Community Risk Reduction – Hagerstown, Maryland

Mike Weller

Public Education Officer

Experience with Hagerstown

1981 – 1988 Firefighter

Prevention Officer 1988 - present

Population: 40K

Hub City's Prime (1950 – 1965)

ICE

SINGLE FAMILY
HOMES
from the 200's
and
TOWNHOMES
from the 100's
LONG FENCE

JOHN
WESLEY
UNITED
METHODIST
CHURCH

Same as Other Cities

Stable Neighborhoods

Challenging Neighborhoods

ONE-WAY

CITY OF HAGERSTOWN
FIRE DEPARTMENT

People Are People

Everywhere…

2006 2 20

GOT SMOKE ALARMS?
DO THEY WORK?
FREE ALARMS
301-739-8577
Ext 415
OUR ALARMS
NEVER NEED BATTERIES
179
NO EXIT
NO EXIT

GOT SMOKE ALARMS? DO THEY W
FREE
ALARMS
301-739-8577
Ext 415
www.hagerstow

Residential Sprinklers ROCK!

Five Step Planning Process (circa 1988)

- Organizational support??
- Local reliable data (baselines)
- Prioritize problems
- Risk sequencing
- ID potential solutions
- Intervention strategy
- All five E's
- Evaluation

Integrated Interventions

Grand Plan – *Refine* HFD Focus

- School Programs
- Neighborhood Programs
- Smoke Alarms
- Reality Experiences
- Property Owner Work
- Codes and Standards
- Data-driven initiatives

Tracking Risk – Census Tracts

Progression of FLSE - Hagerstown

Primary-Age Programs

Children's Safety Village

Safety House

Community-Based Work

Neighborhood Canvassing Work

Firefighters are Firefighters Everywhere

Overcome Inertia – They're Fine

Overall Evaluation Stats - Hagerstown

- Outreach > 20K
- Impact: CSV 50%
- Smoke Alarms: 98%
- Outcome: 60% < Fire

- But…High risk groups will always be an issue

Additional Formative Evaluation

JFS Rates in Hagerstown

- Age 7 – 12 down 90%
- Age 13 – 17 down 20%
- Age 3 – 6 no changes
- Multiple “close calls”