

Community Risk Reduction Coalitions

A Key Component of Effective Implementation
of CRR in the Fire Service



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What is Community Risk Reduction?

Community Risk Reduction is the identification and prioritization of risks followed by the integrated application of resources to improve public safety and reduce increasing call volume.

(Strategic Fire, 2016)



Community Risk Reduction Overview

Community Risk Reduction is a process

CRR programs allow the fire department to **assess** the needs of their community and **collaborate** with other agencies to address those needs in a **cost-efficient** manner.



CRR in the Fire Service: Who's Missing?



Forming a CRR Coalition



Getting Started: Pre-Planning

- Establish goals & objectives for coalition
- Determine desired number of members
- Determine target population(s)
- **KEY: Set a timeline**



Identify Key Community Stakeholders

Engage stakeholders based upon your **target populations**:

Target Population	Community Stakeholder
Older Adults	Area Agency on Aging; Senior Centers
People Living With Disabilities	The Arc; Goodwill; DSHS
Low-Income Households	Meals on Wheels; SNAP; WIC
Families With Young Children	School Districts
Immigrants & Refugees	World Relief; Refugee Connections

Other Partners to Consider:

- Regional Health District
- Religious Groups
- Hospitals
- Local Non-Profit Organizations

Form the CRR Coalition

- Formally invite stakeholders to participate
 - Include **anticipated timeline** & **monthly commitment**
- Be prepared to meet with them and/or answer questions
- Seek adequate & diverse representation for target populations
- Set date & time of first meeting
- **KEY: Establish a CRR stakeholder group *within* your department**
 - Purpose: to vet external coalition questions & ideas
 - Provide & filter data used (HIPPA, L&I)

Coalition Meetings

➤ **The First Meeting:**

- Introductions
- Reiterate purpose & timeline for coalition
- Overview of Fire Department, terminology & culture
- Overview of CRR
- Initial look at department data (as time allows)

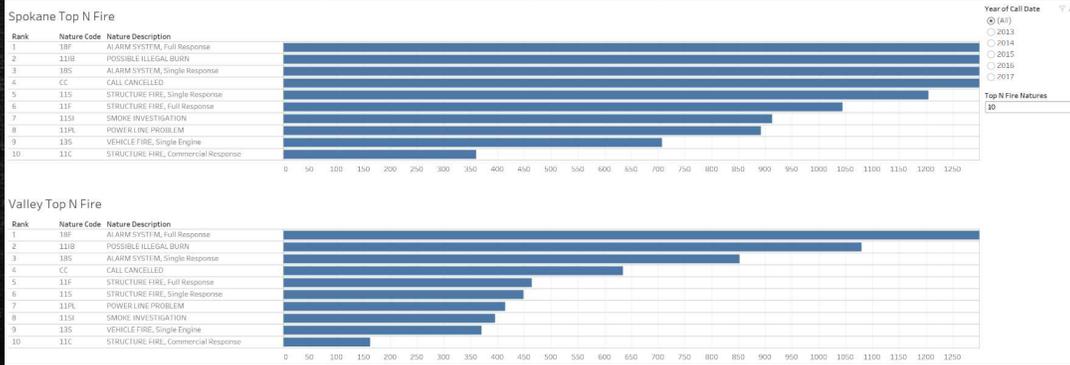
➤ **The first meeting sets the tone of the coalition**

Coalition Meetings

- Continue to dig into data
- Add external data for target populations
- What data do the partners have?
- Identify **WHY** problem exists
 - Causal Chain Analysis
- Identify possible interventions
 - Include non-FD centered solutions
- Start big picture; follow group curiosities



On-Boarding Education



On-Boarding Education



Risk Prioritization

Model: Community Toolbox, Assessing Community Needs and Resources
University of Kansas

- **Frequency:** How often does the problem occur?
- **Duration:** How long has the problem existed?
- **Scope / Range:** How many people does the problem impact (direct & indirect)?
- **Severity:** The problem is disrupting to personal or community life, and possibly intense
- **Equity:** The problem deprives people of legal or moral rights
- **Perception:** Is the issue is perceived to be a problem?



Coalition Meetings

- Identify top risk priorities
- Choose which risk to address first
- Develop **proposed intervention strategy**
 - Identify who will be involved
 - Set tasks, deadlines, and objectives
 - Evaluation: How will you measure success
- Present proposed intervention to internal CRR group

Community Risk Reduction Coalitions

LESSONS LEARNED



Lessons Learned

- ✓ **Plan Ahead:** It can take a year or more
- ✓ **Flexible** Timelines
- ✓ Employee turnover can impact process
- ✓ Meeting Duration
- ✓ Facilitate a **brainstorming retreat**
- ✓ Identify desired outcomes & how to evaluate success
- ✓ It takes a **team** from Fire Dept; CRR is not a one person job
- ✓ **Multi-jurisdictional** coalitions work **and** add value for community





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