

Developing a Comprehensive Prevention Program



Spring Lake Park-Blaine-Mounds View
Fire Department

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Program Goals:

Code Enforcement, Education, Investigation

- Reduce injuries
 - Reduce fire loss
 - Reduce call volume
 - Maintain volunteer status
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More Goals:

- School programming
 - Juvenile fire setter intervention
 - Home surveys
 - Inspect commercial properties
 - Investigate all fires
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Formative Evaluation

- Focus groups
 - Homes
 - Educators
 - Comprehensive review by stake holders
 - Incident data analysis
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Program Description

- Homes
 - Collaborative effort: crime, fire, public health
 - Different surveys for different homes
 - Juvenile fire setter intervention
 - County program
 - School Program
 - Skill building
 - Grad standards
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Program Impact

- Average of 3 behavior change during home surveys
 - Knowledge tests indicate knowledge gain in schools and juvenile program
 - Attitude change of department
 - Observational studies show higher helmet usage
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Outcome

- 28% decline in call volume since 1999 during 18% population growth
 - Maintain lowest cost for fire service per capita in MN
 - Less than 1 FF injury a year and minor if occurs, minor fire injuries to civilians
 - Average over 200 home surveys/year
 - School programming in all schools
 - Low rate of juvenile recidivism
 - Juvenile set fire are decreasing
 - 100 child seats checked/year
 - Over 600 helmets sold each year
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Lessons Learned:

- Build relationships
 - Involve everyone
 - Offer incentives
 - Keep evaluating
 - Be flexible
 - Hire good people
 - Market programs
 - Don't give up!
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Focusing on Fire Prevention for the Future

Spring Lake Park-Blaine-Mounds View Fire Department



Formative Evaluation

- Learned from: USFA, Tri-Data report, CDC, NFPA-1452 Home Dwelling checks, 2010 Home Structure Fires-NFPA,
- SBM FD- 10 year analysis with home safety surveys
- 3 UK Fire Brigades- changes in fires in 4 years
- US-92% of our fire deaths are in the home
- Target residential homes
- Firefighters will be trained to do checks based on NFPA 1452



Goals and Objectives for Future Programming



- Decrease fire, property loss and fire deaths in homes
- The fire service will develop national indicators of which success will be measured by
- Make home safety checks a standard program in the fire service
- The fire service will develop a method of collecting, analyzing and disseminating data collected from completed home checks

Process Evaluation

- Use model of excellence that already exists from the UK: Risk Assessments
- Assessments will be assigned point values
- Advocates (mobility, arson, youth, sight/hard of hearing, multi-cultural, elders) will come back to mitigate high risk homes
- Community partnerships will be developed
- Commercial properties will be self assessed



Impact

- Risky behaviors are identified and simple solutions given
- Increased budget from commercial code inspections to home checks
- Residents will be afforded the knowledge of firefighter expertise
- Firefighters will be engaged in the community they protect
- Fire service will go from being reactive to proactive



Outcome Evaluation

- Decreased fires, deaths, property loss
- Change the culture of fire protection
- Decrease the fire service budget without loss of jobs or protection levels
- Decrease firefighter deaths fighting fires in residential property
- SBM's 10 year analysis with home safety program





For the fire service to focus on the home is to address the fire problem of America and protectso they won't need us.

