INVENTORY OF SURPLUS...MILITARY PROPERTY" "ILLUSTRATES A NATIONAL DILEMMA" ABOUT THE BEST WAYS TO USE SUCH PROPERTIES.

THE PRESIDIO, IN SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA — NEAR CHAIRMAN MILLER'S DISTRICT — STANDS AS AN EXCELLENT EXAMPLE OF THE RIGHT WAY TO CONVERT A FACILITY FROM MILITARY TO CIVILIAN USE. AS ROGER LEWIS NOTES, "THE MILITARY BASE IS BEING TURNED OVER TO THE NATIONAL PARK SERVICE, WHICH HOPES TO MAKE IT A MULTI-USE 'ONE-OF-A-KIND SUPER URBAN PARK.'" SOME 70 PER CENT OF THE LAND

WOULD BE OPEN FOR OUTDOOR RECREATION AND ACTIVITY, AND THE BOWLING ALLEY AND GOLF COURSE WOULD BE OPEN TO THE PUBLIC. THIS EXAMPLE NEEDS TO BE REPLICATED ACROSS THE COUNTRY WHERE MILITARY FACILITIES ARE BEING DE-COMMISSIONED.

WHEN IT COMES TO OUR TREATMENT OF PROFESSIONAL SPORTS, AMERICA IS INCONSISTENT IN ITS VALUES. OUR GOVERNMENT HAS HELPED TO CREATE AN ELITE SPORTS-ENTERTAINMENT COMPLEX. BUT IT IS GRASS ROOTS SPORTS AND RECREATION PROGRAMS THAT CHANNEL THE ENERGY AND ATTENTION OF YOUNG PEOPLE IN POSITIVE DIRECTIONS, THAT HELP DEVELOP THEIR PHYSICAL HEALTH AND MENTAL WELL BEING.

GOVERNMENTS AT ALL LEVELS HAVE CREATED A SITUATION WHERE THE CONSUMER IS CAPTIVE. THEY SEE MILLIONS SPENT ON ATHLETIC PALACES, YET OUR PARKS, RECREATION, AND PHYSICAL FITNESS PROGRAMS ARE BEING CUT. WHEN ALL OF THE MONEY KEEPS GOING TO THE TOP OF THE SPORTS PYRAMID, WHEN WILL THE PUBLIC SAY "ENOUGH?"

THROUGH THE DOMINANCE OF ELITE SPORTS IN AMERICA, WE HAVE BECOME A NATION OF MANY WATCHING FEW — A NATION OF VIEWERS, NOT DOERS.

WE NEED ONLY TO LOOK AS FAR AS NORWAY, THE SITE OF THE WINTER OLYMPICS, TO SEE HOW A NATION HAS RECOGNIZED THE IMPORTANCE OF BROAD BASED PARTICIPATION IN SPORTS AND ACTED ON THAT PHILOSOPHY. WHILE NORWAY DID A SUPERB JOB OF STAGING AN ELITE ATHLETIC EVENT, THEY DID NOT ALLOW THAT ENDEAVOR TO DISRUPT THEIR COMMITMENT TO BROAD BASED, PARTICIPATORY ATHLETICS FOR THE MASSES.

WE SHOULD ALSO GIVE CONSIDERATION TO THE CONCEPT OF ENTERPRISE ZONES TO INCREASING WHAT I WOULD CALL "RECREATION ZONES." BY GRANTING TAX AND OTHER ADVANTAGES TO STIMULATE AND ENCOURAGE BUILDING SPORT AND RECREATION FACILITIES IN COMMUNITIES WITH THE GREATEST NEED, WE COULD GO A LONG WAY TOWARD HELPING CREATE THE "POSITIVE GANGS" THE SURGEON GENERAL

HAS SPOKEN OF.

IN NEW YORK'S HARLEM, IT HAS ALSO BEEN DONE THE RIGHT WAY. LAST JUNE, THE STATE OF NEW YORK — ON THE SITE OF A SEWAGE TREATMENT PLANT— OPENED WHAT CAN ONLY BE CALLED A FANTASTIC, INDOOR-OUTDOOR, MULTI-SPORT PARK, THAT RUNS OVER TEN CITY BLOCKS. IT HAS A FOOTBALL FIELD, A FULL TRACK, A SWIMMING POOL, COURTS FOR HANDBALL AND BASKETBALL, LOCKER FACILITIES, AND A RESTAURANT. THIS PARK IS OF IMMENSE BENEFIT NOT ONLY TO ALL OF THE PEOPLE OF HARLEM AND NEW YORK CITY, BUT ESPECIALLY TO THE YOUTH, BY PROVIDING POSITIVE OPPORTUNITIES, SERVING AS A MAGNET, DRAWING AT RISK YOUTH FROM THE MEAN STREETS TO THE HARD COURTS.

GRASS ROOTS SPORTS AND RECREATION PROGRAMS ARE AMONG THE WISEST INVESTMENT OPPORTUNITIES FOR OUR COUNTRY, TO NURTURE OUR CHILDREN AS OUR MOST VALUABLE NATURAL RESOURCE. THEIR ARE DOUBTLESS VERY FEW GOVERNMENT SUPPORTED PROGRAMS THAT CAN LAY CLAIM TO SUCH AN OVERWHELMINGLY POSITIVE IMPACT ON OUR NATION'S FUTURE CITIZENS AT SUCH A REASONABLE COST.

AS PRESIDENT CLINTON HAS SO WISELY STATED: "THE HEALTHIER WE ARE AS INDIVIDUALS, THE HEALTHIER WE ARE AS A NATION." TO THAT, I CAN ONLY ADD: IF OUR CHILDREN — OUR FUTURE LEADERS — ARE NOT THEMSELVES INDIVIDUALLY HEALTHY IN MIND, CHARACTER AND BODY, THEN WHAT HOPE CAN WE REALISTICALLY HAVE ABOUT OUR HEALTH, AS A NATION?

MR. CHAIRMAN, I WILL BE HAPPY TO RESPOND TO ANY QUESTIONS YOU MAY HAVE.

Mr. MILLER. Mr. Coleman?

STATEMENT OF LEONARD COLEMAN

Mr. COLEMAN. Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Members of Congress, and distinguished ladies and gentlemen: It is an honor and pleasure to be here today to discuss the role of sports and particularly baseball in helping provide our Nation's youth with an alternative to playing on the wrong side of the street.

Specifically, I am here to discuss a partnership effort between Major League Baseball and the Sporting Goods Manufacturers Association entitled Reviving Baseball in the Inner City.

It was just 5 short years ago that a man named John Young, presently a scout for the Florida Marlins, had a dream. A native of Los Angeles, John was not thrilled with what he saw in sections of town where he had grown up. John wanted to reintroduce the youth of our cities to the game of Babe Ruth, Jackie Robinson, Yogi Berra, Willy Mays, Hank Aaron, Larry Dobie, Roberto Clemente, Barry Bonds, and Cal Ripken.

John also had another strong motivation. During John's travels he had come to see the children of the streets, and he knew that someone had to confront the problems facing these young men and women early on or their future and ours would be riddled with despair, despair over lost youth, despair over rising crime, and a whole host of associated problems that affect the future of the entire country.

RBI is the story of one man's attempt to reach out and touch someone. Major League Baseball and our partners, the Sporting Goods Manufacturers Association, are fully committed to John Young's dream. And what a success story RBI is becoming.

Last year, the Sporting Goods Manufacturers and Major League Baseball joined forces to provide inner city youth with the opportunity to engage in recreational league play. We did this through a grant of \$200,000 per annum by the Sporting Goods Manufacturers for a 3-year period for the purchase of team equipment and uniforms for \$10,000 youth ages 8 to 17. All of the equipment purchases were made in the local community by the league coach. Major League Baseball supported this effort by contributing \$100,000 to the Inner City Baseball World Series and funding other baseball programs reaching an additional 85,000 youth across our country.

These joint efforts are a wonderful example of private partnerships for the constructive good of youth baseball and particularly the renewal of inner city baseball. The goals of our partnership are to increase participation and interest in baseball, greater inclusion of ethnic minorities into the mainstream of the game, development of greater self-esteem by the players from learning the value of teamwork, motivation of participating student athletes to study more effectively while offering a strong incentive to stay in school, the opportunity for residents of a community to have an active involvement with kids, an increase in the number of talented athletes ready to play on high school and college teams, and we use it as a strategy to effectively respond to youth problems.

At this very moment Major League Baseball is developing a boilerplate curriculum for RBI to help Major League Baseball and

the Sporting Goods Manufacturers achieve the aforementioned goals. This curriculum will include an academic component; life skills development component, for example, positive thinking, goal setting, conflict resolution, weapons use prevention; and, a mentoring component, parental involvement guidelines and RBI staff development.

As indicated by our development of this curriculum, the development of the full potential of the human spirit is an absolute priority. The 1993 RBI cities included Boston, New York, Newark, Philadelphia, Richmond, Cleveland, Atlanta, San Juan, Miami, St. Louis, Kansas City, and Los Angeles.

How fast do these programs grow? We are finding that when you seed a program it grows. The Baltimore Youth League started with 400 youngsters in 1992. In 1993, 1,100 youngsters participated. Los Angeles and St. Louis started their programs with a single digit number of teams. Last year, over 60 teams participated in each city.

Partnership efforts for 1994 include not only expansion efforts but also plans that enable already established programs to become financially self-sustaining. The 1994 expected new entrants into the RBI fold include Pittsburgh, Peoria, Cincinnati, Columbus, Dallas-Fort Worth, Louisville, New Haven, Norfolk, Stewart, Florida, and Tallahassee, Florida.

Also, the Boys and Girls Clubs of America have agreed to become an RBI hub. With this national organization identifying strong affiliates for the introduction of RBI. The Boys and Girls Clubs plan to start 16 new programs, eight for boys and eight for girls, all the way from Pawtucket, Rhode Island to Mobile, Alabama, to Seattle, Washington.

In the last sentence I mentioned girls. While RBI has been open to males and females, truthfully female participation has been minimal. Beginning in 1994, Major League Baseball and the Sporting Goods Manufacturers will be launching girl's fast-pitch softball RBI. Los Angeles, New York, Richmond, and Peoria are just a few of the towns which will introduce girl's RBI, and in 1995 we will have our first girl's RBI World Series which will be hosted by a Major League club.

Baseball is great. Unlike other sports, a young man or woman doesn't have to be the biggest or the tallest to play the sport. In fact, the Little Scooter, Phil Rizzuto, will be inducted into baseball's Hall of Fame this July.

It is a sport where young women and men have an opportunity to be part of a team—or where young women have an opportunity to be part of a team and enjoy the same skills and fun as the boys.

The World Series is traditionally identified as the Fall Classic. With the advent of RBI, the World Series has taken on a new meaning. Major League Baseball and the Sporting Goods Manufacturers will sponsor the second Inner City World Series in Anaheim, California, this year from August 7th through 11th.

Last year, we fielded 400 kids from 12 cities at Busch Stadium in St. Louis, the home of the Cardinals. Imagine the thrill for a child who may never get beyond the neighborhood field of dreams to play in a Major League ballpark. This is the real stuff that dreams are made of. It shows another side of the street. It shows

that the playing field can be different than the 'hood through hard work and practice. It shows that kids can be number one with their friends and parents and in society, and given some of the greatest moments in life. In the end, it shows them life.

Interdependence. A pitcher is dependent upon the catcher. The catcher has to think. What is a batter's weakness? What is the pitcher's strength? And so on and so on. It is not just that you are a ball club but you are a family. Kids also can fail. You can lose a game. But you can work yourself back up. And that winning isn't everything. There is another ball game tomorrow.

That is the commitment of Major League Baseball and the Sporting Goods Manufacturers to our RBI youth.

Thank you for your consideration, and I would be pleased to field any questions.

Mr. MILLER. Thank you both for your time and your involvement.

I had an opportunity a couple of weeks ago to meet with a cross section of potential, former and current gang members in my district from a very, very diverse group of cities. In some cases they were from cities where most residents would never believe that there were active gang members, but in fact were, and others where there has been a long history of terrible violence.

And, as we talked over a period of a couple of hours, when asking each of these young people what they would really like, they mentioned three things. The top three things that they mentioned were they would like smaller classes, they would like it to be quiet in their school room, and they would like recreation.

And I had the unfortunate task of informing them that the things that they were asking for were sort of considered commonplace when I was their age. There was no question in my mind that I could stay after school and play kickball if I was in the fourth grade or baseball if I were in the fifth or sixth grade or whatever sport of the season.

And, even when I was in community college, I was a recreation director at one of the local grammar schools because those were the functions that cities, in fact, provided.

And yet today it is all too common that these facilities are basically in disuse either because of people's fear or the physical condition of many of our facilities or, obviously, just a lack of resources to staff these facilities.

And yet, I find it interesting in each of those same cities two phenomena. One is, obviously, softball. In my district there is no end to the adult softball leagues, and my brothers-in-law, you know, get up from the dinner table at nine o'clock at night and head off across town to play a game at 11:30 and think nothing of it. People get off from work and start a game at midnight and think nothing of it. And the demand for adult softball leagues was almost immediately met by the political structure who recognized who these people were, organized and probably voting, and thinking about this subject.

And yet we see those facilities for young people just continue to deteriorate; Boys Clubs, Girls Clubs, athletic fields, hours just continue to be constrained, and young people in some cases—talking about your pyramid, Tom—find themselves forced off of playing

fields because the adults essentially have taken over what might have been a shared facility at one time.

This is sort of the raw material of your business, these young kids. This is—you know, we talk a lot about what are we going to do in the next century in terms of our young people. For your business, these young kids are in some ways the future of your product that you present, professional basketball, and your career, Tom, baseball, and obviously other professional sports.

How do you gauge what is happening in our communities in terms of facilities? I mean you start RBI, but I assume some of these towns have the same problem in looking for locations to really have a consistent program that kids can rely on if RBI is to come to their town?

Mr. COLEMAN. Surely. Mr. Chairman, let me say I speak to you not only as the National League president but as the co-chairman of the Boys and Girls Clubs of Newark, New Jersey, where I have served as co-chair for a number of years now. And I will say to you we have had a baseball program called Homers for America, that we have done with Coca-Cola which has provided really about \$500,000 a year for us to rehabilitate and create new fields. Now, that has been a tremendous program, and I can name any number of communities where that has gone a long way for creating a recreation vehicle for kids to play on.

The truth of the matter is it is a drop in the bucket. If you go around this country and you look at your urban landscapes, in many instances there are not fields for kids to play on. We can go in and talk about providing baseball or providing another type of sport that would require a field, and you are looking at having to have vans or what have you to bus people half an hour across to another side of town in order to be able to compete.

And, as somebody who grew up in probably similar circumstances to you as a kid, there were always plenty of fields around for us to play on. And I think that your bill, we certainly would support this increase in the recreational facilities available. I think it is absolutely essential and mandatory to the success of athletic and recreational programs in this country that that happen.

Mr. MILLER. Tom.

Mr. McMILLEN. I would like to echo what Mr. Coleman said, and also commend Major League Baseball and the Sporting Goods Manufacturers for doing what I was exhorting in my remarks which is to give something back.

When I was a kid it was difficult finding a place to play sometimes, but it wasn't impossible. I think in some cases in our inner cities it is literally impossible. I look at it from the perspective of basketball, a very popular inner city sport. You drive around the Capital area and you are hard pressed to even find a hoop that is usable for young kids.

So I think it is the scarcity of facilities as well as the underutilization of our existing ones that presents a tremendous problem. And I think that you are right on, Mr. Chairman, in trying to enhance the resources in this area.

But what I referred to in my pyramid from a country's perspective is that when so much money is at the top, and you know, gov-

ernment created this, government set the priorities to give monopolies and to build these taxpayer stadiums. In Baltimore, for example, we built a new baseball stadium that the taxpayers in Maryland built, because of the added cash flow from that stadium the owner is getting a \$100 million windfall in market value on that team. Think of the resources that you could have if you could have some of those resources back at the bottom of the pyramid.

But you are sitting here debating why government can't get resources together to do the kind of things that we know we need to do, and I would argue that government has made decisions, maybe not consciously all the time, to result in tremendous resources going to the top of the pyramid. And, as a result, we have become a gladiator nation, unique in the world.

And so it is not surprising that we see these social ills that are resulting from the lack of opportunity for our children. And I am not necessarily criticizing professional sports. I am a product of it. I believe that there is a tremendous give-back responsibility by the athletes, by those who are the beneficiaries of this system, and I continue to echo that remark because that is really the priority issues that we are talking about today.

Mr. MILLER. Thank you.

Mr. Vento.

Mr. VENTO. Well, thank you very much.

And, Tom, a special welcome to you, as well as our distinguished president of the National League that is here. I really feel good about the role that athletes have done and will do in the future.

I just can't underline how important it is, Tom, that you are taking the time and the energy to put into this national physical fitness program along with people like Florence Joyner and others.

In my own home town, as I mentioned—if I can mention the American League here, Mr. Coleman—Kirby Puckett and Dave Winfield have been involved.

It is so important because I think the success of most of these programs, as we understand, is really based on the ability to enlist volunteers. Most of us at one time or another have been tapped to do something in terms of organizing. I was a teacher and I had a couple of kids in a hockey program, and they had to have an extra coach and so they tapped me. I don't know if they benefited from it, but some didn't seem to be hurt too much by it. Tying shoe laces and cleaning ice was one of the tasks.

The fact is if you can get some sort of involvement by professional athletes a lot of volunteers are going to respond because that underlies it. They are getting recognition.

I know you need a format to go back in the community. Now, I would rather see a few of these T-shirts with a sporting goods name on them or another team than some of the T-shirts that have been appearing in the national media reflecting violence.

I think that that is the difference. It is a positive orientation, and we are at a time when we just have to enlist the communities. But we need to provide the format where all of that can take place in terms of these playgrounds.

Unfortunately, like Tom's comment about the fact that a rusty backboard or basketball net have become emblematic symbols of not just selling coke or something else but of what is taking place

in New York City. That can't be the basis. We have come to sort of accept that. But that is what happens in the Bronx. And that is not really, I don't think, where our value is as a culture and as a people in terms of an emphasis on the importance of youth and the importance of the individual. It has got to be a little bit more than that, and that is where we come into the facility.

I remember when I was a State legislator we had a young State senator who had been an Olympic star, Wendell Anderson, and they wanted to build a new Civic Center, the Chamber of Commerce did, in downtown St. Paul. And of course, he had been an Olympic hockey player. A Swede playing on our side, incidentally.

And he said as a condition of doing that he wanted a hockey stadium or indoor hockey rinks built in every State senate district in the County of Ramsey. Today we have about 12 of them. One of the Republicans chided him and said it was a good thing he wasn't a polo player.

But that is the type of relationship. When we are looking at projects in communities we need to leverage that. And we need to begin to look at, and if we are going to make it that is how it is going to be. That is the sort of wheeling and dealing that would make your mentor, Phil Burton, proud, Mr. Chairman, and that is what he did.

We have the land. We have it setting in New York. We have the Jacob Reese bathhouse that has been in Federal ownership in a national park for 22 years, or over almost 20 years, and setting there boarded up. That is what the case is. That is the case in New York, and nothing is happening with it.

We have airfields up there that are sitting there with hangars with nothing going on in them, and yet there are millions of youth in that city. And the statement is that, we are going to spend a lot, \$29,000 a year, to keep you in a juvenile detention facility, but we are not willing to spend a couple thousand dollars setting up and opening up these programs that can have something besides crabgrass out there growing.

So that is what we need. That is the challenge. It is just that clear. You can do your part, but we need to keep enlisting people. We also have to say we are going to send you out here to a field that has something besides rusty basketball hoops that has some decent equipment.

Now we have the irony of these ice arenas which ended up being a great buy. They are used around the clock. But so many sports today, too, and the activities cost a fortune for a kid to get involved in it. What does it cost to equip one with hockey equipment? Somewhat less expensive. But we need to address that, and I think the equipment manufacturers and others, to give people a positive orientation. I would rather see them competing against one another in a hockey stadium or a basketball arena than the competition that is going on out there now.

And I think it is very important to involve girls, to involve young women too. It isn't just men. And so we need it. The Boys and Girls Club are a good orientation, but we need to set the format in terms of capital structure.

I think we need to send a signal to the volunteers. You want to go to a place that is pleasant, that has adequate security, that has

facilities, you can keep the stuff away, you know. The biggest problem they should have is getting the ball back when you blow the whistle, right? Not the other security problems that so often surround these areas and, you know, it isn't going to encourage or enlist people to go there.

But you can do a great deal. Most of these programs live on reflected light, and that light comes from the people that are getting the attention. And I want them, and I think they are willing, to cash in some of their status to provide the type of benefit and positive role that is there. But we need to come forth as the Federal Government and show that we are committed to those programs as well as the States and locals.

So I understand what we have to do with your help here today in encouraging these types of capital investments, this type of reinvolvement in our urban settings where there isn't the ability. We need that today. We need to get those networks. The extended family is afraid. We need to do that and we can do it with your help.

So we look forward to you being partners with us in this venture of preventing crime and dealing with and addressing the needs of youth.

Thank you.

Mr. MILLER. Before I recognize Mr. Allard, let me just emphasize a point Chairman Vento made, and that is I think that we have a very real opportunity in the near term in the Congress to get this done. I think that there is sort of a confluence of opinion that is now emerging between a lot of people who deliver social services and care to individuals and law enforcement that has to sort of deal with what happens when these kids go wrong about the need for alternatives.

And I don't think we can see this anymore as a debate between two factions, having spent a considerable amount of time with law enforcement over the last 3 weeks, hearing time and again from the sheriffs and the district attorneys and others that we have got to have alternatives because we cannot simply arrest everyone. We have arrested so many people the system is so stretched that we can't deal with it. So we have got to now start thinking in a prevention mode. And they are viewing recreation as part of their tools.

So this was a debate over the last decade about what approach you take. I think the attitude now in law enforcement, the debate over the crime bill and what is going on in State legislatures is that this discussion is coming into your focus, and your attention and the focus you help bring to this by your participation can be the difference between success and failure in the political opportunity that is now presented for getting our focus back onto these kinds of community programs.

Mr. Allard.

STATEMENT OF HON. WAYNE ALLARD

Mr. ALLARD. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

I like the direction of your discussion and thoughts here today. The only thought that I had is that you can set up a program that is brand new and wonder if perhaps maybe you haven't taken the

time that is necessary to review those programs that you already have in place, so that you don't find yourself spending badly needed resources for your program and that being spent in reestablishing the new personnel and a new agency or new program, whatever it takes to administer it.

And I would encourage you and members of this committee to look very seriously at programs that we already have in place and see if perhaps maybe you can't change the direction or the objectives of that program to meet what your needs might be.

Now, in looking at the number of dollars that you have set aside for this, it figures out to about \$2.25 million per State, and the \$2.5 million will build a facility, but then the big cost of a facility is maintenance and operation. And you can build it and make it a real nice facility to start with, but if you don't have the proper maintenance and operation to continue the program from then on, where are you going to get those dollars?

And if you identified some type of revenue flow that would continue to keep the program up and going, you may put in new basketball hoops today but they may be rusty 5 years from now, or do you have the money to replace those basketball hoops when they get rusty?

I also think that we ought to do everything possible to maintain the concept of local control. What may be appropriate for Los Angeles or New York may not be appropriate for some other State, maybe New Mexico, for example. And I think those local citizens need to be able to evaluate the local needs of their residents and have a program that is flexible enough that would meet those needs of that local program.

So that is just some thoughts that I would share with the panelists and members of the committee here today. And, if you have any thoughts on my comments or any response to what I have said, I would appreciate hearing them.

Mr. COLEMAN. Your last point about local control, I think we certainly—I agree with you in terms of our RBI program. One of the key components of that is empowerment at the local level where we work with the local 501(c)(3) or church or what have you. And we are really in a way an enabler from Major League Baseball, but the program is carried out at the local level by the local people of that given neighborhood. One, we don't presume to know the neighborhood as well as they do. And two, we think it is very important in the sense of the entire neighborhood being behind the program.

And so by having that type of local control of it we found that that model works very successfully for us, and we have found that in the cities all around the country.

Mr. MCMILLEN. I would like to add my support for some of your thoughts, and that is I think it should be locally controlled. We don't need to recreate the wheel in these programs.

Mr. Chairman, I would like to also mention that the President's Council is working with the Administration's National Service Program. Three or four years from now we will see thousands of young people committed to service in this country.

This campaign is not just about bricks and mortar, it is about getting people involved, and there are lots of ingredients to this, I

think, that could be added together to make it even more successful.

If I had a dream, I love to say, I would love to see the commissioners of all professional sports—tennis and all the other leagues—add to their collective bargaining packages a commitment that each professional athlete in this country give a day back to this country. Many of them do. I am talking about giving something back so we can go in and deal with these terrible problems that we face in our inner city.

But I generally concur with some of your overall thoughts.

Mr. ALLARD. You know, I was hoping maybe you might make a few comments about how we keep—once you get something like this going, how you keep it operating, the maintenance, and that there are some States who dedicate a certain amount of their dollars to recreational activities.

Colorado, for example, could dedicate some of this to this type of a program at the local level, and maybe there would be some sort of commitment on local governments or whoever takes this on, whether it is a nonprofit, that they are going to continue to—they have got to establish in the program some way of keeping the facilities up and running and in good repair and maintenance.

Mr. MILLER. Would the gentleman yield?

Mr. ALLARD. I would be glad to yield to the chairman.

Mr. MILLER. One of the reasons for this hearing, and as I think later witnesses will testify, is what we would like to be able to build, in fact, on the existing programs. One of our concerns with the U.S. Olympic Center program is that it is sort of a one-shot deal. I mean you are stuck with the facility and the maintenance of that facility becomes a problem.

What we think, and when we look at the Boys and Girls Clubs, and we look at programs like RBI and Midnight Basketball, the cities have different needs and what we are trying to do is to put together an approach which allows for the leverage of those facilities.

A city may want to qualify for RBI but its facilities are in fact a problem. Under the UPARR program we can reclaim those facilities and maybe the city provides the staffing. In fact, in some cases one of the things the city has to do is they agree if they receive the funding that they will maintain that facility.

In other cases, we can provide staffing for a period of time because the facilities are okay, in terms of looking for leverage between, either running it through the youth service program or expanded use of the Boys and Girls Clubs.

There are a lot of different ways because there are so many components. You have the Sporting Goods Manufacturers. You have pro sports that work, and with the sponsors of pro sports, and all of that.

And I think the question here is where can a little bit of Federal dollars make a difference in terms of leveraging this either for summer programs or for year-round programs and those combinations?

And when we see the backlogs the communities have given the Urban Parks Recreation and Restoration Program already, where cities have put this together and said, you know, we have three out

of the four components in place. What we need now is a little bit of help here and now we have got a program.

Our concern is that we don't sort of build a lot of edifices that make somebody feel good but don't really multiply out into the community in terms of the participation of young people.

So these remarks are very, very welcome here.

Mr. MCMILLEN. Could I add one comment, sir?

Mr. MILLER. Yes, sir.

Mr. MCMILLEN. You know, it would be very interesting if somewhere along the line in this country we took an inventory of our facilities that are owned and could be usable for the at-risk in our country. I don't know of any such animal that anybody has created. I mean, just look around the Capitol here. There are facilities. They are just not being used.

Mr. MILLER. Well, the hallmark of this Administration is to try to get people to work across agencies and across purposes and across governmental levels.

And you are right. I mean, if we start to audit what in fact is available to communities that are reserved exclusively for the military, exclusively for the government, or exclusively for the university and/or the school system, the fact is we are very rich in these. But as Mr. Allard points out, staffing problems and and lack of resources limit the usefulness of those facilities.

But that is where we can put together, I think, these packages between the public sector and the private sector. There are combinations that do work. There is a lot of three cushion shots that can be made, and a lot of programs fail. It is remarkable how many programs don't go forward for the want of a relatively small amount of dollars compared to what the total program could deliver.

It is the nature of, I guess, putting together financing packages anywhere. Sometimes you fail for the last \$25,000 and you are dealing in millions. And that is where I think the Federal Government has had success in this program, in its financing.

I think you are quite right, Tom. That audit may shame us into recognizing what we haven't done.

Mr. Hinchey?

STATEMENT OF HON. MAURICE D. HINCHEY

Mr. HINCHEY. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

I just want to express my appreciation for your holding this hearing, and also to you gentlemen for coming here and giving the testimony that you have. I think you are helping us put the right emphasis on some of these problems.

We have some legislation that is working its way through the Congress here which would have us spend additional billions of dollars on the construction of new prisons and putting new policemen on the streets at a time when we already have more people in prison than any other country in the world, and more people in prison than we ever had in our history, or anyone else has ever had in history so far as we know, on a per capita basis.

I think that we are focusing our energy and attention and resources in precisely the wrong direction. The emphasis that you have put today on early intervention and prevention, in my opin-

ion, is precisely the emphasis that we ought to be putting on as a government and the people in this Congress ought to be doing. So I very much appreciate what you are talking about.

I think that your suggestion about an inventory of resources is also very much on point. This Nation is rich in resources in a variety of ways, and that includes recreational resources that we are not using wisely.

I know that in my district, and across the country I assume it is pretty much the same, the schools routinely close down at four or five o'clock in the afternoon. Those athletic facilities that are available in our schools thereby become useless for most of the rest of the 24-hour period.

If we were a little bit wiser, we would be using those gymnasiums and soccer fields and softball diamonds and football fields a lot more intelligently than we are.

Instead of spending billions of dollars on prisons and for more police which will make us a society with more people in jail and more restrictions on our rights and freedoms, we ought to be putting attention where it belongs, as you have emphasized, on prevention and the wise use of those recreational facilities.

I appreciate what you are doing, what you are trying to do. I also appreciate the emphasis that this Administration is putting on this question, and that is exemplified by your appointment and Florence Joyner's appointment and the other activities that have been going on.

I grew up in the Kennedy era when a new President who was young and vital came into office and said that we ought to be a stronger Nation, and in order to be a stronger Nation we need to be stronger individually, and we need to place a greater emphasis on physical fitness. And I think all of this ties together.

I am delighted about your testimony. I think that there are resources we have, the Land and Water Conservation Fund, the Urban Parks Program, which is innovative, that we ought to apply more intelligently than we have.

And I very much appreciate the emphasis that you are placing on this, Mr. Chairman. I think your emphasis is timely and right to the point—both of my chairmen, I should say.

Mr. McMILLEN. If I could just echo your remarks. Senator Bradley, as you know, on the Senate side has an initiative keeping schools open which makes a lot of sense.

But, you know, we always see these statistics about how much per capita we pay out for kids in America for their education, and we are probably ranked very near the top in the world. But I bet you if you looked at the same statistics across the board in America and look at what we spend on these children's ability to recreate compared to other countries in the world, and the resources we are allocating, I think you would be very surprised. That is the bottom of the pyramid I am talking about.

A country that allows the top of its pyramid to get too heavy is a country deeply in trouble, and that is why I am very pleased that Mr. Coleman and others are trying to address this. But we need more. This is not enough. We need more to really get to the heart and soul of this problem.

Mr. MILLER. Mr. Barrett.

STATEMENT OF THOMAS M. BARRETT

Mr. BARRETT. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

One of my great joys as a new Member of Congress is playing in the illustrious House gym with other Members of Congress, although I played 6 months before I saw my first assist. And I think that is more of a reflection of the Members of Congress than anything else. I see that as one of the few nonpartisan, bipartisan things that goes on around here. And I see the same type of good work product coming out of young kids who play basketball or baseball.

When I hear people criticizing the Block Grant Program for building basketball courts, I tell them I would rather have those kids shoot baskets than shoot each other. If that is what it takes, that is what it takes. So I am very excited about anything we can do to give young people in our communities positive outlets, and I think sports is a very positive outlet.

I grew up in Milwaukee and personally had Warren Spahn roll up a window on my arm as I tried to get his autograph, and I was there when Hank Aaron hit many of his homeruns, and I would love to see a Hank Aaron Park in Milwaukee.

I was not aware of the RBI program, and since Bud Zelick might have some sway in perhaps helping Milwaukee children, I would love to work with you and with Boys and Girls Clubs—we have a very strong Boys and Girls Club in Milwaukee—to get an RBI program for Milwaukee for 1995.

Anytime we can get kids to get in a positive sports environment, I think it teaches them the value of friendship, of teamwork, of getting along with people, and in my life there is nothing better for doing that than sports. So I am very excited about anything we can do to move these programs into cities.

Mr. COLEMAN. That is great, Congressman. I would like to just add too, you can work with them in 1994. The Boys and Girls Clubs and the Brewers have targeted Milwaukee for 1994.

Mr. McMILLEN. Congressman, referencing that House basketball game, I learned very quickly in my first few days not to block anybody's shot, of any Member who served on steering and policy. [Laughter].

But, you know, one more note about a point you made about facilities in general, not just children. One of the campaigns, as you know, across this town is to get rid of the recreation facilities here on the Hill, and in all the Federal buildings, because it is a luxury. It is not needed. But if we don't provide those facilities, our health care costs are going to be much higher, not only for our children but for adults as well. So it is something we have to keep in mind.

Mr. MILLER. Thank you very much. We look forward to working with you on this issue. Your experience and your advice will be very helpful to us because we think we have a shot at changing this pattern. And we really appreciate your participation.

Mr. VENTO. Mr. Chairman, I just would add that maybe the WPA facilities are worn out and we need to do something in 1994 that would be helpful. Because I think you need to have that infrastructure down there for the folks to volunteer and to do other things to attract them to a setting where it is workable, where you

can physically make it, and that is really where I think we can make our contribution.

And then your volunteer efforts, again I would just emphasize how important that is to enlist people at the local and State levels.

Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman.

Mr. MILLER. Thank you.

We have got a bit of a change in our first panel. We are going to include in that first panel Mr. William Spitzer and Mr. John Wilson. So, if they will join Mr. Wilbur Smith, the Mayor of Fort Meyers, Mr. Charles Jordan, the Director of Portland, Oregon, Parks and Recreation; Mr. Frank Weirick, who is from the Columbus Police Department, National Fraternal Order of Police; Mr. Robbie Callaway, the Assistant National Director, Boys and Girls Clubs of America; and Mr. Gary Cobb, former NFL player and sports talk show host from Philadelphia.

I think we will have enough room. We may have to move some chairs around there. But we have some scheduling problems, and I want to thank the other members of the panel for accepting this adjustment, assuming that you have accepted this adjustment.

And Mr. Wilson, I think you are under the tightest constraint here, so why don't we start with you. Your full statement will be included in the record, and you can proceed in the manner in which you are most comfortable. And if you want to respond to what you have already heard this morning, please feel free to do that also.

PANEL CONSISTING OF JOHN WILSON, ACTING ADMINISTRATOR, OFFICE OF JUVENILE JUSTICE AND DELINQUENCY PREVENTION, DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE; WILLIAM SPITZER, ACTING ASSISTANT DIRECTOR, NATIONAL RECREATION PROGRAMS, NATIONAL PARK SERVICE; CHARLES JORDAN, DIRECTOR OF PORTLAND, OREGON, PARKS AND RECREATION; SEGEANT FRANK WEIRICK, COLUMBUS POLICE DEPARTMENT, NATIONAL FRATERNAL ORDER OF POLICE; ROBBIE CALLAWAY, ASSISTANT NATIONAL DIRECTOR, BOYS AND GIRLS CLUBS OF AMERICA; WILBUR C. SMITH III, MAYOR OF FORT MEYERS, FLORIDA, AND CHAIRMAN OF U.S. CONFERENCE OF MAYORS COMMITTEE ON SPORTS AND RECREATION; AND GARY COBB, FORMER NFL PLAYER, SPORTS TALK SHOW HOST, PHILADELPHIA, PENNSYLVANIA

Mr. WILSON. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Mr. MILLER. And welcome to the committee.

STATEMENT OF JOHN WILSON

Mr. WILSON. Thank you very much.

I am pleased to have the opportunity to testify today on the role of parks and recreation programs in combatting juvenile delinquency and youth violence. Since my statement has been submitted for the record, I will just summarize some of the highlights.

It is a special privilege to appear before both of you today, and I am particularly pleased because Chairman Miller has been a staunch supporter of the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention. On behalf of our office, I thank him for his long history of leadership and support on behalf of children and youth.

The 1992 reauthorization of the Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Act recognized the important role that parks and recreation programs play in delinquency prevention. Recreation activities are a key component of our new Title V delinquency prevention initiative to provide incentive grants for local delinquency prevention programs.

This year, \$13 million in Title V funds will be awarded to State formula grants agencies to be passed through to local communities in order to build community coalitions and formulate plans to implement risk-focused delinquency prevention efforts. OJJDP is providing training on risk-focused prevention to some 5,000 local community leaders over the next four to six months. This effort is designed to assist local governments to formulate their delinquency prevention plans.

I am pleased to report that for fiscal year 1995 the Administration has requested \$30 million for Title V prevention activities. I think the need for this was brought home to me when I was in Detroit speaking at a youth violence summit. In talking to officials in the city, I learned that the city of Detroit, even though it has gang and violence problems, teen pregnancy and the like, has run out of funds and had to close its recreation centers and even its libraries. And yet in talking with corrections officials the same day I found that Michigan had just passed the \$1 billion mark in the amount of State funds spent for adult corrections annually. Quite a juxtaposition!

For the past six months, the Departments of the Interior and Justice have been working together to establish the Youth Environmental Service, or YES, program. The purpose of the YES program is to increase the capacity of States and local communities to effectively correct, treat and rehabilitate adjudicated delinquents and at-risk youth by implementing environmental conservation work programs on Federally owned, environmentally sensitive land, in keeping with the November 18, 1993, Sense of the Senate Resolution, sponsored by Senator Bob Graham of Florida. Having access to these Federal lands will provide a place for programs and help get us around the NIMBY syndrome—the not-in-my-backyard problem that we continue to run into in terms of locating sites for effective programs for children.

We have teamed with Interior and signed a memorandum of understanding to implement this program. Interior, through its land management agencies, will identify Federal lands and facilities where programs can be situated or where environmental work can be accomplished and enter into agreements with State and local agencies that set forth the terms and conditions under which juvenile offenders or at-risk youth can reside or work on those Federal lands.

The Department of Justice through the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP) will assist the Department of the Interior in identification of sites and provide advice on the qualifications of agencies and the programs proposed for implementation through the YES program. OJJDP will also provide training and technical assistance to the projects in such needed areas as the provision of after-care services.

An important goal of the YES program is to involve other Federal agencies in the pilot phase, and we have met with officials from the Departments of Agriculture, Defense, Education, Labor, Commerce, and HHS to get them involved in working with us on this initiative. We are looking forward to expanding the program to additional sites across the country.

Recently, there was a ceremony in Big Cypress Swamp, which is one of the first programs that will be located in Florida. We have six pilot sites, three in Florida, that will deal with serious and violent juvenile offenders. We have a program in Utah that will provide intermediate sanction for moderate offenders, and two programs here in Washington, DC, that will work with at-risk youth, and one of which is going to be operated by the Boys and Girls Clubs of America.

These initial six programs will serve 130 youth between the ages of 9 and 18, and we hope to expand this program to a great many more sites in the future. For example, currently the Department of Agriculture is considering establishing YES program sites in national forests in several States, including Oregon, Indiana, and North Carolina.

We think one of the key features of the needs of this program and a lot of residential programs for juveniles is to provide effective after-care programs, and that is one of the areas that we are going to focus on with our sister agencies in implementing this program. We have had very strong support.

As I mentioned, we had an opening ceremony in Big Cypress on February 18 of this year and Secretary Babbitt, Attorney General Reno, Governor Chiles, and Senator Graham all were there and very strongly supported this new program.

The YES program is a win-win program. Youth will have an opportunity to work on Federal lands to preserve the environment while at the same time they will be able to participate in innovative programs either to address their problems of delinquency or prevent them from becoming delinquents when they are at-risk youth.

We have reviewed research on recreation programs, and although there is some research that has been inconclusive, most research shows that there is a negative association between delinquency and participation in sports and recreational activities.

In terms of delinquency prevention, we believe that sports and recreation participation provides a critical mechanism that helps bond youth to conventional society. It does this by providing opportunities for kids to be attached to other athletes, coaches, and parents, which helps conform the behavior of athletic youths.

A commitment to sports may reduce the likelihood of delinquent behavior, because to engage in delinquent behavior would jeopardize satisfying athletic participation.

Time for delinquent activity is less available as involvement in sports activities increases. One example is midnight basketball. And those kinds of programs can also be used to leverage kids' participation in other kinds of healthful activities whether it is life skills, employment readiness programs, and the like.

Also participation in sports and recreation teaches kids about good health, and being able to compete and perform may help turn

youth away from debilitating influences such as drugs and alcohol. These points also support the utility of sports and recreation and diversion programs, and in OJJDP we have done a lot of diversion programming over the years and have always incorporated recreational activities as well as cultural experiences and other experiences into our diversion and treatment programs.

We have incorporated recreation programs into our serious, violent, and chronic offender strategy, which I testified on before Congressman Martinez and the Subcommittee on Human Resources, and we have incorporated that into two of our new proposed programs, our Accountability-Based Community Intervention Program and our Serious, Violent, and Chronic Offender program initiative.

Recreation also plays an important role in our student athlete programs, our Boys and Girls Clubs programs in public housing, and targeted outreach and gang prevention intervention programs.

Our sister agency in the Office of Justice Programs, the Bureau of Justice Assistance, is funding safe havens programs which provide neighborhood-based multiservice centers in which a variety of youth and adult services are coordinated, also incorporates recreation and after-school care programs as vital parts of the Safe Havens program. Those 20 sites, which are being funded in existing weed-and-seed sites, when they are fully implemented safe havens will provide services for up to 10,000 residents of those communities annually.

The Attorney General has pointed to the need to establish after-school programs to provide meaningful activities for "latch key" children and other children who can benefit from the range of program services that can be effective during this critical time as part of our commitment to delinquency prevention. OJJDP is working with the Carnegie Corporation to increase the number and improve the quality of after-school care programs for adolescents, especially young adolescents.

According to the 1992 report by the Carnegie Council on Adolescent Development and their Task Force on Youth Development and Community Programs, entitled "A Matter of Time: Risk And Opportunity in the Nonschool Hours," recreation should be a key component of these after-school programs.

Yet a recent national study of after-school care revealed that 25 percent of these programs did not have access to playgrounds and parks. Mr. Chairman, we would like to work with you and others to rectify this situation.

In conclusion, let me quote from President Clinton's State of the Union address, when he stated in reference to the problem of violence in this country:

"Let us also remember how we came to this sad point. In our toughest neighborhoods, on our meanest streets, in our poorest rural areas, we have seen a stunning and simultaneous breakdown of community, family, and work—the heart and soul of civilized society. This has created a vast vacuum which has been filled by violence, drugs, and gangs. So I ask you to remember that even as we say no to crime we must give people, especially our young people, something to say yes to."

We at the Department of Justice believe that supervised parks and recreation programs are something we can give our young peo-

ple to say yes to. OJDDP and the Department of Justice look forward to working in partnership with members of your subcommittees, other Federal agencies, and State and local officials throughout the Nation to further the role of recreation and park opportunities in crime and delinquency prevention.

I thank you, Mr. Chairman, and I would be pleased to respond to any questions you might have.

Mr. MILLER. Thank you very much.

Mr. Spitzer.

STATEMENT OF WILLIAM SPITZER

Mr. SPITZER. Thank you very much. I want to very much thank both chairmen for inviting me to come and speak on something that is very dear and close to my heart and my colleagues and that is urban recreation. You have a copy, I hope, of our testimony. I will not read it. What I would prefer to do is to respond to the questions you asked in the letter to the Secretary of the Interior and then be available to answer and probe any of those areas.

You asked about the history of urban recreation. In my opinion, the Federal role in this history is ambivalent. It goes back, of course, to the early days of the turn-of-the century settlement houses and the use of recreation as an important social program.

In 1924, there was an urban study done by a Federal commission that stated that with the tremendous immigration into this country we should be looking at how we are going to solve the recreation problems of the folks coming into our major cities. That was very quickly overtaken by the October 1929 stock market Crash and the diversion of attention because of economics, probably through World War II.

As you are aware, in the late fifties, the Outdoor Recreation Resources Review Commission was established to look at outdoor recreation with a specific prohibition against looking at urban recreation. Yet that commission and the study staff of that commission concluded and stated quite forcefully in their report issued in 1962 that urban recreation was the most important issue for the Nation.

The Land and Water Conservation Fund and the establishment of the Bureau of Outdoor Recreation as a Federal spokesperson for recreation occurred in the early 1960s. The Land and Water Fund—a partnership program that you are very well aware—purpose was to establish strong programs in the States, and I think we can say that program has certainly accomplished its mission in having programs in every State in this country.

The next event that I think was most important was in the late seventies with the establishment of a National Urban Study. That urban study looked at the question of urban recreation in the Nation's cities and concluded that something new was necessary. And, as you are aware, UPARR was the result of that urban study which called for grants focused and to go directly to cities and counties that were distressed for rehabilitation, innovation and planning.

You asked the question about the history of the funding. It has been on again and off-again. You are as well aware as I as to the funding history.

You asked the question about demand, and I have a table which I am sorry was not in the testimony, which we will put in. What it shows is for the last 5 years there has been an almost uniform request for Land and Water Fund in the neighborhood of \$400 million of "Demand". That has been fairly uniform over the past 5 years, and some \$25 to \$30 million being appropriated and funded. So that was the ratio.

[The table follows:]

L&WCF GRANTS REQUESTED AND AWARDED FOR FISCAL YEARS 1989-1993

	Number requested	Dollars requested	Number awarded	Dollars awarded
Fiscal years:				
1989	2,799	421,097,237	404	19,427,194
1990	2,760	494,448,295	382	20,794,421
1991	2,394	324,782,660	444	24,682,798
1992	2,661	329,981,118	412	24,970,389
1993	2,844	412,971,501	410	29,243,047
UPARR Grants:				
1991	240	48,200,000	104	19,700,000
1992	150	12,499,000	62	4,920,000

Mr. SPITZER. As you are aware, UPARR has only been funded in the last several years. And, of course, as you know, and I am very pleased the Administration is requesting UPARR funding again in 1995. In 1991, there were \$48 million requested by the cities and counties for \$19 million in actual grants. In 1992, \$12.5 million were requested because only \$5 million was appropriated. We are in the middle of a grant round now, and I don't know how much is going to be requested.

You asked whether our Department is working with other Federal departments on delinquency prevention projects. Not really. But I guess I can give you a personal story, I was in the airport in Detroit in 1968 as it was burning. I was a grant officer for the Land and Water Conservation Fund, got a call from the Vice President's office asking if there was anything I could do. I had to answer that it was a bit late.

On-again and off-again there have been programs. In the early seventies there was a very strong effort at a youth summer support program with the Department of Labor, specially focused on youth summer activities. Over the years there have been occasional youth summer employment programs. There has not been consistency to that, and very frankly, in the past few years my function for coordinating with other Federal agencies has been very small. We have not been able to do enough. So I would have to answer that question as no.

You asked about the provisions in the crime bill. We have not conducted a formal review of this proposal, but I would like to make a few points. We certainly applaud the intent of the Senate to address the problem of crime in the parks.

We have a little reservation about the specifics. As you are aware, certain types of anticrime investments are already allowed under Land and Water Conservation Fund—security lighting, fencing, any of the physical developments. Recreation programs are not, as you are aware. To open up the Land and Water Fund to

programs would be something that would need to be discussed at some length, I am sure.

The UPARR can provide programmatic support and has. Attached to my testimony are a number of specific youth-at-risk projects that were done through UPARR in the past years, and I think they will be instructive of the kinds of things that you have heard from others testifying here—tennis, night basketball, and use of school facilities and so on. I won't take your time. There are other people who are going to be speaking to you who are experts on the application of these programs to youth-at-risk.

If there are any questions that I could answer I would be happy to, sir.

Mr. MILLER. Thank you.

[Prepared statement of Mr. Spitzer follows:]

STATEMENT OF WILLIAM T. SPITZER, ACTING ASSISTANT DIRECTOR, NATIONAL RECREATION PROGRAMS, NATIONAL PARK SERVICE, BEFORE THE SUBCOMMITTEE ON OVERSIGHT AND INVESTIGATIONS AND THE SUBCOMMITTEE ON NATIONAL PARKS, FORESTS AND PUBLIC LANDS, HOUSE NATURAL RESOURCES COMMITTEE, OVERSIGHT HEARING ON "THE ROLE OF RECREATION IN CRIME AND DELINQUENCY PREVENTION."

March 10, 1994.

I am pleased to be here today to discuss the value of recreation programs as a socializing activity and crime preventative, particularly in urban areas. As you may know, the United States was the first country in the world to offer urban recreation programs aimed at disadvantaged youth. That initiative took place just over one hundred years ago in the private settlement houses of Boston, New York and other industrial centers. Joseph Lee of Boston is often given credit for first recognizing the importance of play programs for the health and well-being of immigrant children, who lived in the depressing tenements of that era.

Awareness of the public responsibility to ensure that urban youth had access to meaningful leisure time activities, including exercise, fresh air and social recreation opportunities grew steadily through the early part of this century. Chicago was a pioneer in providing close-to-home recreation. Between 1905 and 1920, Chicago's South Park District, under the leadership of J. Frank Foster, created a comprehensive system of small parks and field houses to serve as play, sports and social centers in crowded industrial neighborhoods. This effort served as a model for other cities nationwide and, by the 1930s, most large urban communities had recreation systems that addressed some of the needs of disadvantaged residents. Non-profit groups -- Girls and Boys Clubs, YM/YWCAs, churches and synagogues, and police athletic leagues -- often played a key role in building and operating recreation centers and active programs to "keep the kids off the streets."

Federal government involvement in these activities began during the Depression when the WPA, the CCC and other public works agencies helped to build small parks and recreation centers in hundreds of communities across the country. The National Park Service was also involved in local recreation during this period, providing technical assistance on many local projects and developing recreation demonstration areas in a number of localities.

After World War II, the Federal role in local recreation declined steadily until the 1960s, when Congress enacted the Open Space Program and the Land and Water Conservation Fund. Along with State projects, these grant programs helped many communities, particularly in growing suburban areas, to develop new parks. However, the *National Urban Recreation Study*, conducted by the Department of the Interior and published in 1978, found that the national government's two main

grant programs for recreation purposes were failing, for the most part, to address the recreation needs of older, larger cities where many of the people most in need of public recreation opportunities lived.

In response to this finding, the Urban Park and Recreation Recovery Act was enacted in 1978 (P.L. 95-625) to help economically and socially distressed cities and counties to rehabilitate critically needed recreation sites and facilities, and to develop new and improved urban recreation programs through planning, demonstration projects and systematic action. UPARR provides a stimulus to local governments for revitalization of their park and recreation systems and for long-term commitments to continuing protection and maintenance of irreplaceable recreation resources. UPARR recognized that these resources include, not only the natural areas and park lands which are the primary focus of LWCF grants, but also a whole infrastructure of recreation, the built environment of facilities (indoor and outdoor) and programs, all of which are essential to handle large numbers of people and problems in urban areas. For this reason, UPARR grants of three types were authorized:

Rehabilitation Grants - 70 percent matching grants for major capital renovations of existing neighborhood recreation areas and facilities; these grants cover design and construction costs for rehabilitation of specific parks and facilities to help address key recreation needs at the neighborhood level; they cannot be used for routine operation and maintenance;

Innovation Grants -70 percent matching grants for demonstration of innovative and cost-effective approaches to providing critical local recreation services, park programs and facilities; innovation grants can cover costs of program operations for innovative demonstration efforts as well as special capital projects;

Planning Grants - 50 percent grants to develop Recovery Action Programs (RAPs) that identify a community's recreation needs and priorities, and to plan and schedule improvements mandated by the UPARR legislation.

Emphasis from the program's inception was placed on the demonstration potential of UPARR projects that help local governments to plan for overall revitalization of community recreation systems, rehabilitate existing recreation facilities, and test innovative approaches to park system management and delivery of recreation opportunities. Section 1013 of the UPARR Act authorizes a total of \$725 million for the life of the program. This section also states that, "any amounts authorized but not appropriated in any fiscal year shall remain available for appropriation in succeeding fiscal years."

Since 1979, some \$192 million have been obligated for UPARR grants. For renovation of existing recreation facilities, \$150.9 million in UPARR assistance has funded 497 Rehabilitation grants; \$26.3 million has gone for 171 Innovation grants to demonstrate innovative and cost-effective approaches to recreation services and improved management of recreation systems; and almost \$15 million has supported 521 RAP grants. While the Administration requested few funds from the mid-1980s until 1991, Congress renewed the program in 1991 and 1992. The Clinton Administration supports the UPARR program's recovery, and has included \$5 million in the fiscal year 1995 budget request, in addition to the \$5 million that was proposed and appropriated in fiscal year 1994.

Over the program's first 15 years, more than 500 cities and urban counties participated in UPARR through receipt of grants and preparation of recreation plans. To date, 400 local jurisdictions in 42 States, the District of Columbia, and Puerto Rico have received UPARR grants.

Project proposals are submitted to the appropriate NPS Regional Office by eligible local units of government (cities and urban counties). Grants are awarded on a nationally competitive basis with Regional Offices having the primary responsibility for monitoring progress and post-completion requirements of the grants. Although the States are not involved in program administration, about two dozen States have contributed funds to the local share of Rehabilitation and Innovation projects. As an incentive for this type of cooperation, the UPARR share of total cost is increased to match the amount of any State assistance.

**UPARR Grants Awarded by Type
1979-1993**

Type of Grant	Number	Average \$ Amount	Total Amounts
Rehabilitation	497	\$290,000	\$150,943,555
Innovation	171	154,000	26,307,733
Planning	521	28,500	14,993,324
		GRAND TOTAL	\$192,244,612

**UPARR Grants Awarded by Year
1979-1993**

	FY' 79	80	81	82	83	84	85-90	91	92	93
Rehabilitation	38	160	52	0	124	22	0	104	0	0
Innovation	5	42	19	44	0	0	0	0	62	0

In the area of crime prevention, UPARR has an excellent history of addressing crime and fear of crime through recreation programs it has supported. From 1979 on, the program took a broad view of the close relationship between recreation and other human needs, from transportation to health to education. Early program grants restored hundreds of recreation facilities in the most distressed urban

neighborhoods. A number of demonstration (Innovation) grants also addressed public safety. We are particularly proud of the 62 "youth-at-risk" Innovation grants awarded in 1992 and implemented by localities over the last two years. Because of the demonstration potential of these projects, we have attached a summary of five of the successful 1992 grants.

In 1989, a report was completed on the impact of the UPARR program on benefitting jurisdictions. This report serves as a review of the impact of the UPARR program 10 years later, and also as a reminder of the lasting commitments and legacy provided under Section 1010 of the UPARR legislation. The report concluded that the overall objectives of the UPARR program were met, within the limits imposed by funding provided. Projects funded through the UPARR program are continuing to provide meaningful recreation opportunities. This is significant because projects are located in areas that have few alternative recreation resources, and serve populations with limited mobility to seek other recreation opportunities.

As valuable as special recreation programs are, they cannot exist apart from the whole. In recreation, most communities feel the need for a strong and healthy infrastructure of parks and facilities to provide a sound base for activity programs. Developed facilities are the indispensable link to neighborhoods that make commitments to specific programs like individual sports, team competitions, nature or crafts education really work. Only with such a base can communities particularly troubled by crime hope to use "recreation" as one tool in their prevention arsenal.

Unfortunately, the funding problems that trouble us at the national level plague local and State governments as well. Since they are often viewed as "less critical" than other programs, parks and recreation are particularly vulnerable to budget cuts at the very time when systematic, long-term, investments in the recreation future may offer one of the best hopes for improving the urban environment. How does one decide between investing in more jail cells or investing in recreation centers? For some people, it is no argument -- the case for more prisons and more cops will prevail. But some other mayors and local leaders see buying more iron bars as counter productive, feeling that it is better to recreate than to incarcerate. Obviously, there are no simple answers; we will probably have to do some of both.

There is no shortage of needs for matching grant funds. In fiscal year 1993, the 50 States and six territories received, by actual count, 2,844 LWCF grant applications for \$412,971,501. Of this amount, 410 projects totalling \$29.2 million were funded; a ten to one request to funding ratio has been standard in the program for at least the last decade. Recent UPARR ratios are somewhat lower, though still impressive. In 1991, after a seven-year hiatus in appropriations, 240 Rehabilitation grant applications for \$42.8 million were

submitted, despite a \$250,000 per grant ceiling and a very short application period. The Service awarded 102 grants for \$19.7 million. When only \$5 million were available in fiscal 1992, almost 150 Innovation grant applications totalling \$12.5 million were received. Some 62 grants for \$4.9 million were selected.

At this time when we are focused on balancing budgets and reducing deficits, we may never come close to appropriating the maximum authorized amount for LWCF or UPARR grants, but it is critically important that the Federal government maintain firm commitments to the park and recreation goals that it has been promoting for the last 30 years. As stated earlier, the 1995 budget supports continuing appropriations for LWCF and UPARR grants.

The committee chairmen have requested any comments we may have concerning the LWCF provisions of the crime bill approved last year in the Senate and now pending in the House. While we have not conducted a formal review of this proposal, we have a few general points. We applaud the intent of the Senate in trying to address the problem of crime in parks, but have reservations about the specifics. First, certain types of anti-crime capital investments are already allowed under the LWCF grants program (e.g., security lighting, fencing, vandal proofing at grant-assisted sites.) Second, there is some confusing language about using LWCF monies to pay for crime prevention programs, including, presumably the salaries of law enforcement personnel. Because of the long history of the LWCF as an exclusively capital investment program, we suspect that opposition to this proposal may be widespread.

This concludes my statement, I would be happy to answer any questions you may have.

Successful UPARR "Youth at Risk" Projects

RECREATION OUTREACH FOR TROUBLED TEENS Dayton, Ohio

Dayton's Project R.I.S.K. (Recreation Intervention Supports Kids), is a recreation outreach program for disadvantaged youth established in the summer of 1992. This effort, organized and implemented by the City of Dayton's Park and Recreation Division and partly funded by a grant from the National Park Service under the Urban Park and Recreation Recovery program, provides a special mix of social, educational and recreational activities for 14 to 20 year old youth in two inner city neighborhoods who are at risk for involvement in crime, drug abuse or gang activities.

First, it includes an unusual recruitment device. Instead of waiting for participants to simply "drop-in" to the Roosevelt Community Center, two Outreach Workers go into the community to meet teenage boys and girls - at schools, eating places, shopping centers and churches - and invite them to join the program. Referrals are also solicited from neighborhood and community groups, teachers, churches and the Juvenile Court system. Transportation to the Center is provided by Recreation Division vans.

Second, the program offers nighttime activities (10 PM to 2 am), including traditional team and individual sports, aerobic and weight training and special group projects to serve the community. These activities provide social, health and counseling benefits as well as enjoyable recreation.

Third, Project R.I.S.K. has a strong educational component, including nightly group discussions on issues of interest to youth, remedial classes aimed at preparing teens for high school equivalency tests and "awareness raising" on such topics as drugs, race, work habits and cultural issues. The program also offers individual job counselling and opportunities for employment in summer recreation leadership positions to interested participants.

Project R.I.S.K. has so far served close to 200 teenaged participants in two years of operation. The Federal grant funds have been expended, but the program has been successful enough that the City of Dayton will continue to fund it on its own through 1995. For many of its participants, it seems to offer a real alternative to the violence and crime which plague so many city neighborhoods.

ROLLER-SKATING IN A PARKING GARAGE Wilmington, Delaware

In the summer of 1992, Wilmington's Park and Recreation Department, the Police Department and a quasi-public parking authority joined in a partnership to provide children ages 12 to 19 an alternative to negative-type activities. The program opened the ramps of a downtown parking garage to provide weekend roller-skating opportunities for over 6,000 skaters.

Anti-drug counselling, educational lectures, rap sessions with community leaders and other social events were also integrated with the roller-skating fun, so the teenagers not only had a new recreation activity to brighten their summer weekends but an opportunity to help improve their lives by staying off the streets and out of trouble.

During the summer, this program served approximately 500 to 600 teenagers on the weekends. Because the program was very successful in 1992-93, and the city plans to bring it back in the summer of 94 at its own expense and at a larger indoor parking facility.

**"NIGHT MOVES" BASKETBALL PROGRAM
Denver, Colorado**

In the last decade, a number of communities have sponsored 'Midnight Basketball' leagues to provide late night activities for inner city and suburban youth. In 1992, Denver developed a challenging variation on such late night sports programs.

'Night moves' is an after school and weekend program for teenagers with special promotional ties to the Denver Nuggets basketball team. It includes basketball clinics, leagues and tournaments, swimming instruction and organized swim teams, weekend long-distance cycling, and computer literacy classes at two recreation centers in key neighborhoods. Boys and girls are first recruited to the basketball leagues with promotional help from Marcus Liberty and other Denver Nugget players. Then the basketball, swimming, cycling and social programs are supplemented by workshops on a variety of self-help workshops, ranging from better study habits to drug prevention.

Over 620 registered boys and girls participate in the program, which includes elementary age program for the younger brother and sisters so they will have a place to go while their older brothers and sisters participate in the program.

During fall and winter months, Night Moves conducted several field trips to nearby parks and downhill skiing facilities. Thanks to the generosity of the Nuggets and other local businesses, the schedule was expanded from a single season to year round, from one activity to several and from a single neighborhood served to many. The Night Moves program prides itself on its good marketing and responsiveness to the kids who are its primary beneficiaries. It is a wonderful demonstration of what community spirit and voluntary involvement can do to improve recreation and education opportunities

**TENNIS PROGRAM FOR INNER-CITY KIDS
Newport News, Virginia**

During the summer of 1992, the city initiated a special program for fourth graders using tennis and other leisure activities to attract low-income children into afternoon classes to improve reading and math skills. Tennis was selected because it was something new for most of the minority children of southeast Newport News who participated.

The daily program for almost 100 elementary school children began with physical fitness exercises and several hours of tennis instruction, followed by a hot lunch. Afternoon sessions were educational, involving practical mathematical instruction and one-on-one tutoring in reading skills. Each week's activities centered on a theme, like farms and animals, transportation or space. The students read books related to the theme, wrote reports and stories about it, and did math exercises related to it.

For example, during 'transportation' week the kids read railroad history and calculated travel times and distances for the weekend field trip by train to the Science Museum in Richmond. The tutoring sessions had a student-teacher ration of 1 to 10, and included many opportunities for interaction between the fourth graders and their classes. Once a week, there were special visits by notable program Mentors, including the police and fire chiefs, an engineer, a nurse and state legislators.

The summer program was successful. The staff of both the morning tennis camp and the afternoon educational activities note improved attitudes toward school and desire to achieve more in school, better behavior toward and with adults, increased poise and self-confidence, better fitness and nutrition, and more positive attitudes toward the community as a result of greater contact with community leaders and programs.

Although the UPARR grant funding is exhausted, Newport News Schools agreed to continue Achievable Dream during the school year. The school year program will function on weekday afternoons and Saturday mornings with the same dual focus on tennis camp and educational tutoring. The program will also be extended gradually to include fifth and sixth graders in future years. A fourth grader who entered the program this year may be able to continue into junior high. As an adjunct to the program several local businesses have agreed to provide college scholarships for program participants who complete high school with good grade averages.

Another result of this program is tennis was introduced to many economically disadvantaged residents who would not otherwise be aware of the tennis or other recreation facilities and programs that are available to them. Newport News also experienced increase in the demand for inner-city tennis courts, and have identified several tennis facilities for expansion in its capital budget.

Mr. MILLER. Mr. Jordan, welcome to the committee. And again, your written statement will be put in the record and you can proceed in the way you think will be most helpful to us. Thank you.

STATEMENT OF CHARLES JORDAN

Mr. JORDAN. And I take that as a sign to be brief with it and I will.

I speak today not only as Director of Parks and Recreation for the city of Portland, Oregon, but also as a member of the Conservation Fund along with Pat Noonan and Henry Diamond, two very strong allies who spend most of their time trying to ensure that we set aside some special areas in America. But they also have a very strong commitment to the recreational needs of our urban youth, and that is very refreshing to see some of our nonprofits now also taking a look at the urban areas and recognizing the value of parks and recreation programs. For what good will it do us to set aside all these natural areas if the next generation can't appreciate them and can't value them.

I also come as one still trying after all these years to make sense out of two boys coming out of the same loving family and yet we decided to take two different paths. After almost 3 decades of drug, crime, and institution, my brother now has been clean for three years. And I have thought about this for a very long time.

And, as I ponder the why of all of this, I can only wonder what—what if he could have had access to a Boys Club or a youth center or someone to take him fishing. And I think about that because he did not have that. And just maybe he could have discovered the rush that comes from winning, the adrenaline flow that comes from watching that bobber dance up and down on the lake and then feel that tug at the other end. Just maybe, just maybe if he had had that chance he would have realized that he could get a high in an entirely different way. I really don't know.

Also, I know he never got to know his neighborhood officer as I did. And those things, they may seem rather insignificant but they have played an important part in my life. If you ask me to remember my science teacher or my math teacher, I can't. But I can remember the Boys Club director, the youth center director, and I can remember my coach very well.

Tonight all over the United States thousands of young people under the supervision of recreation providers will be engaged in a number of positive constructive activities. All over tonight we will have influence over thousands and thousands of young people.

Now, if you think about the fact that if we are not there where do you think all those idle hands and high energy levels are going to go. They are not going to go to the local library, we know that. And they are not going to go home and do homework.

So when you start talking about crime prevention, and, Mr. Hinchey, you are right—I mean we are in the business of prevention. That is what we do. That is our forte.

Every now and then we do rehabilitate some young people, but I am really in the business of providing positive constructive alternatives. Because we discovered a long time ago that every kid can't kick a football or hit a homerun or dunk a basketball, but every kid has a need at least once in his or her life to run home and say,

"Mom, today I was number one. I won." That is the business we are in. That is what we do daily.

We create silly little games. As you drive by and see us out there wondering what is Jordan doing, we are creating games so that every kid will have a chance to win. That every kid will have a chance at least to go home and say that today they were number one.

We do things to build self-esteem. We know what winning does. And we realize that if we can open the door to self-esteem, we open doors for the rest of their lives. Nothing builds self-esteem like winning and reward. That is the business we are in.

And so our whole concept now is that we are more than just fun and games. See, that is how we got into this position we are in. This weak position we are in is because we allowed others to relegate us to fun and games. And then when the pie got smaller our piece was even smaller.

Tonight kids from different backgrounds, different parts of the cities, different colors will be running up and down our fields, up and down our basketball courts totally oblivious to their differences. The only color they see is the color of the jersey.

And when the game is over, they will be giving the high sign, jumping up and down, and talking about the victory. That is when we have got to stop them and say, "Hey, gang, you won tonight. And you know why you won? Because you set aside those artificialities that separate you."

Now, if you can do it on the courts, you can do it in society. And just let it go. We have got to start becoming more than just fun and games. We have got to start imparting some values.

And I hear the comment about youth-at-risk. Mr. Chairman, I must tell you that you have to have different strategies for our young people. One strategy is not going to meet the mold. I contend you have got youth-at-risk, with some intervention you can change their paths.

But you have got some kids that I consider to be in harm's way already. They have decided to harm themselves and to harm other people, and don't be misled that they don't know what they are doing. They know what they are doing. As soon as they kill someone they appear in court. They know what they were doing. But all of a sudden, you know, we forget about the victim.

I am saying you have got to have different strategies for those different groups. I am more effective at the youth-at-risk, but I think you have a tremendous opportunity which I will mention very briefly. Let me go on rather quickly.

It is important that whatever we do that we do it through fun and games. See, the kids come to us because they want to be with us. They come to us for the fun and games. They don't want to come—if I told them we were going to build self-esteem, we were going to deal with social harmony, we are going to deal with crime prevention, we are going to deal with wellness, they don't want that.

So what we have got to do, we have got to market parks and recreation as products, but we have got to use them as tools, and that is hard for a lot of my colleagues to understand. We have to use parks and recreation as tools of our trade, tools to build self-

esteem. Parks and recreation must become their little bit of sugar that helps the medicine go down.

So you are coming to me to play basketball, but I have got to make sure that while I have you I just don't allow you to run up and down that court, work up a sweat and go home. I have got to make sure that you get some medicine.

I think you are in a position right now to avail yourselves of one of those rare opportunities to bring together some very critical efforts in dealing with juvenile delinquency: prevention, enforcement, and rehabilitation. They are not working together. Contrary to what you might hear from anyone, they are not working together, and that has created a number of problems for us.

Good will and patience can make all the difference in the world. I know we all harp on resources all the time, but it was mentioned earlier, we are not using what we have that wisely, because we are all trying to do our own thing.

Organizational identity is so important to us and we are forgetting about the people we are to serve. If we were to collaborate more, we could serve more kids, and we are doing that. It is working in Portland, Oregon, through a shared vision, shared resources, and shared decisionmaking.

Our first year at collaboration, we served 5,500 more kids. Last year it was 7,700 more, just by coming together and sharing resources. And that is something that is not going to happen unless the ones who are in control of the dollars say, "You will collaborate. I am not going to fund a director over here, a director over there, a transportation system here and one over there. You come together."

Collaboration works. It is the only way. And you can do that. You have a chance to do that with these funds. Youth, prevention, parks and recreation, enforcement, law enforcement, and rehabilitation programs—they can all work together.

What we have done is we have called together Campfire Girls, YWCA, YMCA, Boys and Girls Clubs, the Scouts, PAL—grassroots organizations. We have called those all together. So right now I am moving from becoming a deliverer of services to becoming a broker. That is the role I should play in government. I should be a broker of recreational services, not trying to provide them all.

Let me just say in closing this is an opportunity that we in parks and recreation have longed for for a very long time, and that is to demonstrate to you and to the rest of the world that through fun and games we can be more than just fun and games. And that is what we are hoping that you will take advantage of these dollars that you have and not fund just traditional programs, because those are the ones that got us in the trouble we are in.

Unless you can stimulate and encourage a new way of thinking and delivering services, you are wasting your time and you are going to waste some more money.

Mr. MILLER. Mr. Jordan, thank you.

We are going to take a quick recess here to run over and vote, and then we will be back here in about five to eight minutes, ten minutes.

Mr. ABERCROMBIE. Mr. Chairman.

Mr. MILLER. Mr. Abercrombie.

Mr. ABERCROMBIE. Yes. Just before we leave, I wonder if Mr. Jordan could leave with you, perhaps, some of the games that he invented so that people could win, and then maybe you could share that with the rest of us.

Mr. JORDAN. Where everybody wins.

Mr. MILLER. That sounds like Congress.

We will be right back.

[Recess].

Mr. MILLER. Mr. Weirick, we will hear from you next. Welcome to the committee.

STATEMENT OF FRANK WEIRICK

Sergeant WEIRICK. Mr. Chairman and members of the committee, I am Sergeant Frank Weirick of the Columbus, Ohio, Division of Police, and I appear before you today at the request of the National Fraternal Order of Police in regard to the importance of recreation activities for youth and the resultant effect on the crime problem this Nation faces.

I am a 21-year member of the division and currently am assigned to the Ohio State University campus area. Previous to this assignment I was assigned ten years to our local Police Athletic League [PAL] and was primarily responsible for raising funds for the 23 athletic and educational programs. The last two years of this assignment I served as director of PAL and simultaneously served on both the State Organizational Board and PAL's National Health Board of Trustees.

My purpose for appearing before you today is to heighten your awareness of the Police Athletic Leagues and their history of involvement with the direction of the youth of our communities nationwide. I join these individuals with whom I share this forum to emphasize the need for your attention to the importance of prevention of criminal activity by our youth through PAL and similar programs, both athletically and educationally.

Many programs have been featured and highlighted by Members of Congress as to what to do with the youthful offender after they become the youthful offender. However, very little has been visibly done that presents much needed resources to prevent our youth from reaching this plateau. We of PAL and the FOP are about "cops and kids."

The uniqueness of "cops and kids" presents a new exposure to the young people of our communities. During our existence throughout the last 50 years, PAL's programs have provided the youth a new and different look at law enforcement. We have established a bonding trust with our kids. Now, as a law enforcement officer, I drive through these kids' neighborhoods and they actually wave to me in a friendly manner. Though we are still "Five-0" to many, there are many more who respect and appreciate their neighborhood cops.

During the depression days of the 1920s, Lieutenant Ed Flynn decided there had to be a different direction for the kids of his borough, an alternative to hanging out on the street corners with idle time on their hands. Flynn and another officer were motivated by the fact that if they offer an alternative to these youths they would not fall prey to the criminal element who, with no conscience what-

soever, sucked these unsuspecting folks into their world of crime. Thus, the first Police Athletic League baseball teams were formed.

The involved officers along with volunteer fellow officers continued to reach out to the young people locally, forming more and more athletic activities to where today we can boast of over 500 local PAL organizations from our major cities to our smallest townships, including St. Thomas and St. Martin.

The programs have also grown over these years to offer virtually every known sports program for our youth—football, baseball, hockey, tennis, archery, boxing, track and field, winter sports, swimming, lacrosse—the list is endless.

And, of course, we didn't stop there. Very soon into our growth we realized that the minds of these youths also needed some attention. With the same fervor dedicated to sporting activities, we formed study groups, tutoring programs, and homework groups with a new crop of law enforcement and civilian volunteers. We launched these programs to make healthy minds by providing atmospheres of learning one on one.

We realized early on, and are still dedicated to the fact that most of these kids are at-risk youth. If we prevent the vulture of crime from swooping down on these uneducated, idle kids, we won't have them in years ahead taking shots at innocent people, committing drug-related crimes, burglaries, robberies, and so forth, having them become part of the criminal justice system. Instead we will turn out responsible, healthy, and conscientious adults who will give back effort and support their communities.

I would like to focus on my own successes of my own PAL. Please understand that our successes are mirrored around this country by our 500 and other related organizations.

We had 23 programs, many of which I spoke of earlier. We were the first in the country to form a tutoring program and homework program within the PAL network. We had the very valuable support of our local FOP and began working with our kids, whom the vast majority are at-risk youth coming from single parent homes, homes where relatives are raising them, and even kids who are being raised by neighbors and friends. These kids were prime victims and directed toward some form of criminal activity. Our programs met with immediate success.

For those of us who have children of our own, we know the feeling of pride and joy when our youngsters come home from school proud as can be of their accomplishments. I sit before you today to tell you that that proud and joyous feeling takes on a brighter and more elating warmth when our PAL kids come into our building waving their report cards, showing off A's and B's that used to be D's and F's.

There is a tremendous sense of satisfaction when we hear of our PAL kids who have played in our sports program going on to achieve excellence in their sports and ultimately maybe receiving college scholarships because somebody took some time to care. Now, instead of reading in the local section of our newspaper about a youthful offender, we can read the sports page of their outstanding performance in the world of sports. We can read of their graduation and of their progress into their community as a mature, responsible adult.

We also have provided a Law Enforcement Explorers program under the direction of the Boy Scouts of America. Here young people, ages 14 to 20½ years old, enter into a training and educational program geared toward becoming a law enforcement officer. I can brag that of the 300-plus kids that we had go through this program in Columbus, 14 are currently serving with a law enforcement agency somewhere in this United States. Eight are currently serving in Columbus itself.

At PAL, we touch in excess of 2,000 kids yearly. Multiply that by 500 and you can see what PAL is doing for the youth of our country. We are not the saving Messiah. However, our organization and our fellow youth groups are touching and attempting to distract and redirect our youth.

I am not naive enough to think we are 100 percent effective. I do know that in Columbus we have less than a 25 percent failure rate. Nothing is certain and foolproof, but that success is too difficult to ignore.

I applaud the anticrime legislation currently being forwarded by you, our country's leaders. It is much needed. Of course, that is another forum to be debated and decided upon.

What is equally as important and needed as desperately are programs like ours being presented here before you today. Our annual budget in Columbus is in excess of \$200,000 yearly. We receive some private donations, corporate support, funds through fundraising efforts, grant and foundation monies. But the hunt for these monies, these necessary funds, is a dog-fight. There is too little money and so many empty pockets.

The demands on our government on all levels to cure the ills of our society are many. We each have our own special program that we want to be first in line. You, as the leaders of this great Nation, must recognize that our pleas here today must be given special attention, because if we collectively cannot save our youth, in not too many years we run the risk of having no one to take our place, no one to care for those who will follow. Should that happen, we most definitely have failed.

I urge you to search under every rock possible for the ultimate of funding to provide for centers, campgrounds, and the where-for-all to give the youth of our Nation a chance, for our immediate future and the future of many more generations to come. Our youth are the cornerstone to a successful and vibrant Nation.

Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Mr. MILLER. Thank you very much.

[The prepared statement of Sergeant Weirick follows:]

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ADDENDUM - #1

**WHY HAVE A
POLICE ATHLETIC LEAGUE?**

Before the implementation of a Police Athletic League, we must establish clearly the reasons why this objective leads to questions of the philosophy and functioning of a police department.

Beyond the office of a juvenile division, with its criminal justice aspect, hundreds of police departments throughout the nation recognize the need for additional services to our youth, in the hope of minimizing juvenile delinquency. Another important criterion to be addressed is that of bridging the gap between the police officer and the youth of our communities.

Providing recreation per se, is not a function of the police department. However, with the above criterion recognized, the implementation of a Police Athletic League clearly indicates that a law enforcement agency would be performing a very important part of its primary functions, notably those of: crime prevention, protection of property, and the preservation of law and order.

Many cities and towns have recreation programs capable of absorbing its youth population in sound, constructive activities. It is the absence of understanding in police-youth relations that warrants a Police Athletic League.

The police officer in our country is a comparatively popular figure with most law-abiding citizens, especially children. In an attempt to keep this concept bright, a by-product of any PAL is the friendliness engendered between youngsters and police officers.

Contrary to many beliefs, recreation and sports are not a universal solve-all to problems of juvenile delinquency. It is not a panacea for the elimination of youth programs. A PAL will serve to attract youngsters to come under the supervision and constructive influence of a responsible law enforcement agency and eliminate some, heretofore, misconceived notions of the role of a police officer. That role is the reinforcement and support of the responsible values and attitudes instilled in young people by their parents.

It is unfortunate that in today's sophisticated and technological police departments, the initial encounter of young people, all too frequently, occurs in the most unfavorable circumstances. By introducing a police-youth program as a PAL, a mutual growing of youngsters and officers will ensue. The concept of a Police Athletic League offers just such an interaction possibility.

A Police Athletic League is more than a program - it is a philosophy - that of fair play, courtesy, and consideration of others. It is a fact, if a youngster respects a police officer on a ballfield or in a gym, he/she will come to respect the laws that a police officer enforces.



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ADDENDUM #2

WHAT IS PAL

PAL is a recreation-oriented juvenile crime prevention program that relies heavily on athletics and recreational activities to create and cement the bond between the police officers and the kid on the street.

PAL is based on the strong belief that children - if they are reached early enough - can develop a strong, positive attitude towards police officers in their journey through life towards the goal of adulthood and good citizenship.

Research studies indicate that children accurately reflect the attitudes of their parents and other persons significant in their environment and that attitudes are learned from one's culture and subculture.

The most significant finding for the professional police officer, however, is that with a little effort, attitudes learned from one's culture or subculture can be changed.

A PAL program promotes greater trust and understanding between youngsters and officers.

A PAL program brings youngsters under the supervision and constructive influence of a responsible law enforcement agency and expands public awareness about the role of a police officer. That role is the reinforcement and support of the responsible values and attitudes instilled in young people by their parents.

The relationship between sport and juvenile delinquency has been the subject of much discussion. Throughout the nineteenth and twentieth centuries, physical educators, educators, educational sociologists, educational psychologists and penologists have contended that sports can serve as an effective and powerful antidote to delinquency. The idea that sports can serve as a deterrent to delinquency was first espoused in the English public schools during the middle of the nineteenth century. Sport was then used as a substitute for the stealing, bullying, and drinking that dominated the leisure hours of the English schoolboy.

As one of the most integral and venerated components of the educational system, youth sports programs have contributed significantly to the reduction of delinquency. The considerable financial and administrative support that teachers, parents and coaches give to youth sports is engendered in part by the conviction that athletic participation imparts certain desirable educational, social and personal values that mitigate against the occurrence of delinquency. PAL is a most effective tool in this effort.

Studies have shown that if a youngster respects a police officer on the ballfield or in the gym, he or she will very likely come to respect the laws that that police officer enforces.

Such benefit to the youngsters and to the neighborhood and business community in which they grow up is virtually unmeasurable.



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HISTORY

ADVENTURE

Thank you for the opportunity to present to you today the story of PAL — the background and the reasoning behind the Police Athletic League.

So that you may fully understand the program and the potential benefits it can provide in your on-going battle against juvenile crime, I would like first to present a brief history of the Police Athletic League — when, how and why it came to be. We'll follow with additional information on the National PAL — the national headquarters operation which serves to unite and work on behalf of PAL chapters throughout the country.

Then we'll touch on the scope of PAL activities as well as some of the unique aspects and benefits of the program — and conclude with a brief outline of some of the initial steps to be taken to establish a PAL chapter in your community.

The purpose of PAL is the same today as it was the day this unique crime prevention program began during the depression days of the 30's. That is through the interaction and development of a very special bond between police officers, their community, and the youth of that community.

PAL started with a bang — a rock through a window.

A gang of New York toughs — harassing storekeepers and generally making life miserable in their neighborhood — threw the rock that eventually pioneered this new approach to the problem of juvenile delinquency.

Lt. Ed W. Flynn, of the Police Department Crime Prevention Bureau, was on duty that fateful day. To him it was another day of kids getting in trouble. But it was more than that.

Lt. Flynn liked kids. He wondered at the uselessness of always punishing them. He wondered why they couldn't be reached before they were in trouble.

That day, he made it a point to search out the gang's ringleader. They talked. Lt. Flynn looking for the reasons behind the kids' antisocial behavior. The ringleader pouring out the frustrations of the ghetto — telling the cop: "Man, we ain't got no place to play — nothin' to do. The cops are always hasslin' us. We can't even play baseball."

Lt. Ed Flynn thought about that. A staunch baseball fan himself, he began to wonder — "Why should the police chase kids for doing what was normal? Why not help those kids form a team? Give them a place to play under police supervision. Be a friend instead of an enemy."

He talked it over with some of his fellow officers and some of the neighborhood shopkeepers. They liked the idea. And each of them chipped in a dollar for equipment and uniforms.

Lt. Flynn found a playground where the gang could play under the eye of friendly policemen.

The team was an instant success. Before the year was out, there were close to a dozen such teams in the city. In 1937, PAL dedicated its first indoor youth center and in 1941, it became incorporated under the laws of the state of New York.

That was the birth of PAL. Beginning with athletics, it has since broadened its scope to include arts and crafts, dance, music, drama, social services, vocational guidance, remedial reading, gardening, field trips — and virtually any good healthy activity that kids are fond of.

There now exists a National PAL organization. It's called the National Association of Police Athletic League (National PAL).

Easily America's largest juvenile crime prevention program with over three million members throughout the United States, its territories and Canada, the National PAL includes approximately 500 local PAL chapters. Each is as varied as the town or city in which it operates. Some chapters include sports programs only, others just a few individual sports. Still others add crafts, educational programs, and the like. Each PAL chapter is tailored to the area in which it operates — geared to the specific needs of the community it serves.

The national organization, headquartered in North Palm Beach, Florida, provides an executive director and staff to oversee its operations.

The National PAL provides a forum for pooling of information, promotes national training seminars for a productive exchange of ideas, develops fund-raising programs, initiates publicity projects to put PAL in the eye of the nation, develops regional and national tournaments, publishes a national newspaper, and, in general, provides the services required of a central clearinghouse office for so wide and varied a program.

In every case, the immediate aim is to reach neighborhood youths who are without recreational affiliations, who face boredom, apathy, loneliness, and the countless problems of the city. The long range goal is to reach these youngsters before they become delinquents.

While many excellent youth programs exist throughout the country, PAL — the Police Athletic League, is unique in that it adds a very important new dimension. It adds the police officer.

Think back. Remember when you were a kid? Remember how many of you and your young friends played policeman? How many of you wanted to grow up to be policemen?

That hasn't changed. For whatever the reason, little kids still look to cops as their heroes. They still want to grow up to become policemen and policewomen.

And here lies one of the great benefits of the Police Athletic League — the opportunity to put cops and kids (and the community, too, through its volunteer involvement with the program) together.

Far too often, the first actual contact of the police officer on the street or in a motorized vehicle is with youngsters who are in trouble — kids who have taken the wrong direction — kids who have already become delinquents.

How much better for that officer and that youngster to have met on the ballfield!

How much better for youngsters to meet police officers in a positive environment?
 How much better for kids to meet a cop who is his friend? His coach? An adult he can look up to and respect, admire and emulate?

PAL — the Police Athletic League — helps provide positive answers to such questions. We think that if children like and respect the police who enforce the laws of the land, there will be a concomitant respect for the law itself.

Which brings us to a very important point. As we said before, there are many youth-oriented programs — but only one **PAL**. What other group, other than the police, has as one of its prime responsibilities the prevention of crime?

The Police Athletic League thus becomes more than a mere athletic program, more than a youth center, more than a friendly neighborhood kid-eater. It becomes a very potent crime deterrent. An opportunity to get to kids before the kids get to trouble.

The police department does not inaugurate a recreation agency for youth solely for the sake of providing recreation for children. This is not the function of police.

A police department must have added reasons. Among them:

A potentially dangerous situation exists which may lead to youth crime or violence.

An increase in incidents involving adults and passersby due to misdirected play or youthful mischief.

A lack of suitable recreational facilities and equipment.

When conditions such as these are present, a police department carries out its functions of crime prevention, preservation of the peace, and protection of life and property by instituting a program such as **PAL**.

America's hope for reducing crime is to reduce juvenile delinquency and youth crime. For years, a majority of all arrests for major crimes against property have involved young people under the age of 21. At the same time, a significant number of arrests for major crimes against the person have involved young people in this same age group.

Arrest rates run high for children from broken homes, children who have numerous siblings, youngsters who do poorly in school, kids with backgrounds of economic deprivation, and youngsters growing up in lower class neighborhoods.

Various studies show the relationship between certain deprived areas — particularly the slums of large cities — and delinquency.

These various ethnic groups who live in disproportionate numbers in slum neighborhoods, account for a disproportionate number of arrests. Numerous studies support the findings that — even more than religion, nationality or race — what matters most is where in the city one is growing up.

It is in such areas that the **PAL** program can do its greatest good. Its mission to serve all youth — to steer them on the right path — holds great promise.

It is critical that young people be kept from crime, for they are the nation's future, and their conduct will affect society for a long time to come.

Contrary to many beliefs, recreation and sports alone are not a cure-all for the nation's juvenile delinquency problems. They are not a panacea for the elimination of youth problems.

On the other hand, a **PAL** program will serve to attract youngsters to come under the supervision and constructive influence of a responsible law enforcement agency and eliminate some heretofore misconceived notions of the role of a police officer. That role is the reinforcement and support of the responsible values and attitudes instilled in young people by their parents.

By introducing a **PAL** program, a mutual growing together of youngster and officer can ensue.

Actually, a Police Athletic League is more than a program. It is a philosophy — that of fair play, courtesy and consideration of others.

As we stated earlier — and reiterate again, if a youngster respects a police officer on the battlefield or in the gym, he or she will very likely come to respect the laws that that police officer enforces.

Such benefit to the youngsters and to the neighborhood and business community in which they grow up is virtually unmeasurable.

Testimonials to the outstanding benefits provided by the Police Athletic League are many and varied. **PAL** sports programs have produced many former and current star athletes over the years. Basketball greats **Wilt Chamberlain**, **George Gervin** and **Dave Bing** came up through **PAL** programs. Boxing legends **Sugar Ray Leonard** and **Smoking Joe Frazier** learned their craft in a **PAL**. Tennis giant **Alice Gibson** was a **PAL** graduate. Baseball stars **Merk McGwire**, **Ron Cey**, **Rick Monday**, and **Reggie Smith** were all **PAL** kids. The list of **PAL** success stories is endless.

The International Association of Chiefs of Police endorses **PAL**. A resolution by that group calls upon each chief of police to establish and maintain close working relationships with the Police Athletic League in their respective communities to the furtherance of better understanding and world brotherhood.

Even the Congress of the United States has recognized **PAL** with a joint resolution to proclaim a National Police Athletic League Week.

Remember, the local **PAL** is only as good and only as strong as the community that supports it. First and foremost, this must be a police-supervised program. It's important that you have the backing of your community — local businesses and industry which will provide funds and volunteers as well as parents and residents of the area with whom you will come in close contact.

The National **PAL** and affiliated chapters can and will be most cooperative in helping you start a **PAL** in your community. All you need do is call, and we'll do whatever we can to get you started in the right direction — so that you can keep the kids in your community going in the right direction.

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ADDRESS #4



Many times Police Athletic Leagues (PAL) serves areas of the city that nobody else wants to serve. PAL is a statement to young people particularly in less advantaged neighborhoods that the community cares about them. We are extending a hand of friendship to children who do not have many opportunities.

It's tough growing up in cities today, you have to think about how mean the streets really are. The amazing thing about children growing up in a city is not that so many get into trouble but that so few get into trouble.

PAL is an oasis for these kids. Through "play streets" local PALs try to provide summer camps on the city streets for kids who can't get away. Although many youngsters are attracted to PAL for our athletics, they use youth centers for libraries, job placement, music, writing and much more.

PAL children really have a good time. They participate in enjoyable activities, and at the same time, we are helping them grow up to be productive individuals.

There is clearly a direct link between crime prevention and PAL participation. Young people who have nothing to do and nothing to look forward to are going to become a crime problem. They may not be looking to commit crimes, but crime is going to reach out and grab them. If you give kids something to do, they are not going to be hanging out on street corners waiting for trouble. We take energetic, active young people and try to direct their energy in positive ways.

On these streets, police officers become friends of young people, and can be viewed in their proper light.

PAL is not a one-dimensional organization. We don't just hand a child a baseball and bat. We are trying to help those kids round out their lives. PAL provides a healthy, supervised program with educational, cultural, social and athletic activities. *PAL is an alternative to crime, a juvenile delinquency prevention program, an opportunity for all youngsters, the finest community relations program, and rewarded in the good spirit of a safer America.*



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Mr. MILLER. Mr. Callaway.

STATEMENT OF ROBBIE CALLAWAY

Mr. CALLAWAY. Mr. Chairman, it is good to see you again. My name is Robbie Callaway, and I am the Assistant National Director of Boys and Girls Clubs of America. And let me start out by saying that you mentioned a three-cushion shot. We would be proud to be one of the cushions in that shot. And we pledge from Boys and Girls Clubs of America, the national organization, to work in any park, in any inner city in the country. We are willing to work with anyone to do that.

This morning, I want to answer four questions in five minutes. We are going to try to see if we can do it. What is a Boys and Girls Club? Who is a Boys and Girls Club kid? Which Federal agencies have assisted these kids? And what we recommend on the crime bill in addition to what you have already proposed.

Again, Chairman Miller, it is nice to be here before you again. Years ago I appeared before you and the House Select Committee on Children and Youth, on juvenile justice. I have watched your career and you have never deviated from that belief in children, and I have heard that from my Boys and Girls Club in Martinez. I think the difference, though, is only one of us has become a grandfather in the last couple of weeks.

Mr. MILLER. And proud of it. But you don't have to rub it in, either.

Mr. CALLAWAY. I just wanted to get it across. You didn't have to say it was you. I just said one of us.

The first Boys Club in this country was created in 1860. We have been around a long time. The club was created to work with kids from disadvantaged circumstances. Today, there are 1,566 Boys and Girls Clubs throughout 49 States, and we are serving over 2 million kids. Most of those kids come from families with annual incomes under \$15,000.

Two hundred and fifty-one of these clubs today are in public housing. We have actually opened two clubs on Indian reservations, which I am sure this committee would be interested in: Pine Ridge in South Dakota and the Sac and Fox Tribe in Oklahoma.

All these clubs are locally controlled. Congressman Allard mentioned about local control. All these clubs are locally controlled. The Boys and Girls Club in Martinez, a typical club, open 51 weeks a year, serves 800 youth, has trained personnel to work with those youth. Membership cost per year, \$5.

Tip O'Neill used to brag on the House floor that when he was in a Boys Club it cost him five cents a year to be a member and how hard he worked to earn that five cents. Times have changed, but it is still only \$5.

Each club is controlled by a local board of directors. A 21-person volunteer board in Martinez includes people like Bob Hatch, local citizens, and leaders. The budget is \$240,000 there.

Boys and Girls Clubs are designed for the long haul. You can hear a lot of talk about programs—and fortunately, I think your witness list here, you don't have those type of programs—but short-term programs, quick-fix solutions. We are not a quick-fix solution. We know we are working with 2 million kids and we know we are

doing a good job at it. We are going to be around a long time. We have only one priority and that is to serve those kids.

We have a youth development strategy that we pursue, but I am not going to go into it. It is in my written testimony. But some of the things we do are the Major League Baseball RBI program.

I visited Colorado this summer and I went to the club, and the club director there was telling me you have got to come into this room and see what happened. The Colorado Rockies had called them, said they wanted to do a rookie league in Colorado with some of the inner city kids and some of the tougher can kids in that neighborhood who were missing out on baseball. Went into room, said, you know, "How did you get all this equipment?" He said, well, they submitted a list to the owner of the Colorado Rockies as to what they wanted and the owner of the Colorado Rockies doubled everything on their list. They wanted 100 bats, they got 200 bats. That is cooperation from people like the Major League Baseball.

You have heard me say that we are a youth development organization. No Boys and Girls Club will say that they are just a recreation agency, not that there is anything wrong about being just a recreation agency. We are serving 2 million kids. One million six hundred and forty thousand of those kids came to the club originally because of the sports part of the program. They don't always come to the club to work on the computers. That is not the initial draw. They don't always come to do the Smart Moves program, the anti-drug programs or anything. Recreation draws the kids to the club.

We are doing a major project with Nike on recreation, a thing called The Kids' Movement. We have a vision that we can get kids across the country participating in at least 30 minutes of actual physical activity every day of their lives. That is the goal. That is what we would like to do with Nike.

In Portland, Oregon, we work very closely with Mr. Jordan. You should hear Dick Hanlon sing your praises. We will collaborate anywhere, anytime if it is going to serve the kids that we are trying to serve in the inner cities. Our Outdoor and Environmental Education Program works in urban parks.

Who is a Boys and Girls Club kid? We heard mention of Kirby Puckett earlier from the Congressman. Kirby started out as a Boys Club kid. I don't know if you are aware of that. He still supports the club back in Chicago. Some of those values that I think Minnesotans are proud of about Kirby, I think he learned some of those in a Boys and Girls Club when he was a kid. Still supports that club.

Kelly Zimmerman from Ohio, a National Youth of the Year this year. Her quote was, "When my home life became too overwhelming I knew I could always go to the Boys and Girls Club. The club director has been like a father to me, offering guidance and compassion when I needed it most." That is what we are doing in Boys and Girls Clubs.

Too many kids are hopeless and helpless. But at the Boys and Girls Club, Kelly Zimmerman felt that she belonged and she had a purpose.

A lot of prominent Americans started at a Boys and Girls Club, too. Let me read just one quick quote for you.

"Being a member of the Boys and Girls Club was an invaluable experience for me. I learned how to win and how to lose. I learned how to deal with other persons and how to think things out for myself. There could not have been a better preparatory course for my career than my Boys and Girls Club years."

The fellow who said that today is in New York with the Boys and Girls Club kid out of the Bronx talking about what it is like to be in a Boys and Girls Club in the Bronx. The mayor of New York may have chose not to be with the President today, but the President said that from his experience being at the Hot Springs Boys Club when he was a kid.

Other prominent individuals, Senator George Mitchell and Jack Kemp. To get those two guys to sign a letter for our 125th anniversary was a feat. But they were interested in signing the letter that they both went over editorially. They called the Boys and Girls Club "our place where they listened to us. They taught us valuable lessons like how to treat others, how to know right from wrong, and how to give something back to the community."

And as you see Senator George Mitchell is leaving the Senate now. You know one of the first places he went when he goes back to Maine—or every time he goes back to Maine, is the Waterville Boys and Girls Club.

Academy Award winner Denzel Washington, who actually I would have liked to have been here and tell his story instead of me telling the story. Denzel, anytime, anywhere will go, when he is not shooting a film as he is right now, to talk about the Boys and Girls Club and his experience in Mount Vernon, New York, and how the Boys and Girls Club are now more a haven for kids than ever before.

Other alumni? How about Dewey Stokes. I had to get this one in so the sergeant could take it back. Dewey Stokes is the head of the National Fraternal Order of Police. But do you know how Dewey got his start? Probably a delinquent—no. Scratch that from the record. No. Dewey in 1957 was a Columbus Boys Club Youth of the Year. Boys and Girls Clubs do make a difference.

Which Federal agencies have assisted these kids, lately. Let me start out, less than 15 percent of the total funds for Boys and Girls Clubs come from the government, so we are not looking for government money necessarily. We will do our basic programs. We will do our basic work. We want to do more. Sometimes the government needs to help do that.

Working with the Office of Justice Programs, the Bureau of Justice Assistance, and the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention, we have done several successful delinquency prevention programs, and it is kind of a treat for me to be up here with John Wilson, Acting Administrator of the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention because I think, Congressman, when I was back lobbying you on juvenile justice, John was back there as an advocate for the program. And he has been an excellent administrator, and I would like that to be on the record.

The Department of Housing and Urban Development has helped us hire 125 public housing residents to work in our public housing

clubs. What do we see there? We see 125 people who are living in public housing working in a public housing club getting some hope, getting some help, and ideally at least 75 of them will become workers in the Boys and Girls Club.

And what does Jon Gutzman, the Public Housing Director in St. Paul, say about it? "It is good news indeed, both as a needed boost to your staff and a meaningful employment opportunity for a public housing resident." Congressman Vento, you know our clubs in Mount Airy and the Roosevelt Community Centers. They are serving kids in your community.

The ACTION Agency has helped us with the Sioux and Big Crow Boys and Girls Club in Pine Ridge.

Finally, the recommendations on the crime issue. Let me get these across. I could go on with a lot of recommendations, and hopefully in the question time we can do a little bit of it.

Two things I would like you to look at. One is the youth development block grant that Senators Kassebaum, Dodd, Inouye, Stevens, and Durenberger have introduced in the Senate, S. 1746. Take a look at it. It would allow local communities such as Martinez or St. Paul to decide what their local needs are, and if the local needs are a field or facility or some recreational activity, those people will decide what they need in that area. If it is midnight basketball, they will decide that they need midnight basketball. It is supported by the National Collaboration for Youth, and I will provide you with a list of agencies.

And then Tom McMillen said something about a scarcity of facilities in the inner cities. What I would like you to help me do, and you don't have to do it as a committee, you can do it as an individual, is double the number of clubs we have in public housing. My board of directors which includes many prominent people around the country are interested in doing more in public housing.

What we would like to do is open one new club every four days in public housing for the next three years. The first club was in 1953 in public housing. By 1986 there were only 39 clubs. Today there are 251. That didn't come about easily. Took a lot of work, a lot of private sector dollars. A lot of private sector money did it. Nineteen eighty-six, 39. Today, 251.

I would like you to commit to help us find \$12 million per year in the crime bill to open one new Boys and Girls Club in public housing every four days. I promise you it will work. Secretary Cisneros supports it. Said he would like to see it in the crime bill, was going to talk to the Attorney General about it. I would like to see leadership from my friends here to help us do it.

Bottom line on the crime bill, they tell me it costs \$100,000 to build a new prison cell. For \$100,000 I can serve 500 boys and girls for a year. If it cost \$25,000 to house a prisoner for a year, I can serve 125 boys and girls for a year. Now, I can't guarantee that all 500 of those kids or all 125 will never end up in prison. But they will have a whole lot better chance of you never having to build that prison cell if they have spent time in the Boys and Girls Clubs.

They may turn out like a Dewey Stokes or a Jack Kemp or a George Mitchell or a Denzel Washington or that cab driver who

brought you overhere today who was earning an honest living. That might have been a Boys and Girls Club kid.

I was going into the Oval Office one time and the Secret Service guy said, you know, all gruff and rough, asked who were we with. I said Boys and Girls Club. All of a sudden this guy starts smiling and starts telling me about his day in a Boys and Girls Club.

If we can do it with a lot more kids, we would keep a lot more kids out of prison. We appreciate your help.

Thank you for having me here today.

Mr. MILLER. Thank you very much.

[Prepared statement of Mr. Callaway follows:]



URBAN RECREATION AND CRIME PREVENTION

TESTIMONY

of

**Mr. Robbie Callaway
Assistant National Director
Boys & Girls Clubs of America**

before the

**SUBCOMMITTEE ON NATIONAL PARKS, FORESTS, AND PUBLIC LANDS
and the**

**SUBCOMMITTEE ON OVERSIGHT AND INVESTIGATION
of the**

COMMITTEE ON NATURAL RESOURCES

**Thursday, March 10, 1994
1324 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, DC**

Mr. Chairman and Members of the Committee, my name is Robbie Callaway, and I am the Assistant National Director of Boys and Girls Clubs of America. We have Boys and Girls Clubs in every state represented on this Committee. It is a real honor to testify before this Committee this morning to highlight the correlation between urban recreation and crime prevention. The two need to be closely linked if we expect to be successful.

Today, there are 1,566 Boys and Girls Clubs located throughout 49 states, the Virgin Islands, and Puerto Rico. We are serving over 2,000,000 boys and girls and are in our seventh consecutive year of record growth. Throughout America, youth development professionals at these Boys and Girls Clubs provide care, guidance, and supervision for children and adolescents, most of whom live in crowded urban areas and belong to families with annual incomes of under \$15,000.

Today, 251 of these Boys and Girls Clubs are physically located within public housing. There are also two new clubs on Indian reservations, a new Club in a homeless shelter, one in a shopping mall, and a new expansion effort into America's rural areas.

The 1,566 Boys & Girls Clubs are members of the national organization, and I am often asked about the facts on a typical Boys & Girls Club. All member Boys & Girls Clubs are locally controlled by a Board of Directors, which usually includes committed business persons and civic leaders.

The Boys & Girls Club of Martinez, California could be considered a "typical" Club. Their fact sheet includes the following highlights:

- * The Club is the only youth facility open 51 weeks of the year.
- * The Club provides direct service to over 800 youth.
- * The Club is staffed by trained personnel in each program area.
- * Membership cost is ONLY \$5.00.
- * Clubhouse programs include: Gamesroom and library use; arts and crafts; organized athletic activities; ceramics classes; piano classes; dance classes; guitar classes; fieldtrips; Torch and Keystone Clubs, which are citizenship and leadership development clubs; Smart Moves, which is the National Boys & Girls Clubs of America Alcohol, Other Drugs and Teen Pregnancy Prevention Program; and Club and Community Services.
- * The "1992 Martinez Young Man of the Year" was awarded to the 1992 Boys & Girls Club "Youth of the Year, Mike Thompson.
- * The Club operates with a 21-person volunteer Board of Directors.
- * The Club of Martinez functions with a budget of \$240,000.

As you can see, Boys and Girls Clubs of America goes where the kids are and where they need our help. These Clubs are designed for the long haul. They are neither a quick fix nor a short-term solution. They are designed to help kids, families, and the overall community. We have only one priority and that is to serve America's children who are most affected by the adverse consequences of poverty. The vast majority of these children we serve are in urban areas.

When the first Boys' Club was opened in 1860, it was designed to serve the neediest kids in the community. We have never lost sight of that mission, therefore, we have never left our primary base of service -- America's inner cities. Since 1986, there has been a 43% increase in the number of inner city kids served.

A recent Columbia University study of "The Effects of Boys & Girls Clubs in Public Housing" concluded:

"We discovered that the presence of a Boys and Girls Club in public housing encourages residents to organize and improve their community. The Clubs stimulate communication between public housing residents, the police, housing authority managing personnel, and other community groups. The increase in communication seems to have enriched the social quality of life in public housing."

WHY IS BOYS & GIRLS CLUBS OF AMERICA SUCCESSFUL?

Local Boys and Girls Clubs pursue youth development strategies which help boys and girls achieve:

1. A sense of belonging -- a setting where an individual knows he or she has a place and where he or she "fits in" and is accepted.
2. A sense of usefulness -- the opportunity to do something of value for other people.
3. A sense of competence -- the feeling there is something they can do and do well.
4. A sense of power or influence -- an opportunity to be heard, to make choices and to influence decisions which affect them.

This Youth Development Strategy is accomplished through core program areas including:

1. **Cultural enrichment** to help youth enhance self-expression and creativity, develop multi-cultural appreciation and provide exposure to and develop skills in crafts and the visual, performing and literary arts.

2. **Health and physical education** to help young people: achieve and maintain fitness; acquire a broad range of physical skills; develop a sense of teamwork, cooperation and fairness; and adopt healthy, active lifestyles.

Boys & Girls Clubs are not recreation agencies -- we are youth development agencies. Sports and recreation programs, however, are the number one draw to Boys & Girls Clubs. More than 1,640,000 of our two million boys and girls participate in one or more of the following organized sports: baseball, softball, basketball, soccer, swimming, dance, and jumping rope.

A program we are very proud of is the new KIDS MOVEMENT. This National Youth Fitness Program is jointly sponsored by NIKE and Boys & Girls Clubs of America. We introduced this program on June 19, 1993 at a National Summit on Youth Fitness in Washington, DC. At this summit, Georgetown basketball coach, John Thompson, observed that "American kids are as interested and motivated as they ever have been when it comes to physical activity."

Together with NIKE and others, Boys & Girls Clubs of America is attempting to offer effective recreation programs in accessible, clean and safe facilities for all kids, especially those in inner cities.

3. **Social recreation** to help young people learn to get along with others, make new friends and to provide opportunities for fun and the constructive use of leisure time.

4. **Citizenship and leadership development** to: help young people understand their democratic heritage and acquire skills for participating in the democratic process; develop leadership skills; and provide opportunities for planning, decision-making and contributing to the Club and community.

5. **Personal and educational development** to: help young people prepare for their future; offer assistance in resolving personal crises; and provide opportunities for educational enhancement and career exploration.

Our local Boys & Girls Clubs actively collaborate with other youth agencies. One such collaboration in Portland, Oregon created an Airway Science Program, which initially focused on the youths' interest in math and science and as a result, helps keep them actively involved in education.

According to the Portland Boys & Girls Club Executive Director, Dick Hanlin, his collaboration and this program would not have been possible without the strong support of the Director of the Bureau of Parks and Recreation, Mr. Charles Jordan.

6. **Outdoor and environmental education** to help young people develop an awareness, appreciation and knowledge of our environment through activities in the Club or in natural settings, such as urban parks.

HOW DOES THIS TRANSLATE INTO HUMAN LIVES?

* Take the case of Kelly Zimmerman from Ohio. She joined the Boys & Girls Club nine years ago and credits it with giving her stability and support while growing up in a family severely affected by alcoholism. Through two divorces, Zimmerman provided her mother with moral and financial support. While her mother juggled two jobs and attended college, Zimmerman ran errands, babysat for her younger sisters and helped them with their homework. Since the sixth grade, she has worked to cover her own expenses.

"When my home life became too overwhelming, I knew I could always go to the Boys & Girls Club," said Zimmerman. "The Club's director has been like a father to me, offering guidance and compassion when I needed it most. Through the Boys & Girls Club, I have found a future."

In the fall of 1993, in recognition of her outstanding achievements and remarkable courage, Kelly Zimmerman received the highest honor a Club member can attain - the coveted title of National Youth of the Year.

* Another young person who personifies a successful Boys and Girls Club member is Julie Skidmore of Portland, Oregon who says, "At the Boys and Girls Club, I discovered a "new family" - a family that encourages and helps me build my confidence. At the Club, I feel I belong and have a purpose. The understanding and support of the staff make all the difference to me."

Many of America's most prominent leaders started out in local Boys and Girls Clubs including:

* **President Bill Clinton** - "Being a member of the Boys and Girls Club was an invaluable experience for me. I learned how to win and how to lose. I learned how to deal with other persons and how to think things out for myself. There could not have been a better preparatory course for my career than my Boys and Girls Club years."

* **Senator George Mitchell and former Secretary Jack Kemp** - "When we were kids growing up, we belonged to an organization that helped give us the self-confidence to pursue and achieve education and career goals. Although we were raised on opposite sides of the country, we were both members of Boys and Girls Clubs. What made the Boys and Girls Clubs special was that it was our place. The Club staff always listened to us. Without our even noticing, the staff taught us valuable lessons - like how to treat others, how to know right from wrong, and how to give something back to the community."

* **Academy Award winner Denzel Washington** - "I stand before you as living proof that Boys and Girls Clubs work. Everything you have seen or heard about me, in the media and the movies, began with lessons I learned at the Club. It's 100 times tougher now than when I was growing up. There wasn't as much to be afraid of then. Now kids have to deal with drugs, break-up of families, the threat of AIDS, and being killed by a stray bullet. So, now, Boys and Girls Clubs are more of a haven than ever before."

Denzel Washington is now the official spokesman for Boys and Girls Clubs of America.

* **Television personality Ray Combs** - "The Boys and Girls Clubs in Hamilton, Ohio taught me that prejudice was wrong. Blacks and whites were forced to go to school together but we chose to go to the Club together. It was there where the black and white kids in Hamilton learned not only to live together but become lifelong friends."

Ray Combs is now the National Alumni Chairman for Boys and Girls Clubs of America.

We could go on and on with quotes from famous Americans who were helped to get their start by a Boys and Girls Club. The names and backgrounds range from singer Smokey Robinson to Baseball Hall of Famer Brooks Robinson, from Dick Clark to General Wesley Clark and so many more. Even Dewey Stokes, the President of the National Fraternal Order of Police, got his start in a Club. He was the 1957 Youth of the Year at the Boys & Girls Club of Columbus, Ohio. But there are also countless Americans out there who are not household names, yet their Boys and Girls Club experiences enriched their lives just as much. A Lou Harris survey of some of the four million living Boys and Girls Clubs alumni found that 96% of all alumni credit their Boys and Girls Club with having a positive influence on their lives. Over 90% graduated from high school, and 85% said the Club increased their ability to work with other people.

Boys and Girls Clubs do make a difference in the lives of the members, their families, and their communities.

In your letter inviting me to testify, you suggested I mention federal programs which assist us in our efforts.

I. Working with the Office of Justice Programs, including the Bureau of Justice Assistance and the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention, Boys & Girls Clubs of America has developed and implemented many very successful delinquency prevention programs. For example:

A. **Targeted Outreach** - Local Boys & Girls Clubs identify potential delinquents by working closely with schools, police, and juvenile court judges. These kids are then mainstreamed into regular Club activities. The recidivism rate of these kids back into the juvenile justice system is less than 10%.

B. **Gang Intervention** - Using the techniques learned in Targeted Outreach, local Boys & Girls Club workers identify potential gang members, including younger siblings of gang members, and mainstream them into Club activities. Again the success rate has been exceptional.

C. **Public Housing** - has seen a difference thanks to the leadership at the Justice Department. The Bureau of Justice Assistance has actively helped us open new Boys & Girls Clubs in public housing, and the Office of Juvenile Justice & Delinquency Prevention has funded the manual on starting Clubs in public housing.

II. The Department of Housing & Urban Development has recently funded a program through Boys & Girls Clubs of America to hire an additional public housing resident to work in the Boys & Girls Club in that public housing development. One hundred and twenty Boys & Girls Clubs in public housing will directly benefit from this program. We anticipate at least 75 of these employees will follow this job up with a career in the Boys & Girls Club movement.

When told of this program, the Executive Director of the St. Paul Public Housing Agency, Jon Gutzmann, wrote the following to Chet Emerson, the Executive Director of the Boys & Girls Club of St. Paul:

"That is good news indeed, both as a needed boost to your staff and a meaningful employment opportunity for a PHA resident."

The Boys & Girls Clubs of St. Paul operates Boys & Girls Clubs in the Mt. Airy and Roosevelt Community Centers.

III. The ACTION agency has supported Boys & Girls Clubs of America by being the first agency to fund the opening of a Boys & Girls Club in public housing. They also provided funding for one of the first Boys & Girls Clubs in Indian country, the SuAnne Big Crow Boys & Girls Club in Pine Ridge, South Dakota.

RECOMMENDATIONS

Your request letter also asked about our perspectives on the crime bills moving through Congress. We have two major recommendations for additions to the Crime Bill:

I. To include S.1746, The Youth Development Block Grant.

This bill, introduced by Senators Kassebaum, Dodd, Inouye, Stevens, and Durenberger, "promotes and supports positive youth development. Rather than wait until young people are in crisis, the Youth Development Block Grant will fund preventive programs that help children and youth develop the values and life skills they need to succeed."

Basically the Youth Development Block Grant would allow local leaders to determine local youth development needs and encourage all agencies in the community to work together to meet those needs.

The Youth Development Block Grant has the unconditional support of the National Collaboration of Youth, which collectively serves over 25 million youth. Collaboration members include:

American Red Cross	Girl Scouts of the USA
Assoc. of Junior Leagues International	Girls Incorporated
Big Brothers/Big Sisters of America	National Network of Runaway and Youth Services
Boys Scouts of America	The Salvation Army
Boys & Girls Clubs of America	WAVE, Inc.
Camp Fire Boys & Girls	YMCA of the USA
Child Welfare League of America	YWCA of the USA
4-H, Extension Service	

II. Double the number of Boys & Girls Clubs in public housing within 3 years.

That's one new Club every four days!

That Boys & Girls Clubs do make a difference is especially evident in public housing in places such as Tampa, Florida, where Audley Evans, the Director of the Tampa Housing Authority, said, "During the past two years of a Boys and Girls

Club in Rembrandt Homes, we have seen a significant decrease in recidivism, drug trafficking, and drug activity. We have seen a rapid decrease in the turnover rate of residents, and we have improved rent payments from residents."

The first Boys & Girls Club in public housing was in 1953. By 1986, there were only 39 Clubs in public housing. Today, there are 251.

We need at least 251 more, and we need them now as we struggle to prevent crime and improve the lives of residents of public housing.

We need your support to find \$12 million per year for three years in the Crime Bill so that we can double the number of Clubs we are operating in public housing.

Secretary Cisneros supports this effort and this Committee's leadership could help make it happen.

Members of the Committee, Boys and Girls Clubs are programs that work and with your help, we are ready to roll up our sleeves a little higher and open even more Clubs in America's neediest locations.

Your support will enable more of America's neediest young people to build trust and confidence, acquire honest values, and pursue a better destiny at their Boys and Girls Clubs -- THE POSITIVE PLACE FOR KIDS!

Thank you.

Mr. MILLER. Mayor Smith.

STATEMENT OF HON. WILBUR C. SMITH III

Mayor SMITH. Thank you.

Mr. MILLER. While one of my sons was making me a grandfather, my other son was recreating in Ft. Meyers, so I hope things are all okay.

Mayor SMITH. A Red Sox fan probably, or Twins.

Thank you for having me here today. I feel a little bit like I have died and much to my surprise wound up in Heaven. I am hearing the angels talking and they are saying what killed this guy actually got him here, and that was my undying belief that the most effective strategy to combat juvenile crime is through urban recreational facilities and programs.

The city of Fort Meyers has been a virtual laboratory to test this theory over the last six years. When I initially ran for mayor six years ago, in one of those interviews before the editorial board of the local newspaper that we all know is so important, I outlined a plan for a program that I said will reduce juvenile crime within five years of its implementation. They laughed at me, endorsed my opponent, and the rest is history.

I was elected. Juvenile crime after three years of implementation of this program has been reduced by 34 percent, and we are on the way to making our mark of reducing it by 50 percent.

I am here today not only representing the city of Fort Meyers but also the United States Conference of Mayors, and in their report to President Clinton on December 9, entitled "A National Action Plan to Combat Violent Crime," they said we need a new way of looking at a long-term problem. They then proceeded to list five elements that they thought were the most important components of fighting juvenile crime. One of those components was recreation programs.

My experiences as a criminal defense lawyer for 25 years has led me to view the destruction of entire families whose children have been charged with crimes, and has led me to the conclusion that the imprisonment of a hugely disproportionate percentage of black males during the last 30 years has contributed more than any other factor to the rise in violent juvenile crime. And that the most effective way to combat juvenile crime is through a network of programs centered around the recreation departments of our cities, and especially our urban cores, that address enriching the lives of our at-risk youth.

The city of Fort Meyers has totally committed its city staff, a significant portion of its budget and its municipal energies in this direction. Our recreation department is the focal point and catalyst for interacting with HUD, the city and county school board and the police department as well as the public housing authority.

At the heart of our entire network is what is known as the STARS programs, an acronym for Success Through Academic and Recreational Support. STARS received national recognition as the outstanding juvenile crime reduction program in the country by the U.S. Conference of Mayors in 1992 and has been funded by HUD for the past three years as a demonstration project in the amount of \$1,750,000.

Many of the activities of STARS take place at a recreational facility that I persuaded the city council to build within 18 months of my election. It is a \$4.5 million facility built in the heart of our poorest area of town, primarily minority, and initially the citizens said that it would be a failure because of the perception that it would be crime ridden, but yet it has provided a visible and real commitment to our at-risk youth.

Many of our programs are run out of this complex and serve as a catalyst to enable the recreation department to network with the police department in establishing recreation programs, and network with the housing authority to establish programs and to have a place, if other facilities are unavailable, to run programs. It is also adjacent to our oldest housing project.

The STARS program is a program whereby the child and his parents must agree to participate in the program's activities. The child must agree to attend school regularly, maintain a good behavior record, and endeavor to maintain a C average. Three years ago, 75 percent of the 2,000 children in STARS, which represents 5 percent of the population of the city of Fort Meyers were below a C average. Today, only 20 percent are below a C average.

Thereafter, once the child is enrolled and makes these commitments in writing, and these materials are contained in an attachment to the prepared text of my comments. After the child is enrolled in the program, his or her academic and recreational needs are identified and the child is then enrolled in existing youth recreation and tutorial programs.

In order to qualify as a youth partner organization, an existing group must demonstrate that they are role model oriented and motivate through positive reinforcement. This way we are able to significantly reduce our staff demands and operational cost.

The family circumstances are then monitored by a team of field counselors, and where service needs are identified the child and his family are referred to service providers. This program costs the city of Fort Meyers on a yearly basis nearly \$1 million and it is funded by HUD, by the school system and by city funds as well as by fundraisers and through private and corporate donations.

As I said, the results are in. The news is good. It works. The theory has been tested and has been proven to be accurate that this is, in our opinion, the best strategy to combat juvenile crime.

Our most recent major initiative, the Imaginarium, a hands on museum and aquarium under construction in a city-owned WPA water plant. WPA was mentioned by one of your colleagues earlier as a location for these facilities. It is like the STARS complex in the heart of our poorest community, and like STARS will provide a visual and real commitment to our at-risk youth.

The Imaginarium is a three-phase project with phase one opening in late summer 1994. It will be an urban recreational and academic center for our six-county area. While it will serve both residents and tourists, it will more significantly provide a recreational and educational safe place for our at-risk youth because it will be in their neighborhood.

Phases two and three will be of particular interest to this committee since it will contain the most extensive Everglades exhibit

in existence, and will demonstrate the ecological importance of the Everglades to our entire ecosystem in south Florida.

The program that was mentioned by Mr. Wilson in the Everglades, I was fortunate enough to attend with Janet Reno and with Bruce Babbitt and the Senators and the Governor. It is an exciting use of Federally owned lands.

Let me just in summary tell you that while it is critical to build facilities that our at-risk youth can see, they can feel, they can touch, and believe are their own, the operational expenses associated with these facilities is as and even more important than the facilities themselves. Our experience is that for every dollar spent on facility needs there is \$3 spent on the administrative and support side.

So, while we believe that facilities are essential and they are the best first step, and they are the item that commits the community to work with your programs, they must be followed by strong organizational and administrative support.

Thank you very much.

Mr. MILLER. Thank you very much.

[Prepared statement of Mayor Smith follows:]

City of Fort Myers



Strategy to Combat Juvenile Crime With Urban Recreation, Community Policing and Public Housing Programs



Mayor Wilbur C. Smith III

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Mayor Wilbur C. Smith III Testimony

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Fort Myers, Florida 33902-2217

City of Fort Myers

WILBUR C. SMITH III, MAYOR

Tel. (813) 332-6600
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TEXT OF PREPARED REMARKS
OF MAYOR WILBUR C. SMITH, III
MAYOR, CITY OF FORT MYERS, FLORIDA BEFORE
THE JOINT OVERSIGHT HEARING OF
THE SUBCOMMITTEE ON NATIONAL PARKS,
FORESTS AND PUBLIC LANDS AND
THE SUBCOMMITTEE ON OVERSIGHT AND
INVESTIGATIONS OF THE HOUSE
COMMITTEE ON NATURAL RESOURCES
U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

"URBAN RECREATION AND CRIME PREVENTION"
Thursday, March 10, 1994
Washington, D.C.

POVERTY HAS BEEN AN UNDESIRABLE SOCIETAL CONDITION THROUGHOUT THE HISTORY OF MANKIND. RACISM, AND MOST PARTICULARLY HOW IT IS APPLIED TO BLACK AMERICANS HAS BEEN RECOGNIZED AS A MAJOR CONTRIBUTOR TO POVERTY FOR THE PAST 150 YEARS. THE IMPRISONMENT OF A HUGELY DISPROPORTIONATE PERCENTAGE OF BLACK MALES IN AMERICA HAS BEEN A PHENOMENON OF THE PAST 30 YEARS AND HAS CONTRIBUTED SIGNIFICANTLY TO THE CONTINUATION OF RACISM AND THE DEEPENING OF POVERTY IN MINORITY COMMUNITIES.

ALTHOUGH DISCUSSIONS ABOUT PREVENTION AND INTERVENTION ARE STARTING TO TAKE PLACE THE STEEP AND DEEP BARRIER OF POLITICAL AND CITIZEN APATHY CONFRONTS EVERY INTER-CITY MUNICIPALITY THAT ATTEMPTS TO IMPLEMENT PROGRAMS DESIGNED TO ASSIST AT-RISK AND TROUBLED YOUTH. AS INNOVATIVE CITIES ATTEMPT TO IDENTIFY FUNDS



Harborside



At-Risk Youth



City of Palms



Winter Home

ALTHOUGH DISCUSSIONS ABOUT PREVENTION AND INTERVENTION ARE STARTING TO TAKE PLACE THE STEEP AND DEEP BARRIER OF POLITICAL AND CITIZEN APATHY CONFRONTS EVERY INTER-CITY MUNICIPALITY THAT ATTEMPTS TO IMPLEMENT PROGRAMS DESIGNED TO ASSIST AT-RISK AND TROUBLED YOUTH. AS INNOVATIVE CITIES ATTEMPT TO IDENTIFY FUNDS FOR INTERVENTION AND PREVENTION PROGRAMS, THEY ARE TOLD BY THEIR COUNTY COMMISSIONS THAT BUDGETS ARE TIGHT AND FUNDS ARE UNAVAILABLE, BY THEIR STATE LEGISLATORS THAT GROWTH MANAGEMENT, ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES, HIGHWAYS AND SCHOOLS HAVE TAKEN THEIR FUNDS AND ARE TOLD BY THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT THAT THE PROGRAMS AVAILABLE ARE COMPETITIVE AND FOR EVERY 100 APPLICATIONS 1 IS GRANTED. IN MY ESTIMATION AND THAT OF MY COLLEAGUES WHO FACE THE UNAVAILABILITY OF FUNDS AND CITIZEN SUPPORT FOR INTER-CITY YOUTH PROGRAMS THAT CAN EFFECTIVELY ADDRESS JUVENILE CRIME PROBLEMS, THIS IS A DAILY FACT OF LIFE.

THE UNITED STATES CONFERENCE OF MAYORS IN THEIR REPORT TO PRESIDENT CLINTON ON DECEMBER 9, 1993, ENTITLED "A NATIONAL ACTION PLAN TO COMBAT VIOLENT CRIME", SAID, "WE NEED A NEW WAY OF LOOKING AT THE LONG TERM PROBLEM. IN OUR VIEW, LASTING SOLUTIONS LIE IN WASHINGTON'S WILLINGNESS TO VIEW AFFORDABLE HOUSING AS A WEAPON TO FIGHT CRIME TO VIEW CHILD CARE, JOB TRAINING, RECREATION PROGRAMS, COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND TRANSPORTATION TO JOBS AS WEAPONS TO FIGHT CRIME". MY EXPERIENCES AS A CRIMINAL DEFENSE LAWYER FOR NEARLY 25 YEARS WHO HAS SEEN THE DESTRUCTION OF ENTIRE FAMILIES AS THE RESULT OF FAMILY BEING ACCUSED AND CONVICTED OF CRIMES, AS A CITY COUNCIL MEMBER FOR 8 YEARS WITH A PRIMARY INTEREST IN

IMPROVING THE QUALITY OF LIFE FOR OUR MINORITY CITIZENS LIVING AT OR BELOW THE POVERTY LEVEL, AND AS THE MAYOR OF FORT MYERS FLORIDA FOR THE PAST 5 YEARS WITH THE RESPONSIBILITY TO PROVIDE SAFETY TO OUR CITIZENS TOGETHER WITH ALL THE OTHER EXPECTED SERVICES I WHOLEHEARTEDLY ENDORSE THE HOLISTIC APPROACH OF THE UNITED STATES CONFERENCE OF MAYORS.

FORT MYERS, A CITY OF 50,000, WITH A 35% BLACK POPULATION MANY OF WHO ARE LIVING AT OR BELOW THE POVERTY LEVEL, IS THE INTER-CITY HEART OF A 400,000 POPULATION METROPOLITAN AREA. WE ARE 1 OF THE 4 FASTEST GROWING METROPOLITAN AREAS OF THE COUNTRY. DURING MY TERM AS MAYOR WE HAVE TAKEN THE APPROACH NOW ADVOCATED BY THE U.S. CONFERENCE OF MAYORS. ATTACHED TO THESE PREPARED REMARKS IS A BOOKLET OUTLINING THE PROGRAMS THAT HAVE BEEN IMPLEMENTED FOR THE PURPOSE OF REDUCING VIOLENT JUVENILE CRIME.

THE CITY OF FORT MYERS HAS TOTALLY COMMITTED ITS CITY STAFF, A SIGNIFICANT PORTION OF ITS BUDGET AND ITS MUNICIPAL ENERGIES IN FORMULATING AND IMPLEMENTING PREVENTION AND INTERVENTION PROGRAMS CENTERED ON RECREATION AND TUTORIAL PROGRAMS FOR OUR AT-RISK YOUTH. THE ATTACHED INFORMATION IS ORGANIZED IN A SEQUENCE THAT REFLECTS THE STRATEGY OF OUR CITY.

OUR RECREATION DEPARTMENT IS THE FOCAL POINT AND CATALYST FOR INTERACTING WITH OUR HUD, CITY AND SCHOOL BOARD SPONSORED STARS PROGRAM (SUCCESS THROUGH ACADEMIC AND RECREATIONAL SUPPORT), THE POLICE DEPARTMENT AND THE PUBLIC HOUSING AUTHORITY. THIS COMBINED FORCE HAS ACCOMPLISHED THE FUNDING AND IMPLEMENTATION OF MORE THAN

100 SEPARATE BUT NETWORKED RECREATION AND ACADEMIC BASED PROGRAMS. THE ATTACHED DOCUMENT DESCRIBES THESE PROGRAMS IN CONDENSED DETAIL.

AT THE HEART OF OUR ENTIRE NETWORK IS THE STARS PROGRAM. STARS RECEIVED NATIONAL RECOGNITION AS THE OUTSTANDING JUVENILE CRIME REDUCTION PROGRAM IN THE COUNTRY BY THE U.S. CONFERENCE OF MAYORS IN 1992, AND HAS BEEN FUNDED BY HUD FOR THE PAST 3 YEARS AS A DEMONSTRATION PROGRAM IN THE TOTAL AMOUNT OF \$1,750,000. MANY OF THE ACTIVITIES OF STARS TAKE PLACE AT THE STARS COMPLEX A \$4.5 MILLION DOLLAR RECREATIONAL FACILITY BUILT BY THE CITY OF FORT MYERS IN THE HEART OF OUR MINORITY COMMUNITY IN THE FIRST 18 MONTHS OF MY ADMINISTRATION. ALTHOUGH CONTROVERSIAL BECAUSE OF ITS LOCATION AND THE PERCEPTION THAT IT WOULD BE CRIME RIDDEN, IT HAS PROVIDED A VISIBLE AND REAL COMMITMENT TO OUR AT-RISK YOUTH AND HAS BECOME A CENTER FOR BOTH RECREATIONAL AND ACADEMIC ENHANCEMENTS AS WELL AS A PLACE FOR BOTH ADULT AND PEER ROLE MODELING. AS THE RESULT OF THE STARS PROGRAM AND THE STARS COMPLEX, EXTENSIVE PROGRAMMING BY THE POLICE DEPARTMENT, AND HOUSING AUTHORITY HAVE BEEN POSSIBLE.

STARS IS A PROGRAM WHEREBY AN ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF CONSISTING OF A DIRECTOR, 2 OFFICE SUPPORT PERSONNEL, 6 FIELD COUNSELORS AND 5 FULL-TIME SCHOOL AIDES WHOSE SALARIES ARE PAID FOR BY THE SCHOOL BOARD, IDENTIFY AND ENROLL AT-RISK CHILDREN BETWEEN THE AGES OF 8 AND 14. INITIALLY, OVER 2,000 CHILDREN WERE IDENTIFIED AND TODAY APPROXIMATELY 1,500 AT-RISK FORT MYERS CHILDREN BETWEEN THE AGES OF

8 AND 14 PARTICIPATE.

THE CHILD AND HIS PARENTS MUST AGREE TO PARTICIPATE IN THE PROGRAMS' ACTIVITIES, TO ATTEND SCHOOL, MAINTAIN A GOOD BEHAVIOR RECORD AND ENDEAVOR TO MAINTAIN A "C" AVERAGE. (THREE YEARS AGO 75% OF THE STARS CHILDREN WERE BELOW A "C" AVERAGE. TODAY ONLY 20% ARE BELOW A "C" AVERAGE). THEREAFTER, THE CHILD'S RECREATIONAL INTEREST AND ACADEMIC NEEDS ARE IDENTIFIED AND THE CHILD IS ENROLLED IN EXISTING ADULT ORGANIZED RECREATIONAL ACTIVITIES AND VARIOUS TUTORIAL PROGRAMS FOR ACADEMIC ENRICHMENT. THE FAMILY CIRCUMSTANCES ARE MONITORED BY THE FIELD COUNSELORS AND SERVICE PROVIDERS ARE CONTACTED FOR SUPPLEMENTAL FAMILY ASSISTANCE WHEN NEEDED. THE COST OF THIS PROGRAM ON A YEARLY BASIS IS APPROXIMATELY \$1 MILLION DOLLARS WITH FUNDS COMING FROM HUD, THE CITY OF FORT MYERS, THE LEE COUNTY SCHOOL BOARD, PRIVATE DONATIONS AND FUNDRAISERS.

NOW, THE GOOD NEWS!!!!

JUVENILE CRIME IN THE CITY FORT MYERS HAS DECLINED FOR THE PAST 3 YEARS AND ALL INDICATIONS ARE THAT IT WILL CONTINUE TO DECLINE. UNQUESTIONABLY AND WITHOUT HESITATION I CAN TELL YOU THE DECLINE IS THE DIRECT RESULT OF URBAN RECREATIONAL AND ACADEMIC INITIATIVES. ATTACHED TO THIS TEXT YOU WILL FIND POLICE STATISTICS ACCURATELY COMPILED BY OUR POLICE CHIEF, DONNA HANSEN, WHO HAS METICULOUSLY TRACKED THE PROGRESS OF OUR PROGRAMS AND THEIR IMPACT ON JUVENILE CRIME SINCE SHE WAS APPOINTED THREE YEARS AGO. THESE PROGRAMS ARE THE CORNERSTONE OF A BROAD BASED COMMUNITY POLICING

INITIATIVE THAT IS ACHIEVING SIMILAR RESULTS ALTHOUGH AT A SLOWER PACE IN THE ENTIRE AREA OF VIOLENT CRIME.

OUR MOST RECENT MAJOR INITIATIVE, THE IMAGINARIUM, A HANDS-ON MUSEUM AND AQUARIUM UNDER CONSTRUCTION IN A CITY OWNED WPA WATER PLANT IN THE HEART OF OUR MINORITY COMMUNITY WILL, LIKE THE STARS COMPLEX, PROVIDE A VISUAL AND REAL COMMITMENT TO OUR AT-RISK YOUTH. THE IMAGINARIUM, A 3 PHASE PROJECT WITH PHASE 1 OPENING IN THE LATE SUMMER OF 1994, WILL BE AN URBAN RECREATIONAL AND ACADEMIC CENTER FOR OUR 6 COUNTY AREA. IT WILL SERVE BOTH RESIDENTS AND TOURISTS BUT, MORE SIGNIFICANTLY WILL PROVIDE A RECREATIONAL AND EDUCATIONAL SAFE PLACE FOR OUR AT-RISK CHILDREN BECAUSE IT WILL BE IN THEIR NEIGHBORHOOD. PHASE 2 AND PHASE 3 WILL BE OF PARTICULAR INTEREST TO THIS COMMITTEE SINCE IT WILL CONTAIN THE MOST EXTENSIVE EVERGLADES EXHIBIT IN EXISTENCE AND WILL DEMONSTRATE THE ECOLOGICAL IMPORTANCE OF THE EVERGLADES TO OUR ENTIRE ECO-SYSTEM IN SOUTH FLORIDA. WE ARE AVAILABLE TO DISCUSS FUNDING!

IN SUMMARY, AS THE MAYOR OF A CITY THAT TOTALLY COMMITTED ITSELF TO USING RECREATION AND ACADEMIC SUPPORT AS THE VEHICLE FOR COMBATTING VIOLENT JUVENILE CRIME I CAN TELL YOU FIRST HAND THAT IT WORKS. IN MY JUDGMENT IT IS THE BEST, MOST COST EFFECTIVE AND THE MOST RESPONSIBLE POSITION TO TAKE IN THE VERY COMPLEX SEARCH FOR SOLUTIONS TO JUVENILE CRIME. NEIGHBORHOODS AND COMMUNITIES SHOULD NOT BE ASKED TO BUY THE PROMISE OF A DREAM. THEY ARE ENTITLED TO THE ACTUAL PRODUCTION OF A TANGIBLE PRODUCT IN THE FORM OF URBAN FACILITIES. ONCE THAT PRODUCT IS PRODUCED AND PROGRAMS ARE PUT IN

PLACE, THE RESULTS, WILL BE POSITIVE AND WILL BE REAL AND LASTING.

THANK YOU FOR GIVING ME THIS OPPORTUNITY TO ADDRESS THIS IMPORTANT COMMITTEE. MY THANKS TO THE U.S. CONFERENCE OF MAYORS, NANCY CAMPBELL, CITY PARKS AND RECREATION DIRECTOR, CHIEF DONNA HANSEN, ART LACHIOMA, HOUSING AUTHORITY DIRECTOR, AND MARILYN SMITH OF THE IMAGINARIUM. I WILL BE PLEASED TO ANSWER ANY QUESTIONS YOU MIGHT HAVE.

Delinquency and School Suspension Demographics

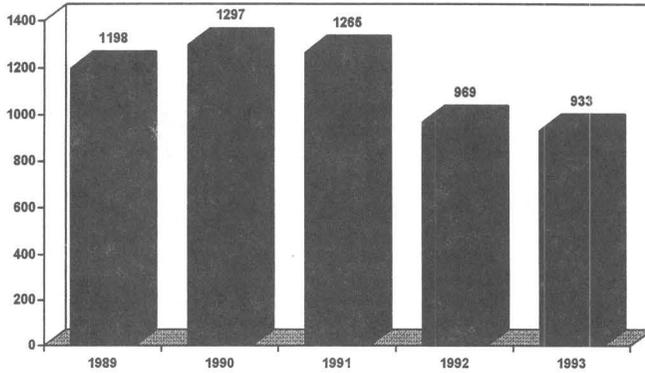
During 1993, in Lee County:

- ◆ a juvenile offender was arrested **every 3 hours**
- ◆ 2,519 juvenile offenders committed **3,895 criminal violations**
- ◆ 1,697 or **67%** of the offenders were **repeat offenders**
- ◆ 566 charges were for **VIOLENT or FIREARMS VIOLATIONS**
- ◆ 399 or **70%** of the offenders were 13 to 16 years of age
- ◆ 77 or **3%** of the offenders were transferred to the adult system
- ◆ 112 or **4%** of the offenders were committed to H.R.S. programs
- ◆ 4,831 students served 10,210 suspensions
- ◆ 2,262 or **22%** of all Middle School students were suspended
- ◆ 5,610 or **55%** of all suspensions were served by Middle School students

The relationship is evident between disruptive behavior at school and criminal behavior in the community by juveniles. The largest age group of repeat juvenile offenders (13-16) (1,275 offenders) also have the highest school suspension rate(83%) and over 90% of all juvenile offenders arrested were not placed in a commitment program.

Total Juvenile Arrest 5 Year Comparison

YEAR	1989	1990	1991	1992	1993
TOTAL	1198	1297	1265	969	933



The Lee County Juvenile "Repeat Offender" Under the Age of 14

AGE	1991	1992	1993	91-93 % CHANGE
UNDER 11	24	6	8	- 66.6%
11 - 12	143	72	51	- 64.3%
13 - 14	562	482	415	- 26.1%
<hr/>				
TOTAL :	729	560	474	- 34.97%

SOURCE: LEE COUNTY CLERK OF COURT

Stars Program



Success Through Academic and Recreational Support

The S.T.A.R.S. Program is an innovative approach to provide children between the ages of 8 and 14 years old with alternatives to juvenile crime and the temptation of drugs and/or violence.

The Program is an unprecedented alliance between the governmental agency of the City of Fort Myers, a fiscally independent school board serving a county-wide school system, School District of Lee County, Florida, private non-profit organizations such as the Lee County Alliance of the Arts, Inc., Fort Myers Little League, Swim Florida and Dance Theater Academy as well as, the resources of the private/corporate sector of our community. In harmony, we have set our goal to help our youth realize that their future need not be bleak. To help them set and obtain realistic goals, we are chipping away that shell of isolation that makes them feel so alone and hopeless. Through the S.T.A.R.S. activities, whether sports, music, dance, arts, academic, or career development, we will provide our youth with obtainable alternatives to drugs, crime, illiteracy and poverty.

Participant Selection Criteria

The children are selected for the program through a combination of resources and specific information provided by the School Board. A child is determined to be "at risk" because of, but not limited to, the following characteristics.

- Poor school attendance
- Poor academic performance
- Lack of self confidence
- Poor self-esteem
- Aggressive behavior towards classmates
- Disruptive on bus or in class
- Location of home
- Single parent or blended families

Program Functions

Once identified, the youth signs a contract agreeing to attend school on a regular basis, participate fully in their chosen activity, maintain a "C" average or better within one year of enrollment, and maintain and support a drug, alcohol and substance abuse free lifestyle. Their parents sign a contract stating they will participate in the program, support their child's activities and provide a substance abuse free environment for their child.

Interviews are conducted by the S.T.A.R.S. counselors to find out the child's interest in order to match him/her with a Youth Partner Organization. The City's Recreation staff compiles data furnished by the school board that will be used to

evaluate the child's progress, and to evaluate the overall success of the program, and determine program or Y.P.O. activities needed.

The Lee County School Board has endorsed the S.T.A.R.S. Program by committing staff to assist in the implementation of the program. In addition, the school board identifies, provides tutorial assistance and monitors the S.T.A.R.S.'s performance.

The most important role in this program is that of the Youth Partner Organizations. They are recruited by the City of Fort Myers Recreation Division. They commit to the development of the child through extra-curricular activities. Our Youth Partner Organizations sign an agreement stating they will accept any S.T.A.R. into their programs, provide volunteers to work with them on a one-on-one basis, provide transportation to and from activities, and monitor the progress of the student. They agree to coordinate this effort through the Recreation Department. Individual volunteers are also required to sign a contract agreeing to volunteer their time to enhance the self-esteem of the students. They agree to nurture and support the development of the child by being a positive role model. They also agree to monitor the child's improvement. During this whole process, the child's family is involved.

Program Statistics and Partnerships

Currently 700 minimum to 1200 maximum children are involved in the Program.

Current Spring/Summer Youth Partner Organization Programs

Sports Programs

- * Little League Baseball, Softball, & T-Ball
- * Swim Team & Classes
- * Martial Arts
- * Double Dutch Jump Rope
- * PAL Basketball
- * Soccer

Arts & Culture Programs

- * Drama - concentration on cultural history
- * Arts & Creative Crafts
- * Choir
- * Piano Lessons
- * Dance Classes - Modern Dance

Miscellaneous Programs

- * Boy & Girl Scouts
- * Computer Classes
- * Aviation Club
- * Journalism Club
- * Reading Club
- * Youth Crime Watch

Tutorial After-School Program

- * Grant Funding from the Lee County School Board and the Fort Myers Housing Authority to pay elementary and middle school teachers to work with our program participants after school.
- * The tutorial program assists the children to meet their contractual agreement to maintain a "C" average or better.
- * Statistics supplied by the Lee County School Board at the end of the 92/93 academic year reflects that 85% of our students in the program were meeting the "C" or better requirement.
- * Some students need special one-on-one tutorial assistance we are unable to supply in our large group tutorial sessions. We have secured special donations that we use for scholarships for the student to attend the Silvan Learning Center.
- * Students may sign up for tutorial assistance or the recommendations may come from their teachers, school counselors, or YPO coaches/instructors.
- * The computer labs are utilized by the tutorial classes, the journalism club, the computer club and the homework assistance groups. We have numerous programs to assist the students and a continually up-dated encyclopedia data base for research.
- * Computers have also been installed in the clubhouses.

Stars Program Participants Package



Success Through Academic
and Recreational Support

THE CITY OF FORT MYERS

S T A R S

YOUTH PARTNER ORGANIZATIONS LIST

BOYS & GIRLS CLUB
CITY OF FORT MYERS BASKETBALL LEAGUE
CITY OF FORT MYERS SOCCER LEAGUE
DELTA SIGMA THETA SORORITY, INC.
DUNBAR LITTLE LEAGUE
FORT MYERS "TIGER LEAD" SCHOOL OF AKIDO
FORT MYERS AMERICAN LITTLE LEAGUE
FORT MYERS NATIONAL LITTLE LEAGUE
FORT MYERS "REBEL" POP WARNER FOOTBALL
FORT MYERS TRACK CLUB
GIRL SCOUTS OF AMERICA
GULFCOAST JUGGLING INSTITUTE, INC.
JUNIOR MEDALIST GOLF/PGA
LEE COUNTY 4-H
LEE ALLIANCE OF THE ARTS
LEE COUNTY HUMANE SOCIETY
MAIN SAIL VIDEO PRODUCTIONS
OXFORD SCHOOL OF MUSIC
PANTHER PACK SOCCER CLUB
POLICE ATHLETIC LEAGUE - FORT MYERS POLICE DEPARTMENT
QUALITY LIFE CENTER
RIVERDALE WILDCATS/POP WARNER FOOTBALL
ROYAL PALM SAILING CLUB
SINGING STARS CHORUS
SJC BOXING CLUB
SOUTHWEST FLA BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA
SOUTHWEST FLORIDA DANCE THEATRE
STARS BOXING ACADEMY
STARS SOCCER CLUB
SWIM FLORIDA
TICE/EAST FORT MYERS LITTLE LEAGUE
USA WRESTLING
WORLD TAE KWON DO



P.O. Box 2217
Fort Myers, Florida 33902-2217

CITY OF FORT MYERS
STARS PROGRAM

YOUTH INFORMATION SHEET

TODAYS DATE

YOUTH'S LAST NAME	FIRST NAME	BIRTHDATE	GRADE	AGE
HOME ADDRESS			ZIP	
MAILING ADDRESS			ZIP	
FATHER/GUARDIAN	HOME PHONE	EMPLOYER	WORK PHONE	
MOTHER/GUARDIAN	HOME PHONE	EMPLOYER	WORK PHONE	

YOUTH PARTNER ORGANIZATION/VOLUNTEER	WORK PHONE	HOME PHONE
ADDRESS	CONTACT PERSON	
TEAM	COACH	PHONE

SCHOOL	PHONE	
STARS REPRESENTATIVE-LEE COUNTY SCHOOL BOARD	WORK PHONE	HOME PHONE
STARS COUNSELOR-CITY OF FORT MYERS	WORK PHONE	HOME PHONE

**CITY OF FORT MYERS
STARS PROGRAM**

WAIVER OF RIGHT OF PRIVACY

IN CONSIDERATION OF my child, _____,
 being considered for acceptance into the STARS Program, I do hereby
 waive any confidentiality privilege in regard to any and all
 matters involving my child's school records. I also, authorize the
 Administrator of the STARS Program or his designated representative
 to obtain copies of my child's school records that may be necessary
 for consideration. I further waive any confidentiality rights and
 authorize any school representative to speak with any designated
 representative of the STARS Program about any matters concerning my
 child's conduct and/or participation in the school system.
 I waive the right of privacy pursuant to F.S. 228.093(3)(d) and
 make these authorizations of my own free will with the
 understanding that the information will be utilized solely for the
 purpose of assisting my child within the STARS Program.

WITNESSES:

PARENT

DATE

CITY OF FORT MYERS
STARS PROGRAM

YOUTH INTEREST SURVEY

SPORTS

Baseball (Jan-June)
Basketball
Boxing (year round)
Football (Aug-Nov)
Golf (June-Aug)
Jump Rope (Dbl Dutch)
Martial Arts
Sailing (Jun-Aug)
Soccer (Sept-May)
Softball (Jan-June)
Swimming
Track (Sept-May)
Tennis

ACADEMICS
(Sept-May)

Computers
Creative Writing
English
History
Mathematics
Reading
Science
Spelling
Typing

COMMUNICATIONS

Broadcasting

FINE ARTS

Drawing
Painting

PERFORMING ARTS

Aerobics
Dance Theater
Drama
Music

YOUTH GROUP

Boy Scouts
Girl Scouts
4-H

List three activities in which you wish to be involved:

- " **FIRST** Choice" _____
Second Choice _____
Third Choice _____

List activities you have been involved in:

1. _____ 2. _____
3. _____ 4. _____

Youth's Signature

Date

Parent/Guardian Signature

Date

**CITY OF FORT MYERS
STARS PROGRAM
YOUTH DATA SURVEY**

Student Name	School	M/F
--------------	--------	-----

FAMILY INFORMATION:

I. Child lives with:

- Both parents
 Father
 Mother
 Other: _____

II. Siblings-Number of: _____ Brother(s) _____ Sister(s)

III. Parents interested in getting involved:

- Yes
 No
 Maybe
-
-

ACADEMIC SUCCESS:

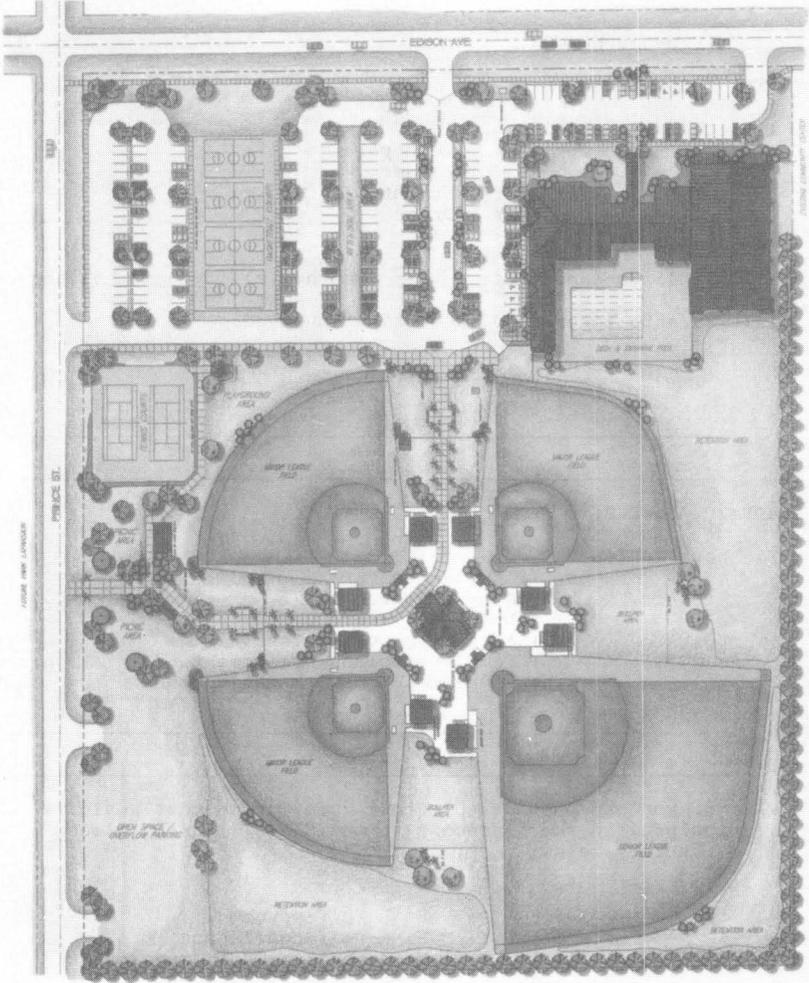
I. Work Habits:

- Applies self
 Over achiever
 Under achiever
 Achieving full potential
 Completes class assignments
 Completes homework assignments
-
-

II. If you can provide any other information that would be helpful in the placement in the STARS Program, please identify below:

- | Yes | No | |
|--------------------------|--------------------------|----------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | High self-esteem |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | High self-confidence |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Good physical coordination |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Good physical strength |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | Positive attitude |
-
-

Stars Complex



Urban Recreational Facilities

On February 9, 1991, the City proudly dedicated this 23 acre facility. What was once an inadequate, deteriorating recreation facility and overgrown vacant land is now a magnificent family recreational sports complex.

The Complex consists of:

- Three (3) Little League Fields
- One (1) Major League Field
- State-of-the-Art Concession and Press box Facilities
- Tennis Courts
- Creative playground
- 25 yard competitive pool
- Six (6) outdoor basketball courts
- Oversize gymnasium to accommodate three (3) half courts for basketball, or one regulation basketball court and one volleyball court
- Computer/study room
- Community room
- Dance area with mirrors and dressing room
- Locker rooms and shower facility

The Complex cost \$3.6 million to build. Funding was obtained from State of Florida Legislative Appropriations, federal funds from the Department of Housing and Urban Development (Drug Elimination Funds), and City of Fort Myers funds.

This site also contains The Vince Smith Family Treatment Center. This facility houses and treats 20 adolescents for alcohol and drug abuse. Currently, this is the only indigent treatment facility for youth in Lee County. The services are administered by Southwest Florida Addiction Services. This entire development lies immediately west of one of the City's public housing neighborhoods, Southward Village, and in the heart of our minority community.

The Complex hosts a wide variety of recreational activities seven days each week for children. These activities include organized league basketball, swim teams, swimming lessons, open swimming, Boy Scouts, Tae Kwon Do, choir, computer lab, arts and crafts, dance, drama, Double Dutch jump rope, cheer leading, martial arts, and street hockey. Another large activity that our children participate in is Little League. We also work with various community groups to offer a variety of special events that include a Black History Festival, teen dances, and sports tournaments.

City Of Fort Myers Recreation

Summer Camp Initiative 1993

DATES: June 14, 1993 - August 20, 1993

LOCATIONS: Palmetto Court STARS Clubhouse, 3501 Dale Street
Michigan Court STARS Clubhouse, 4224 Michigan Court
STARS Complex, 2980 Edison Avenue
Fort Myers Recreation Center, 3775 Evans Avenue

COSTS: Palmetto Court - Free to residents of public housing
Michigan Court - Free to residents of public housing
S.T.A.R.S. Complex - Free to residents of public housing
\$100 entire summer all others
Fort Myers Recreation Center - \$200 entire summer Free to
residents of public housing

AGES: 6 - 12

MEALS: We participated in the Summer Food Program which is an extension of the school lunch program. We work closely with the State Department of Education to provide healthy, nutritionally balanced meals to children. As all of our summer campsites are located in low income census tracks, all the children who attended our programs qualified for the meals. The program essentially works that we follow State guidelines to purchase approved meals from an approved vendor. The City is then reimbursed for the allowable meals and administrative expenses.

Breakfasts at the Fort Myers Recreation Center averaged 75 per day, lunches and p.m. snacks for the STARS Complex averaged 200 per day, Michigan Court averaged 80 per day, and Palmetto Court averaged 45 per day.

TOTAL NUMBER OF BREAKFASTS SERVED:	3,160
TOTAL NUMBER OF LUNCHESES SERVED:	13,627
TOTAL NUMBER OF PM SNACKS SERVED:	15,003

EXPENSES-STAFF:

Head Recreation Leader (3) @\$6.58 per hour	\$ 7,896.00
Recreation Leaders (10) @\$6.10 per hour	\$24,400.00
*Recreation Leaders (26) @\$6.10 per hour	\$63,440.00
Lifeguards (9) @\$6.58 per hour	\$23,688.00
**JPTA Recreation Aides (24) @\$4.25 per hour	\$32,640.00

TOTAL COSTS	\$152,064.00
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*Funded through Youth Sports Grant

**Funded through Lee County Private Industry Council

EXPENSES-SUPPLIES:

Sports Equipment	\$2,587.88
Arts & Crafts Supplies	\$1,784.50
First Aid Supplies	\$ 149.90
Staff Shirts	\$1,485.60

TOTAL COSTS	\$6,007.88
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ACTIVITIES PROVIDED:

The children are enrolled in groups according to their ages. Activities are tailored to the interests of the children in the various age groups. Activities include sports, games, arts and crafts, movies, field trips, and swimming. Field trips were planned to locations such as the library, the Justice Center, Pizza Hut, and the Nature Center. Special events were planned, and included a Talent Show and an End of Summer Picnic/Cookout for each location. All the children at the sites were given the opportunity to swim on a daily basis and were also offered swimming lessons. The children enjoyed special visits from celebrities such as Jessie Dortch, a state wrestling champ and Miss America.

The concept of the summer program was two-fold. We not only provided activities for children, but we also hired our staff from Public Housing and the minority community. The children were involved in positive, constructive activity as well as spending their summer in the company of mentors and positive role models.

Program Statistics

TOTAL ENROLLED:	Fort Myers Recreation Center	250
	S.T.A.R.S. Complex	500
	Michigan Court	175
	Palmetto Court	120

AVERAGE DAILY ATTENDANCE:

Fort Myers Recreation Center	200
STARS Complex	250
Michigan Court	100
Palmetto Court	35

Imaginarium Hands on Museum and Aquarium

Project Narrative

The Imaginarium Hands-On Museum and Aquarium will provide a creative alternative to learning through interactivity. It was conceived in 1989 when a Board of Directors was established consisting of committed professionals throughout our community.

The Imaginarium Group, Inc.'s first major objective was to secure a location for the new facility. Through the generosity of the City of Fort Myers, the Mayor and City Council unanimously approved the dedication of the 1938 historic WPA City Water Plant. The City additionally is providing support by pledging operational funds and a loan of \$2.4 million for construction costs. This loan will be repaid from the revenue of admissions.

The planned development of the 11 acre water plant site will expand and enhance the existing plant, offering a unique opportunity for area students to participate in interactive exhibitry which encourages independent thinking. The Imaginarium will be comprised of ten (10) separate educational facilities, each focusing on specific areas of interests.

They are as follows:

1. Edison Street
2. Hall of Inventions
3. Land, Sea and Air
4. Coral Reef Tank
5. Shark Tank and Tunnel
6. Aquaculture Lagoon
7. Mote Marine Research Laboratory
8. Archeological Dig
9. Everglades and Gulf of Mexico Natural Habitat
10. Audio Visual Cinema

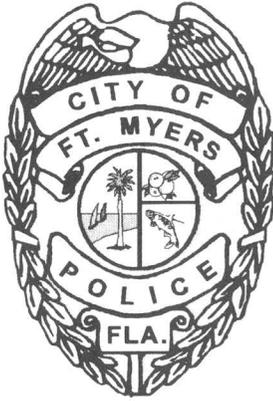
The Imaginarium will become a primary location for field trips, focusing on all age levels and will work within the established school curriculum to provide appropriate programming. The Imaginarium will provide six county school districts with a valuable and much needed resource - a campus which provides informal, educational, interactive programming outside of the classroom. The facility will also work in conjunction with the Lee County Alliance of the Arts and the Nature Center and Planetarium, to offer a summer camp program. Hands-on experiences in small group settings offer learning opportunities for children ages 2 through 16 on a variety of art/science related subjects. Certified

teachers will be hired as instructors for the summer programs which provides an opportunity to experiment with methods, materials and subjects that can later be adapted for use in their classrooms. Community education programming will be scheduled for evenings, weekends, after school hours, school holidays, and during summer months while school is not in session.

Phase I Edison Street, will open Summer/Fall of 1994. The 10,000 square foot exhibit area is designed for elementary and pre-school children, it will be an exciting and highly innovative environment encouraging participation and discovery. We will develop exhibits whose teaching methods are based on simulation and modeling. Basic principles will be revealed providing a foothold for children's exploration. Multi-sensory contact with the exhibits will allow them to touch, see, hear, and experience the wonders of the world around them.

Upon opening, The Imaginarium anticipates they will host 200,000 visitors in their first full year of operations.

The Imaginarium is located in the economically depressed Lincoln Park and Franklin Park neighborhoods, will also act as a catalyst in the revitalization of these urban communities. The Imaginarium will draw a diverse group, both economically and socially, to these neighborhoods that will help stimulate growth and change. Residents will be encouraged to take an active role in the Imaginarium, thus creating a sense of pride in their neighborhood. The Board of Directors and staff will work closely with the City of Fort Myers, the Police Department, the Downtown Redevelopment Agency and community leaders to bring about much needed improvements in these urban communities.



Police Programs and Strategies

Community Programs

In an age of escalating violence in the streets of our cities a new breed of law enforcement officer, an officer who holds people accountable but demonstrates compassion and understanding is required. The full service community police officer is the deployment strategy utilized by the Fort Myers Police Department.

It is the goal of the City of Fort Myers and the Fort Myers Police Department to empower its citizens to assist in bringing order back to their communities through community policing. By bringing the community and law enforcement together, citizens have an opportunity to discuss their concerns with police officers and become a part of creating and implementing the solutions.

It is with this goal in mind that the following programs and partnerships have been developed.

Citywide Community Policing

The Fort Myers Police department has developed a full menu of community policing strategies in six of eleven neighborhoods.

Public Housing Community Policing Unit and Decentralized Store-Front Operation

Partners:

HUD / Fort Myers Housing Authority / Tenants Association

Description:

A consortium's publication for the Bureau of Justice Assistance and the Department of Housing and Urban Development, dated November 20, 1992, titled "Community Policing Training and Technical Assistance in Public Housing" documents the presence of a solid, collaborative, citizen driven community policing program within the City of Fort Myers Public Housing complex. The program includes a Storefront apartment, originally staffed 24 hours a day by police officers and now staffed by tenant security. Although there are presently eight police officers assigned, four on bicycles, the citizens in public housing have been trained and empowered to become their own security force. This has allowed the number of assigned Community Policing Officers to be reduced and re-deployed into other areas. There will be continued commitment and department involvement with the Fort Myers Public Housing Authority in the "Public Housing Community Policing Unit". The tenant security project is financially supported by the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development "Drug Elimination Grant Program" and the City of Fort Myers.

Franklin/Lincoln Park / Edison/Allen Park / Evans / Woodside Neighborhoods

To eliminate violent crime, drug trafficking, and drug related crimes, a joint partnership has been developed with citizens, residents, and business owners in the Franklin/Lincoln Park, Edison/Allen Park, Evans and Woodside Neighborhoods. The Franklin/Lincoln Park area is in the heart of the Dunbar community and has been the source of major drug dealing, breeding violence and crime. Beginning in 1992, through funding from the Bureau of Justice Assistance Drug Impacted Small Jurisdiction Program an effective strategic plan was implemented that has greatly reduced the drug activity and related crime. Proactive policing efforts keep officers in touch with citizens needs. But most importantly, prevention and intervention efforts are being exercised. Neighborhood Advisory Committees were established along with a solid citizen-driven Community Policing program. The Community Redevelopment Agency and Nations Bank, by committing 10 million dollars of resources for low interest mortgage loans to low income families in these specific communities, is making a sustained, long-term investment. As deteriorated houses are replaced, proud new residents arrive to establish a healthy neighborhood environment. Community pride has led to informed and involved residents, and Crime Watch groups have been established to keep police and residents informed of activities. The community is becoming empowered to "take back" their streets.

Downtown Policing Program

The Downtown Policing Program consists of mounted, bicycle, foot and vehicular patrol of the downtown area. Officers assigned to this program receive specialized training in areas of communications, problem solving and cultural diversity. The program has been a success, due to cooperation and open communications between law enforcement, business owners and consumers. The program has had a major impact on incidents of crime and the fear of crime that once plagued the downtown area. Because of this success bicycle patrol integrated with vehicle patrol has become common throughout Fort Myers. Over half of the patrol force has been trained and can be expected to occasionally patrol their areas on bicycle.

Public Housing Summer Movie Program

Partners:

Fort Myers Housing Authority / Residents Association

Description:

Fort Myers Police officers could see young residents in the public housing complex beginning to gather in groups with nothing to do. They were becoming bored and committing acts of vandalism or fighting. These young juveniles

needed a place to meet with their friends, but they did not have the finances or the facilities. Through support from the Fort Myers Housing Authority and the City of Fort Myers S.T.A.R.S. Program (Success Through Academic and Recreational Support), equipment and facilities were furnished. Officers assigned to the Public Housing Community Policing Team hit the streets to find adult resident volunteers to serve soft drinks, make popcorn and assist police officers in monitoring children during the movies. Children were selected to clean up after the movies, and many willing volunteers pledged their time. The Summer Movie Program has involved over 700 youth who eagerly gather to see friends and watch movies instead of getting into trouble. This program was described in a national police publication and has generated considerable interest throughout the country.

Shopping Center Policing Program

Partners:

Edison Mall Merchants Association / O'Connor Management Group

Description:

Thousands of consumers pass through the Edison Mall, a facility exceeding one million square feet. Problems that plague major shopping malls were soon recognized. Through a concerted effort, the Fort Myers Police Department and the O'Connor Management Group analyzed and evaluated the crime problems in the area. A mobile police sub-station has been deployed to the area, and it is utilized in assisting citizens and disseminating information concerning crime prevention. Additionally, a close working relationship is established with mall security to strengthen our efforts to deter crime and apprehend offenders.

Community Enrichment Center

Partners:

Fifteen Social Service Agencies / State, Local and Non-Profit Organizations

Description:

The Community Enrichment Center is an expansion of the full service school concept. When completed, on school property, it will house state and local social service providers together with law enforcement on the campus of the New Directions Learning Center (adjacent to the Lee County Vocational - Technical Center) in the heart of an area in the city where the greatest need is evident. Through this partnership between law enforcement, social service, and education residents will be able to have their needs assessed and addressed at this facility.

Services will include economic, health, mental health, drug/alcohol abuse counseling and other social service referrals. The Florida Department of Education has awarded the School District of Lee County PECO funding in the amount of \$400,000.00 to construct the facility. Once the facility is built and occupied, community police officers will be able to direct citizens to one location where their needs can be addressed.

Juvenile Programs

The Fort Myers Police Department is committed to creating an environment where our children can grow up secure, healthy and safe. Early identification and intervention with delinquent youth is necessary to interrupt the development of habitual juvenile and adult offenders that threaten that environment. Along with that commitment comes the commitment to "get tough" on serious habitual juvenile offenders.

During 1993, in Lee County:

- ◆ a juvenile offender was arrested every 3 hours
- ◆ 2,519 juvenile offenders committed 3,895 criminal violations
- ◆ 1,697 or 67% of the offenders were repeat offenders
- ◆ 566 charges were for **VIOLENT or FIREARMS VIOLATIONS**
- ◆ 399 or 70% of the offenders were 13 to 16 years of age
- ◆ 77 or 3% of the offenders were transferred to the adult system
- ◆ 112 or 4% of the offenders were committed to H.R.S. programs
- ◆ 4,831 students served 10,210 suspensions
- ◆ 2,262 or 22% of all Middle School students were suspended
- ◆ 5,610 or 55% of all suspensions were served by Middle School students

The relationship is evident between disruptive behavior at school and criminal behavior in the community by juveniles. The largest age group of repeat juvenile offenders (13-16) (1,275 offenders) also have the highest school suspension rate(83%) and over 90% of all juvenile offenders arrested were not placed in a commitment program.

The following programs represent the Departments effort to attack the problems of today's youth that contribute to criminal behavior from every possible avenue.

Twentieth Judicial Circuit Juvenile Justice Council

Description:

The Twentieth Judicial Circuit Juvenile Justice Council involves a partnership with every agency and organization related to juvenile justice. The Council was created by Florida State Statute which authorizes the circuit to establish a comprehensive delinquency plan. On September 13, 1993 the Council announced

that through a cooperative effort between state, county and city leaders the State of Florida released over 4 million dollars to build and operate a boot camp for juveniles. The City of Fort Myers donated property to the Lee County government for facilities for a serious offender program and day-treatment program. Over 4 million dollars have been allocated for the construction of facilities and treatment for delinquent juveniles.

Private Industry Council Summer Youth Employment Community Aide Training Program

Partners:

Lee County Private Industry Council (J.T.P.A.) / Lee County School District

Description:

This program is a training and employment partnership between the Fort Myers Police Department, the School District of Lee County and the Lee County Private Industry Council targeting disadvantaged youth between the ages of eighteen and twenty-four. Upon completion of an eleven week training program the recruits become eligible for employment as a Community Service Aide with the Fort Myers Police Department. The Police Department currently employs three community youth from this program.

S.A.F.E. (Success Around Future Education)

Description:

As a community-oriented, proactive policing initiative, uniquely designed to improve the quality of life for the citizens of Fort Myers, the S.A.F.E. (Success Around Future Education) Program umbrellas a number of intervention/prevention programs designed to break the dysfunctional cycle of violence and socially at-risk behavior of juveniles and their families. These long-range intervention initiatives include programs where law enforcement officers perform specific duties within programs in the community.

School Resource Officer Program

Description:

School Resource Officers are assigned to specific schools to intervene and monitor student activities. They participate with students at sporting events, field trips, and other extracurricular activities and are available for formal or informal counseling sessions with students, to assist them with personal or other problems.

This function relates to combating crime on a pre-delinquent basis by developing a better understanding of Police by students, parents and educators.

G.R.A.M.P.A. Cop Program (Getting Retirees Actively Motivated to Police Again)

Description:

Under the Getting Retirees Actively Motivated to Policing Again or G.R.A.M.P.A. Cop Program, the Fort Myers Police Department hired retired police officers to enhance the city's war on drugs and drug abuse. This is an innovative program that utilizes retired police officers in elementary schools located within the city. In addition to touching the lives of school children on a daily basis, they also educate children concerning drug prevention, safety and self-esteem.

D.A.R.E. Officers (Drug Abuse Resistance Education)

Description:

Project D.A.R.E. is a cooperative effort between police officers, schools, teachers and students to prevent drug abuse in children and youth. D.A.R.E. Programs are offered in thirteen elementary schools citywide and three police officers provide a variety of activity oriented techniques which are designed to encourage student generated responses to problem solving situations. An important element of D.A.R.E. is the use of student leaders who do not use drugs, as positive role models in influencing younger students not to use drugs.

Police Explorer Scout Post 55

Description:

The purpose of this program is to enable young men and women to have the opportunity to explore law enforcement as a possible career, to help create a better understanding between the Police Department and the youth of Lee County, to help young adults to become mature, responsible citizens, and to assist the Fort Myers Police Department in its daily duties whenever possible. There are approximately 40 individuals enrolled in the Fort Myers Police Explorer Scout Program who regularly schedule their time to assist the department with community events.

Respect for Law Camp

Description:

The purpose of the camp is to afford local youngsters the opportunity to learn respect for the law by giving them a close-up look at local law enforcement in an action-packed weekend. This locally held 4-day/3-night camp is sponsored by local Optimist Clubs and the Fort Myers Police Department. State and local law enforcement personnel, wildlife officers and judges volunteer their time to make this program a success. Respect for Law Camp improves self-esteem and self-confidence while teaching the campers self-discipline, self-respect and most of all Respect for the Law.

School Bus Stop Program

Description:

The **School Bus Stop Program** involves a partnership with the School District of Lee County and the Fort Myers Police Department. Bus Stop officers are assigned to school areas to provide a safe environment at and around school bus stops, throughout the City of Fort Myers. Officers interact with students, and parents, identify and solve problems that occur, investigate citizen/student complaint, monitor vehicular traffic in the vicinities and oversee student behavior.

STARS (Success Through Academic and Recreational Support) Program

Description:

The City of Fort Myers, to provide resources and opportunity for at-risk children, has combined total community resources in its S.T.A.R.S. Program. The Fort Myers Police Department's Liaison with S.T.A.R.S. acts as a coordinator for juvenile referrals to the program. Officers who encounter children between the ages of eight and fourteen, and meet specific criteria, refer children to the S.T.A.R.S. program.

Law Related Education Program (L.R.E.)

Description:

Law Related Education (LRE) programs are designed to address reduction in delinquency, student's roles as participating and law abiding citizens and respect for self and others. Law enforcement officers presently teach these programs to juveniles at-risk of dropping out or being suspended from school. It is the

intentions of the Fort Myers Police Department to improve attitudes of juveniles toward pro-social behaviors, improve their self-concepts, improve greater tolerance of others, and improve their attitudes towards authority, i.e. law enforcement officers.

The Delinquent Youth Supervision Program

Description:

Delinquent Youth Supervision Officers (D.Y.S.O.) are assigned to review individuals detained at the Southwest Florida Detention Facility. Any juvenile offender residing within the city limits will be assessed by a D.Y.S.O. for acceptance into the program. Instead of remaining in a detention facility, the youth will be returned to his home. Program officers contact the program youth a minimum of three times per day, seven days a week. Contact with each youth occurs before, during and after school. At the time of each contact, the D.Y.S.O. obtains a thumbprint from each youth, to verify contact, except during school. A family assessment is completed to inform families of programs and services available in the community.

The Delinquent Youth Intervention Program

Description:

The focus of this program is on early identification and intervention of juvenile offenders. Through the establishment of an informational network, juvenile offenders will receive more appropriate sanctions at their dispositional hearings. The assessments, referrals and sanctions are all targeted at preventing the juvenile from re-offending. The program is designed to integrate and unite current resources that will facilitate modification of juvenile behavior to deter student suspension and continued criminal activity. The program will also focus on appropriate program placement to hinder criminal behavior.

The School Intervention Program

Description:

The School Intervention Program is a partnership between the Fort Myers Police Department and the School District of Lee County. The program is directed towards middle school students who demonstrate disruptive behavior while in school. Program officers intervene with this type of student to address issues that contribute to behavior problems. Officers respond to the school on overtime and also interact with the student and family while on routine patrol. Officers are encouraged to refer students and family members to the appropriate social service agencies to address identified needs.

Youth Enrichment Corps

Description:

The newest program, planned for June 1994 through October 1994 is the Fort Myers Police Department Youth Enrichment Corps. This program provides opportunities for participants to work on socially mandated community needs and gain specific work skills. A ten week program, the Youth Enrichment Corps will employ a minimum of 20 community youth between the ages of 16 and 20 years of age. Program youth will be deployed throughout the department and the community to "learn through doing". Expanding participant's social responsibilities will empower these youth with the responsibilities of active citizenship, and provide an opportunity to learn the value of their contribution in the community.

Public Housing Programs

Neighborhood Crime Watch

Description:

A system that allows residents to notify the Fort Myers Police Department anonymously of criminal activity they observe.

Criminal Investigative Unit

Description:

Conducts undercover police surveillance of those dwellings thought to be participating in drug-related criminal activity.

T.A.C. Team

Description:

Teens Against Crime, an organization comprised of youth between the ages of 13-21. The T.A.C. Team is a crime watch program that provides community service activities within the developments. Approximately 18 youth served.

Just Say "No To Drugs" Club

Description:

This national program targets youth 6-13 years of age and trains them to remain drug-free. Approximately 506 youth.

School Bus Monitor Program

Description:

This partnership with the Lee County School District will allow three residents to be hired by the Lee County School District to become "monitors" for the Lee County School District to ride buses that service public housing developments.

Occupational Skills Program

Description:

A training program by which a resident can select an occupational skill and receive a stipend for classroom attendance through their training period.

Boy Scouts in Public Housing

Description:

The Housing Authority and the Southwest Florida Council of Boy Scouts of America has held two day camps to generate an interest in the scouting program. This summer, 100 resident youth will participate in a week-long summer camp initiative.

S.T.A.R.S. Clubhouses

Description:

Success Through Academics and Recreational Support is a Federally funded program to provide activities for youth designated "at-risk" provides services for 814 youth in public housing.

Lee Mental Health Family Life Center

Description:

The on-site Family Life Center provides services including drug abuse treatment counseling, referrals, prevention, education and intervention. Provides services for 814 youth

Lee County School District

Description:

The Lee County School District has placed on-site a GED Program designed to assist residents in attaining a high school diploma.

Day Care Center

Description:

Michigan Court, Southward Village & Palmetto Developments have Title XX day-care centers on site.

Youth Sports Activities

Description:

A swimming pool was constructed on-site at Michigan Court Development. All youth (814) of public housing will be afforded the opportunity to learn to swim and participate in aquatics.

Journalism/Communications

Description:

A "mock" television studio was constructed on-site at the Administrative Auditorium. WBBH-TV 20 provides instruction to the youth in all facets of television programming and production techniques. Approximately 360 youth are eligible to participate.

Aviation

Description:

Six youth attended ground school and in-flight training classes at Fort Myers Jet South Center. A retired Colonel from the Tuskegee Airman visited the Fort Myers Housing Authority to enlighten the youth on 1,000 traditional opportunities in aviation.

Mr. MILLER. Mr. Gary Cobb. Mr. Cobb, welcome to the committee, and thank you for your participation.

I had an experience a number of years ago when I was trying to get to Congress for the first time to put money into a program dealing with spousal abuse and family violence, of having the NFL Players Association send me a considerable number of players to lobby the Congress. And in a successful effort to try to get—put forth a program recognizing the difference between the fields of sport and our living rooms in our homes. And I appreciate you being here. Thank you.

STATEMENT OF GARY COBB

Mr. COBB. Thank you. Thank you, Mr. Chairman and members of the committee.

Let me begin by saying it is definitely an honor to have the opportunity to address such a distinguished group. I want to thank you for taking the time to carefully examine something that I feel is very, very important.

I finished an 11-year career in the National Football League. I played 6 years with the Detroit Lions. I played 3 years with the Philadelphia Eagles, and then 2 years with the Cowboys.

I will say that my previous visits to Washington, many of them weren't too good. The Skins were pretty tough. I think I had bad timing. I should have come in the football uniform now because things don't look quite as good down here. [Laughter].

But I will say that I had the fortune of going to the University of Southern California, and while there during my freshman year we had this goofy graduate assistant. He was kind of silly. And I could remember him always trying to talk to one of the receptionist, and he failed as he—you know, everybody laughed at him. It happens that that guy is Norville Turner, who is now the coach of the Redskins.

But you know, he has come a long way. I think he is going to do a great job there. But Joe Gibbs and Bobby Bethard also were involved at USC, being former coaches and players, and I think that the Redskins did a good job of bringing up another USC alumnae.

But during my latter years in the league, I noticed the influence of inner city youngsters, the influence they had on sportswear fashion; namely, baseball caps, T-shirts, sweat shirts, and jackets—items we are all familiar with. Retailers and manufacturers nationwide would wait for these supposed menaces to society to set the fashion trends. Here you had poor youngsters leading a multi-billion dollar a year industry.

A few years ago a number of these adolescents convinced a manufacturer to produce everything in black. That means that they made the Redskins in black. They made the Falcons in black. They did the Cowboys in black. Did everything in black. These companies made millions and millions of dollars. They patted the kids on the head and thanked them, and that is basically all they did.

After a great deal of thought and planning, after I finished my career, I founded Inner City Sportsgear Limited. My company is like any other young enterprise except for one thing. Our company,

our art staff, is comprised of inner city youngsters, a number of which, in fact, are former graffiti artists.

We have one youngster who is our art director. His name is Nero. Now, what does Nero deal with on a daily basis? Earlier this week Nero had to take a day off because one of his friends had to be buried. Nero is only 21 years old. With just three months past this year, Nero twice has been held up at gunpoint in his neighborhood in West Philadelphia. But he still finds time to come down to the office and to contribute.

All of these youngsters are very talented. But prior to their involvement with our company they lacked direction, and therefore their gifts were being used destructively. In just ten months of operation, we have been offered the opportunity to work with the in-house artists of the Walt Disney company to put "hip-hop" in Mickey Mouse. We also have been offered the opportunity to illustrate baseball cards by one of the largest baseball card companies in existence, and produce artwork for school supplies by a large licensing group. In addition, we are in the process of opening accounts with the J.C. Penney Company, K-Mart, Merry-Go-Round, and Spencers Gifts, to name a few.

The marvelous thing about this is that the kids are sharing in the profits and loving every minute of it. I am hard on them, but I am fair, also.

You see, sports was my vehicle both as a profession and as an aid in personal growth, through athletics on the public parks that Mr. Jordan spoke about. I got the opportunity, and I can remember one occasion we were down at the little league field. See, I was born in Carthage, North Carolina, a little small town, down in Carthage, North Carolina, to a family of seven. My father, who was 26 years of age with seven kids, he and my mother, eighth grade education. See, in the South they would take you out of school at the age of 13 in those days to work on the farm. So he had an eighth grade education.

And for some reason he realized that education was the way to go. He went back to school. He drove the bus. My older brother was in first grade at that time. They both went to school together and my father got his diploma.

We later moved to Connecticut. My father got a job as a postal clerk, and that is the money that he used to provide and raise us.

But I can remember when I was nine years old, my older brother was playing in the little league down at Cummings Park. And I remember this occasion because he stepped up to the plate. Here I was, my image of me was basically I was a young country snotty-nosed black kid, nappy hair, from the South, who said "yonder" and "over there," and they kind of made fun of us.

But my older brother got ahold of a high fast ball and hit it deep to centerfield. And I just can remember that moment because really it was the biggest moment I ever had in sports.

I played at the University of Southern California, participated in the National Football Championship, played 11 years in the NFL. I played in front of millions. I was captain of the Detroit Lions for three years while I was there. I had a great deal of accomplishments in sports. But the biggest point for me was when my brother hit that homerun because what it said to me was that I could ac-

comply, that I could do something, that I wasn't just a snotty-nosed, nappy headed, young, poor, black kid who really couldn't do anything. And just that vision of that did something inside of me. And I knew I was going to go on and do some things, and really that is what life is all about.

Not only there, but I can remember at the age of six going to the Boys Club. For some reason, I just remember the pool tables in the Boys Club. I don't know why but I remember it because they were clean, it was neat, and it just made me feel good that they let me in the door.

In addition, I can remember Rogers Junior High School because that is where I grew up, in Rogers Junior High School. See, where I grew up, we didn't have a backyard. Every day after school I would come home, grab something to eat and then I was off to the playground, and I grew up on that playground. I played football. I played basketball. I played baseball.

In fact, I went back to the junior high school and realized that they had ripped up the asphalt and put down grass. They should have did that in my day. It might have saved a few years on my career. But anyway, I can remember that.

I remember playing PAL football. I played on the PAL team in midget football, and our coach was Ken Loman. Ken Loman used to cry before every game. I couldn't understand the guy. He cried before every game. But it worked because we were 10-0 when I played for them and we were unscored upon.

And I can remember just recently I was getting ready for a presentation for the K-Mart stores out in Michigan, and I remembered—in my head, I could hear the boy's voice, because he always said, "Son, study the opposition. Preparation time is not wasted time."

Through athletics I learned how to attack a challenge. Basically, coming to the realization that failing wasn't something to be afraid of but not trying was.

Goal setting—establishing a bull's eye and striving until I hit it.

Team work—coming to grips with the fact that I can't win the game without the help and cooperation of others.

Finally, learning how to focus, ignoring the setbacks and discouraging words and just continuing to press forward for the end zone and not being dismayed.

These lessons are lessons of old. They occur daily on the playgrounds and recreational facilities throughout our great country.

A good friend of mine, Mr. Bill Cosby, sent along this note, and I quote:

"To whom it may concern: I understand that it is almost a kiss of death to give a very simple answer to something which seems so complex, but I have to go back to an old saying, 'an ounce of prevention.'" .

I can remember when I was six when I was in the first grade. I remember standing in the halls of Stevens Elementary School, and there was a large gentleman who also went to that school. His name was Andy Johnson.

Andy Johnson used to come to school every day with a trenchcoat. And the thing about that trenchcoat, what did that represent to me? Andy Johnson was strong. He was big. He was what I want-

ed to be, you know, and I esteemed to be like Andy Johnson. This is when I was six years old. Andy used to come through the corridors, everybody got out of the way. Andy was big and he was bad.

Well, Andy later on went on, he grew up, but Andy went the wrong way. I remember one night after a basketball game in high school we came out of the game—incidentally, we won—but we came out of the game and the girls were screaming. Everybody was crying. What was going on?

There was blood trickling down the street. See, Andy Johnson, as big and as bad as he was, had tried to rob a liquor store, and he had attacked a police officer who shot him right between the eyes. Andy Johnson was dead at the age of 19. Big, strong, probably one of the best athletes I had ever seen.

But you see, my involvement in sports steered me away from being another Andy Johnson because as I think of it, really physically I grew up to look a lot like him, because he was muscular, he was tall, he was strong, and that is what I wanted to be.

I would like to conclude by saying I think that Mr. Cosby's points were very eloquently and simply put. Let me say that we should not sacrifice another generation in order to jail a generation that may have been sacrificed in the past.

Thank you.

Mr. MILLER. Thank you very much for your testimony. You and Mr. Callaway can share another—Mr. Callaway can put up another plaque of his successful graduates, and that is Norville Turner, who is from Martinez, my hometown, who I watched play every high school game. He started out in the Martinez Boys Club. And if there is testimony to sports and the family and what has taken place, it is he and his brother, Ron, who is now with the Chicago Bears, and his nephew—the next generation—Chris, who just went to the University of Notre Dame as a graduate assistant. A really phenomenal story of a family in our small town.

Your testimony is really quite remarkable and it reads almost like an American novel. And yet it has not been part of the story for many years in the halls of Congress.

I think this is my fifth war on crime, and apparently the first four didn't go terribly well because we are now launching another one. And the component that was never addressed was this component, the opportunity to work with young children. We moved all of the resources, and if you look at the history of the Federal funding in these areas, all of the resources were essentially moved to dealing with the aftermath of crime.

And we think that we have an opportunity here, as I said earlier, to deal with this in a different fashion and to redistribute some of those resources. And I think what each of you have told us in a way is really the remarkable multiplier that we get out of the use of these dollars. That as you said, Mr. Callaway, and as the mayor said, we can do \$100,000 a cell or \$125,000 a cell or whatever it is, or the millions of dollars for "three strikes and you are out" over the life of the prisoner and affect one person. And obviously, separating them from society has some benefit.

But compared to the dollars and the multipliers and the numbers of young men and women that we can reach through these kinds

of activities, they are simply—they are not on the same chart. They can't be compared.

And the magic that you spend is the impact that sports has on young men and women. It is the homerun you never forget. It is seeing my son run out onto a little league field for the first time with his pants on backwards. He will never forget it, I know that. And he is going to kill me if I identify which son it is right at the moment.

But those are just moments that you can't—to take a police officer who is viewed as the enemy, and through a PAL program in Richmond, in my district, where they are teaching inner city kids to play golf because the PGA and PAL got together and they were able to develop this, and to see them become friends, to watch this happen is the magic again of the moments of the fun and games that Mr. Jordan talked about.

These are tools. And I think, as I said earlier, for the first time within this debate in the Congress we have the ability now to have law enforcement and prosecutors and public defenders and probation officers and juvenile justice people say to us give us some of these additional tools. That is the moment that we try to seize.

You know, there is a great song by Bruce Springsteen called "Glory Days," and certainly men, I think, just because of the discrimination that took place for many years in sports against women, but men certainly spend the rest of their lives talking about the glory days.

You can be 50 years old and you can run that 40 yards as fast then in your mind as you did when you were 17, 18, or 19. And those clearly formulate character and experiences that we cannot forget as part of our adult makeup.

Finally, let me just say this. That a couple years ago I asked—it is now several years—asked a new principal from Eastern High School, where we just had a tragic shooting yesterday, to come visit us. He was a graduate of Eastern High School and I had read in the *Washington Post* that he was now coming back as the principal, and I wanted to just talk to him about what that felt like.

And at that time, now probably a decade ago, we were discussing metal detectors at Eastern High, one time billed as the toughest high school in the country. And I talked to him about his kids. And he said, "You know, nobody wants to look at this, but I have young people at Eastern High who are going out to the University of Maryland and studying physics and studying German. They are going to community colleges. And these children all come from a census tract where probably 90 percent to 95 percent of them are AFDC. They have one parent in the family and very low income."

And I said, "Well, how do you make the difference between the child that makes it to do that and the child that you have this problem with?" And he said, "I have interviewed people at home, and he said sometimes it is the sister, sometimes it is an aunt, sometimes it is a mother, sometimes it is an older brother, and sometimes it is a father by himself." He said, "The only thing I can tell you, Congressman, is the kids that are making it have somebody at home cheering for them, and saying, 'All right, you got a C. 'All right, you spelled all of the words right.' 'All right, you hit a homerun.'"

And sports provides that mechanism, and recreation and the things that you talked to us about this morning provide that mechanism to create somebody cheering for our children. And I think for better than a decade we have lost the notion of cheering on behalf of our kids. And with the kind of coalition that you represent, you know, we just have tremendous potential to reignite this issue.

I will never forget sitting in Mr. Puckett's fifth grade class when a fellow came to us and told us that he was going to create a club in Martinez, California—2,500 people—for us, and we could go there all the time. We could go there anytime we wanted to.

I will never forget thinking what they were doing for us. We would huddle and talk about this, and when was it going to be open? And we would go down and we would watch them reconstruct the old community college building.

And then we were inside with those pool tables. Great! Lost a lot of lunch money there. But, of course, I apparently didn't miss lunch in any case. But that is what childhood and adolescence should be about, reaping those rewards of the gifts of society.

And you are so right, Mr. Cobb, we cannot now think about punishing the next generation for what we failed to do in their formative years. I mean, it is just so clear.

And this coalition I don't think has been together in our public mind for 30 years, from PAL to Boys Clubs to nonprofits to the cities to the private enterprise. It is the first time that I think it has been reassembled and we have that opportunity.

And I just want to thank you very much for your help.

Mr. Vento.

MR. VENTO. I don't know if I can add much in terms of statements to the chairman's comments. I can always recall I came into a suburban type of community at a young age and we had a professional athlete that came and we were all going to be baseball players, I guess—without much equipment, I might add. Sort of a glove that looked more like a pancake. They really have shaped these things now.

But a catcher came and gave a description and showed his hand. He was a professional baseball player, and if you know what happens to a catcher's hand, it gets knocked all out of shape by catching. And it was sort of the realism of that. I mean it really is good to have the extension.

As I said, a lot of this goes on the base of reflected light. How do you get people involved as volunteers, sort of those that have some status?

I think what has happened today more so than ever, you know, during those many years ago when I was in that fifth grade class, as George was saying, is that people have really become more isolated. The era of sports, the gladiator sports like Tom McMillen talked about, has become more remote. People are more isolated. They don't bridge this.

And the question is how do we facilitate that? And clearly you have to do that by, as Mr. Jordan talked about, the collaboration and building the type of infrastructure, having the sort of facilities, and the involvement that is important for people that are more isolated. They are isolated because they don't have the extended family. So often they have a single parent family. They have problems

that put them out there, and don't tie them down to be able to get a start in their community, a positive feeling of some kind. So it is really the gap between what they are seeing especially being presented.

We weren't sort of under this constant bombardment of information about all these people that were successful and doing well. All we had was, probably the best was maybe a Bill Stern or something else, you know, that we listened to on the radio, and we didn't have this constant reminder of our shortcomings in terms of what was happening.

And so it really makes it tough today. I mean the perception of reality. But this ties it down, these sorts of events.

It has to be outside of a school setting in terms of relating to the community outside of the family, and the family may not be providing the support, as we know today, as it once was. So we have got to build those types of networks in a community.

Here we are dealing with what is happening with the programs we have. Well, one of the questions Mr. Jordan asked, Mr. Wilson, Mr. Spitzer, was what type of collaboration is there between, for instance, the Park Service and the Department of Justice? You talked about one program that had started dealing with troubled juveniles that are being treated with certain conservation and recreation programs.

But what can you tell us about the overall plan in terms of, for instance, the Urban Parks and Recreation Program? How does that fit together with HUD, who isn't at the table, or with the Office of Juvenile Justice?

Mr. Wilson, this is one of your principal responsibilities. What type of coordination do we have in these programs?

Mr. WILSON. Well, I think that one of the things that we are trying to emphasize that the Attorney General has talked about since she has taken office is that preventing delinquency and having healthy kids starts with prenatal care, and we are working very hard with other agencies to do collaborative programming, and the YES program is one example of that.

We have worked with Education on school violence. We collaborate with funding the National School Safety Center. So, there is a lot of building of those relationships to do, and it takes time. But we are working very hard.

Mr. VENTO. Yes, we pay a lot of attention to physical facilities like land and playgrounds in this rehabilitation program. As I said, a lot of great WPA projects are beginning to show the stress of time in terms of physical facilities, right?

Mr. WILSON. Yes.

Mr. VENTO. Like the Jacob Reese bathhouse. That is in Park Service ownership.

What has happened to recreational facilities in a place like New York? What would you say their status is today as compared to what they were or what they need to be?

Mr. WILSON. New York recently—the parks folks in New York recently completed a study I saw last week. That study looked at neighborhood, just the issue of neighborhood parks and they recommend \$3 billion to be spent to put a viable park in every neighborhood in New York.

Mr. VENTO. That is as much as an aircraft carrier, Mr. Chairman.

Mr. MILLER. It is cheaper to maintain, too.

Could Mr. Jordan and Mayor Smith comment on that in terms of the question of facilities, and then, of course, the operation and maintenance, the day-to-day providing of budgets to do that, and how does that lead to the underutilization and/or the ability to create new facilities?

Mr. JORDAN. On the facilities side we—in Portland, Oregon—we are about \$35 million in need of restoration funds, and I think we are pretty well-off compared to a lot of other cities, especially cities like New York.

I think the important thing for us to do first is to take a look at existing resources, not just what the city owns, but the churches, PAL, the YM and YWCA, the schools. Look at all the school facilities.

And that is what I am doing right now. And it may not be that we have that much of a shortage in Portland. Maybe we are trying to accommodate the customer too much. Allowing them to play when they want to play.

So we have got to look at Sunday afternoon, and we have got to look at Sunday evenings now, and we have got to look at ten o'clock at night and twelve o'clock at night. We need to do that first before we start constructing new facilities, because the operating costs will kill us. And so that is what we are doing right now in Portland is taking a look at what we already have and forming more partnerships.

In order to do that, though, you need some incentives, and those incentives normally are resources. If we have got the dollars, then we can buy capacity from other people. That is the way we do with PAL and the Boys and Girls Clubs. Before I start a new program I find out what capacity they have. If they can serve an additional hundred kids, so I'll just give money to them so that I don't have to hire another staff person.

And so that is where we are right now, in trying to identify and use more wisely what we already have before we ask for more money. So when we do ask we are very clear what we need and we can justify that.

The collaboration with law enforcement and criminal justice, as I indicated, in the past just hasn't been there. There has been no need. You have been giving all the dollars to law enforcement. I mean they get the attention. And so parks and recreation is not invited to the first setting at the table. We come after the meal is over, and then, "Oh, by the way, we should have some things for these kids to do."

And, if you are a proponent of community policing, which I am, that officer works with the entire family. That officer is going to see kids in those families who are doing nothing, no place. Instead of that officer going out trying to find programs, the officer should get on the phone and call someone in recreation or PAL, one of our strategic partners, and let us serve that need.

We need to move more closer toward a division of labor than we have right now. Instead of the housing authority and everybody else trying to set up their own programs, take a look at what is

there and what capacity is already there, fill that capacity before you start new programs and start new buildings.

Mr. VENTO. Mayor Smith, the chairman wanted you to respond as well.

Mayor SMITH. Let me approach it a little differently. What I have seen happening on a national level is that in the Jack Kemp administration of HUD he took a 180-degree approach to HUD and said public housing should be a place for people to stabilize their lives and move on into private homeownership, and that HUD should become involved in the programs that are essential to enrich and supplement the lives of at-risk children.

Now, in this Administration with Janet Reno bringing Justice into the picture and recognizing, in my opinion, for the first time that intervention and prevention are critical components, you now have a coalition between HUD and Justice, and I think that that has brought the other departments, the Interior Department and Transportation and the other Cabinet departments into the picture.

So I see a coalition forming at a national level, which is exactly the thing that we have to do in our cities with our departments. Our recreation department in the city of Fort Meyers leads and we have to bring along and teach the police department, which is equivalent to Justice, the housing authority, the public works, and code enforcement and the others to tie them together. So it is really the same thing that is happening at the national level that has to happen at the local level to implement these changes.

Mr. VENTO. Well, the basis is that we need some sort of a strategy, I mean we have a number of programs here like UPARR and the Land and Water Conservation Fund. They have actually some sort of a plan, and I don't expect that most of you are aware of it other than those that work with the public lands issues.

But did they try to integrate, for instance? Did they talk about the fact of looking at other recreation facilities before they make an award, Mr. Spitzer?

Mr. SPITZER. I would just comment from a piece of paper that Barry Tyndal gave me that, you know, the Ounce of Prevention Council being proposed in S. 1607 does not include the Secretary of the Interior on the Council.

Mr. VENTO. Well, I think it is important, that everybody be there to represent their own areas that they are working in. I think that insofar as we proceed with this we ought to ask what are you doing in terms of volunteers? How are you going to reach out?

Mr. Callaway how about the Boys and Girls Clubs—they, obviously, are working carefully now with the public housing programs in terms of HUD. But they are not really involved in terms of commenting or discussing rehabilitation or the operation basically of recreation facilities, right? Or lands?

Mr. CALLAWAY. Public housing—we are actively working with public housing facilities, currently existing facilities, to create clubs within them. Basically, you show me a public housing development and we will find space within that housing development to operate a Boys and Girls Club.

Mr. VENTO. Of course you need the club space, but you need playgrounds. Like you said, some of them do not have playground facilities, do not have open space facilities that could enhance, per-

haps not critical actually, but they would greatly enhance the activity.

Mr. CALLAWAY. They would greatly enhance the activity. As a matter of fact, a lot of our clubs struggle with transportation needs to take kids from the public housing development to that urban park. Tampa does this. We have several clubs in public housing in Tampa and they have a "super kid" van that they will take out to go take the kids from the public housing to the parks to actually recreate in the park and pick kids up at the park and take them back to their clubs.

Mr. VENTO. I just think it is important. I think what is demonstrated here is, first of all, a lot of volunteerism. You have got a lot of good will in terms of leadership. But you have got to provide it in a format where it is going to be successful.

Some of the groups, like the PAL program, have been working for a long time on their own. I think they have always recognized the need to reach out in a different way and provide a positive contact with young and youthful, potential youthful offenders. So, even sometimes after the fact it has been a positive orientation.

Well, I have taken more time than I should. But I greatly appreciate, Mr. Cobb, your presence and the role and the work that you all have done and are doing. Obviously, we have convinced one another. Now, if we can get the other 433 Members of Congress to go along.

Mr. MILLER. Let me again just thank you, and hopefully get you to appreciate, I think, how important your testimony is to this immediate debate that the House—as we sit here debating this, the subcommittee, I believe, in Judiciary is marking up the first portions of the crime bill, and we have been having these discussions back and forth between the committees to try to fold these concepts and resources into that. And they have done an already marvelous job of sort of pushing back all of the barriers between agencies for this kind of participation.

So this is an important event in the life of this committee, and I want to thank you very much.

And, Mr. Callaway, let me just thank you for mentioning Bob Hatch, who is the President of our Boys Club, who I spent a good portion of this past weekend hiking and picnicking with on the mountain in the middle of our district. He is a great guy, and great with the young people there.

Thank you very much for all of your testimony. We really appreciate it.

Mr. VENTO. The next panel will be made up of Mr. Gil Walker, who is the executive director of the National Association of Midnight Basketball Leagues; Ms. Barbara Moran, director of Human Services for the great city of Richmond, California; Mr. Andrew Sansom, who is the executive director of the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department; Ms. Carolyn McKenzie, executive director, Soccer in the Streets, and Mr. Robert Nunn, who is the national chairperson of the Roundtable Associates.

Welcome to the committee, and thank you in advance for your time and your trouble and your willingness to work with the committee on this subject.

Mr. Walker, we will hear from you first. Any written testimony you have will be put in the record and you can proceed in the manner in which you are most comfortable.

Welcome.

PANEL CONSISTING OF GIL WALKER, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF MIDNIGHT BASKETBALL LEAGUES, ACCOMPANIED BY NELSON STANDIFER AND MICHAEL STEWART; BARBARA MORAN, DIRECTOR, HUMAN SERVICES DEPARTMENT, CITY OF RICHMOND, CALIFORNIA, ACCOMPANIED BY DIANE HARRISON; ANDREW SANSOM, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, TEXAS PARKS AND WILDLIFE DEPARTMENT; CAROLYN MCKENZIE, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, SOCCER IN THE STREETS; AND ROBERT NUNN, NATIONAL CHAIRPERSON, THE ROUNDTABLE ASSOCIATES, ACCOMPANIED BY CAROL HALL LOWE

STATEMENT OF GIL WALKER

Mr. WALKER. Thank you. To the Honorable George Miller, Honorable Bruce Vento, members of the Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations and the House Committee on Natural Resources, good morning. Or is it good afternoon? I am not sure.

I bring you greetings from my boss, who is Vince Lane, the Chairman of the Chicago Housing Authority; the Mayor of Chicago, the Honorable Richard Daley; and the 155,000 residents who reside in public housing in Chicago.

I am the director of the Sports and Recreation Department for the Chicago Housing Authority. I am the Commissioner of the Chicago Housing Authority Midnight Basketball League. I am also the Vice President and Chief Operating Officer for the National Association of Midnight Basketball Leagues.

Back in 1987, Vince Lane came to Chicago Housing, and he made a promise, if you will, to shift the emphasis from bricks and mortar to people. One of the problems we had in public housing when Vince Lane came on board was that the gangs had taken over the public housing. It was so bad in Chicago that the maintenance people couldn't get in the facilities to change a light bulb.

Well, he set about doing something about that. He removed these guys from the facilities. He got all the unauthorized residents out of the building. But it is one thing to say no to something. People have to say yes to something else.

Mr. Lane happened to be in New York on a particular occasion and heard about this program called the Midnight Basketball League and asked us to investigate it and we did. I met a guy by the name of G. Van Standifer in 1986. He was a retired town manager in Glenarden, Maryland, and he was concerned about the problem of young men killing each other. He wanted to do something about the violence in his community.

He took a look at some of the conditions that were happening in his small community of Glenarden, and what he found out was between the hours of ten to two that is when crime was most prevalent in his community, and also young men between the ages of 17 and 26 were committing these particular crimes.

So he came up with an alternative called midnight basketball, get these guys off the streets into a gym, and then maybe he could have some type of positive impact on their life. Basketball just being the hook.

Well, we heard about the program and we investigated it and worked with Mr. Van Standifer quite a bit to develop the program in Chicago. But for the program to come to Chicago there were certain adaptations that had to be made. You see, we are a little arrogant in Chicago. We feel we play basketball better than anybody anyplace else in the world. After all, we are three-time NBA champs.

But in any case, we had to bait our hook just a little bit more than they did in Glenarden, Maryland, because our problem was just a little bit tougher. So we came up with the concept, if you will, that we are going to copy the NBA. We are going to do everything they do in the National Basketball Association. Not to put anything in these guys' head that if, in fact, you get your game together, you may go on to the NBA. But the NBA represents the very best in basketball and we wanted our program, the Midnight Basketball League, to represent the very best we could do or be also.

Please keep in mind that basketball is just a hook, and we use basketball simply because it is the sport of the target population we are trying to reach. I make no apologies about basketball. It is our game. It is our national pastime. If you put a basket up in the middle of the Mojave Desert, within five to ten minutes someone would be there dunking a basketball, as Mr. Van Standifer very well put it.

In any case, so our hook had to be stronger. But the Midnight Basketball League is not a rehabilitative program. It is a preventive program for young men who are seriously trying to get their life together.

Yes, we give them gym shoes. Yes, we give them uniforms, warm-up suits, 14-carat gold rings for the championship. We have mandatory workshops. We have all of that.

But the most important thing about our program, and the reason why it works is because, very corny, athletics build character. It really and truly does. Our program is a no-nonsense program that has strict rules, regulations, and guidelines. If you are late, you don't play. If you get caught with drugs, just like the NBA, we bounce you off the program. We suffer from tunnel vision, if you will.

One of the things that is significant about our program is that these young men are between the ages of 16 and 26. Even though they are in that age group, for the most part society feels that they have had their opportunity, maybe they failed society or society failed them, and most people are focusing in on that younger group.

In Chicago and most urban communities this is the age group that controls that nonsense that is going on out there. These guys are role models in their community whether they want to be role models or not. It is very nice for Scotty Pippin to come into our community and do workshops. We want Scotty Johnson, the guy who lives in that community and understands what is going on.

Character is the thing that we stress more so than anything else. We have mandatory workshops that these young men go to either before the game or after the game. In these workshops we are giving them life skills.

Now, why do we have their attention so much? Why is it that I could go into Chicago, right there in what we call, quote-unquote, the cesspools of our community, right there in public housing, and work with these guys who are unemployed, underemployed, disenfranchised, all of them are gang affiliated, all of them have had some type of problem with the law prior to midnight basketball?

Why are we so successful with them? Well, they are crying out for discipline. They are sick and tired, tired and sick of the things that are going on in their community also.

And believe me, these guys are well entrenched in gang activity and that type of thing, but they do want to make a change. The public who live in public housing are no different than people who live anywhere else. They have the same wants, desires, and goals as anyone has.

Because our rules are strict, because we are enforcing the regulations, they are abiding by them. Now, it is important, you cannot superimpose a program on anybody. You must go into that community. You must sit down with those participants, and they must sanction the program.

One of the things about guys who are involved in "gang activity," and our midnight basketball, please understand, is no more than an organized sophisticated gang but a positive gang. One of the reasons for this is because once they give their word and buy into something, the facilities out there are safe haven facilities. We have no problems before, during, or after the Midnight Basketball League.

In Glenarden, Maryland, the first year of the program, I think it cut crime between 40 and 50 percent. We are not able to measure those type of statistics in Chicago simply because of Chicago being so big. But since 1989, gentlemen, I have had over 720 young men involved in the Midnight Basketball League and not one has been in trouble for any reason after being involved in the program.

We go back to the very basics with the program. I have 400 young men trying out for 160 positions in a year's time. If it is not a basketball program, how do I get it down to 160 guys when 300 and 400 are trying out? Well, we run a boot camp. We create the facade that this is our NBA right there in public housing.

I check fingernails. I show them how to brush their teeth, comb their hair. We are undergirding manhood, what manhood is all about.

For the first ten practice sessions, they don't see a basketball. Some of them say, "This guy got to be crazy. These drills we are going through and so forth and so on, I am not coming back."

This program is not for the hardcore. The hardcore, we have our prisons for that. This is as simple as that.

But we have got marginal individuals out there who need another chance of getting their life going in the right direction. Once they are involved in the Midnight Basketball League, if they are doing the right thing, we are going to help them. Help them by pro-

viding milk for their babies, job referrals, getting back into school, whatever it takes, as long as they come to us. We are a glorified, if you will, referral service.

Now, not only do we capture that one person. Okay? I have heard testimony talking about their family concept. All this goes into it. People come out and watch them. It is a happening in our community. It is really what is going on.

Now, the midnight basketball is a late night program, non-traditional hours. It is on everybody's mind because it works.

May I say one brief thing about facilities? Yes, we need more facilities. Yes, we need more recreation areas. But along with that please put some emphasis on the people who are working in those facilities. We cannot abdicate our responsibilities anymore.

People are always telling me I am afraid to do this, I am afraid to do that. We are adults. We have got to reclaim our communities and enforce all existing rules, regulations, and guidelines. They don't run the Chicago Housing Authority. We run the Chicago Housing Authority. They don't run the schools. The teachers should run the schools.

We need support. We need training for those individuals who are out there on the frontline recreating with those folks, be it Boys Clubs, be it YMCAs. You can't pay an expert in prevention programs \$6.50 an hour. That is obscene. So, if you are going to create these facilities and make these facilities beautiful, make sure you put some resources in developing and supporting the individuals who run those facilities.

Now, I have to move on very quickly, because I have got the Commissioner of the Glenarden program here. His father founded the program. But more importantly, we have an actual participant who played in midnight basketball, and I think it would be more than appropriate for each one of them to say something.

Mr. STANDIFER. Mr. Chairman, committee members, fellow speakers, and distinguished guests. My name is Nelson Standifer and, as Mr. Walker said, my late father founded the Midnight Basketball League when he was the town manager of Glenarden.

To give you an understanding of the impact that midnight basketball has had on Glenarden, I would just like to cite to you a few statistics that have been compiled by the county of Prince George's in which Glenarden is located.

In 1986, the first year that midnight basketball was implemented in the town of Glenarden there were—the town of Glenarden is a town of 5,000 residents. There were 1,911 reported crimes in our community. The following year, the second year that midnight basketball was enacted, there were 793 reported crimes. That is a drop of 60 percent.

My late father always told me to not argue with emotion, but to argue with fact. I believe that statistic alone is fact enough to give you an understanding of the accomplishments we have made.

In 1990-91, I have statistics also from the county of Prince George's, and these statistics index crime on murders, forcible rapes, robberies, break-ins, and so forth, and those statistics show that during the hours that midnight basketball is going on in the community these crimes either level off or drop during the hours that midnight basketball is being played.

Mr. Jordan made a comment about trying to put these young men in a win-win situation. Well, we feel that midnight basketball does that. We don't measure a win by the point spread. We measure a win by the players' character, their attitudes, instilling morals, responsibilities and giving them a future, and showing them that they have a future even at this critical age in the times and environments that they live in. We do this by bringing in experts from the police department, from the county, wherever we can find them, who volunteer their time at ten and eleven o'clock at night to come in and talk to these players.

I believe midnight basketball works. As much as we have not had the funds to follow all of our players to be able to say this percentage of them are continuing on with their lives. I can tell you that we now have former players that are police officers, that are in institutions of higher education, that are working full-time. They are no longer on the streets, and they do see a future for themselves and they now believe in themselves.

Without repeating anything else that Mr. Walker has said, what I would like now is to turn this over to Mike Stewart, who was one of our players. He can give you a firsthand account of what midnight basketball has done for him.

I personally thank you for your time. And I would also just like to say that in 1989 President Bush came out to Glenarden to see midnight basketball in action. He was so impressed that he made midnight basketball the 124th "point of light" against drug abuse. I invite you all to come out and see what we are doing to let you know that it is not just an idea, but it is a community together: the police department, the park and planning commission, businesses, and families working together to make midnight basketball a success.

Thank you.

Mr. MILLER. Thank you.

Mr. STEWART. Mr. Chairman, my name is Michael Stewart. I participated in the Midnight Basketball League for three years. Then, as a coach last season, we won the championship. It was my first year coaching. It was real hard because some of the players that I coached I actually played with the year before, and they gave me a hard time. So it was real hard for me to do that.

The thing that the Midnight League has done for me is it gave me character. It gave me a sense of direction, you know. I know what I want to do in life now. I know things that I want to accomplish in life.

I mean it is a lot of things that—it's brought me closer to people I never knew before. I have made new friends that I never knew before, you know. I mean I have a lot of respect for a lot of people.

It kept me off the streets at night. It is not targeted just for the players to keep them off the streets. People come in to watch these games and it keeps them off the streets too, from getting hit by an innocent bullet or whatever, you know. They end up doing something positive with their time, too.

Thank you.

Mr. MILLER. Thank you. Thank you very much.

Mr. WALKER. That kind of concludes my testimony, and we will be available for questions.

Thank you.
Mr. MILLER. Thank you, Mr. Walker.
Barbara.

STATEMENT OF BARBARA MORAN

Ms. MORAN. Chairman Miller, Chairman Vento, we brought you some good weather I see outside. I am delighted to represent the city of Richmond, California, located in the Bay Area of San Francisco and in the district of Chairman Miller.

It seems like it would be utopia to live in the Bay Area of San Francisco. This is the home of Chevron USA. In the 1940s, a thriving boat building society. Now, an area that is predominately minority, that is overrun by crime, that drive-by shootings are a daily occurrence.

I represent myself and one of our department division heads is with me, Diane Harrison, and we want to tell you a little bit about what we are doing. I want to tell you about the kids we are working with, not what it was like for us, but what we are dealing with.

I have been in the city only a few years, but the very first month that I was there when we began to work on this project I turned to one of the youngsters that we were going to be working with, and I said, "Well, what do you want? What is something you want?" He said, "I would just like to live till 20, lady." He said, "I would like to be safe."

We have late night programs and late night basketball as part of this small grant from UPARR. What we have chosen to do is to take the grant, since it has become available to us, and to initiate nontraditional programs to see if they will work, and then move them in to replace other programs as we are assured that those needs are also met.

As our budgets in parks and recreation departments throughout the country decrease, we need to take very careful steps to plan for the leisure needs of our community. And it doesn't necessarily make us have the opportunities like UPARR monies—which is also a demand match from a private corporation—to try these nontraditional programs.

You have heard a lot about sports today, we do that. We do late night. We do programs for both men and women, young men and women, and boys and girls. We see our high-risk youth, by the way, as starting at age six. The Little Locos, which is a local junior gang, starts bringing in their kids at seven or eight. We have gang members that are male and female. We have a large Laotian population, Filipino population, Latino population, as well as an African-American population.

The kinds of things that we are doing are not the run-of-the-mill things. Actually, they are things that you would find in an upper middle-class neighborhood. We have tried mountain biking with the Sierra Club. They had the bikes, we had the kids. After the kids went out they said, "We like this. We want the bikes. We want our own leadership, however." So the key to our success has been to bring in young minority leaders, recent college graduates, and have them run with the kids. Not some old person like myself that may not remember what it felt like, but somebody that can be a role model, that can actually feel for them, that came out of their

neighborhood, that knows that we had to spend 15 or 20 minutes with the Sierra Club explaining that there is a certain amount of care before they went out about these bikes or what they came with won't be what they left with. That they had to understand that maybe our kids would pack, and I think we all know what packing is. But we now have metal detectors in all of our schools. This is such a serious problem.

Things that we have done involve gourmet cooking. The kids are cooking instead of running home and then they are cooking at home. Because most of our kids, their parents work. Either they have one parent, a foster parent, an adoptive parent, or a caretaker. But they all work. So they are learning how to cook.

They are learning marine biology. They are going mountain hiking. We are a port. We take 20 kids out there and they have never seen the water side in their own city. We have a regional park that they are beginning to learn about, but it is under a tunnel and tunnels are not safe. And they have to have a lot of care and a lot of encouragement.

We are using our centers as one-stop shopping with a hot-line for kids, run by kids, employed by kids, and now we are going to add through a recent offensive that our new city manager is taking called a "Full Court Press Against Crime." We are going to bring in the redevelopment agency, the planning agency, and all the other city services that are needed in the community, and the community will come there because we are leisure. We have put the "r" back in recreation. We don't have to call it something else. I am the human services director. I have been a number of other titles. But what we provide is recreation, and most crimes happen when people are in their leisure time.

We work as a grant agency to our nonprofits. I am concerned about the role of the nonprofit. All of ours were cut 30 percent by the United Way. We need to prepare this money in such a way that when it is given out it begins to look at every State and every community and what they have.

Don't dictate to the nonprofits. You would kill ours. If they had to oversee this money, they would go under, because as it is now we are bringing them into our centers without any rent so they can survive, that they can provide their services.

Our Boys and Girls Club went bankrupt. It has now been taken over by three other nonprofits. But they are really starving to death, and they do some of the things that we in government can't.

I look at government as picking up the needs that are not met by anyone else and doing it in nontraditional ways. I have two sons. They didn't like school. The kids I deal with don't like school. They like to play outside. They like the center. But they are not going to be in traditional areas. We ask that you look in terms of once this money is appropriated how it is used and use incentives.

UPARR requires a match. It is a 30 percent match. But that increases that money. Land and Water requires a 50 percent match in the States. That doubles that money. Think about the match and where we can go and develop partnerships. Stop making us compete against each other. We could develop linkages and go out and share staff. We don't have to be separate.

Now, I would just like to give you a little human interest. Diane Harrison is the head of all of our centers. This is a woman who is committed to this city, was raised there, and very quietly and carefully at the end of my first week as I drove through the city, reached over and locked my door.

Ms. HARRISON. Good afternoon, Chairman Miller. It is a pleasure to be here. Good afternoon, Chairman Vento.

I just want to take a couple of steps back from Barbara's statements, and I just want to kind of give you an overview of the "Youth in Crisis Project," which has proven to be a very successful project in the city of Richmond.

Our anticipated goal was to actually only serve 400 kids, and we served exactly—in fact, not exactly. We have probably gone over our record. We have served 600 kids.

We exceeded our goal by 50 percent. I am going to tell you why I think this is very important.

In Contra Costa County, West Contra Costa alone in 1993 we had 121 homicides. Out of that 121 homicides, 90 were residents of the city of Richmond. To shock you even a little bit more, 50 percent of those residents were teenagers. That is why this project is so important and why we exceeded our goal.

This project was actually conceived by the young people themselves. They were empowered. And these were youth from all throughout the city of Richmond. We brought together social, economic, ethnically, and culturally diverse youth from throughout Richmond. Some of them were from the North Richmond area, which is a very high crime, low income area. We have had people also that came from the May Valley area, which is kind of to the north side of El Obrante, and through this—and I am talking about bringing two different groups of kids together that both have different expectations, and bring them together to share one vision, to reduce the crime level in Richmond.

Some of the other accomplishments through this program was the fact that we were able to bring together the African-American, the Laotian, and the Hispanic community under one umbrella. We established a meaningful relationship.

Most of the programs that were developed, or a majority of the programs that were developed were all developed with an emphasis on character building, personal and social responsibility, goal attainment, self-esteem, and these were proven in our program. A good example is that—this is a real interesting one. Barbara talked about the Sierra Club and the bicycling. Well, there were about six kids that were on this trip, and I don't know if you are all aware that they are provided with bicycle helmets and gloves. I think five pair of the gloves disappeared, and two of the helmets disappeared, and, of course, they could not take the bikes, right, because they had to put the bikes back in the van with them.

And again, when we go back we talk about not only, you know, social responsibility, personal responsibility, we talk about goal attainment. They went out there. They attained their goal. Their self-esteem went up. They felt good. But at the end there was one slip in their character.

I think they waited at the park for two hours because the story that was told was that if there is no gloves and no helmets we will

stay here until they arrive. And it got later, and it got darker, and I don't know if you are aware that—it was a new exposure, being out in the woods late at night with no flashlights. It can get pretty scary, right? So there is one story.

Another story that we had, we have kids, and, again, in Richmond there is a high concentration of children that are living in poverty, and this is why this type of program works. We are going to go farther on past the recreation.

We do have recreation teams, and as with late night basketball, we try to instill discipline, self-confidence and all that good stuff. Well, sometimes we have some individuals that really don't know about self-responsibility. And when I talk about self-responsibility, I talk about hygiene. I am talking about becoming a young man.

Well, after a basketball game you had to shut down the gym because these young people just did not know about it. So, without imposing ourselves upon or informing them that, you know, this is not the right way to maintain yourself, we incorporated kind of a little component where everyone had to take a shower after the basketball game. And at one time it was like during the practice you would come in, you would practice and you would leave. Well, now it is required that everyone comes in, practices and takes a shower, and part of that is again to instill hygiene into these young men.

And I think one of the key things too that makes our program—I am going to try to keep mine real short, and I would like to kind of read it to you.

This is what we have made and will continue to make every attempt to run our programs with this belief in mind. If the youth can begin to see that there truly exist a whole world of options available to them, and that they have the power to take control of their own lives, if they can benefit from programming that they themselves helped visualize, and if the youth can see that even once the program itself is gone they still have concrete evidence of their progress in this world, then we all know we have done something positive for the youth in their life.

Mr. MILLER. Thank you.

Mr. Sansom.

STATEMENT OF ANDREW SANSOM

Mr. SANSOM. Yes. Chairman Miller and Chairman Vento, thank you for the opportunity to speak before you today. While it will be impossible for me to give you the kind of eloquence that you have heard with the last couple of panels, I can speak, I believe, Chairman Vento, to some of the traditional efforts and programs that you have mentioned in the earlier discussion.

Like traditional outdoor recreation and conservation agencies throughout the country, we at the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department are reacting to profound demographic changes as well. I have submitted a statement for the record which details some of the statistical information related to our agency, but I will briefly summarize for you.

In Texas, it may surprise you that 80 percent of our population now lives in urban areas. In addition, 25 percent of the families in Texas are headed by single parents, 81 percent of which are fe-

males. As a result of these and other factors, 13 percent of all crime in Texas now, violent crime, is committed by juveniles between the ages of 10 and 16.

Partially in response to this, and in an effort as well to develop new users of our parks and recreation areas in the out-of-doors, we have begun to target those populations. And last year, through programs in which we took a direct role in bringing children to the out-of-doors, we took some 300,000 children hunting, fishing, camping, hiking, rock climbing, and athletic participation of various kinds.

These programs are based on three principles. The first is mentors and role models. Mr. Chairman, several years ago I was on a playground in Austin, Texas, where I live, with my daughter, who was 16 years old at the time, and we were talking to some children from the inner city, and they commented on the fact that she was 16 and each was talking about what they might do—these children were about 8 years old—when they became 16 years old. And, of course, my initial thought was that you could get a driver's license in Texas.

Well, one of the children remarked that what he looked forward to was being in prison, and the reason for that was because of all of the older males in his family that had been what had happened to them, and so that was his expectation.

And so as a result of this insight and others, Mr. Chairman, employees throughout our department have begun to create role model situations in traditional parks and outdoor recreation areas. One such program is the "Buffalo Soldiers." In Texas, in the late 19th century, many of our western forts were manned by African-American calvarymen. In fact, Colin Powell left office with a portrait of the "Buffalo Soldiers" on the wall behind his desk.

Today, these employees go out to those parks, those forts, and even to inner city areas throughout our State and appear and reenact programs that those calvarymen would have engaged in in the 19th century, for children who have no knowledge of that aspect of their history, who have no knowledge that there were heroes who engaged themselves in Indian battles and other major aspects of Texas history, in order to provide for them a vision that they have not previously had.

A second type of program and concept that we use is called "Rites of Passage." We believe very strongly that children will find some way to prove themselves in competitions, as you have heard this morning. For us that means, perhaps, the opportunity to go out and climb a cliff for the first time, or to catch a fish, or to shoot an animal in an ethical hunting situation.

During the Christmas holidays we took some children, again from one of our urban neighborhoods in Texas, out fishing for the first time on a fishing and camping trip, and each one of them caught several fish. They were able to take them home. None had ever fished at anytime previously in their lives. And we had a wild-life biologist along who during the course of that experience explained to the children the life-cycle of the fish. They weighed them and gave them some insights into how these creatures were formed and how they survive. And one of the most important insights, I think, for me was that at a luncheon at the end of that

camping trip one of these children looked across the table to the wildlife professional and said, "How do I become one of those wildlife biologists?"

Finally, Mr. Chairman, we believe very strongly that these outdoor recreation areas, our parks, our inner city playgrounds, are settings in which children can form values. On that same fishing trip we had the opportunity to show these children an insight which I believe they will never forget. And that is, during the course of this fishing experience the kids were fishing along the shoreline and a number of insects began to land in the bushes, and as they landed in the shrubs we noticed at one point, and the biologist pointed out, that the bass would come up underneath the bushes and grab the branches and shake them so that the insects would fall into the water and the bass could feed.

We maintain, Mr. Chairman, that these places which you have supported their funding all these years are most importantly places where children can bond with responsible older children or adults, that they can form values, and that they can take responsibility for themselves and for their world.

Unfortunately, funding, as you know, in the last 15 years for those programs has virtually dried up and, as Barbara has said, funding these programs at the State and local level is the most efficient way for Congress to get directly to children, because we pay for 50 percent of the capital of the development of all those projects and 100 percent of the operations, and they deserve more than they receive.

Thank you very much.

Mr. MILLER. Thank you very much.

Ms. McKenzie.

STATEMENT OF CAROLYN MCKENZIE

Ms. MCKENZIE. Good afternoon, Chairman Miller and Chairman Vento, and the other special guests who are here seated behind me. On behalf of the children whom we serve in 30 major cities, and soon to be 50 major cities, across the Nation, "Soccer in the Streets" is here to ask you to seriously consider funding more recreational programs.

"Soccer in the Streets" is designed to help develop self-esteem, build character, enhance family unity, and develop discipline. We have developed a Soccer 101 curriculum for children, teens, and adults who have not been exposed to this world's number one sport.

Soccer is the fastest growing sport among youth in the United States, and our children in the inner city have not been exposed to it. That is absolutely sad.

We are determined to take the number one sport in the world, soccer, and make it available to every urban kid in the country. We collaborate with Boys and Girls Clubs, parks and recreation departments, SGMA, soon to be Midnight Basketball League, the Inner City games, YM-WCA, housing authorities, churches, schools, and all the other youth social service agencies in the cities that we go into.

We believe working together with these family-oriented agencies can provide a family structure for these children while they learn the world's number one sport.

We go to these agencies such as the Boys and Girls Club, parks and recreation centers, and we say to them we want your children because we know you don't have any money. So what we do, we go out and we talk to corporations, we find the money. We go back to the parks and recreation, we go back to the Boys and Girls Club, we go back to the housing authorities, and we implement these programs, just using their children and not their money, because we find the money ourselves.

We are using soccer as a ticket to college for our children. Soccer provides so many scholarship opportunities, and our children in the inner city can benefit from these types of opportunities. To assure that our children are academically competitive, we created an educational enhancement component called "Learning Is Fun And Exciting." One of our mottos is "Soccer in the Streets brings life to the game."

Statistics have proven that proper and consistent implementation of recreational programs can deter crime and drug abuse among our at-risk youth. I know we all know the answer to this question. What is an at-risk youth? An at-risk youth is a child with a lot of creative energy who has no structured environment in which to disperse his energy. Therefore, he uses this energy in situations that are inspired by his immediate environment, and we all know what these environments are: drug trafficking, gang involvement, theft, school absenteeism—and the list goes on.

Funded structured recreational programs, however, can provide a positive, consistent, and safe environment in which our at-risk youth can disperse their creative energies. Let's face the facts. Children have energy. That is a fact. We have two choices: allow the unstructured negative environments to partake of the creative energy of our youth, or provide ongoing, I repeat ongoing, funding for recreational programs to channel, to direct this creative energy in areas that will not only benefit our youth, but will also benefit our community and mankind by preventing children from becoming drug abusers and criminals.

Just like in the movie called "The Field of Dreams," fund—not f-u-n, but f-u-n-d—recreational programs, children will come. Fund the building of prisons, children will come.

Building more prisons is sending a statement to our youth. Funding recreational programs will also send a statement. Which statement should we send? A classic example. Mr. Sansom said that the little boy said when he grew up he wanted to go to prison. You build prisons, children will come. You fund programs like ours, children will come.

You have the power to choose one of the two. Which will you choose? We hope and pray—I repeat, we hope and pray that you choose the latter. Choose "B." Provide ongoing funding for recreational programs so we can use sports to help kick drugs and crimes out of our communities.

I speak here on a personal note. I grew up on public assistance. I wanted to be in track; my mom couldn't afford it. I wanted to be a cheerleader; she couldn't afford that. I wanted to do everything, and she couldn't afford it. So I said, "When I grow up I am going back to the inner city and I am going to provide sports," so that is what I have done. And I have committed the rest of my life to

make sure that those children who cannot afford to pay to participate in organized sports won't have to think about the money. They have the energy, they have the skills, and all they need is the exposure.

Once I was introduced to soccer, I was inspired to design a T-shirt, and as you can see it says, "Let's kick drugs and crime out of our community. Get involved in Soccer in the Streets." The children, as you can see, are kicking drugs and crime out. The words "drugs and crime" are coming from under the ball with the dirt particles. We are teaching the children that they have the power to kick drugs and crime out of their communities by not getting involved. But it takes money to do that.

Thank you.

Mr. MILLER. Thank you very much.

Mr. Nunn.

STATEMENT OF ROBERT NUNN

Mr. NUNN. Mr. Chairman, I am pleased to have the opportunity to participate in this hearing, and I speak as chairman of the Roundtable Associates, Incorporated. RTA is an organization that strongly believes that quality urban recreation programs can certainly diminish crime in our cities.

In 1993, RTA convened a National Public Policy Workshop here on Capitol Hill. This was a workshop wherein our membership and selected other recreation, parks, and conservation professionals from across the country wrestled with the challenge of revitalizing urban communities. Any doubt we might have had as to the enormity of this challenge was quickly dispelled by the concerns and issues voiced by the workshop participants.

Mr. Chairman, we are indeed appreciative of this chance to express our support of this committee's vigorous efforts to make additional resources available to managers of urban parks and recreation service systems. We are even more appreciative of the opportunity to let you know that the extent to which your efforts are successful is terribly important to managers of urban parks and recreation service systems.

You should know, Mr. Chairman, this public declaration of support and appreciation is not offered without license or substance. The Roundtable Associates, Incorporated, is an organization whose membership consists of distinguished African-American recreation, parks, and conservation administrators, practitioners, and academicians, and this includes the directors and superintendents of recreation, park, and conservation systems in cities such as Los Angeles, California, Washington, DC, Oakland, California, Kansas City, Missouri, New Orleans, Louisiana, Cincinnati, Ohio, Indianapolis, Indiana, and Baltimore, Maryland.

In their own right and as members of RTA, each of these ladies and gentlemen are working desperately to improve the quality of life and opportunity for urban citizens through park and recreation service delivery, and it is our membership and their correspondingly intimate awareness of the deficient state of the urban recreation and parks estate across the country that lends credibility and justification to both our concern and appreciation.

Mr. Chairman, as we understand, this committee has convened this hearing to find out what organizations such as ours think of Federally funded programs such as the Land and Water Conservation Fund and the Urban Parks and Recreation Recovery Program. Sir, I believe it is safe to say that even with their limitations we believe both to be very valuable assistance sources with great potential for expansion in terms of accessibility and funding capacity. Still, when we consider the scope and complexity of the need for quality community-based recreation and park services, it is obvious that two plus two and even two more such funding programs would not be enough, and we should not lull ourselves into thinking any differently.

Mr. Chairman, I will reemphasize this point, and let me share the following comments I received from our associate in Baltimore, Maryland, who is director of that city's department of recreation and parks. She states:

"The positive opportunities for young people to enjoy parks and recreation have become a precious commodity in Baltimore. While the Land and Water Conservation Fund and Urban Parks and Recreation Recovery Programs have provided some respite, it is not enough. Our department has benefited from the UPARR rehabilitation and renovation grants and we have had one each for five years for a total of \$350,000. In fact, we could have used at least ten times that amount. Additionally, the ability to provide matching funds for these grants has become increasingly difficult."

I am sure that given the opportunity all of our associates would echo the concerns and needs by Ms. Perrett, and rightfully so.

Mr. Chairman, I would like to take this opportunity to introduce a distinguished member of our organization, Ms. Carol Hill Lowe, who is director of the department of recreation and parks here in the District of Columbia. I would like for you to give Ms. Lowe an opportunity to make a statement.

Mr. MILLER. Welcome, Ms. Lowe.

Ms. LOWE. Thank you. Thank you, Chairman Vento and Chairman Miller. I appreciate this opportunity. And I will be leaving in a few minutes to meet the mayor at two of our public schools. I would like to do this quickly, but I want to be fair to the citizens of Washington, so I would like to just quickly give you a profile of what is happening in the Nation's Capital.

We have 117 children under the age of 18 in this city and more than 25 children per day are abused or neglected; more than 100 children are arrested a week; a teenager gives birth every 4 hours; every 9 hours a juvenile is arrested for selling drugs; and a child is murdered every 3 days and 3 hours. And, quite frankly, that last statistic is changing day by day.

Twenty years ago we had over 100,000 two-parent families. Today we have less than 20,000 two-parent families in the District of Columbia. Over 100,000 children have moved with their family out of the District of Columbia in the last 20 years.

One in six children are poor in the District of Columbia, and 50 percent of all of those children—50 percent of those children—are on welfare, and their family, that consist of about four members, earn an average of \$10,000 a year.

Fifty-five percent of the children live in single-parent families, and 67 percent of all the babies are born to single women—a fifth to single teens.

We have more than 1 in 10 children in this city who are growing up without any parents, 400 in institutions and 2,100 in foster care. One child in 55 dies in the first year of life. That is twice the national average. In 1982, we had 87 children who died, 83 were victims of homicide.

Sixty-seven percent of our children scored at the third grade level in math during the early years, but by the sixth grade only passed math—well, fell below the 67th percentile. Fifty-five percent of our children graduate, and that is if you don't include the GED programs, and that is about 41 percent.

Now, having said all of that, I would like to emphasize that these young people that are committing the crimes that you hear about daily on the news and are in our schools represent only about one to two percent of our youth population. Quite frankly, the majority of our children go to school every day, are talented, honest, and, quite frankly, struggling with the mixed messages that they are getting from adults who say they care about children and won't put the money where their mouth is.

I have been director of this department for two years coming up this April. This will be my third year going in after April 6. When I joined this department, for my first summer I had no dollars to open swimming pools. Finally, I was able to get some from the Youth Initiative and funding that came from the Hill.

Last summer, as all of you know, I began the summer with the shooting at the swimming pools and I ended the summer with a shooting inside a gym at one of our public schools. And, as you know, the past two weeks have been absolutely horrible for all of us who live, work, and are trying to raise children in DC. And the children in this city are suffering deeply.

There are unreported guns and violence every single day. I was at midnight basketball last night and I am tired as hell. We have had alliances with the police department, with all other kinds of groups, trying to do everything we can, and as one staff member said to me recently, "All we have, Ms. Lowe, in our back pockets is the rapport that we have with the kids and the community."

I therefore inherited a department that is very complex. We have 88 recreation centers here, 32 in public schools, 6 in public housing; and then 10 additional programs in our public housing; and 50 free-standing recreation centers; 45 swimming pools, 20 outdoor, 10 indoor, 15 walk-throughs; 381 parks or nearly 2½ square miles of grass, and the trash that we are responsible for; 307 play courts; 22 early childhood, Head Start before-and-after school programs; a certified residential camp about 60 miles from Washington; 2 mid-night recreation centers; 81 ballfields; 17 senior centers; and numerous outreach and specialized programs. And these services vary across the city according to community needs, demands, infrastructure, staffing capabilities, and consumer participation.

But let me tell you what I have to work with. My budget is .7 of 1 percent of the District's budget, out of a \$3 billion budget. In the last 35 years we have lost over \$9.3 million, and yesterday I was in the city council fighting an additional cut of 5.8 which

would wipe out every single summer program this summer in the District of Columbia.

In October 1993, 424 employees, 50 percent of my appropriated staff, went off the workforce. Our budget was not proposed cut by this mayor, but I am still struggling with the priorities of this particular community and the issues that we are facing. I receive dollars from the Office of Youth Initiatives and UPO and other District agencies, and some small Federal funds, but I am still at .7 of 1 percent.

In the District of Columbia, the Nation's Capital, where you live, I live, the President lives, we have not one bowling alley, no indoor putt-putt golf courses, not a baseball batting cage, handball court, no roller skating rink, no computer and game room, no movie theater in Ward 8 where most of the kids live, or no recreation gym. We have gyms in the school, but no recreation gym in Ward 8. No olympic-size pool, no recording studio, and no all-night facility right here in the District of Columbia.

Most of our fieldhouses are one room, and they are in poor physical condition and do not meet the needs of our older teenagers. Participation in recreation therefore has dropped from 60 percent to 36 percent in 10 years due to the antiquated, unsafe, and noncreative programming of some of our recreational facilities.

And recreation programming costs range from \$4 per child for urban camps to \$2,000 per child for an entrepreneurial training camp with a stipend, far in contrast to the \$30,000 per child who is in a juvenile detention facility.

Most facilities in this city were built in the twenties, thirties, and forties. And the gentleman who was from the Park Service, we had our first playground here in 1902 and most of our facilities now are decaying and antiquated.

This compares nationally, and this is a UPARR study, to 84 percent of parks and recreation programs across the country—

Mr. MILLER. I am going to have to ask you to summarize, because we have got a real problem here. Mr. Vento and I have got to be at another meeting at two o'clock.

Ms. LOWE. Okay. I certainly understand that. But we are in line with most of the national facilities in terms of the status around the country.

I want to emphasize a couple of things that I have heard here, and that is the need for some very serious collaboration across agencies. Forget the politics or fighting. These children are watching us as adults fight and then they are fighting back in the streets again. And we need to have a push for collaboration among all of us, public, private, nonprofit, churches. It has got to be some new way of using even some existing resources. A collaboration is absolutely essential along with coalition building, and our young people are looking forward to that kind of thing.

The initiatives that are working nowadays are the initiatives that are different, that are cutting across agencies, that are cutting across turf, that are cutting across budgets, because we really don't matter, and the kids—to the kids, it doesn't matter where the money comes from.

I have money that comes from HUD, from Human Services, because you have to look for where expertise and where the facilities are.

These young people also need entrepreneurship programs. They want to make some money legitimately. They want some incentives. And for many of them that come from families that don't have anything, they need some incentive to continue to just go on. It is a fact of life in 1994.

We also need continuing late night programs and centers and camps, and we need incentives for those staffs that dedicate and devote themselves to working 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, because we are talking Saturdays and Sundays.

We definitely need some increased infrastructure. With the UPARR grant our city gets a little under \$500,000. But for the violence prevention piece we get \$30,000.

Mr. MILLER. I am going to really have to stop this because I have got to see if Mr. Vento has questions, and we simply have got to be in another room at two o'clock, and people have traveled a long distance. I would be glad to sit down and talk to you about this, but I just got to—

Ms. LOWE. Well, I don't want to shortchange the District of Columbia.

Mr. MILLER. I understand you don't want to shortchange the District. We have got to be out of here in ten minutes. And we can talk, you can come to my office. You are in the District. I am here five days a week. I just want to see if there are questions.

Mr. VENTO. No. I respect the work that all of you have done, with basketball, Mr. Walker, and your associates that are with you, the others, the young man, the experience. Obviously, Ms. McKenzie, you did attain your goal in terms of being a star cheerleader, and we very much respect your willingness to go back down and work.

And, Mr. Sansom was talking to the issues really. I really wanted to know whether or not they caught any of those bass once they found out where they were.

You know, as I was listening, Ms. Lowe, to your comments, and Mr. Nunn, we have visited about the need to rejuvenate and put the type of dollars in, where we talked about billions of dollars just needed for a city like New York, and I am certain that if Washington, DC, did its addition here you would find that in infrastructure we have a long way to go.

You can build it and they will come. But you know, it says something too about investing in the community and how people feel about their community, and trying to bring in individuals that can work.

But I must say that, you know, when we look at the numbers and all the sort of litany of statistics that you are giving us, it is easy to kind of, you know, to get dull and not listen. But you are sort of repeating problems faster than most of us could probably even think about solutions.

Ms. LOWE. That is what I have to deal with every day.

Mr. VENTO. Yes. And that is what we have to deal with too. And we are dealing with some more things on the floor in terms of the

budget and other goals that would make it even more difficult in terms of overpromising.

So I think the reinvestment and change in priorities may not be enough, but it has to be dealt with. But it isn't just Washington, DC. It is St. Paul, Minnesota. And it isn't just people of color. It is the rural people in Minnesota as well. What is happening today here will be happening there tomorrow. That is what we are seeing. It is just absolutely progressing, when you look at the numbers that Mr. Sansom is giving us of Texas in terms of one quarter of the families without two parents.

We are trying to deal with one aspect of it. It is so difficult to react to the violence that we are facing, you know, having a psychological battery when someone's got a gun in your face isn't going to work with the population. And unfortunately, we are on a thing now where one of the things in the crime bill is to even make it the death penalty for killing a Member of Congress. Well, hopefully, not figuratively. We can probably still do that.

But that is the sort of problem that we are dealing with. And in my State, Justice Blackmun is from Minnesota and from my district, and I agree with Justice Blackmun in terms of his statements on the death penalty.

So there is a lot going on, but we are going to have to really step forward and deal with some of those priority changes. And the District is going to have to get its act together, too. And it hasn't got it together. Tennis tournaments and stadiums and the money that is going into that, and that is what we are getting. And we are putting millions of dollars into that particular project when there are other things in this city for a honey pot for who? For the suburbs, you know.

And so let's not let them use the District and these programs as an excuse. If they are going to do something, let's make them do something for the people in this city, whether it is building that stadium that they wanted to build out here or other things. You know, those take on a priority. But what about the people that live here.

So the city has to get its act together. We are standing up and we are ready to work with you, but we need to hear the priorities and some courage in terms of these issues, too.

Ms. LOWE. I think it takes a collaborative effort. I agree with you on that.

Mr. VENTO. Yes, it sure as hell does.

Mr. MILLER. Let me just say that the reason this panel is here is because eventually, hopefully, if we are successful in getting both authorization and appropriations for these programs, you represent kind of where the rubber meets the road, and we are really going to need your input during this process.

And also, I think this panel has got to help us expand the notion of recreation. That, Barbara, as you said, it is nontraditional. There are a lot of kids. And the kids that we met with that came from the crisis center, you know, it was very interesting. They weren't much interested in sports, but they were real interested when we talked about other activities.

I mean what they consider sports—baseball, basketball, football—that wasn't kind of what they wanted to do, but they were

interested in exploring other options. And we have got to make sure just as we push back the bureaucratic walls and turf in this effort that we try to push back the notions of what is legitimate recreation, because a lot of our kids have a lot of different creative energies out there and they can't all be answered simply by the ball sports.

You know, there are all kinds of other activities that they can participate in, in what unfortunately now have become nontraditional forms. Again, when we were children those were available to you and those were kind of what you did. Those were activities based upon your curiosity and desire.

So let me thank you again very, very much for your time. I am sorry to cut this short like this, but we have got a real problem here with another meeting. And we look forward to continuing to work with all of you on this effort.

Thank you for your time, your travel and your trouble. Thank you.

[Whereupon, at 1:54 p.m., the subcommittees were adjourned.]

A P P E N D I X

MARCH 10, 1994

ADDITIONAL MATERIAL SUBMITTED FOR THE HEARING RECORD

**STATEMENT BY
THE HON. RICHARD POMBO (CA-11)
BEFORE THE
SUBCOMMITTEE ON OVERSIGHT AND
INVESTIGATIONS
AND THE
SUBCOMMITTEE ON NATIONAL PARKS,
FORESTS & PUBLIC LANDS
OF THE
HOUSE COMMITTEE ON NATURAL RESOURCES
ON
MARCH 10, 1994**

Mr. Chairman:

Thank you for holding today's hearing on urban recreation and crime prevention. I look forward to hearing the thoughts of our distinguished panel members, as well as my colleagues, on this extremely important and timely issue.

As you all know, this Committee room is often the scene of battles concerning how to best manage our nation's natural resources. One issue we can all agree on, however, is the need to end the ever-increasing tide of violent crime in our nation's urban recreation areas.

This hearing is an initial -- but very important -- step in our efforts to rebuild our inner-cities. In our discussions today, and in future hearings on this subject, it is my hope that we can seriously address the rising rates of criminal activity in our urban recreation areas so that people can take advantage of them without fear of violent crime, drugs, and gangs.

If we are truly serious about changing the lives of children in our inner-cities we can start by giving them an alternative to street life -- a safe place to play and learn. Thank you.

Committee on Natural Resources
Subcommittee on National Parks, Forests and Public Lands
Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations
March 10, 1993

Remarks by Ken Calvert

Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

I look forward to today's joint oversight hearing on Urban Recreation and Crime Prevention.

My district in Riverside County is one of the fastest growing in the United States. As a result, urban crime has become a major issue among my constituents. With the recent passage of the "Three Strikes and Your Out" bill by the California Legislature and the introduction of several crime bills in Congress, it is evident that crime is on the minds of all of our constituents.

It is apparent that societal changes are needed to reduce crime. In addition to improving our law enforcement and judicial procedures, improving our schools, providing after-school programs for youths, and strengthening the family will help contribute to reducing crime. In particular, how we can utilize the park system and public lands, to prevent our youth from becoming crime statistics is of great importance. I am also interested in learning how effective the Olympic Youth Development Center could be in this endeavor. It is in our interest as a committee that we pay special attention to the young people and generations to come.

Again, I thank the Chairman for holding this hearing.

SHAPING THE CITY



BY ROGER K. LEWIS

When 'Army Surplus' Is Real Estate

New Plan for Fort Belvoir Illustrates a National Dilemma

By Roger K. Lewis

When I was a kid, "army surplus" meant a minimally decorated store full of metal shelving piled high with cheap, kid-tempting stuff I thought the military didn't want any more: canteens, webbed belts, dull-edged machetes for hacking through suburban jungle undergrowth, camouflage jackets, sleeve insignia, helmets, mess kits and flashlights.

But not any more. Today, "army surplus" means real estate—tens of thousands of acres of it.

The Army's proposal for developing more than 800 acres at the Fort

Belvoir Proving Ground near Springfield is emblematic of a new national challenge.

What should be done with a rapidly expanding inventory of surplus federal land—underused or unnecessary military property often situated in valuable urban or suburban locations across the United States?

The Fort Belvoir Proving Ground, representing only a small fraction of that inventory, is typical. It raises all the issues that the disposition of any large parcel of real estate inevitably entails: ultimate control and ownership, potential uses, market feasibility, financing, zoning, design, adequacy of infrastructure, environmental

consequences and long-term benefits and costs to the surrounding community.

In October, *Architectural Record*, one of America's leading architectural journals, devoted several pages to exploring the implications of military base conversion, in particular highlighting the opportunities for creative urban design and architecture posed by military downsizing and base closures.

In an introductory essay, architecture writer Charles Lockwood notes that frequently "bases are ideal sites for commercial and residential de-

See LEWIS, P4, Col. 1

Of the existing buildings, 40 percent would be demolished, leaving behind only the most historic and serviceable structures. These preserved and modified buildings would be leased to public and private organizations engaged in research and education.

But there are conflicting points of view.

Some wonder why, during tough economic times, the government doesn't profitably sell off choice parcels of the Presidio—many would be extremely valuable because of location and view—for private commercial and residential development.

Others maintain that the entire site should remain as is, a national

See LEWIS, P8, Col. 1

SHAPING THE CITY

Fort Belvoir Plan Has Regional Impact

local citizens, private developers and, one hopes, talented planners and architects.

Yet something still is not quite right.

Consider the scope of the Army's project: "a new city" with 4,000 homes containing 7 million square feet of space; jobs for 30,000 people in 10 million square feet of office, retail and hotel space; extensive civic, park and recreational facilities and a \$300 million transportation system comprised of new roads and a monorail.

"The Army says that the project would turn near-vacant federal property into an urban center rivaling Crystal City," according to The Post.

Please, spare us another Crystal City!

And why are the Army and federal government not formulating plans for Fort Belvoir in a broader context? What about other surplus federal properties, military and nonmilitary, in the

metropolitan area? Is there a long-range, comprehensive plan that takes into account the regional galaxy of underused federal lands subject to conversion?

Finally, why is the region not concerned with the planning and disposition of Fort Belvoir, especially given the potential impact of such large-scale development on the regional economy and transportation system? What happens at the Proving Ground surely will affect Prince William County, Alexandria, Arlington and perhaps the District.

The Army's proposal for Fort Belvoir is not just a local matter. Integral to the regional scheme of things, this development should be part of a bigger picture.

Roger K. Lewis is a practicing architect and a professor of architecture at the University of Maryland.

F4 SATURDAY, MARCH 5, 1994

SHAPING THE CITY**Converting
Military
Properties**

LEWIS, From F3

velopment as well as parks and open space."

As an example, he cites the 4,738-acre El Toro Marine Corps Air Station in Orange County, Calif., abutting the city of Irvine and close to the business districts of Costa Mesa and Newport Beach. New uses proposed for El Toro include housing, office and industrial parks, college campuses and open space.

For 44-square-mile Fort Ord on California's Monterey Bay, Lockwood notes, there has appeared an imaginative, sometimes far-fetched "grab bag of options such as a Disney theme park, a cruise-ship pier, resort hotels, an Olympic training center, a university and a golf hall of fame."

Lockwood cites Boston's Charleston Navy Yard as a success story of "intelligent planning as well as government and local support and cooperation." Closed in the 1970s, the

The Army's proposal for developing more than 800 acres at the Fort Belvoir Proving Ground near Springfield is emblematic of a new national challenge.

former Navy site now contains more than 2 million square feet of office and research space, 1,200 dwelling units, a hotel, cultural facilities, a marina and a 16-acre waterfront park.

In Bangor, Maine, a hotel, an airport and a University of Maine branch campus now occupy Dow Air Force Base.

The editors at Architectural Record asked several architects to sketch hypothetical design proposals for transforming the 1,522-acre Ala-

SHAPING THE CITY**Conflicting
Views on
Conversions**

meda Naval Air Station, to be closed in 1997. On an island overlooking San Francisco Bay near Oakland, the Alameda base contains hundreds of utilitarian, architecturally uninspiring buildings—warehouses, maintenance facilities and base housing.

It also has environmental problems: dumps with unexploded bombs; toxic and radioactive wastes; a water table polluted with jet fuel; wetlands and endangered wildlife.

"Like most military bases," wrote Architectural Record editor Clifford A. Pearson, "Alameda has a mix of buildings that gives it the sense of a small American town."

Accordingly, each architect envisioned the Naval Air Station eventually becoming an even bigger town.

Why is the region itself not concerned with the planning and disposition of Fort Belvoir ... ?

a more intensely urbanized center linked to the region. Adaptive reuse would be combined with wholly new patterns of development, including park space.

In December, Washington Post reporter Christine Spolar reported on the plight of San Francisco's historic, 1,480-acre Presidio, in use as a citadel for more than two centuries—first by Spain, then Mexico and the United States. Next to the Golden Gate Bridge on the city's northwestern corner, the Presidio is at the end of its military service.

This landmark landscape encompasses an airfield, an 18-hole golf course, a pet cemetery and 850 buildings, including a bowling alley and hospital. The base is being turned over to the National Park Service, which hopes to make it a multi-use, "one-of-a-kind super urban park."

The Park Service wants 70 percent of the Presidio's land to be open, some to be replanted with native vegetation. The golf course and bowling alley would be accessible to the public.

**National Park Service
Contacts for UPARR Grants**

MID-ATLANTIC REGION
States of: CT, DC, DE, MD, ME, MA, NH,
NJ, NY, PA, RI, VA, VT, WV

Planning & Grants Assistance Div.
National Park Service - Rm. 302
200 Chestnut Street
PHILADELPHIA, PA 19106
Tel: 215-597-1955

SOUTHEAST REGION
States of: AL, FL, GA, KY, MS,
NC, PR, SC, TN, VI

Grants Division, 10th Floor
National Park Service
75 Spring Street
ATLANTA, GA 30303
Tel: 404-331-2610

MIDWEST REGION
States of: IL, IN, IA, KS, MI, MN, MO,
NE, OH, WI

Asst. Regional Director
for Recreation Programs
National Park Service
1709 Jackson St.
OMAHA, NE 68102-2751
Tel: 402-221-3201

ROCKY MOUNTAIN REGION

States of: CO, MT, ND, SD, UT, WY
National Recreation Programs Division
National Park Service
P.O. Box 25287
DENVER, CO 80225-0287
Tel: 303-969-2850

SOUTHWEST REGION
States of: AR, LA, NM, OK, TX

Asst. Regional Director
for External Programs
National Park Service
P.O. Box 728
SANTA FE, NM 87501
Tel: 505-988-6705

PACIFIC NORTHWEST REGION
States of: AK, ID, OR, WA

Recreation Programs Division
National Park Service- RP
909 Fifth Avenue
SEATTLE, WA 98104-1060
Tel: 206-220-4083

WESTERN REGION
States of: AMERICAN SAMOA, AZ, CA, HI,
NV, GUAM, N. MARIANAS IS.

Grants Branch
Planning, Grants & Environmental Quality
National Park Service
600 Harrison St., Suite 600
SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94107-1372
Tel: 415-744-3972

WASHINGTON OFFICE

Recreation Grants Division
National Park Service - 784
P.O. Box 37127
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20013-7127
Tel: 202-343-3700

**URBAN PARK AND
RECREATION
RECOVERY
PROGRAM**





The Urban Park and Recreation Recovery (UPARR) program was established in November of 1978 by Public Law 95-625, as a five-year, \$725 million program that provided matching grants and technical assistance to urban communities. The purpose of the program is to provide direct Federal assistance to cities and urban counties for rehabilitation of critically needed recreation facilities. The law encourages systematic local planning and commitment to continuing operation and maintenance of recreation programs, sites, and facilities. Three types of grants are available:



REHABILITATION grants (70% Federal and 30% Local) for close-to-home urban recreation sites that have deteriorated to the point where the recreator's health and safety are endangered or the quality of recreation services is impaired. Since the beginning of the program, some \$160 million have been awarded for 495 Rehabilitation grants to more than 250 cities and urban counties.

INNOVATION grants (70% Federal and 30% Local) cover the cost of personnel, facilities, equipment, supplies or services associated with the development of innovative cost-effective ideas, concepts, and approaches towards improved facility design, operations or programming for the delivery of recreation services. More than 170 Innovation grants totalling about \$25 million have been awarded to localities.



RECOVERY ACTION PROGRAMS

To be eligible to receive a Rehabilitation or Innovation Grant, each jurisdiction is required to have a current Recovery Action Program plan that demonstrates a commitment to revitalizing its park and recreation system. Planning grants provide funding (matching 50% Federal and 50% Local) to jurisdictions for development of Recovery Action Plans (RAPs) emphasizing action priorities and strategies for overall recreation system recovery.



To date, some 350 localities have completed Recovery Action Plans. With restoration of grant funds following a seven-year hiatus in 1991, many program participants began updating their RAPs in preparation for future grant rounds.

The major thrust of the UPARR program is toward revitalizing existing recreation systems and returning them to full use. Innovation and Rehabilitation grants provide increased neighborhood recreation opportunities through redesign, renovation, improved management or creation of new and more effective service programs.



Making more effective use of existing facilities by restoring or expanding them can relieve jurisdictions of the costs of new acquisition and development. In many instances an expanded facility can increase the recreation programs offered and stimulate new ones. Innovative service programs, including partnerships with private recreation agencies, can increase services while providing additional staff to meet increased de-



mands. New employment opportunities for local residents can also result. Innovative management and community outreach techniques are essential to improve public recreation services. The UPARR grants program also helps localities to develop and test new approaches to improving facility and program operations. Grants have been used to expand recreation services for the handicapped, elderly, youth and other special populations to improve management of recreation programs and facilities, for adaptive reuse of non-recreation sites and buildings to new recreation purposes, and to encourage public-private partnerships to enhance recreation opportunities close to the places where people live and work.



Applications for UPARR grants should be made through Regional Offices of the National Park Service. All UPARR proposals are subject to national competitions that are triggered by the announcement of a specific grant round when funds become available. Application procedures are described in the *UPARR Pre-Application Handbook*. That guide, together with a planning handbook (*UPARR Recovery Action Planning for the 1990s*) are available from the NPS offices listed on the next page.

In fiscal year 1994, \$5 million will be available for Rehabilitation and Innovation grants. Applicants will be accepted from eligible grantees during the first three months of 1994. Potential applicants should contact

**URBAN PARK AND RECREATION RECOVERY
PROGRAM**

FY 1992 ANNUAL REPORT TO CONGRESS

Achievements of the Innovation Grants Program

December 31, 1992

**U.S. Department of the Interior
National Park Service
Recreation Grants Division**

**URBAN PARK AND RECREATION RECOVERY
PROGRAM**

FY 1992 ANNUAL REPORT TO CONGRESS

Achievements of the Innovation Grants Program

December 31, 1992

URBAN PARK AND RECREATION RECOVERY PROGRAM
FY 1992 ANNUAL REPORT TO CONGRESS
ACHIEVEMENTS OF INNOVATION GRANTS FOR 1992

Introduction

The purpose of the UPARR program is to provide matching Federal grants and technical assistance to physically and economically distressed local governments for rehabilitation of deteriorated recreation facilities, and to stimulate ongoing local commitments to system revitalization in urban areas. The program is also aimed at encouraging State, local and private linkages to help ensure long-term success of overall urban revitalization efforts.

1992 Innovation Grants

For fiscal year 1992, Congress appropriated \$4.9 million for UPARR grants. This small amount of funds was focussed on innovative programs to improve recreation opportunities for urban youth, with emphasis on youth at risk. Individual applications were limited to \$100,000 or less (Federal share). Within 90 days of the announcement of grant availability published December 16, 1991, 138 applications were received totalling over \$12.5 million. Sixty two projects were selected for funding with the \$4.9 million available. On April 10, the selected projects were announced, and all grants were obligated by July 1992.

A number of communities got their efforts under way very quickly by running special summer programs that began as soon as school was out. The majority of projects are linked to schooling as well as recreation, and these did not get fully implemented until the new school year in September. By the end of November, a third of the 1992 projects were completed. Almost all of the remaining projects were fully started, with completion scheduled by the summer of 1993.

Although not all local programs are completed, sufficient progress has been made on the 1992 projects selected to reach some basic conclusions:

1. Urban youth can be reached through recreation programs.
2. Combining recreation, counselling and tutoring is an effective way of communicating with young people who have special needs.
3. There are many ways of supplying recreation opportunities in urban America, and many dedicated and innovative people working to do so.
4. The most successful youth at risk projects combine recreation and social activities with school, community crime prevention and other programs to address the total needs of young people.
5. Most of the best demonstration projects were widely supported by many different neighborhood and community groups, including businesses, labor unions, public schools, local colleges, professional sports teams, non-profit social service organizations and a variety of other grass roots groups.

The following section contains more detailed descriptions of selected projects from the FY 1992 UPARR Innovation grant round.

1992 INNOVATION PROJECTS

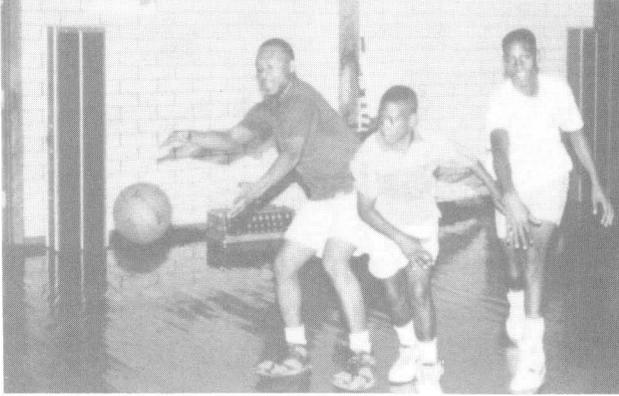
Following are summaries of 22 UPARR Innovation projects for 1992. These are based on progress reports submitted by the grantees and selected to demonstrate some of the effective ways used by urban communities to communicate with and help their youth at risk. Similar information on the other 40 projects funded in 1992 will be available at a later date.

A summary list of all the FY 1992 Innovation projects is included in Appendix A of this report.



Washington Park Community Center in Milwaukee County, Wisconsin

SPORTS PROGRAMS LINKED TO SPECIAL SCHOOLING FOR YOUNGSTERS



Beaumont's at risk youth recreational counselling program targets 10 to 19 year old teens living in inner-city depressed neighborhoods. It began in September 1992. Participants for the program are selected by a joint committee of officials from the school district, housing authority, and law enforcement agencies.

Recreation activities that are now available are basketball, flag football, volleyball, indoor soccer, softball, and various table games. The program is currently active in five schools, for 36 weeks during the regular school year and 10 weeks during the summer. Program instructors, coaches and assistants come from the staff of the local school district and are paid an hourly wage, and counselors and volunteers from the private and corporate sector are not paid. Students from Lamar University are working in the capacity of assistant coaches and instructors, and also participate as big brother-sister role models. To date 20 "at risk" students are actively participating in each of the five schools. The city expects that number to increase as the year progresses.

CENTRAL FALLS, RHODE ISLAND

'CHANNEL ONE' FORGES COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS

Central Falls' substance abuse prevention agency "Channel One-Central Falls" has developed and implemented a recreation and anti-drug education program for the city's youth at risk. The program includes substance abuse prevention, crime prevention, environmental awareness, and Blackstone Valley historical education. Youth are referred to Channel-One by various social service agencies, schools, and the police department.

Last summer UPARR funds were used to hire ten youths, at minimum wage, to work as horticulture and maintenance interns. The youth maintained the city's parks, and were trained, through a cooperative arrangement with Davies Technical School, in horticulture, and removal of graffiti. The youth were also involved in ten education sessions on substance abuse, crime prevention, environmental awareness, and the history of Blackstone Valley. Stress tests and group problem solving exercises

were given to teach communication and teamwork. Evaluation tests were also given at the beginning and end of the 10-week program to measure the youths' attitude towards themselves and the community.

Channel-One also sponsored the Junior Ranger program which is a core group of 20 children aged 9 to 13 years old. The Junior Park Ranger Program is part of the Blackstone Valley National Heritage Corridor, recognized by Congress as an area of national significance because of its role in the birth of the American Industrial Revolution. Park rangers from the Blackstone Valley Commission participated in teaching the youth about Blackstone Valley's history, conducted field trips to various historical points of interest, and educational seminars. One result of this program was the youth developed better understanding of their community and its historical background.

COLUMBUS, GEORGIA

CITY BRIGHTENS SUMMER FOR KIDS IN PUBLIC HOUSING

Columbus, Georgia's park, police and housing agencies teamed up this summer to improve recreation opportunities for disadvantaged youth. Through joint efforts of the three agencies, supplemented by the UPARR grant, staffing, supervision, equipment and supplies were increased at nine recreation centers in or near public housing complexes.

Officials were happily surprised to see participation at the centers more than double as the programs got under way. More than 500 children per day came to the centers at the height of the summer program. One center director notes that "Some kids stay as

long as we are open; they don't have anything else to do."

Mr. Brown Nicholson, director of the city's housing authority, referred to his agency's independent investment of \$57,000 in new equipment and supplies when he said, "I think we are getting a real bargain!" Major beneficiaries of the program are elementary school students who would otherwise have had no organized summer recreation activities this year. In addition to expanding activities at recreation centers, Columbus Parks and Recreation sponsored and provided transportation from one center to another.

83-013 275

PROJECT 'R.I.S.K.' REACHES OUT WITH EVENING ACTIVITIES

Dayton's program, which got underway in September, is somewhat different from other youth-at-risk programs: it serves an older age group (14-20); it concentrates more on outreach beyond the schools, including school dropouts, homeless and unemployed young adults; it provides late evening and night activities (up to 2 AM) as an alternative to the 'street scene' that is the primary activity for many young adults in the absence of other programs.

As of October the R.I.S.K. (Recreation Intervention Supports Kids) effort was fully under way. A program manager and outreach leaders were on

board; a variety of local agencies including the Dayton Urban League, Juvenile Court, Drug Commission, Boys Club and YMCA have signed on as cooperators, and 41 registered participants had been recruited, on the way to as many as 100.

With its referral and consulting programs working well, the main task of Project RISK will really get underway; it will include increased recreation activities and field trips as well as special training and discussion sessions in such areas as cultural awareness, self-esteem, grass roots economics, responsible decision-making and how to get and keep a job.

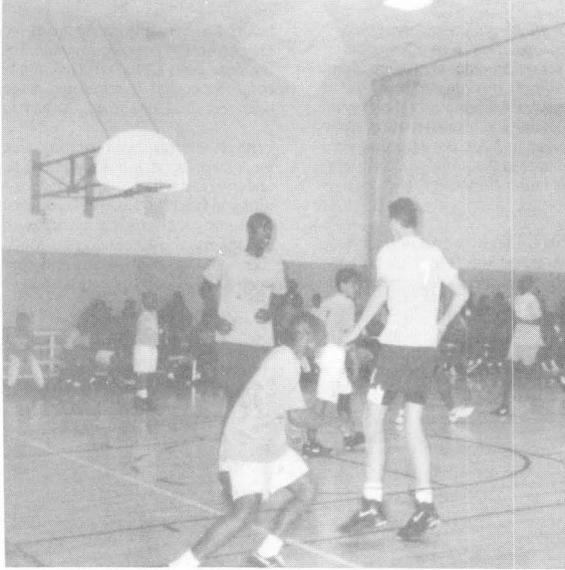


For more information contact:

PROJECT R.I.S.K.
Roosevelt Community Center
2013 W. Third Street, Suite 220
Dayton, Ohio 45417

DENVER, COLORADO

'NIGHT MOVES' PUT NEW SPIN ON NIGHTTIME BASKETBALL



In the last decade, a number of communities have sponsored 'Midnight Basketball' leagues to provide late night activities for inner city and suburban youth. For 1992, Denver developed a challenging variation on such late night sports programs.

'Night moves' is an after school and weekend program for teenagers with special promotional ties to the Denver Nuggets basketball team. It includes basketball clinics, leagues and tournaments, swimming instruction and organized swim teams, week-end long-distance cycling, and computer literacy classes at two recreation centers in key neighborhoods. Boys and girls are first recruited to the basketball leagues with promotional help from Marcus Liberty and other Denver Nugget players. Then the basketball, swimming, cycling and social programs are supplemented by workshops on a variety of self-help workshops, ranging from better study habits to drug prevention.

Over 620 registered boys and girls took part in the summer 1992 program, which has been flexible enough to include elementary school children so they will have a place to go while their older brothers and sisters participate in the program.

This fall and winter Night Moves will include several field trips to nearby parks and downhill skiing in its activities. Thanks to the generosity of the Nuggets and other local businesses, the schedule has expanded from a single season to year round, from one activity to several and from a single neighborhood served to many. The Night Moves program prides itself on its good marketing and responsiveness to the kids who are its primary beneficiaries. It is a wonderful demonstration of what community spirit and voluntary involvement can do to improve recreation and education opportunities.

FAYETTEVILLE, NC

TEAMWORK MAKES T.E.A.M. WORK

Project T.E.A.M. (Teaching-Exercise-Alternatives-Mainstreaming) provides stimulating fitness, cultural and preventive substance abuse/crime programs for at risk youth ages 8 to 14. About 48 youth currently participate in the weekly scheduled activities offered three days a week. The youth are from targeted public housing areas of Grove View Terrace, Campbell Terrace and Delona Gardens. These are low-income, minority areas that have extremely high crime and drug activity.

The weekly program for T.E.A.M. began in mid-September. The program provides educational and recreational alternatives to substance abuse and crime. The program will also concentrate on improving each participant's physical fitness by involving the youth in fitness and health programs such as track and field, indoor swimming, weight lifting, judo, and bowling. Each youth also participates in a personal improvement point system where they receive points on a quarterly basis for individual improvement

which may be cashed in for awards. Awards include track shoes, judo uniforms, nintendo games, etc.

The program begins after school at 4:30 pm. The project coordinator picks up the participants at each housing project with a newly purchased van, and transports them to the program sites. Program sites thus far are the Special Population Center and Fayetteville State University. The youth usually are returned home around 8 pm depending on the schedule. The youth have already participated in karate lessons given twice a week, a course on the "arts", and group sessions entitled "Drugs in Our Community" and "Living at Home".

The key to the program is the involvement of community organizations, public social service agencies, and Fayetteville State University. Those organizations are providing in-kind services such as educational, counseling, fundraising, volunteers, and financial assistance.

FRESNO, CALIFORNIA

TEENS GAIN FROM SUMMER DIVERSION

The city of Fresno's Summer Youth Diversion Program took place this past summer in two severely economically depressed neighborhoods with very high juvenile crime rates. Fresno's Department of Parks, Recreation and Community Services mobilized the Police Department, businesses and community groups and targeted efforts at two neighborhood recreation centers (Frank H. Ball and Romain Centers).

The program was designed for teens between the ages of 13-18 years old who are impacted by poverty, racism, drug abuse, and gang related activities. The city created a positive program of teen counseling, tutoring, jobs, community service projects, and recreational activities such as volleyball, basketball, softball, swimming. In

addition, based on their participation in the SYDP program the youth earned trips to out of town recreational and amusement facilities. In order for the teens to participate in the recreational activities they must first work on community service projects such as neighborhood cleanup and graffiti removal, and attend anti-drug and gang presentations and workshops. Self-esteem classes and other specialized activities such as photography and ceramics were also offered.

Fresno's goal of getting the local community groups and public service agencies involved in providing jobs and recreational opportunities for 450 teens was successful. The city is planning to offer the program again next summer.

GRAND RAPIDS, MICHIGAN

RECREATION TO REDUCE RISK

In 1991 the city of Grand Rapids experienced a significant increase in violent crimes, domestic violence, and drug abuse. Most of these crimes were occurring in neighborhoods with high levels of poverty and unemployment.

Realizing that the traditional city-wide program was not meeting the recreational and social service needs of its low-income citizens, the city's Parks and Recreation Department was directed by the city council to design a recreational program that was more neighborhood oriented, accessible and inexpensive to the user. A program entitled "Recreation to Reduce Risk" was developed to help reduce drug use, crime, and violence by providing positive alternative activities for all ages. Major emphasis of this program is providing a variety of recreational and social services for elementary and teenage youth and their families living within the Belknap, Stocking, and Madison neighborhoods.

The Recreation to Reduce Risk program was designed to meet the needs of individual neighborhoods. The program was operated out of two schools and a recreation center. The activities that are provided are Teen Rap sessions, bowling and pizza parties, basketball, dances, field trips, Hispanic folk-dance instruction, aerobic classes, after-school crafts and quilting sessions, drop-in basketball and volleyball, and family activity nights.

UPARR funds along with CDBG monies and funds from the city's general treasury, and donations by local businesses assisted in the hiring of a recreation specialist, 12 part-time recreational assistant leaders, and recreation supplies and equipment. Financed through a local bank, summer night basketball leagues with over 200 participants were very successful.



GUAYNABO, PUERTO RICO

COMMUNITY LINKS RECREATION, CULTURE TO HELP YOUNG PEOPLE

Like many large, heavily populated communities in Puerto Rico, the city of Guaynabo is experiencing a high rate of unemployment, drug and alcohol abuse, crime, school drop-outs, teen pregnancy, and youth violence. In an effort to provide an alternative positive activity, the city of Guaynabo has developed and implemented a structured recreation program for three inner-city public housing complexes, Alamo, Mabo and Jardines.

The recreational activities take place daily at centers within the housing complexes. Programs offered are for all age groups, with the primary emphasis on youth. Activities include basketball, art, drama, music, and aere-



bics classes. Anti-drug and crime workshops and plays are also a part of the program

The program has strong community support. The local Lions Club is providing volunteers and equipment for some of the programs. The tenants' association and individual residents have also worked closely with the city to plan and provide expanded recreation services.

Since recreation activities began, the city has noted an overwhelming number of active participants. However, due to a lack of financial resources, Guaynabo is unable to expand the programming to serve everyone who wants to participate.

INDIANAPOLIS, INDIANA

YOUTH CORPS BUILDS PARK AND LEARNS WORK SKILLS

Indianapolis ran a summer youth program that focused on work experience. "Build a Park" linked a parcel of recently-vacated land in the City's Washington Park with a summer job program for high schoolers. The community's Youth Conservation Corps project recruited sixty 14-17 year olds to serve in two five week sessions of work to renovate a former zoo area in George Washington Park.

The teenaged work crews completed extensive landscaping, including clearance of old buildings and overgrown vegetation. They built a mile-long jogging path and planted over 100 trees and shrubs and three flower gardens. They also transformed the former zoo's barn into a nature center.

Youth Corps members received valuable work experiences in carpentry, bricklaying, landscaping and painting, as well as training in good work habits and citizenship. Special efforts were made to

recruit young people who were "at risk" because of minor, first time juvenile violations. One young man with a history of juvenile authority problems started the summer as a member of a work crew. "He was bright and hard working, and really excited at the chance to prove himself", said Mark Bowell, the program manager. Because of his hard work, he "graduated" in July and became a Corps Leader for the second session ending in August. His success helped the young man to acceptance at a local college, which he started this fall.

The program also offered daily fitness and weekly citizenship sessions in a specially designed curriculum. The renovated site in Washington Park is now available to elementary and junior high students as a nature education site. The 60 Corps participants got valuable training and a summer job, while the rest of the community gained a new facility that meets real environmental education needs.

KNOXVILLE, TENNESSEE

FAIR PLAY PLAYS WELL



Members of the Fair Play Sports Golf Team pose in front of the Clubhouse

The Fair Play Sports Program was implemented as part of the summer youth program during the summer of 1992 at various recreation sites in the city. The program primarily served inner-city youth, ages 6 through 12, from 9 am to 3 pm daily. An average of 800 to 1,000 youth were served on a weekly basis. African American youth, living in housing projects were the primary target of this program.

The purpose of the program was to provide structure, discipline and exposure to non-traditional recreational activities such as golf and tennis, gymnastics, music, health, fitness, and nutrition. Additionally, emphasis was placed on team sportsmanship. The program taught the youth how to properly play non-traditional sports. This summer free golf and tennis lessons were implemented and a fitness center was opened at one site. The children were introduced to weight training methods and they were also taught nutrition.

Golf lessons were provided by HMS Public Golf Course Management Corporation which has a contract with the city to manage the city's golf courses. The golf lessons were offered weekly for seven weeks at no charge to the youth or the city.

Transportation to various recreational sites was provided by the Parks and Recreation Department. The purchase of a used bus, to transport the youth to various recreational sites and activities, was part of the grant. Free tennis lessons were offered weekly at sites located on or near housing projects for youth ages 10 to 12.

The tennis and golf activities were extremely popular with the inner city youth. Knoxville's Recreation Department in conjunction with several other social service agencies and local community groups worked together to make the Summer Youth Program possible. Due to the success of the Summer Program, the city plans to continue at least the golf and tennis programs again next year.

CO-ED SPORTS LEAGUE HELPS TEENS

In an effort to combat gang violence and drug abuse the city of Los Angeles is currently offering a Co-Ed Teen Sports League at two inner city parks for 13-18 year-old mostly Hispanic and African-American youth-at-risk. The 12-month program, which is intended to help teach discipline and sportsmanship through team activities, includes three sports leagues -- volleyball, basketball and softball. Youth-at-risk are targeted into the program through the help of local high schools, police, the County Probation Department and agencies like Community Youth Gang Services.

League games are played every Friday night from 7:00 pm to 10:00 pm, at the two facilities used for the program in the Canoga Park and Reseda neighborhoods. Those facilities remain open until midnight to provide participating youth with an area to socialize.

League sports are coached by community volunteers under the overall supervision of a recreation supervisor. Following sport play, community leaders and participants discuss goals, employment, self-esteem, anti-drug and gang affiliation, and health and other social services. After the discussion period, video tapes of the night's games are played for skill improvement and enjoyment.

The true strength of the Co-Ed Teen Sports program is the cooperative effort of several community groups, social service agencies, police, and the Office of the Mayor. A partnership was formed, named KYDS (Keep Youth Doing Something), to create a positive recreational and educational program for approximately 100 at-risk-youth in the two neighborhoods. Together the KYDS coalition plans the education and sports activities, and participate as volunteers to keep the youth off the streets and participating in positive team recreational activities.



Co-ed Sports League Softball Team defeats LAPD in All Star game. They are joined by Los Angeles Councilwoman Joy Picus in the victory photo.

MILWAUKEE, COUNTY, WI

COOPERATION BRINGS RECREATION AND EDUCATION TO LATCH-KEY STUDENTS



The recreation needs of several Milwaukee County neighborhoods are being addressed through a unique collaboration between the community and the "traditional" park agencies. Washington Park, located on Milwaukee's west side, has experienced a decrease in recreation activity and patronage as drug and gang related activity has increased. To combat this decline, the Washington Heights Neighborhood Association, the Cooperative West Side Association, the Milwaukee County Parks Department, the Milwaukee Public Schools, the Metropolitan YMCA, and representatives of the community participated in a forum to identify the recreation needs of the Washington Park community.

A Summer Day Camp program that served close to 400 13-17 year olds each week began at Washington Park recreation center in June. The pro-

gram provided increased recreation opportunities from early morning to early evening for children of working parents during June, July and August. The day camp and other recreation programs also helped to recruit participants for a follow-up, After-School program that began in September. The After-School program runs from 3:00 to 6:00 each afternoon and combines tutoring in math and reading skills, computer learning with traditional games and social activities for school age teens. It serves between 250 and 300 students each week.

Under the 1992 UPARR grant, day camp and after-school programs are also being provided at two other Milwaukee recreation centers - Kosciuszko Community Center and Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Community Center - which have similar participation rates. Current programs will run through June 1993.

ACHIEVABLE DREAM MEANS PLAY AND WORK

This summer, a special program for fourth graders used tennis and other leisure activities to attract low-income children into afternoon classes to improve reading and math skills. Tennis was selected because it was something new for most of the minority children of southeast Newport News who participated.

The daily program for almost 100 elementary school children began with physical fitness exercises and several hours of tennis instruction, followed by a hot lunch. Afternoon sessions were educational, involving practical mathematics instruction and one-on-one tutoring in reading skills. Each week's activities centered on a theme, like farms and animals, transportation or space. The students read books related to the theme, wrote reports and stories about it, and did math exercises related to it.

For example, during 'transportation' week the kids read railroad history and calculated travel times and distances for the weekend field trip by train to the Science Museum in Richmond. The tutoring sessions had a student-teacher ration of 1 to 10, and included many opportunities for interaction between the fourth graders and their classes. Once a week, there were special visits by notable program Mentors, including

the police and fire chiefs, an engineer, a nurse and state legislators.

The summer program was successful. The staff of both the morning tennis camp and the afternoon educational activities note improved attitudes toward school and desire to achieve more in school, better behavior toward and with adults, increased poise and self-confidence, better fitness and nutrition, and more positive attitudes toward the community as a result of greater contact with community leaders and programs.



Although the UP-ARR grant funding is exhausted, Newport News Schools has agreed to continue Achievable Dream during the school year. The school year program will function on weekday afternoons and Saturday mornings with the same dual focus on tennis camp and educational tutoring. The program will also be extended gradually to include fifth and sixth grad-

ers in future years. A fourth grader who entered the program this year may be able to continue into junior high. As an adjunct to the program several local businesses have agreed to provide college scholarships for program participants who complete high school with good grade averages.

NORTH MIAMI BEACH, FLORIDA

CITY TARGETS LATCH-KEY KIDS

The Washington Park community located in North Miami Beach is a low income, minority neighborhood with many latchkey children, teen dropouts, gang violence, drug and alcohol abuse, and teen pregnancy. In an effort to address those problems Washington Park has created an intergenerational program called S.T.A.R. (Supervised Training Afterschool Recreation).

The S.T.A.R. program, which was designed by the city and Washington Park citizens, is an intergenerational program that will serve children, teens, and senior citizens. It is an afterschool recreational and education program for 40 elementary school children. Teens age 14 and up serve as leaders and assist in recreational activities and tutor the younger children. Senior citizens in the community have volunteered their time to serve as

"grandparents" and work with youth in all aspects of the program. This benefits the children, teens and seniors by providing for interaction between people of all ages, thereby promoting community spirit and pride.

UPARR assistance is providing four staff persons, recreational and educational equipment and supplies, and field trips to various educational and cultural sites and events.

The Washington Park community is delighted with the program. It provides a healthy and safe atmosphere for the children, the teens school attendance has dramatically increased, and the senior citizens have acquired a renewed sense of purpose by giving guidance and support to the younger generation on a daily basis.

SALEM, MASSACHUSETTS

COMMUNITY SAILING PROGRAM IS A HIT

The Community Sailing and Maritime Recreation program is a joint venture between the city of Salem and Salem State College (SSC). This is the first time the city and the college have combined forces to offer Salem residents a recreational service the city would not otherwise be able to provide.

As a result of this new partnership, 130 Salem students between the ages of 10 to 18 were afforded a unique recreation experience. This past summer, these students learned sailing and navigation skills and participated in activities designed to enhance their knowledge of Salem Harbor's environment and cultural history. Salem State College donated, for summer use, five sailboats, one Boston Whaler, outboard motors, a radio and other equipment. In addition, the students received the benefit of participating in a program administered by the College's highly experienced sail master.

In addition to the partnership with SSC, the city tapped other community agencies and resources in an effort to broaden the students' experience. Students sailed into a nearby state-owned marine

laboratory for a special tour and lecture on the marine life of Salem Harbor. Peabody Museum provided students with a tour of the Salem maritime history collection and a special lecture on Salem's whaling days.

Next year, some adjustments will be made to further improve the program. It is expected that the Police Department will take a more active role in referring "youth-at-risk". Also, more outreach is planned to encourage older students in the 16 to 18 year old age group to participate. This summer, half of the program participants were referred by the local Boys Club and by the Gables Settlement House, an agency that provides day care, recreational and social services for low and moderate income families.

Next summer's program will begin earlier so that the program can be extended and more local resources can be called on to offer enrichment activities. Although successful activities were offered this year by Cat Cove Maritime Lab and the Peabody Museum, the program will aim to increase these activities next year to include other public and private organizations.

PRIDE GOES TO JUNIOR HIGH



Since 1988 the city of Santa Ana has experienced a 60 percent increase in gang violence. In response to the community's growing concerns on gang violence, the city council directed the Recreation and Community Services Agency to develop and implement a gang prevention program which initially targeted elementary school children. The initial project P.R.I.D.E. program, an after school program conducted daily since 1988, was very successful at the elementary age level. However, once a participant moved on to intermediate school the program was no longer available.

UPARR assistance made it possible for the city to expand the P.R.I.D.E. program to include preteens and teenagers. The program was conducted over the summer of 1992 with approximately 150 teens at five schools around the city. The city recruited 12 new mentors from the Hispanic Chamber of Commerce and several local business persons. These mentors provided professional guidance and training in computer

skills, language, writing, and verbal communication. Teens performed magic acts which conveyed anti-drug/gang messages for the elementary school age members, were trained to produce a P.R.I.D.E. newsletter and received training by a professional graphic design company who volunteered its services. Teens were also trained to develop and implement innovative recreational programs for the younger participants. The city hopes to have a recreational job pool available next summer for teen participants.

Project P.R.I.D.E. has affected the way programs are conducted in Santa Ana. Gang prevention has become a high priority and has been addressed through training and an increased level of awareness in recreation staff. The success of the program was measured by the retention rates of program participants. Since nearly 90 percent of the participants stayed with the program until the end, the effort was deemed successful enough to be re-established and expanded next year.

SCHENECTADY, NEW YORK

PARKS PARTNERSHIP RESTORES NEIGHBORHOOD RECREATION AREA

During the summer of 1992, Jerry Burrell Park in Schenectady was the site of the city's first neighborhood park sponsorship, or 'adopt-a-park' program.

Neighborhood residents, non-profit groups and all the city's public agencies were encouraged to participate through an Advisory Task Force. In early summer, a neighborhood service agency, City Mission, organized local volunteers in a daily clean-up and maintenance program for the park. UPARR funding supported hiring and training of summer recreation leaders and purchases of equip-

ment and supplies for activities in Burrell Park. The park became the stage for numerous special events throughout the summer. These events also helped in voluntary fund raising to support other programs throughout the year.

The summer project proved successful as a demonstration in that it led to adoption of the park sponsorship idea in two other city parks - Hillhurst and Steinmetz - and creation of a Committee for the Preservation of City Parks to oversee similar future efforts.

WALTHAM, MASSACHUSETTS

WALTHAM TEENS TAKE HIGH FLIGHT

The Waltham Family YMCA has developed a program for at-risk youths called High Flight Program. This is an adventure-challenge program designed to enhance a youth's ability to acquire a positive self-concept, to respect and get along with others, to learn leadership skills, participate in community service projects, to learn about the environment, explore career opportunities, and develop a positive attitude toward productive leisure time. The physical and interpersonal challenge of the Outward Bound program creates a promising environment for growth, insight, and behavioral change. Youths participating in the program were referred by the courts, police department, social service agencies and school officials.

The 12-week summer session of the High Flight program was targeted towards low-income, minority youths from 13 to 16 years old. The program had 12 participants and met twice a week, plus two overnight trips. The activities that they

participated in consisted of a rope course challenge, camping, map and compass reading, rock climbing, biking, backpacking, canoeing, and group problem solving activities. At the end of each day the group met to discuss the day's activities and problems. The primary goal of the program is to alter behavior patterns and to increase positive self-image, using recreational activities as a vehicle for personal growth.

The YMCA has worked very closely with and has developed good relationships with Waltham's social service agencies, Boys and Girls Club, schools, and the police department in providing additional recreational facilities and special needs recreational programming. The High Flight Program is in its second session and has served 33 teens. Four of the 33 teens have become peer leaders and will be working in schools this fall as peer leaders to help combat drug and alcohol abuse.

NORTHWEST COMMUNITY GIVES YOUTH 'NATURAL HIGH'



Day hike to Mt. Rainier was part of Tacoma's Natural High program.

The Natural High is a year-round youth outdoor adventure and athletics program designed to meet the needs of local at-risk youth. Activities include basic introductory workshops on safety, proper techniques, and concern for wildlife and the environment are taught to prepare participants for upcoming day trips and extended outings. Recreational activities include camping, canoeing, hiking, river rafting, mountain biking, and sailing.

The athletic component of the Natural High program is designed to introduce participants to sports and conduct camps, classes, and tournaments to help youth advance in skill level. In coordination with the U.S. Tennis Association summer and fall tennis clinics and a tournament took place. The Seattle Sonics basketball team provided basketball camps.

During the first quarter of the program, over 150 youth ages 8 to 17 were served. The program took place at schools, community centers, Boys and Girls Clubs, and local parks, after school between 3:00 and 7 pm weekdays, and 1 to 5 pm on Saturdays. Day trips and extended outings occurred when school schedules allowed.

The city attained its expected goals for the first quarter. Personnel was hired, equipment purchased and scheduled trips, workshops and clinics were successful. The program is now in its second quarter and many of the first quarter participants have returned for advanced training and many new participants have joined. Tacoma is pleased with the progress and youth participation in the program and plans to continue after the grant funds are depleted.

WILKES-BARRE, PENNSYLVANIA

YOUTH MAKE THE RIGHT CHOICE

The city of Wilkes-Barre has developed and implemented a recreation program for youth-at-risk in partnership with the Catholic Youth Center (CYC). The goal of the program is to provide recreation programs and teach leisure skills that will serve as a deterrent to children who are specifically identified as being at risk of becoming involved with drugs and alcohol.

The five step program includes identifying youth-at-risk through social service agencies, schools, and other community service groups. Involving youth in recreation programs and teaching them lifelong leisure skills. The CYC provides year around recreation programs under the supervision of trained leaders. The Center has developed a training program for recreation leaders for the indoor center and a summer playground program.

The program was implemented last July for the summer program and it served 50 children at the CYC center. There were 14 different recreational activities offered ranging from basketball, arts and crafts, volleyball, swimming, and anti-drug and alcohol seminars. The CYC has begun its fall session, and it is estimated that at least 500 youth will be served.

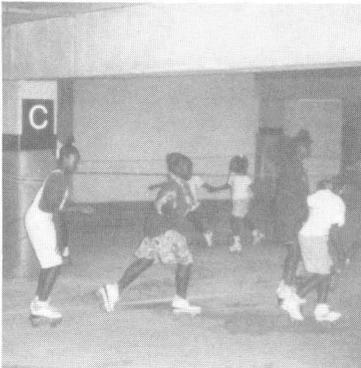
The CYC is Wilkes-Barre's major recreation provider, and it is within walking distance of one of the city's largest low-income, minority housing developments. In addition, a van and school bus was purchased, from fundraising activities, to transport youth to various recreational sites in and around the city, and bring in children who do not live within walking distance of the center.

The city is very pleased with the progress of the CYC in getting the program off the ground. A few problems were encountered in the beginning because of lack of advertising. However, that problem is now taken care of and many more youth have joined the recreation program and they are enjoying it very much.

CHANGING PARKING GARAGE TO ROLLER RINK IS SUPER SUCCESS

Wilmington's City Parks and Recreation Department, the Police Department and a private parking authority used their youth-at-risk grant to establish a completely new program for 12-19 year olds this summer.

Beginning in June, the parking garage of an inner city hotel was converted to a roller ramp each weekend. Access to the garage was provided without charge by the Wilmington Parking Authority, while the Parks Department and the Police provided entertainment and education. By supplying skates, safety equipment, music, recreation leaders and a great downhill run, complete with sharp curves and rubber mats on the walls, the city attracted almost 6,000 skaters over a 10 week period.



Counselling, educational lectures, rap sessions with community leaders and other group activities were integrated with the fun, so the teenagers not only had a new recreation activity to brighten their summer weekends but a chance for positive interactions with the community and their peers.

Because of the program's success in 1992, the Parking Authority has committed itself to free garage access again in 1993. Wilmington's Police Community Relations Unit was also pleased with the effort and has agreed to participate in future years. All in all, it appears that a little seed money and a lot of cooperation among city agencies is delivering an unsurpassed recreation bargain for the teens of Wilmington.

URBAN PARK AND RECREATION RECOVERY PROGRAM
1979 - 1992

Program Overview

Innovation grants cover the cost of personnel, facilities, equipment, supplies or services associated with development of innovative and cost-effective ideas, concepts, or approaches aimed at improving facility design, operations or programming for the delivery of recreation services, but the UPARR program is not limited to Innovation grants. It includes other grants and technical assistance aimed at helping localities to take a comprehensive approach to revitalizing their total recreation systems. Rehabilitation grants are for renovation of close-to-home urban recreation facilities that are deteriorated to the point where the recreator's health and safety are endangered or the quality of recreation services is impaired. Recovery Action Program (RAP) planning grants are for development of recreation planning priorities and strategies for overall recreation system recovery. To be eligible for Innovation or Rehabilitation grants, a jurisdiction is required to maintain a current RAP plan, approved by the National Park Service, to demonstrate its commitment to revitalize its park and recreation system.

Program Accomplishments

From 1978 through 1992, the UPARR program provided approximately \$222.9 million for 1,284 grants to 400 local jurisdictions in 42 States, the District of Columbia, and Puerto Rico.

History of UPARR Appropriations for Grants
FY 1979 - FY 1992
\$ in millions

Fiscal Year	1979	1980	1981	1982	1983	1984	1985-90	1991	1992	TOTAL
Grants*	\$ 19.2	62.2	62.4	7.6	40.0	6.7	0	19.9	4.9	\$ 222.9

*These figures reflect funds appropriated and obligated for grants only. They exclude some \$6.2 million appropriated for administration between 1979 and 1982, and about \$20 million rescinded in Congressional deficit reduction actions.

History of UPARR Grant Awards

Fiscal Year	1979	1980	1981	1982	1983+	1984	1985-90	1991	1992	TOTALS
Rehabilitation	38	160	52	0	124	22	0	104	0	500
Innovation	5	42	19	44	0	0	0	0	62	172
Planning	112	102	68	59	54	38	179	0	0	<u>612</u> 1,284

+ "JOBS BILL" supplemental, 3/83.

Reported benefits of UPARR Rehabilitation and Innovation grants include:

- existing facilities were returned to full use
- more efficient use of space
- increase in recreation program activities
- increases in number of users and improved mix of users
- reductions in vandalism
- better feelings about recreation facilities, programs and providing agencies
- increased awareness of local recreation needs, and greater commitments of resources to continue projects post-UPARR.

All told, the UPARR program has rehabilitated 273 playgrounds, 200 recreation centers, 194 ball fields, 254 tennis and or basketball courts, 169 swimming pools and 140 picnic areas. Ninety-five projects were targeted to senior citizens and/or people with disabilities; 22 projects rehabilitated waterfront recreation facilities; 17 projects were in or adjacent to public housing complexes. A number of exceptional programs like City-Fit for health and fitness in New Rochelle, NY, Adapted Boating for people with disabilities in Oakland, CA and the Senior Citizens Maintenance Corps in Revere, MA have brought national renown to the sponsors of UPARR Innovation grants. Twenty-nine innovative projects adapted non-recreation facilities to recreation use, including National Guard armories in Chicago and Mohawk, NY, old firehouses in Portland, OR and Somerville, MA, an abandoned coal bunker in Jersey City, NJ, and a shopping center sidewalk into a fitness trail for senior citizens in Pascagoula, MS.

Important benefits from Recovery Action planning that have been reported include better awareness by citizens of potential recreation opportunities and problems, better tools for priority setting and decision-making by elected executives and legislators, and increased managerial options among recreation administrators.

Other benefits realized as a result of the UPARR program were public-private partnerships formed to share the workload of recreation operations, better citizen involvement in design and management of local recreation systems, better managed fee structures to improve both equity and cost-effectiveness in delivery of more expensive recreation services, and improved recreation opportunities for many specific neighborhood user groups.

UPARR in 1990

No funds were appropriated for UPARR grants between 1985 and 1990. Funds from cost underruns on completed projects provided a source of monies for RAP grants between fiscal year 1983 and 1987. In 1988, about \$1.2 million in deobligated funds were rescinded and returned to Treasury. No grant obligations were made in fiscal 1989 or 1990.

Slightly less than \$20 million was appropriated for the UPARR program in November 1990. Upon appropriation of funds, the Service immediately initiated a Rehabilitation grant round through an announcement in the Federal Register. By February, more than 240 applications requesting \$42.8 million in Federal assistance were submitted. The national competition was completed quickly; 104 grant awards for \$19.7 million were announced in early March 1991. A list of those projects is located in Appendix B. The summer of 1991 was a busy period as the first Rehabilitation projects in seven years got under way. More than 225 cities and counties were also involved in updating their UPARR Recovery Action plans for the first time since the mid-1980s. Only those communities that completed new Recovery Action Plans or updated their old ones were eligible to compete for UPARR funds appropriated in FY 1992.

Innovation Grants Awarded in Fiscal Year 1992



A Junior Golfer tees off on his first day. With support from a UPARR Innovation grant and the National Minority Golf Foundation, Atlanta's John A. White Junior Golf Program is helping inner-city youth from 7-17 broaden their social and recreation horizons.

NEWS RELEASE

u.s. department of the interior

national park serviceAnita Clevenger (202)208-7394
Wayne Strum (202)343-3700

For Release April 10, 1992

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE ANNOUNCES AWARDS OF \$4.9 MILLION
IN GRANTS FOR INNOVATIVE URBAN RECREATION PROGRAMS

James Ridenour, Director of the National Park Service, today announced that 62 cities will be offered \$4.9 million in innovation matching grants under the Urban Park and Recreation Recovery (UPARR) program. "The emphasis of this year's grants is on new recreation opportunities for youth at risk in troubled urban neighborhoods," Ridenour said.

The 62 applications to be funded, all for \$100,000 or less, will help to inaugurate a variety of sports, play and leisure education programs for city teenagers and preteens. The programs will link anti-drug, anti-crime education and training to popular recreation activities.

"We are pleased to help with these 'youth at risk' efforts," Ridenour said. "But the focus is really on communities helping themselves, using improved recreation opportunities to prevent delinquency, drug and alcohol abuse, forging links between healthy park experiences and good citizenship."

Programs funded include a variety of challenging sports, hobby and nature education activities at inner city recreation centers; an "animal discovery" drug prevention program using the resources of the local zoo, a youth conservation corps, "Build a Park" effort to do summer improvements in a rundown area, introduction to golf and other "lifetime" sports for inner city kids; and cultural arts programs to get teenagers involved with the visual arts, music and literature. Most of these efforts encompass special education and counselling features to respond to the needs of disadvantaged children; many extend program opportunities to late evening and weekend periods when public programs are traditionally unavailable.

The UPARR program also makes grants in two other categories: Rehabilitation grants to renovate existing recreation areas and facilities, and planning grants to help communities set goals and priorities for revitalization of their recreation systems. Because of the limited amount available for the nationwide competition in 1992, all funds available this year will be obligated for Innovation purposes.

-NPS-

A list of the Innovation grants is attached.

A-2

1992 UPARR Innovation Proposals Selected

CITY/COUNTY	STATE	UPARR GRANT
Huntsville	AL	\$62,674
Phoenix	AZ	\$57,050
Baldwin Park	CA	\$34,686
Berkeley	CA	\$52,500
Fresno	CA	\$50,000
Los Angeles	CA	\$40,800
Oakland	CA	\$50,000
Oceanside	CA	\$35,000
Richmond	CA	\$50,000
Santa Ana	CA	\$50,000
Denver	CO	\$70,000
New Haven	CT	\$93,800
Wilmington	DE	\$56,203
Hialeah	FL	\$100,000
Hollywood	FL	\$92,600
North Miami Beach	FL	\$50,000
Atlanta	GA	\$100,000
Columbus	GA	\$100,000
Indianapolis	IN	\$99,960
Louisville	KY	\$85,000
Boston	MA	\$100,000
Revere	MA	\$23,772
Salem	MA	\$70,000
Somerville	MA	\$70,000
Waltham	MA	\$59,500
Baltimore	MD	\$100,000
Grand Rapids	MI	\$100,000
Saint Paul	MN	\$99,495
Durham	NC	\$70,000
Fayetteville	NC	\$100,000
Wilmington	NC	\$50,000
Hudson Cnty	NJ	\$100,000
Newark	NJ	\$70,000
Passaic	NJ	\$94,500
Paterson	NJ	\$100,000
Plainfield	NJ	\$100,000
Vineland	NJ	\$100,000
Mt. Vernon	NY	\$99,400
Schenectady	NY	\$17,500
Syracuse	NY	\$80,842
Dayton	OH	\$91,000
Chester	PA	\$99,316
Erie	PA	\$100,000
Reading	PA	\$100,000
Wilkes-Barre	PA	\$80,750

CITY/COUNTY	STATE	UPARR GRANT
Bayamon	PR	\$100,000
Guaynabo	PR	\$70,000
San Juan	PR	\$70,000
Central Falls	RI	\$50,000
Providence	RI	\$100,000
Spartanburg	SC	\$70,000
Knoxville	TN	\$100,000
Beaumont	TX	\$100,000
Bexar County	TX	\$100,000
San Antonio	TX	\$100,000
Danville	VA	\$100,000
Newport News	VA	\$73,368
Richmond	VA	\$100,000
Seattle	WA	\$100,000
Tacoma	WA	\$100,000
Milwaukee County	WI	\$99,814
Wheeling	WV	\$83,805
62 Proposals	TOTAL	<u>\$4,923,335</u>

INNOVATION PROJECTS FUNDED IN 1992

State	Locality	Project Name	Federal Dollars	Description of Project
AL	Huntsville	Special Needs Population Recreation	\$62,674	To make a recreation complex totally accessible to people with disabilities. Purchase of accessible designed play equipment, picnic tables, etc.
AZ	Phoenix	RIP-RAP-STEP	\$57,050	A program emphasizing swimming for 1st to 6th graders as a focus of community involvement, volunteerism and job training. RAP=Remedial Aquatics program for elementary school children, RIP= Rec. Internship Program for employing 14-18 year olds, and STEP= training of permanent staff for outreach to residents.
CA	Baldwin Park	Sky's The Limit	\$34,686	An 8 week program of self improvement and enhanced self esteem. Participants spend one week each in aquatics, computer lab, gym, games room, arts and crafts, photography, weight training and outdoor activities.
	Berkeley	Youth at Risk Program	\$52,500	Targeted to youth ages 12-14. Main components of proposal are: retrain recreation staff, and create recreation programs to attract 12-14 year olds.
	Fresno	Summer Youth Diversion Program	\$50,000	Structured recreation program for youths ages 13-18 at two park sites Romain and Frank B Hall Playgrounds. Grants funds hired staff and neighborhood youth to organize sports leagues and supervise them with the help of the Police Dept. volunteers.
	Los Angeles	Co-ed Teen Sports League	\$40,800	Youth ages 13-18 years old have volleyball, basketball, and softball programs at two park sites - Reseda & Lanark Parks. Games played between 7-10 pm with social activities after games. Games will be video-taped for community involvement.
	Oakland	Splash Oakland	\$50,000	Program teaches swimming, boating and water safety skills to 4th graders at 7 public schools and one private school in at-risk neighborhoods.
	Oceanside	Youth Street Hockey League	\$35,000	This program is targeted to at risk youth in Oceanside and dependent children of Camp Pendleton. The organized street hockey league will be offered at three locations. The League will also offer job training for junior rec leaders to assist in supervising younger children.
	Richmond	One Stop Teen Center	\$50,000	To provide a one stop teen center at Martin Luther King, Jr. community center for recreation and social services that includes a teen hot line, jobs search skills. The center will be open from 6pm to 1am. Zellerback Foundation provided the local match.

INNOVATION PROJECTS FUNDED IN 1992

State	Locality	Project Name	Federal Dollars	Description of Project
CA	Santa Ana	PRIDE	\$50,000	The city's PRIDE program is an after school program targeting youth at risk. Participants will be trained to perform magic acts at elementary schools to convey anti gang/drug prevention messages. Newsletter program will teach them different roles - editor, reporter, photographer, graphic artists.
CO	Denver	Night Moves	\$70,000	A three month pilot program provided structured recreation and education activities for teens between 6pm and 10pm. Marketing link to Denver Nuggets basketball team.
CT	New Haven	Urban Conservation Corps	\$93,800	The city will develop an environmental awareness/recreation program with two components - an urban conservation corps, and a recreation program that will build an environmental ethic in inner city youth. This program operated out of Edgerton Park.
DE	Wilmington	Inner City Youth Skating	\$56,203	The city, in partnership with the Wilmington Parking Authority, offered a complete, weekend roller skating program at the Radisson Hotel garage. Program to continue in '93 at local expense.
FL	Hialeah	Early Prevention & Intervention Prgm	\$100,000	A 5 phase program for youth age 17 and under having problems with drugs, gangs, and crime. They participate in sports, receive anti drug and gang education, assist with coaching and other park duties.
	Hollywood	BRAG Program	\$92,600	Two project coordinators - 1 for Washington Park and 1 for Northeast Community Center, to establish new recreation programs that includes special events, field trips, and daily recreation activities.
	North Miami Beach	STAR Program	\$50,000	Program in Washington Park community, after school for k - 6th grades, 13 and up serve as 'mentors', seniors will serve as "grandparents". Only afterschool program that includes teens and seniors. UPARR provides 4 staff persons, equipment and supplies, and field trips.
GA	Atlanta	Junior Golf Program Inner-City Youth	\$100,000	Junior Golf program for youth ages 7-17 from low income housing areas. Started 9/92. Includes fundamentals of golf combined with classroom academics & workshops on drug awareness for 200 minority children including disabled.
	Columbus	Housing Auth. Recreational Program	\$100,000	Staffing of 9 public housing community centers with recreation leaders responsible for educational programs in drug awareness, gang intervention/prevention, cultural programs, self-esteem, and environmental education. UPARR funds were used for supervisors, and equipment and supplies for the 9 sites.

INNOVATION PROJECTS FUNDED IN 1992

State	Locality	Project Name	Federal Dollars	Description of Project
IN	Indianapolis	Build a Park Youth Conservation Corp	\$99,960	A Youth Conservation Corp (YCC) summer recreation and work program. Sixty 14-17 year old teenagers will serve in two week sessions. Program will involve citizenship, community service, self awareness, physical fitness. Project helped renovate an old portion of Zoo in George Washington Park into environmental ed. area.
KY	Louisville	Muhammad Ali Youth Assoc. Recreation	\$85,000	Muhammad Ali Youth Association is based in the south and western sections of the city. Program targets youth 7-18, low-income, minority neighborhoods. UPARR funds will assist in purchase of passenger van to transport youth to various recreational events and facilities, and train recreation staff in new activities such as golf, tennis, soccer. Purchase recreational equipment and supplies.
MA	Boston	Junior Park Ranger Program	\$100,000	At risk teens ages 14-17 trained in environmental education, historical interpretation, leadership and communication, and will assist year around in actual work situations in Boston Park Ranger Program. Junior Rangers will help run programs and acquire job experience.
A-7	Reverse	Linkage of Indoor & Outdoor Rec. Prg	\$23,772	City had no public indoor rec facilities available for use. UPARR funds will support the opening for public rec use Revere High School Field House every weekend from November to April. Small fee of \$1 will be charged. Seniors will be hired for registration and admittance monitors. Recreation activities include basketball, volleyball, soccer, walking, running, dancing, bowling, bocci for seniors.
	Salem	Community Sailing & Maritime Rec.	\$70,000	Multidisciplinary recreation program combines sailing lessons with opportunities for hands-on learning of history, marine science and local culture. Partnership with Salem College and the city involves participation of numerous other local agencies and groups. Program offered free to youth ages 10 to 18.
	Somerville	Inward Bound Program	\$70,000	Proposal designed to provide alternative education, employment and recreation programs to youth at risk by using the city's parks and existing facilities of two recreation providers. Somerville Youth Program and Somerville Boys & Girls Club will be partners.
	Waltham	YMCA High Flight Program	\$59,500	An activity-oriented prevention program designed to break the pattern of negative social behavior in teens at risk. 12 week program that includes ropes, maps, backpacking, camping and group problem solving.

INNOVATION PROJECTS FUNDED IN 1992

State	Locality	Project Name	Federal Dollars	Description of Project
MD	Baltimore	Penn North After School Program	\$100,000	A pilot program that offers an educational and recreational after-school program for children to 13 years old. Program will be offered at 3 facilities - John Eager Howard, Parkview Recreation Wing, and Robert C. Marshall Rec Center.
MI	Grand Rapids	Recreation to Reduce Risk	\$100,000	Proposal expands recreation programs at two neighborhood schools and a rec center with a variety of traditional and non traditional activities: sports, games, crafts, theater, and other cultural programs.
MN	Saint Paul	Neighborhoods In Transition	\$99,495	Proposal expands youth activities at 9 inner-city recreation centers through neighborhood outreach.
NC	Durham	Teenage Entrepreneur Training	\$70,000	An entrepreneur-based leadership training program for at-risk teens. To establish a mini-amusement park with roller skating rink, big bank shot, basketball games, arcade area with carnival-type games, a moon walker unit, a concession shelter and bleachers. Teens being trained to manage the facility and will eventually have total management responsibility.
	Fayetteville	T.E.A.M. Program	\$100,000	Combines a variety of sports and fitness, cultural and teaching activities in a joint program by schools and rec department to supply recreation, lifestyle training and drug education for 8-14 year olds.
	Wilmington	Know Thyself Cultural Enrichment	\$50,000	City will offer programs of multi-cultural artistic expression, involving visual arts, dance, music theatre, and literature with initial emphasis on African-American culture. Program broadens the scope of programming at 9 public housing complexes.
NJ	Hudson County	Urban Environmental Education Program	\$100,000	Two sites - Lincoln Park in Jersey City, and North Hudson Park in North Bergen. To create permanent outdoor educational sites through exhibits and nature interpretive programs, establishing college intern programs at 4 colleges in the county, and educating children who attend the existing Summer Camp program.
	Newark	First Class Championship Dev. Center	\$70,000	The First Class Championship Development Center will house a youth boxing program incorporating classroom training, physical conditioning, and motivational visits from professional boxers.
	Passaic	Recreation Services Improvement Proj	\$94,500	An afterschool program for children ages 8 to 12 is conducted at three locations. The second program for women offers classes ranging from fitness to creative arts.
	Paterson	Neighborhood Recreation Program	\$100,000	Outreach project to involve residents and volunteers in recreation programs. Two CDBG neighborhoods have been provided seed money for recreation supplies and equipment, technical assistance. Recreation Supervisors and staff will be hired for each neighborhood.

INNOVATION PROJECTS FUNDED IN 1992

State	Locality	Project Name	Federal Dollars	Description of Project
NJ	Plainfield	Hannah Atkins Recreation Recovery	\$100,000	The city's recreation and housing departments are providing recreation services at two 120-unit housing complexes in the city's West End community. Hanna Atkins Playground and Liberty Village Comm. Center will be restored to full use through renovation and new programs to bring in community residents.
	Vineland	Warehouse Recreation Center	\$100,000	Adaptive reuse of an abandoned warehouse for use by community groups to provide their own recreation programming. Funds will be used for renovation of building and purchase of equipment and supplies.
NY	Mt. Vernon	Mothers on the Move	\$99,400	Purchase of indoor and outdoor recreation equipment, playground equipment for city's only public low-income public housing unit known as Levisier Towers. Funds will be used to hire a program director to set-up recreation programs, train volunteer mothers to take over the program after one year.
	Schenectady	Parks Partnership Program	\$17,500	Project located at Jerry Burrell Park in the Hamilton Hill neighborhood. UPARR funds used for two Summer Rec. Leader positions, recreation equipment, special events, and public awareness.
	Syracuse	Southwest Community Rec. Partnership	\$80,842	Project located at Southwest Community Center. UPARR funds will be used for Program Coordinator, arts, crafts, music supplies, and baseball equipment.
OH	Dayton	Project 'RISK'	\$91,000	A youth outreach program for 14-20 year olds. Project will include expanding recreation programming at Roosevelt Center 3 nights a week from 10 pm to 2 am and 5 hours on Sundays. Provide transportation, outreach, career counseling, and personal awareness services to enhance self image, and seasonal employment for at least 10 participants.
PA	Chester	Youth-at-Risk Recreation Program	\$99,316	Program is located at newly renovated community center. City will hire program director, recreation coordinators, recreation leaders, program equipment to include art, music, drama, dance, games, fitness, sports, special events supplies and equipment. Purchase of a van to get participants to and from rec center.
	Erie	S.T.A.R.T.	\$100,000	A recreation and drug prevention program for at risk youth at two club facilities located at Franklin Terrace and West Eighth Street. UPARR funding will be for recreational equipment and supplies, and train recreation leaders

INNOVATION PROJECTS FUNDED IN 1992

State	Locality	Project Name	Federal Dollars	Description of Project
PA	Reading	Olivet Boys & Girls Club Youth Rec.	\$100,000	A youth recreational program at the Glenside Public Housing Site operated by the Olivet Boys and Girls Club, in partnership with the Housing Authority and the city. UPARR funds will be used for program administrative expenses, transportation to other facilities and events, recreational equipment and supplies.
	Wilkes-Barre	Recreation: The Right Choice	\$80,750	The city, in partnership with the CYC, to provide year around recreational programming for youth-at risk in the CYC facility. Program will identify at risk youth and supply arts, music, fitness, athletics, special events, community service projects, volunteerism, train recreation leaders, a marketing program, and evaluation of effectiveness.
PR	Bayamon	Mobile Arts and Sports Workshops	\$100,000	UPARR funds will be used to modify a mobile truck stage for plays and live performances. Outdoor recreation programs and activities will be provided to 20 public housing complexes within the city.
	Guaynabo	Recreation and Cultural Project	\$70,000	Recreation and cultural programming for housing complexes located in the inner-city area. UPARR funds to be used for staff, outreach, and recreation supplies and equipment.
	San Juan	After School Activities for Youth	\$70,000	Structured after-school activities at three school sites. Project involves hiring a project coordinator, three sports coordinators, purchase of recreational and sports equipment and supplies.
RI	Central Falls	Community Recreation Partnership	\$50,000	City's substance abuse prevention agency, Channel One-Central Falls, will provide recreation programming promoting drug abuse prevention, crime prevention, environmental awareness, and history of Blackstone Valley. UPARR funding will be used for coordination of junior park rangers. Central Falls crimestoppers, horticulture and maintenance supplies and equipment.
	Providence	ZOOPOWER-Drug Abuse Prevention	\$100,000	The city plans to use city's Roger Williams Park Zoo facilities to attract youth to alternatives to drugs and crime. Project will rehab cafeteria into a discovery lab, train teachers, employ students as zoo assistants.
TN	Knoxville	Fair Play Sports Program	\$100,000	Project includes tennis, golf, health/fitness, gymnastics, music, and dance programs at former school sites that have been closed as a result of desegregation. In addition, a health/fitness center will be located at two sites within the inner city. One of those sites serves as an intergenerational community school offering education, nutrition, recreation, fitness, and employment services.

INNOVATION PROJECTS FUNDED IN 1992

State	Locality	Project Name	Federal Dollars	Description of Project
TX	Beaumont	Youth-at-Risk Recreation Program	\$100,000	Recreation/counseling program for inner city youth 10-19 years old at five sites. Activities include: drug prevention, health and safety counseling, job, CPR, First Aid, and educational training.
	Bexar County	Green Brigade Program	\$100,000	County will, in partnership with a private nonprofit organization, train 30 youth in gardening and landscaping skills. Project is located in Rodriguez Park, in San Antonio, and youth will build model xeriscape gardens, trails, and serve as mentors to younger children in building a children's teaching garden.
	San Antonio	Roving Leader Outreach Program	\$100,000	Six street-wise recreation leaders will work in public housing projects and other low and moderate income areas, bringing recreational and referral services on wheels to at-risk youth. UPARR assistance will be for staffing, recreation and sports equipment and supplies.
VA	Danville	Cultural Arts Program	\$100,000	City will provide a cultural arts program for inner city youth at risk at the City Armory Recreation Center. Purchase of costumes and stage set supplies, upgrading of building, and exterior lighting.
	Newport News	Tennis Camp Intervention Program	\$73,368	A summer tennis camp intervention program for the youth in the city's CDBG target area. Youth from public housing complex given intensive summer camp experience that introduced them to tennis in mornings and provided structured math and reading classes in afternoons.
	Richmond	Recreation for Inner-City Youth	\$100,000	The city will employ a three-pronged approach to reach at risk youth in 7 of the city's housing projects: staffing, using 10 of the youth to assist in planning and implementing programs that meet their needs. Introducing new activities that are culturally, social, and ethnically different, and selecting 30 youth for leadership training.
WA	Seattle	Summer Teen Program & Consortium	\$100,000	The program implements model recreation programs at three community centers, and will suggest citywide programs to be based on the experience at the model sites.
	Tacoma	Natural High Recreation Program	\$100,000	An athletic program to teach youth skills that they may not otherwise be exposed to. Includes tennis, rowing, soccer and basketball activities, camping, hiking and other outdoor adventures at a variety of regional and national parks.
WI	Milwaukee County	Collaborative Recreational Programs	\$99,814	The city will expand recreation programming and services at the Washington Park neighborhood to meet the needs of the minority, low-income residents. Successful, recreation programs will be expanded to two other sites in the community.

INNOVATION PROJECTS FUNDED IN 1982

State	Locality	Project Name	Federal Dollars	Description of Project
WV	Wheeling	Recreation Program Nelson Jordan/Elk	\$83,805	Recreational programming for two sites -- Nelson Jordan Center and Elks Playground. Sports, arts and crafts, exercise and entertainment programs will be expanded at the Jordan Center, and model airplane building with an introduction to the real aviation world, including pre-flight instruction and an actual flying experience. UPARR assistance provides equipment, supplies, and staff coordinators.

Rehabilitation Grants Awarded in Fiscal Year 1991

One of the key features of the UPARR program is its ability to support projects that restore recreation facilities to full use within a short period of time. In 1991, 104 Rehabilitation grants were awarded to economically hard pressed communities whose recreation facilities were closed or in such hazardous condition that recreation activities were severely limited. UPARR grants made these resources available again, and in some cases, led to expansion of existing services through redesign and renovation. Following is a list of Rehabilitation grants that were awarded in 1991.



REHABILITATION PROJECTS FUNDED IN 1991

State	Locality	Project Name	Federal Dollars	Description of Project
AL	Florence	Martin Park	\$87,115	Three picnic shelters, accessible play equipment, removal of electrical and building hazards.
	Huntsville	Scruggs Community Center	\$145,503	Rehabilitation of Scruggs Community Center.
AZ	Phoenix	Verde Park	\$249,900	Rehabilitation of entire Verde Park and its recreation center.
CA	Bellflower	T. Mayne Thompson Park	\$54,600	Rehabilitate entire irrigation system.
	Berkeley	Frances Albrier Community Center	\$168,000	Rehabilitation of Frances Albrier Comm. Center in San Pablo Park.
	Fresno	Dickey Park	\$199,750	Renovate recreation building and replace playground equipment.
	Long Beach	California Community Center	\$248,000	Rehabilitation of community center.
	Los Angeles	Downey Community Bldg. & Bathhouse	\$245,000	Renovate community center.
	Oakland	San Antonio Park	\$250,000	Rehabilitation of playground and recreation center.
	Oxnard	Colonia Boxing Center	\$182,000	Renovate Boxing Center facility.
	Richmond	Nevin Center and Park	\$245,000	Renovate Nevin Park adult activities area and childrens play area.
	Sacramento	Johnston Swimming Pool Bldg.	\$249,950	Convert swimming pool facility into an indoor recreation center.
	San Francisco	Potrero Hill Recreation Center	\$249,900	Rehabilitation of Potrero Hill Recreation Center that was damaged in the 1989 earthquake.
	San Jose	Roosevelt Community Center	\$249,900	Rehabilitation of Roosevelt Community Center.
	Santa Ana	Madison Park	\$199,990	Renovate ball fields and courts, parking area, walkways, and tot lot.
CT	Bridgeport	Rehab. of Three Neighborhood Parks	\$249,998	Rehabilitation of Lafayette Park, Jessup Park, and Longfellow tot lot.
	New Haven	Winslow-Augustine Field	\$225,250	Rehabilitation of Winslow-Augustine play field damaged by a tornado.
DC	Washington	Harrison Recreation Center	\$250,000	Rehabilitation of Harrison Recreation Center and playground.

REHABILITATION PROJECTS FUNDED IN 1991

State	Locality	Project Name	Federal Dollars	Description of Project
FL	Bradenton	Rehab. - Three Recreation Facilities	\$147,035	Renovate Boys club, Police Athletic League, and 13th Avenue Youth Center. Renovation includes playground equipment, restrooms, electrical, plumbing and weatherization, gym insulation.
	Broward County	Delevoe Park	\$233,000	Rehabilitation of Delevoe Park recreation building.
	Dade County	Dr. Martin Luther King Memorial Park	\$249,999	Rehabilitation of Martin Luther King Memorial Park playfields, ball courts, playground, picnic areas.
	Hialeah	Rehab of Four Neighborhood Pools	\$249,900	Rehabilitation of 4 neighborhood swimming pools.
	Jacksonville	Rehab of Three Neighborhood Centers	\$249,999	Renovation of restrooms, air conditioners and ventilation systems, install windows and doors.
	Miami	Dorsey Park	\$250,000	Rehabilitation of 2.5 acre neighborhood park.
	North Miami Beach	Washington Park	\$57,000	Rehabilitation of pool house, deck, and pool.
	Orlando	John H. Jackson Neighborhood Center	\$249,999	Rehabilitation of recreation center.
	Tampa	Fair Oaks Community Center	\$249,999	Rehabilitation of recreation center.
	Atlanta	Bulter Park Recreation Center	\$250,000	Rehabilitation of recreation center.
GA	Chicago	Touhy/Herbert Park	\$250,000	Rehabilitation of play fields, playground, spray pool, picnic facilities, center building.
IL	Evanston	Fleetwood-Jourdain Community Center	\$115,000	Rehabilitation of community center.
	Bloomington	Westside Community Center	\$249,999	Rehabilitate interior and exterior of recreation center.
	East Chicago	Nunez Park/Clemente Comm. Center	\$89,864	Rehabilitation of community center and swimming pool facility.
	Gary	Rehab Three Swimming Pools	\$152,460	Rehabilitation of 3 public swimming pools located at Washington Park, Howe Park, and Hatcher Park.
	Kokomo	Carver Community Center	\$250,000	Rehabilitation of community center building.

REHABILITATION PROJECTS FUNDED IN 1991

State	Locality	Project Name	Federal Dollars	Description of Project
KY	Covington	Randolph Pool	\$113,300	Rehabilitation of neighborhood swimming pool.
	Louisville	California Park	\$249,999	Rehabilitation of recreation building, ball fields, courts, picnic shelter.
LA	New Orleans	John P. Lyons Recreation Center	\$175,000	Rehabilitation of recreation center building.
	Shreveport	Rehab of Three Neighborhood Parks	\$175,000	Allendale Park, Thomas Field Park, Valencia Park - playground equipment, resurface ball courts, exercise trails, tot lots, and lighting.
MA	Boston	Winthrop Playground	\$250,000	Replace playground equipment, rehabilitate ball courts and passive areas.
	Cambridge	Market Street Playground	\$181,426	Replace playground equipment, resurfacing, and walkways.
	Essex County	Green Street Field	\$156,100	Rehabilitate play fields, ball courts.
	Holyoke	MacKenzie Field	\$119,412	Rehabilitate playfields and restroom building.
	Lawrence	West Street Park	\$158,740	Rehabilitate play fields, spray pool, passive areas.
	Lowell	McPherson Park Pool	\$250,000	Replace pool facility, rehabilitate bathhouse.
	Salem	Curtis Park	\$96,152	Replace playground equipment, rehabilitate passive area and ball court.
	Springfield	Jaime Ulloa Park	\$250,000	Replace playground equipment, rehabilitate passive area and add spray pool.
MD	Baltimore	William McAbee Playground & Pool	\$250,000	Replace playground equipment, rehabilitate ball courts, swimming facility.
ME	Portland	Pleasant Street & Peppermint Park	\$131,583	Rehabilitate Peperment Park playground, swimming pool, passive areas. Pleasant Street Park - rehabilitate spray pool, playground, ball court.
MI	Pontiac	Murphy Park	\$200,550	Rehabilitate parking lot, tot lot, picnic area, warming house, plazas, ice rink, walkways trails, landscaping.
MN	Minneapolis	Peavey Park	\$250,000	Rehabilitate picnic areas, playground, wading pool, and play fields.
MO	Kansas City	Garrison Community Center	\$250,000	Rehabilitate community center building.
MS	Gulfport	Magnolia Grove Community Center	\$31,850	Rehabilitate community center building.
	Hattiesburg	Pine Belt Boys & Girls Club	\$71,295	The city converted one wing of an abandoned school into a Boys & Girls Club. The area in this wing is to be rehabilitated.
	Meridian	Velma Young Park	\$46,500	Replace playground equipment.
	Miss Point	Sue Ellen Recreation Center	\$18,000	Rehabilitate recreation center building.

REHABILITATION PROJECTS FUNDED IN 1991

State	Locality	Project Name	Federal Dollars	Description of Project	
NC	High Point	Southside Neighborhood Center	\$115,500	Rehabilitation of center's roof and stage.	
	Wilmington	Rankin Community Enrichment Center	\$134,400	Rehabilitation of center's interior and landscaping.	
	Winston-Salem	Reynolds Park Pool	\$148,680	Rehabilitate swimming pool facility.	
	Omaha	Fontenelle Park	\$250,000	Rehabilitate ballfields, play courts, restrooms, walkways, landscaping.	
NJ	Camden	Fourth & Washington Park	\$250,000	Rehabilitate play courts, picnic areas, and playground.	
	Essex County	Rehabilitation of Three Parks	\$250,000	Independence Park-playground and ballfields. Rehabilitate playgrounds at Orange Park and Riverbank Parks.	
PA	Hoboken	Stevens Park	\$126,448	New playground equipment, rehabilitate wading pool, and landscaping.	
	Jersey City	Arlington Park	\$217,350	New playground equipment, rehabilitate play courts, and landscaping.	
	Newark	Boylan Street Pool	\$250,000	Rehabilitate swimming pool facility.	
	Passaic	Puasi Park	\$250,000	New playground equipment, renovate play and ball courts, and ballfields.	
	Perth Amboy	Rehab of Four Neighborhood Parks	\$147,078	Washington Park, Seamen Street Park, Francis Street Park, and State Street Park. Resurface basketball courts, new playground equipment, renovate passive areas and one restroom.	
	NY	Hempstead	Rehabilitation of Three Parks	\$249,900	Mirshel Park, Brierly Park, and Campbell Park - rehabilitate ballfields, restrooms, playgrounds, play courts, picnic areas.
		New York	John Rozier Hansborough Rec. Center	\$249,999	Rehabilitate swimming pool facility.
		Syracuse	McKinley Park Bathhouse & Pool	\$175,000	Rehabilitate swimming pool facility, bathhouse, and parking area.
OH	Cincinnati	Lincoln Center Outdoor Area	\$249,999	New playground equipment, fencing, and landscaping, resurface play court and basketball court,	
	Cleveland	Regent Park	\$249,999	New playground equipment, renovate playground, ball fields, spray pool, fencing, lighting, walkways, landscaping.	
	Columbus	Glenwood Community Rec. Center	\$249,999	Renovate center's plumbing, heating, doors, windows, exterior paint, and handicap accessibility.	
	Hamilton	Wilson Pool	\$93,800	Demolish and replace bathhouse at same site. Pool was previously renovated with UPARR funds in 1983.	

REHABILITATION PROJECTS FUNDED IN 1991

State	Locality	Project Name	Federal Dollars	Description of Project
OH	Toledo	Highland Park Shelterhouse	\$250,000	Renovate shelterhouse, paint interior and exterior, rehabilitate walkways, landscaping.
OK	Muskogee	Honor Heights Park Swimming Pool	\$70,000	Rehabilitate swimming pool facility.
OR	Portland	Portland Recreation Center Rehab	\$250,000	Rehabilitate recreation center's interior.
PA	Allentown	Jordan Park & Stevens Park	\$93,100	New playground equipment, and resurfacing
	Chester	Rehab of Community Center	\$249,999	Rehabilitate center's interior, add an indoor roller skating rink.
	Harrisburg	Sunshine Park	\$111,002	Rehabilitate ball fields and ball courts, add picnic pavilion.
	Hazelton	Mt. Laurel Pool & Recreation Complex	\$138,855	Renovate ball courts, picnic areas, fitness trail, roads, and concession stand. Non-profit Graham Foundation will do pool and bathhouse.
	Philadelphia	Olney Recreation Center	\$249,999	Renovate indoor facility, and outdoor basketball courts, new playground equipment, resurface walkways.
	Pittsburgh	Baxter Playground	\$250,000	Replace playground equipment, resurfacing play area, restructure barriers for accessibility, improve lighting.
PR	Guaynabo	Mamey Park	\$175,000	New playground equipment, renovation of ball courts, ball fields, restrooms, lighting and fencing.
RI	Providence	Rehab. of Three Neighborhood Parks	\$102,407	Salisbury Street Park, Ellery Street Park, and Niagara Street Park. New playground equipment, rehabilitate ball courts, and support facilities.
SC	Greenville	Cleveland Park	\$52,500	New playground equipment, rehabilitate play courts and ball fields, picnic areas and trails.
	Spartanburg	Cleveland Park	\$35,000	New playground equipment, rehabilitate restroom facility and walkways.
TN	Chattanooga	Warner Park	\$249,900	Rehabilitate recreation center, tennis courts, lighting, and fencing.
	Clarksville	Valley Brook Park	\$122,150	New playground equipment, demolish concession stand/restroom facility and replace with a new one, renovation of ball fields.
	Knoxville	Rehabilitation of Two Parks	\$157,500	Harriet Tubman Park - playground equipment, ball courts, restrooms, picnic area. Morningside Park-bike trails, walkways, restroom and shelter, lighting picnic area, and exercise stations.
TX	Austin	Mabson Little League Baseball Field	\$65,576	Renovate little league baseball field, restrooms, concession building, and parking lot.

REHABILITATION PROJECTS FUNDED IN 1981

State	Locality	Project Name	Federal Dollars	Description of Project
TX	Beaumont	Best Years Senior Activity Center	\$173,120	Rehabilitate senior citizen center to include handicapped accessibility, restroom facility, new heating system, flooring, lighting, landscaping.
	El Paso	Armijo Recreation Center	\$250,000	Renovate flooring, lighting heating/cooling system, and improve accessibility.
	Houston	Law Park Youth Sports Fields	\$250,000	Renovation of ball fields, and lighting.
	McAllen	Rehab of Five Parks	\$200,000	Sequin School Park, Alvarez School, Navarro School, Bonham School, and Airport Park. Playground equipment, play court, irrigation system, plant trees, picnic area, improve handicapped accessibility.
	San Antonio	Brackenridge Park Playascape	\$249,999	Convert old unused bathhouses into playascape, new picnic area, renovate restrooms, improve handicap accessibility.
UT	Ogden	Lorin Farr Swimming Pool	\$68,000	Rehabilitate swimming pool and bathhouse.
	Newport News	Julius Conn Gym	\$105,700	Replace roof of Gym.
VA	Portsmouth	Neighborhood Facility Rec. Center	\$195,000	Renovate center and improve accessibility.
WA	Seattle	Langston Hughes Cultural Arts Center	\$250,000	Renovate center and improve access for people with disabilities.
	Tacoma	Two Salehan Parks & Community Cen	\$168,000	Rehabilitate outdoor park, playground, picnic area. Community center includes playground equipment, picnic area, restrooms, and spray-wading pool.
WI	Milwaukee County	Lincoln Park	\$250,000	Renovate swimming pool, playground equipment, resurface play court.
WV	Charleston	Rehab Three Recreation Centers	\$115,000	Riverview Recreation Center - renovate center building, fencing, ball court, Dunbar-Second Avenue - resurface ball court, and renovate center. Vandallia Recreation Center - resurface pool and deck, new steps, playground equipment, picnic area and shelter.
	Huntington	St. Cloud Commons Recreation Bldg	\$129,000	Renovate center's building, walkways, and patio.
	Wheeling	Rehab of Three Recreation Sites	\$196,200	Nelson Jordan Center - renovate building, improve access, install new floor in gym. Belle Isle - ball fields, bleachers, playground equipment, picnic facility, and ball courts. Garden Park-playground equipment, play court, passive area, improve accessibility.



ASLA

STATEMENT OF ROBERT A. WEYGAND
 LT. GOVERNOR, STATE OF RHODE ISLAND
 ON BEHALF OF THE
 AMERICAN SOCIETY OF LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTS
 TO THE HOUSE NATURAL RESOURCES SUBCOMMITTEE ON
 NATIONAL PARKS, FORESTS AND PUBLIC LANDS
 REGARDING THE CRIME BILL
 FOR THE RECORD, MARCH 10, 1994

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Mr. Chairman, I am Robert A. Weygand. I am Lt. Governor of the State of Rhode Island, as well as a landscape architect. It is in the latter capacity that I enter these remarks today.

On behalf of the 10,500 members of the American Society of Landscape Architects, I want to let you know how very appropriate is your inquiry into linkages between urban quality of life—perhaps symbolized best throughout our nation's history through our urban parks—and public safety. To give you our read on the current state, I think it would be useful for me to read into the record a quote, if I may.

"...public order there was in a dark eclipse. It had been declining all through the years, when a million and a half immigrants had poured into the city, many of them to crowd and stagnate in its sordid and degrading slums. There gangs, native and foreign born, fought and slaughtered each other; in better neighborhoods pickpockets, prostitutes and beggars

operated busily...The mayor and his police defied the new police commissioner. Even after the authority of the new police was established, order was not; a gang attacked a liquor store and precipitated two days of murdering violence in which other gangs...enthusiastically joined; and less than two weeks later an armed mob, alleged to have been mostly immigrants, attacked the police. In both instances the militia had to be called.

These disturbances pointed to grievous conditions of dense ignorance, cruel poverty, reckless despair—conditions that were then aggravated by a far reaching catastrophe, which had been slowly building—an economic recession.”

This sounds like a typical report on South Central Los Angeles circa May, 1992. But actually, the author is describing New York City in 1857, when public officials made the pivotal decision to build Central Park. Their purpose: Not only a sorely needed public works project, but also using the park as a tool of social reform to counteract the frenetic and demoralizing conditions of urban life in mid 19th century America. The quote, I should note, comes from Laura Roper’s excellent 1973 biography

of Frederick Law Olmsted, Sr., Johns Hopkins University Press, pp. 130-1.

More than a century later, people too often misunderstand and minimize the role of urban parks in America. For proof: Look in almost any city and see what the great legacy of historic parks from Olmsted to Jensen has become; look at the neighborhood and community parks that are hosts not to residents or little leagues, but to the drug trade; look at the children who are absent from the scene.

In Chicago, where ASLA and the Landscape Architecture Foundation's Center for Design Innovation operates an Urban Innovation Project, look at the children whose lives are lived at DuSable High School; the hi-rise, monolithic Robert Taylor Homes public housing project; and their churches—but never in a park, never around trees, grass, natural areas.

Actually, we and other design professionals are working with the students there to design and construct a park and environmental education center. And because even we may minimize the effect that park may have on the lives of these students—for the problems they face are staggering—we intend to continue long-term ties with these children in order to assess and document the role that this kind of community investment can play.

While urban parks—and they are many and varied—obviously serve important aesthetic and environmental purposes, the sociological functions

which were fundamental to Frederick Law Olmsted and Calvert Vaux when they embarked on the design of Central Park seem more important today than ever before.

This makes all the more frustrating the fact that the state of urban parks in America has rapidly deteriorated over the last several decades. Looking at the federal budget and at the federal parks and open space agenda, it appears that there is not much that we can expect through established funding sources. I have attached a copy of a chart showing the generally declining dollars available to state and local governments through one of the established funding sources, the Land and Water Conservation Fund.

ASLA feels so strongly the need to address down-and-dirty, nitty-gritty urban park projects that we have asked for the state-side of the Land and Water Conservation Fund to be reprioritized. Frankly, we believe it is no longer the time for federal park and recreation dollars to be spent on softball fields in suburbia. There is no longer the time for these dollars to support development of golf courses in affluent areas. This is the time for asking states and localities to give us their projects with meaning.

It is our perception, Mr. Chairman, that LWCF state-side funding is seen often as a formula grant sop to every state's jurisdiction, not as a

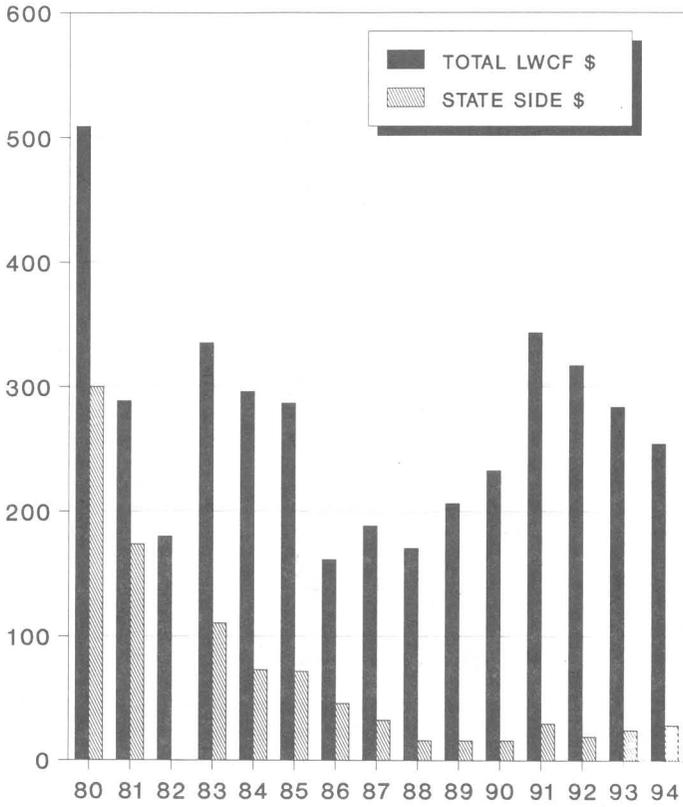
means to wilderness protection, ecological fitness, or urban welfare. ASLA suggests that the states be asked to adopt criteria that will insure selection of emergency cases in forwarding SCORP-listed projects to the Secretary of the Interior. We suggest that a project must meet at least one criteria:

- Acquisition of wilderness lands;
 - Acquisition of prime open space lands to prevent their loss to development or improve the function of an ecological system;
- or—and this has the most meaning for today’s hearing—
- Acquisition and/or development of urban and rural lands where
 - 1) Holistic, complete projects can be undertaken to have a measurable impact on the quality of life in the community; and
 - 2) Substantial levels of poverty and economic dislocation are found.

It occurs to us that if we are able to redirect a little bit of LWCF funds here and a little bit of crime funds there, we may be able to start building and rebuilding the symbolic centers of some of our nation’s cities. In addition, the availability and linkages of LWCF and crime bill funds for inner-city restoration has to be understood and coordinated by the

Departments of Justice and Housing and Urban Development, not just Interior. The bureaucratic walls that divide these agencies must come down and partnerships bloom, if we are going to bring new growth to our urban parks and the communities they serve.

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March 9, 1994

Mr. George Miller, Chairman
Subcommittee on Oversight & Investigations

Mr. Bruce F. Vento, Chairman
Subcommittee on National Parks, Forests and Public Lands

Dear Subcommittee Chairmen:

This letter represents the views and concerns of directors of many youth sports and recreation programs in U.S. urban communities. Since 1986, I have worked with many inner-city youth programs founded on the principles of sports, recreation and education. Through these working relationships, I am able to speak from first-hand experience that these community-based programs such as Midnight Basketball, Soccer in the Streets, Inner-City Games and the Hank Aaron Rookie League have a dramatic impact on deterring violence among youth in their communities.

These programs are held in any available location within each community, including parks and recreation facilities, community centers and open fields. The people who serve as directors of these programs are dynamic, caring, and committed community members who chose to become actively involved in creating programs with emphasis on positive leadership and lifestyles. These leaders are one of this country's greatest "Natural Resources" in the fight against violence in urban communities. Yet, they continually find themselves without proper funding, or available funding resources, necessary to provide adequate services within each of their communities.

Many of these impassioned individuals support entire communities without any form of compensation other than appreciative smiles from the children or a quiet "thank you." It is a disgrace that, within the American system, we do not have a strong, identifiable means of supporting these programs allowing these remarkable individuals to focus on ways of providing positive, alternative programs within their communities. Our communities need the support of the Federal government and its entities in providing more adequate funding sources for such programs.

In 1993 the Inner-City Games, an inner-city sports and education program founded by Mr. Danny Hernandez, touched the lives of over 120,000 inner city youth in Los Angeles and Atlanta. These games prove that by giving "troubled" inner-city youth a positive alternative sports program that they do grow, and even excel within the areas of sports and education. During the riots in Los Angeles, the host community for

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the Inner-City Games was untouched by violence. This occurrence brought national recognition to their program, but they continue to struggle in their efforts to find the necessary funding to expand their program to other cities nationwide. The Inner-City Games provides support to other year-round programs such as the Boys and Girls Clubs, Midnight Basketball and The Judo Challenge.

Another outstanding youth program started in the Washington D. C. area, Midnight Basketball, has only recently received the national support they have deserved for over a decade, and have begun to see a profound impact during the often-violent hours between 10 pm and midnight. This program has succeeded because of the personal concern and commitment, as well as the passion and relentless devotion of its leadership including the late founder, Van Standifer, and regional directors such as Mr. Gil Walker of Chicago and Mr. Emanuel Hunt of Atlanta.

Carolyn McKenzie cared for the young people in her community so greatly that she voluntarily gave up her income and now devotes her entire life to providing a way for small communities across the U. S. to "Kick Drugs and Crime" through Soccer in the Streets. Carolyn diligently contributes untiring and endless hours, without the support staff she needs due to budget constraints, traveling throughout our country promoting and forming these programs. Her dedication to working with children is an excellent example of humanitarian efforts often-times gone unheralded.

To conclude, these programs need your support - not just your letters of accommodation but your financial support as well. Programs, as I have described above, play an important part in our efforts to curb violence within our inner-cities. The question then becomes, "How many of us are able to go into these communities and do what Danny Hernandez, Gil Walker and Carolyn McKenzie are doing?"

We do not need them meeting with corporations or lobbying in Washington; **we need them in our communities healing our children and providing the support that is needed to strengthen America's families.** We do not need them building park and recreational facilities or petitioning their local school system to allow them "free" access to their gymnasiums or playgrounds. If we provide these "Natural Resources" with what they need to make the program go and each child a "winner", they will succeed. If they are not allowed to achieve their goals due to lack of proper facilities or funding, we will lose a great deal more than just another youth sports program - children's lives will be lost.

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Time is of the essence. Today, we are losing this country's most precious asset - our children. Tomorrow, we will continue to lose more children to drugs, guns and family violence at an increasingly alarming rate. How many more lives can America afford to lose while we are in the process of deciding if we prefer to cure this "disease" or merely treat the symptoms. Building new prisons will not provide the "cure". It is imperative that we seek to provide alternative community-based programs to begin to treat the symptoms.

The community leaders speaking to you today can provide the answers. Please listen to what they have to say, consider their ideas and concerns, knowing that the problems exist in every community in the United States.

I am here today because I can no longer bear to stand and watch our children cry louder and longer. There are thousands of other Americans who feel as I do. I know I speak for all individuals involved in inner-city youth programs. We are very tired of watching while these children suffer; we want to help. **We know we can make a difference.**

On behalf of all individuals not present today, we strongly ask your support in favor of increasing monies for America's youth programs.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Ms. Sparrow Marcioni



*“The Alternative”*SM



**The National Association of
Midnight Basketball Leagues, Inc.**

A non-profit organization - Founded 1986

"The Midnight Basketball League is not just about playing basketball. It's about providing a vehicle upon which citizens, businesses and institutions can get involved in the war against crime, violence and drug abuse." -G. Van Standifer, Midnight Basketball League Founder

INTRODUCTION

In 1986 the late G. Van Standifer, former Town Manager of Glenarden, Maryland, found himself reading too many negative stories. Young men in his community were participants or victims of crime and violence in record numbers. Some, he knew, were neither gang members nor drug dealers. They were simply in the wrong place at the wrong time. The incidents had a pattern: most occurred late at night or in the early morning hours and involved young men from 17 to 25 years of age. Out of school and unemployed, these young men were likely to stay up late. Their idle hands were fertile ground for negative and often criminal activities. Standifer wanted to provide these young men with an alternative. But what activity had enough appeal to get them off the streets, keep them alive and give them a fighting chance? Perhaps the young men's game of choice would work...basketball!

Standifer founded the Midnight Basketball League (MBL) to provide young adults in the community with a safe, structured and supervised alternative during the time they are most vulnerable to the drug culture and the crime it spawns. Basketball practices and games were played twice a week from 10 p.m. to 2 p.m. Local businesses provided funding as team sponsors. Uniformed law enforcement officers were on-hand to ensure that the gymnasium was a safe place for all involved. After the games and practices, participants attended mandatory workshops with intervention and self-improvement themes. These workshops were given by experts and professionals from a wide range of fields on topics of interest and relevance to the young men in attendance. Topics included safe sex, drug and alcohol abuse, job interviewing, GED requirements, college programs, job training programs and conflict resolution. One player described a workshop he attended: "I was taught to sell myself: how to dress, how to have the right attitude on a job. I was really happy about how things went."

MBL created the additional benefit of uniting the community around the players. A noticeable increase in family and public housing community solidarity resulted from team support. Even with the late hours of the games, crowds numbered up to 200, with parents and grandparents in attendance. As one MBL player remembers: "A lot of people from the neighborhood came out to watch and cheer us." Local newspapers published MBL box scores and team standings. In addition, local community colleges and trade schools provided scholarships for MBL participants. This community affirmation sent the players a message that there are people who care about them and want to see them succeed if they are willing to help themselves.

Standifer hoped that the combination of keeping these young men off the street and out trouble during the peak hours of drug and crime related activity, exposing them to positive influences and ideas through the workshops, and encouraging them to complete school or continue their education and develop marketable skills would give them the opportunity to see a better life. G. Van Standifer died September 17, 1992 but his vision is very much alive in the MBL programs that have spread across the country from his concepts and encouragement. Each chapter follows format and rules of the original program with leadership from the local community.

"The difference between a safe country and a country that is going down the tubes is the degree that we pay attention to the young people of this nation."

-Samuel Saxon, director of Prince George's County (Maryland) Department of Corrections

*"If there's just one participant and we've made a difference in his life, then its worth it."
-G. Van Standifer, Midnight Basketball League Founder*

THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION - OBJECTIVES

The National Association of Midnight Basketball Leagues, Inc. (NAMBL) is the official representative and governing entity for all MBL chapters and activities. Each chapter has a voice in the national operations of the program through NAMBL. It was formed to aid the activities of all chapters, to foster consistency and growth, and to ensure the continued effectiveness of the program. The NAMBL objectives are:

- to aid communities in the fight against crime, violence and substance abuse
- to increase the number of MBL participants
- to maximize and coordinate fundraising for MBL
- to assist in the development of MBL chapters by providing management training, technical assistance and national communications
- to foster interaction and information sharing among MBL chapters through meetings, tournaments and seminars

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