



## *One Sheet: Crime*

As Memphians, we are all aware and understand the challenges our community faces, and no more so than our crime. As a community, we are committed to addressing the issue and its underlying causes through the dedicated work of numerous organizations, initiatives and individuals, especially the men and women of the Memphis Police Department, working tirelessly every day to address this serious problem.

This issue is by no means simple or easily reduced to one headline, and the crime issue will not be resolved by a single program aimed at a single target. The solution is action taken through multiple fronts from multiple angles, and that's exactly what Memphis is doing. No city has a more comprehensive approach than Memphis, which is fine-tuned to address emerging issues. Examples include:

- The Safeways program targets large apartment complexes (31 to date) and aims to reduce crime by 25% by the end of 2021.
- The GRASSY anti-gang program provides support and resources to keep youth from joining gangs and to deal with problems to prevent school expulsions.
- Family Safety Center provides a safe haven for women and families dealing with domestic violence.
- Memphis' Hospitality Hub works to provide safe, trauma informed spaces and services to Memphians currently experiencing homelessness.
- The Memphis Gun Down community policing program has police meet and work with neighborhoods to reduce crime and gun violence.
- In April 2021, Chief Cerelyn "CJ" Davis was selected by Memphis Mayor Jim Strickland as the first female police chief for the Memphis Police Department.

We recognize and prioritize that we must take care of our city and that starts with making sure our citizens and visitors feel safe. That's why so many people are focused on not only addressing crime directly, but also on tackling the root causes: ensuring equal access to quality education, good jobs and the resources necessary to get those good jobs, and economic vitality in all Memphis neighborhoods. Examples include:

- City of Memphis' MPLOY program works with the business community to offer various career path options of Memphis' youth.
- Memphis Kings is a non-profit working with 200 boys on competitive basketball and volunteer efforts.
- The Chamber's goals all work towards providing economic opportunity for all, including ensuring there is quality pre-k available to everyone, lowering barriers to entry for minority and women-owned businesses, and ensuring equal access to the training our citizens need to fill thousands of available jobs.

- Opportunity Youth is reducing the number of 16-24-year-olds not in school or working through job training, interventions, tutoring, and mentoring.

Throughout our history, Memphis has overcome challenges and we continue to do so. We are proud of our community and proud to be Memphians, working together to find innovative solutions facing our city, and cities around the country.