

FY 2007 SOUTH OMAHA WEED & SEED CONTINUATION STRATEGY
City of Omaha, Nebraska
Application# 2007-W0037-NE-WS

Law Enforcement/Criminal Justice

Strategy Summary: According to the crime analysis data, there is a greater need to intensify enforcement in regards to drugs and gang activity. The Omaha Police Department is assuring the presence and visibility of its Officers in the community to improve the quality of life and maintain public safety. Officers will decrease crime within the target area by focusing on hot spot areas.

Goal 1	Reduce illegal drug and gang activity
Status	<p>The Omaha Police Department's two Gang Suppression Squads, the Omaha Police Department Gang Intelligence Unit, State Probation, Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE), the Metro Drug Task Force and the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) are all working together to rid the area of illegal drugs and gang activity.</p> <p>The Omaha Police Department Gang Unit has reorganized and specific officers are assigned to the South Omaha areas that encompass the Weed & Seed areas. The Omaha Police Department Gang Intelligence Squad has identified 28 gangs with 3,306 members in the Omaha area</p> <p>The Omaha Police Department is committed to the presence and visibility of its Officers in the community to improve the quality of life. Officers will decrease crime within the target area by focusing on hot spot areas.</p>
Objective 1	Intensify efforts to arrest hardcore offenders
Status	This is an on-going effort among the surrounding law enforcement agencies
Objective 2	Intensify law enforcement/community efforts in the Southside Terrace area related to denying drug suppliers a market.
Status	There is an increase of beat patrols in the area, aside from the directed operations. Omaha Housing Authority (OHA) Security is taking a great part in the profiling of gang members within the public housing facilities to share with the police department and assist in the arrests of possible drug market suppliers. Officers of the Omaha Police Department have improved their communication with OHA through written reports and by attending regular OHA meetings. Several ongoing investigations are currently under way by the Omaha Police Gang Unit within the South Side Terrace and other areas within the Weed & Seed boundaries.
Activity/Task/Project	<p>Officers of the Omaha Police Department have been assigned to foot and/or bike patrols in the South 24th Street business district, Southside Terrace, and Upland Park. This increase of visibility has helped address the complaints of drinking in public, public urination and complaints of open drug markets and gang activity.</p> <p>Priority is taken on the South 24th Street area due to opening business inclusive of childcare facilities.</p> <p>Intensify efforts to identify, arrest and prosecute graffiti offenders</p> <p>Hot Spot Operations completed by Uniform Patrol and the Gang Suppression</p>

	<p>Unit will continue to address emerging crime issues based on crime analysis data. Omaha Housing Authority Security continues to provide security and assist with building the gang member database. Equipment will be purchased for surveillance of criminals in the Weed & Seed Target area.</p> <p>Imitation Dome Security Cameras will be purchased and placed to deter graffiti.</p> <p>State Probation will complete operations in the target area to closely monitor the activity of the individuals on probation. Necessary equipment will be purchased to ensure safety of the Officers.</p> <p>Police Officers will attend Weed & Seed Conferences to learn about the latest trends.</p>
Implementation Plan	Omaha Police Department will oversee the implementation of this project with the assistance of the Weed & Seed Coordinator.
Outcome Measure	Crimes involving violence will decrease in the designated area by 10% within six months of grant onset.
Funding Support	<p>The project cost totals \$49,327. Cost will be allocated as follows: Weed and Seed at 89%, City of Omaha (including the Omaha Police Department) at 11%.</p> <p>Budget Detail Section: A1, A2, A3, A4, A5, B1, C1, C2, D2, D4, D5, D6, D7, D8, I1</p> <p>Match: A12-A15, B2-B7, I2</p>

Goal 2	Reduce illegal drug and gang activity, particularly in open-air drug markets.
Status	Gang activity is further addressed in the Special Emphasis. Project Safe Neighborhoods operations are being conducted to address the criminal activity.
Objective 1	Intensify law enforcement/community efforts related to denying drug suppliers a market.
Status	Officers continue to work with neighborhood associations in order to address problems. Officers and/or Command Officers attend monthly meetings in order to gather information from the community regarding crime trends, suspicious activity and quality-of-life issues.
Activity/Task/Project	There will be Enforcement Operations throughout the grant period to address community concerns. The Omaha Police Department and the South Omaha Probation Office will be supplied a leased automobile for undercover operations. Officers will continue meeting with the public. Police Officers will attend Weed & Seed Conferences to learn about the latest trends.
Implementation Plan	The Omaha Police Department will oversee the implementation of this project in collaboration with the Weed & Seed Coordinator, Weed & Seed Steering Committee and the Community Resource Center.
Outcome Measure	Resident surveys will indicate a 15% improvement status perception in regards to drug dealing and gang activity in the neighborhood.
Funding Support	The project cost totals \$19,772. Cost will be allocated as follows: Weed and Seed at 80%, City of Omaha (including the Omaha Police Department) at 20%. Budget Detail Section: A1, B1, C1, C2, G8, G9, I1 Match: A12-A15, B2-B7, I2

Goal 3	Reduce illegal drug, gang, and other criminal activity in the area.
Status	Juvenile Probation, Parole, and the Omaha Police Department are currently conducting operations in the target area.
Objective 1	Intensify law enforcement efforts related to youth in the designated area.
Status	Juvenile Probation, Parole, and the Omaha Police Department will continue to conduct operations in the target area. Community events will continue through Weed & Seed that focus on youth and police officer participation.
Activity/Task/Project	Omaha Police Department, Parole and Probation, and Project Safe Neighborhoods will conduct Nightlight and Cease Fire Operations. Law Enforcement will actively enforce speed in the target area, which will lead to drug and criminal arrests. Steering Committee and the Omaha Police Department will further address this goal and objective through the Special Emphasis - Anti-Gang Crime Initiative. Police Officers will attend Weed & Seed Conferences to learn about the latest trends.
Implementation Plan	The Omaha Police Department will oversee the implementation of this project in collaboration with the Weed & Seed Coordinator, the U.S. Attorney's Office, Parole and Probation, and Project Safe Neighborhoods. The Steering Committee and the Omaha Police Department will further address this goal and objective through the Special Emphasis - Anti-Gang Crime Initiative.
Outcome Measure	A minimum of six Project Safe Neighborhood Nightlight Operations will take place.
Funding Support	The project cost totals \$12,252. Cost will be allocated as follows: Weed and Seed at 67%, City of Omaha (including Omaha Police Department) at 33%. Budget Detail Section: A1, B1, C1, C2, D1, I1 Match: A12-A15, B2-B7, I2

Community Oriented Policing

Strategy Summary: Law enforcement is coordinating with the Crime Prevention Specialist, residents and the Weed & Seed Program Coordinator to improve the status of police and resident relations. It is important to involve residents in progressive involvement to prevent criminal activity within the neighborhood. Residents are expected to mobilize in order to make changes in the neighborhood.

Goal 1	Build rapport between the police and local residents.
Status	<p>Bike Patrols and foot patrols are regularly assigned in the target areas.</p> <p>Officers and Command Officers regularly attend neighborhood association meetings.</p> <p>Area residents and community leaders will be actively recruited to attend Weed & Seed meetings to provide community input.</p>
Objective 1	Enhance effective lines of communication for the police and community regarding criminal activities.
Status	<p>The Omaha Police Department has a community police program that teaches area residents, agency leaders, public housing staff and business owners about the police department. The classes provided the participant with insight and information about the how the police department functions. The program educates residents on various aspects, such as police selection and training, domestic violence, graffiti and gangs, narcotics, police safety tactics, crime prevention, and Weed & Seed.</p> <p>The South East Precinct has held several "Open House" events for residents having 400-800 people in attendance. The Crime Prevention Specialist and the Weed & Seed Coordinator distributed flyers in the Weed & Seed schools and business.</p> <p>Weed & Seed created a website, www.omahaweedandseed.org, to continue to enhance communication of Weed & Seed activities with the community.</p>
Activity/Task/Project	<p>Foot and Bike patrols will be assigned throughout the target area so the officers can interact with the community. These type of patrols will focus on the South 24th Street Business District and the Omaha Housing Authority's Southside Terrace to ensure the best results.</p> <p>The Police Department works with residents on community events.</p> <p>The Omaha Police Department will conduct Vehicle Enforcement Operations to address dead storage violations which will help increase the quality of life in the target areas.</p> <p>Omaha Police Officers, Sergeants and the Crime Prevention Specialist will conduct community training education programs and community policing events to build rapport.</p> <p>The Crime Prevention Specialist and the Weed & Seed Coordinator will distribute flyers in the Weed & Seed schools and business.</p> <p>The University of Nebraska @ Omaha will complete a process/impact evaluation of the South Omaha Weed & Seed target area.</p>
Implementation Plan	The project is ongoing. The Omaha Police Department will oversee the implementation of this project in collaboration with the Crime Prevention

	Specialist and the Weed & Seed Coordinator.
Outcome Measures	<p>At least three Police Department Officers will assist with two Weed & Seed Events.</p> <p>At least 4 foot and bike patrols will take place over the summer months.</p> <p>Resident surveys will indicate a 10% increase in police relations.</p> <p>The University of Nebraska @ Omaha will complete a process/impact evaluation of the South Omaha Weed & Seed target area.</p>
Funding Support	<p>The project cost totals \$22,444. Cost will be allocated as follows: Weed and Seed at 58%, City of Omaha (including Omaha Police Department) at 36%, University of Nebraska at Omaha at 6%.</p> <p>Budget Detail Section: A1, A6, A7, A8, A9, B1, C2, G10, H1, I1</p> <p>Match: A12-A15, A16, B2-B7, G10, I2</p>

Goal 2	Improve the community's involvement in drug prosecutions from the neighborhood.
Status	Completed
Objective 1	Develop alternative communication methods for designated area residents to reach the criminal justice agencies regarding drug activities.
Status	<p>Completed:</p> <p>Precinct Advisory meetings are being held to hear the concerns of the community.</p> <p>Neighborhood Association leaders meet to problem-solve criminal activities in the different neighborhoods.</p> <p>There is a representative of the Omaha Police Department at the South Omaha Neighborhood Association meetings who reports on the activities within South Omaha.</p> <p>An anonymous crime tip hotline has been setup and advertised.</p>
Activity/Task/Project	Completed
Outcome Measures	Completed
Funding Support	Budget Detail Section: None

Prevention/Intervention/Treatment

Strategy Summary: The Weed & Seed Steering Committee is coordinating with different South Omaha agencies to address issues such as drug abuse and domestic violence within the Weed & Seed site by supporting existing safe havens. It is also a priority to connect with residents for an improved sense of community.

Goal 1	Develop cooperative partnerships in the designated area to address drug abuse.
Status	On-going: The Weed & Seed Coordinator continues to attend community meetings.
Objective 1	Identify available social service and government resources accessible to the designated area for prevention and intervention services
Status	Flyers of Weed & Seed events are distributed to area schools, day care facilities, Public Housing Staff, and agency services. Information is always available at the Weed & Seed meetings
Objective 2	Support programs that offer character building activities for youth
Status	This is currently being completed through Weed & Seed Safe Haven Youth Programs and will continue to be support.
Activity/Task/Project	<p>The Weed & Seed Coordinator attends agency meetings as well as meeting with different agency directors to work collaboratively on neighborhood issues.</p> <p>Weed & Seed will work with Project Safe Neighborhoods to offer gang and drug information to teens during the Anti-Gang Crime Initiative Youth Outreach Programs.</p> <p>The Neighborhood Center for Greater Omaha will present the 12th Annual "Neighborhood Builders Program," to help build neighborhood leadership leading to stronger, healthier neighborhoods in the Weed & Seed area.</p> <p>The Neighborhood Center for Greater Omaha will present the 2nd Annual "Neighborhood Builders for Teens" which will be run concurrently with Neighborhood Builders to build leadership skills and provide opportunities for teens within new or existing neighborhood associations.</p> <p>Omaha Police Department will purchase a Robotics Mini Car to be used during youth/police community relation events. The car will encourage youth's participation and provide an educational activity to engrain the anti-gang/anti-drug message.</p> <p>Safe Haven grants will be competitively issued to youth programs in the Weed and Seed area. The grantees will offer tutoring activities and provide a secure and accessible place for youth during the after school hours.</p> <p>Weed & Seed Steering Committee members will attend Weed & Seed Conferences.</p>
Implementation Plan	The Steering Committee will oversee the implementation of this project in collaboration with the Weed & Seed Site Coordinator, and the Project Safe Neighborhoods Coordinator.

Outcome Measures	<p>Substance abuse information will be provided at every Weed & Seed Steering Committee meeting and Community Event.</p> <p>A minimum of 3 Safe Havens grants will be granted to support youth serving agencies in the target area.</p> <p>At least 12 adults and 6 youth will attend Neighborhood Builders in February 2008.</p>
Funding Support	<p>The project cost totals \$34,693. Cost will be allocated as follows: Weed and Seed at 68%, City of Omaha (including Omaha Police Department) at 13%, Neighborhood Center for Greater Omaha at 19%.</p> <p>Budget Detail Section: A1, B1, C1, C2, D11, E1-E8, G3, G5, H1, I1</p> <p>Match: A12-A15, B2-B7, G3, H4, I2</p>

Goal 2	Develop cooperative partnerships in the designated area to address domestic violence.
Status	<p>The Weed & Seed Coordinator attends agency meetings.</p> <p>Contacts and collaborations are being made.</p>
Objective 1	Identify available social service agencies and government resources accessible to the designated area for prevention and intervention services
Status	The Weed & Seed Coordinator and the Grant Administrator assist the Omaha Police Department (OPD) – Southeast Precinct and the OPD Domestic Violence Unit to provide resources and assistance as needed to residents within the W/S target area.
Activity/Task/Project	<p>Weed & Seed Coordinator attends agency meetings, works collaboratively with neighborhood projects and shares resources concerning domestic violence.</p> <p>The Weed & Seed Coordinator will continue to work with the Omaha Police Department to address Domestic Violence issues in the area.</p> <p>The Weed & Seed Coordinator will contact the Latina Resource Center, which assists domestic violence victims in the target area, and offer assistance.</p>
Implementation Plan	The Steering Committee, Omaha Police Department and the Weed & Seed Site Coordinator will oversee the implementation of this project.
Outcome Measures	The Weed & Seed Coordinator will contact the Latina Resource Center. The Weed & Seed Coordinator will assist with any Domestic Violence issues that arise.
Funding Support	<p>The project cost totals \$7,828. Cost will be allocated as follows: Weed and Seed at 59%, City of Omaha (including Omaha Police Department) at 41%.</p> <p>Budget Detail Section: A1, B1, C2, E1-E8, H1, I1</p> <p>Match: A12-A15, B3-B7, H4, I2</p>

Goal 3	Foster a great sense of community.
Status	<p>The 4th annual Night Light event took place on July 29 and was hosted by Weed & Seed, Omaha Police Department, Neighborhood Associations, area agencies and organizations, Project Safe Neighborhood, and the U.S. Attorney's office.</p> <p>Indian Hill Elementary hosts numerous events for parents and children to interact at the school. The events have been very successful in the past with almost 300 families in attendance.</p> <p>Positive interaction between residents and officers occur during various community events throughout the year, such as the annual Night Light event, "It's O.K. To Play After Dark" program and the "Get Up, Get Fit, Have Fun" event.</p> <p>The University of Nebraska @ Omaha will complete a process/impact evaluation of the South Omaha Weed & Seed target area.</p> <p>Steering Committee members will attend local workshop/conferences.</p> <p>Written materials, classes/meetings, and community events will be bi-lingual to address the needs of the Latino and Sudanese populations residing in the target area.</p>
Objective 1	Increase the connection between new and long term residents living throughout the designated area through Project Safe Neighborhoods Community Activities
Status	<p>South Omaha Parole and Probation actively co-host two events with Indian Hill Elementary School, neighborhood associations, Weed & Seed, and Project Safe Neighborhoods. The events have continued to attract 300-400 people.</p> <p>Project Safe Neighborhoods also took part in the 4th annual "Night Light" and "Communities United Against Violence" event during the summer.</p>
Objective 2	Explore new and traditional ways to involve parents/families in neighborhood activities.
Status	<p>Through the mini-grant and Safe Haven programs, such as the YMCA and the Boys and Girls Club, Weed & Seed has gained youth interest.</p> <p>Youth have participated in clean-ups, have acted as Neighborhood event volunteers, have helped with Graffiti Wipe-outs, and have participated in the Weed & Seed Community Police Program.</p> <p>The Weed & Seed Coordinator and Crime Prevention specialist has presented to area high schools and other youth programs.</p> <p>Weed & Seed co-sponsored and participated in the annual Get Up, Get Fit, Have Fun program on April 29, 2006. The U.S. Attorney for Nebraska and the Omaha Chief of Police were in attendance at the event.</p> <p>Weed & Seed participated in the annual "It's O.K. To Play After Dark" program August 14-17 2006. Police officers were able to build positive relationships with area residents at a local park within the Weed & Seed target area.</p> <p>Weed & Seed, in collaboration with Project Safe Neighborhood, the U.S. Attorney's Office, and the Omaha Police Department sponsored the annual</p>

	Holiday Celebration on Dec. 7, 2006. Over 450 area residents attended the event.
Objective 3	Intensify resident's involvement in Project Impact (Project Safe Neighborhoods) activities in the designated area.
Status	<p>The Project Safe Neighborhoods (PSN) Coordinator attends neighborhood and Weed & Seed Steering Committee Meetings to provide updates.</p> <p>The Weed & Seed Steering Committee is providing updates on the impacts of the PSN operations by the Omaha Police Department and Probation.</p> <p>Residents concerns are taken into account for Hot Spot Operations</p>
Activity/Task/Project	<p>The Weed & Seed Coordinator sits on event planning committees to plan events in the Weed & Seed Targeted area.</p> <p>During the events, residents are educated on how to get involved with Weed & Seed and Project Safe Neighborhoods.</p> <p>The Weed & Seed steering committee continues to brainstorm on other innovative ways to get more residents involved.</p> <p>The Weed & Seed Coordinator attends neighborhood meetings and events to assist neighborhood association presidents in recruitment and other activities.</p> <p>Project Safe Neighborhoods and Weed & Seed will provide community outreach to sustain the Weed & Seed message.</p> <p>Steering Committee members will attend Weed & Seed Conferences.</p>
Implementation Plan	The Steering Committee will oversee the implementation of this project in collaboration with the Weed & Seed Site Coordinator, neighborhood associations, Omaha Police Department and Project Safe Neighborhoods.
Outcome Measures	<p>We have contracted with the University of Nebraska at Omaha (UNO), College of Public Affairs and Community Service to evaluate the Weed & Seed strategy.</p> <p>UNO will collaborate with decision-makers on an ongoing basis to identify and prioritize information needs.</p> <p>Data collected will reflect and track the number of participants including attendance records.</p> <p>The University of Nebraska @ Omaha will complete a process/impact evaluation of the South Omaha Weed & Seed target area.</p>
Funding Support	<p>The project cost totals \$35,632. Cost will be allocated as follows: Weed and Seed at 59%, City of Omaha (including Omaha Police Department) at 6%, Project Safe Neighborhoods at 31%, University of Nebraska at Omaha at 4%</p> <p>Budget Detail Section: A1, A8, B1, C2, D10, E1-E8, G4, G7, G10, H1, H2, I1</p> <p>Match: A12-A15, B3-B7, G4, G10, H4, I2</p>

Goal 4	Offer safe places for residents in the designated area to access.
Status	Facilities are available for residents to hold events and workshops as well as after school programming for children. After school programs encourage parents to get involved and volunteer.
Objective 1	Expand existing and identify new safe haven programs for adults
Status	Safe Haven programs have been geared toward youth. The steering committee has preferred to fund programs/services for youth. The LaFern William's Center facility is available for residents to hold events, meetings and provides an accessible location from the elementary for after school programming. After school programs located in the center have parents' involvement and support from volunteers.
Objective 2	Ensure adequate transportation to and from safe havens from school and neighborhoods.
Status	Transportation services are being researched. The South Omaha Metro Community College and the City of Omaha are building a new library in the Weed & Seed area. The Omaha Housing Authority (OHA) Transportation Department continues to provide Southside Terrace public housing residents with accessible transportation Monday through Friday from 8-6pm for employed residents.
Activity/Task/Project	Safe Havens will be assisted with transportation services if there is a need.
Implementation Plan	The Steering Committee, Weed & Seed Coordinator, Omaha Housing Authority and Safe Havens grantees will oversee the implementation of the projects.
Outcome Measures	A minimum of 3 Safe Havens grants will be provided to support youth serving agencies in the target area.
Funding Support	The project cost totals \$18,870. Cost will be allocated as follows: Weed and Seed at 80%, City of Omaha (including Omaha Police Department) at 20%. Budget Detail Section: A1, B1, C2, E1-E8, G5, H1, I1 Match: A12-A15, B3-B7, H4, I2

Neighborhood Restoration

Strategy Summary: The South Omaha Weed & Seed Site is coordinating with law enforcement and neighborhood associations to develop ways to reduce crime by means of neighborhood revitalization. Community events and beatification projects are part of the strategy for neighborhood pride.

Goal 1	Improve physical environment to discourage negative activity.
Status	<p>Weed & Seed has continued to hold community events to get residents out into the community.</p> <p>Weed & Seed gives residents a feeling of pride in their neighborhoods through meetings and events.</p> <p>Mini grant funds are being utilized to improve physical environment and encourage police relations.</p> <p>The 4th annual Night Light event took place on July 29th and was hosted by Weed & Seed, Omaha Police Department, Neighborhood Associations, area agencies and organizations, Project Safe Neighborhood, and the U.S. Attorney's Office.</p>
Objective 1	Explore new and creative crime prevention strategies to reduce crime through the mini grant program.
Status	<p>Weed & Seed is providing Public Safety/Crime Reduction Mini Grants to improve physical environment and encourage police relations.</p> <p>Resident volunteers have cleaned up Upland Park to reduce negative activities.</p>
Activity/Task/Project	<p>Weed & Seed in partnership with the University of Nebraska at Omaha (UNO), Omaha Neighborhood Scan (ONS), Urban Research Program, Keep Omaha Beautiful, Omaha By Design, the Omaha Police Department, Community-based organizations and private business have developed on-going activities to address neighborhood restoration and sustainability. The major components to be addressed for sustainable neighborhood restoration are (1) improvements in the physical landscape, including housing and public infrastructure; (2) building and enhancing the financial base of the community; and (3) increasing the cultural sense of community. Activities are planned to address each component. Resources will be leveraged for maximum benefit to the targeted site.</p> <p>Public Safety/Crime Reduction Mini Grants will be competitively issued to support criminal justice/community policing projects in the target area.</p>
Implementation Plan	The steering committee and the Weed & Seed Coordinator will oversee the implementation of this project in collaboration with other agencies.
Outcome Measures	A minimum of 4 Public Safety/Crime Reduction Mini Grants will be granted for innovative crime prevention strategies.
Funding Support	<p>The project cost totals \$28,282. Cost will be allocated as follows: Weed and Seed at 89%, City of Omaha (including Omaha Police Department) at 11%.</p> <p>Budget Detail Section: A1, B1, C2, D9, E1-E8, G6, H1, I1</p> <p>Match: A12-A15, B3-B7, H4, I2</p>

Goal 2	Improve recreational activities available for all residents in the designated area.
Status	Weed & Seed has continued to work with the YMCA, the LaFern Williams Center and the City of Omaha Parks and Recreation Department to ensure activities are available for area residence.
Objective 1	Encourage the community to utilize existing recreational activities.
Status	<p>A canopy was placed at Upland Park for Weed & Seed families to enjoy.</p> <p>A beatification project of Upland Park is being planned by the City of Omaha Parks and Recreation.</p> <p>Resident surveys were completed and residents concerns are being addressed.</p> <p>Weed & Seed, in collaboration with the YMCA and Boys and Girls Club, will extend the hours of the facilities to facilitate the It's O.K. To Play After Dark program. Staff and volunteers will recruit youth to the program who would otherwise have to leave the facilities after closing.</p>
Activity/Task/Project	<p>Neighborhood Clean-up Campaigns will be held within designated area. Provide information to neighborhood associations regarding law enforcement's nuisance abatement efforts. Conduct resident surveys to address quality of life issues.</p> <p>Weed & Seed was funded 5 computers and 1 printer from Community Capacity Development Office (CCDO) to be used at the Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) sites which will be located at St. Peter Claver High School.</p> <p>Weed & Seed will get community members out in their neighborhoods through community events.</p> <p>Cameras will be purchased for Steering Committee members, residents, Weed and Seed Coordinator, and the Community , A8, for community events</p>
Objective 2	Identify the barriers to the neighborhood's utilization of community services.
Status	<p>Resident meetings are held to listen to neighborhood concerns.</p> <p>The Weed & Seed Coordinator and volunteers have distributed flyers throughout the area to invite residents to events and educational programs.</p> <p>W/S in partnership with the United Way of the Midlands, Internal Revenue Service, Nebraska Health and Human Resources, City of Omaha, Nebraska Legal Aid, and the First National Bank will continue to offer Low Income Taxpayer Clinics to educate eligible Earned Income Tax Credit recipients.</p>
Implementation Plan	Family Economic Success Initiative Office with the United Way will oversee the implementation of this project in collaboration with the Weed & Seed Steering Committee and Weed & Seed Coordinator.
Outcome Measures	Survey of residents indicates that 20% report "somewhat improved" access to existing neighborhood recreational activities.
Funding Support	The project cost totals \$9,800. Cost will be allocated as follows: Weed and Seed at 49%, City of Omaha (including Omaha Police Department) at 51%. Budget Detail Section: A1, B1, C2, D3, E1-E8, H1, I1 Match: A12-A15, B3-B7, H4, I2

Special Emphasis Narrative

The Weed & Seed Steering Committee members have decided to change the special emphasis from Neighborhood Restoration to Anti-Gang Crime Initiative. They felt the target area would be best served during year five by deterring the gang activity. The Resident Survey's (June, 2006) stated that gangs/graffiti were within the top two of the highest concerns of the target area residents. Drugs/dealing shortly followed as the third highest concern, which has ties into the gang community according to the Metro Drug Task Force and the Omaha Police Department Gang Unit. The Omaha Police Department Gang Intelligence Squad has identified 28 gangs with 3,306 members in the Omaha area.

Gang retaliation has continued to be a constant fear and the Weed & Seed Steering Committee is committed to adding the additional resources needed to combat the gang and graffiti problem. The Omaha Police Department will conduct Hot Spot Operations and Gang Suppression Operations to deter the criminal activity. A database of gang members will be kept updated and accurate. Home visits by police and probation of known gang members will also be completed to assist with the prevention of crime.

The Steering Committee and the Omaha Police Department believe that a large part of the gang activity is linked to a lack of youth activities. To address this problem Weed & Seed will provide activities for the youth through the Cops and Kids Program and the Anti-Gang Crime Initiative Youth Outreach Programs. These programs will build relationships between the target area youth and Police Officers so the youth can learn to make positive decisions when confronted with peer pressure. Transportation has proven to be an issue for youth in the community during activities, as a result buses will be provided to offer an opportunity for youth to participate.

Special Emphasis - Anti-Gang Crime Initiative

Goal 1	Increase gang prevention and intervention services to decrease violent gang interactions.
Status	During the Weed & Seed Steering committee meetings residents have stated a concern in gang graffiti in their neighborhoods.
Objective 1	Increase efforts that deter gang/graffiti activities
Status	The Mayor's Hotline is promoted during Weed & Seed Steering Committee meetings to report graffiti.
Activity/Task/Project	Hot Spot Operations and Gang Suppression Unit operations will be conducted in the targeted area. Gang suppression Unit along with uniform patrol officers and probation officers will conduct home visits of documented gang members. The purpose of the visit is to make contact with home care provider and dialogue about the involvement of their charge. High visibility directed patrol will take place where gang activity has presented a problem.
Implementation Plan	The Omaha Police Department Gang Suppression Unit, Project Safe Neighborhoods, U.S. Attorneys Office, Mayor's Hotline and the Weed & Seed Program Coordinator will oversee the implementation of the project.
Outcome Measure:	There will be an increase of 10% in gang arrests.
Funding Support	The project cost totals \$13,000. Cost will be allocated as follows: Weed and Seed at 100%, Budget Detail Section: A10, A11

Objective 2	Provide Anti-Gang youth programming
Status	Anti-Gang programs where youth can participate and be active have taken place such as It's O.K. To Play After Dark program.
Activity/Task/Project	<p>Weed & Seed Anti-Gang Crime Initiative Cops and Kids program will be offered to area youth to build a good relationship between the youth and police officers. The program will allow youth to work with police officers in a productive way and gives the police officers a chance to positively view the youth. When youth develop a trust with police officers it provides an environment where youth can come forward with information regarding gang and criminal activity.</p> <p>Transportation will be provided to youth through bussing services so they are able to attend the Cops and Kids Programs. Youth from both Weed & Seed sites will be brought together during these programs so they can learn about the cultural differences in their community.</p> <p>Weed & Seed Anti-Gang Crime Initiative Youth programs will be offered to aid youth resist peer pressure; drug and alcohol abuse prevention, and teach constructive life skills.</p>
Implementation	The project is scheduled during the funding period. The Omaha Police Department, Project Safe Neighborhoods, the U.S. Attorneys Office, and Weed & Seed Program Coordinator will oversee the implementation of the project.
Outcome Measures	<p>Lower the residents concerns of Gang/Graffiti by 15%.</p> <p>Provide at least 5 Cops and Kids Programs.</p> <p>At least 35 kids will be in attendance at each Cops and Kids Program.</p>
Funding Support	<p>The project cost totals \$17,700. Cost will be allocated as follows: Weed and Seed at 68%, City of Omaha (including Omaha Police Department) at 32%.</p> <p>Budget Detail Section: G1, G2, H3</p> <p>Match: G1, G2</p>