



E-Update

1625 K Street, NW, Suite 1200, Washington, DC 20006. (202) 518-6500. Email: info@cneonline.org. Website: www.cneonline.org

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Baltimore School with VFZ Reports Rapid and Outstanding Results:

The Baltimore Violence-Free Zone program, implemented by the Center for Neighborhood Enterprise's Baltimore community partner, New Visions Youth Services, has followed the pattern of other sites around the country in quickly reporting significant reductions in violence and suspensions. CNE's community-based Violence-Free Zone initiative was introduced at Baltimore's Forest Park High School in September, 2009. Initial data received from Baltimore Public Schools indicates positive progress in reducing incidents, fights, suspensions, and expulsions at the school. An overview of the reports from the BPS compares the period from September – February of this school year compared to the pre-VFZ period of September - February of 2008-2009 in Forest Park:

***Baltimore VFZ Results**

Measure	Pre-VFZ (08/09)	Post-VFZ (09/10)	Change
Total Incidents	125	56	Down 55%
Fighting and Attacks	64	29	Down 55%
Suspensions	104	48	Down 54%
Expulsions	20	6	Down 70%

**Data from Baltimore Public Schools Research Department*

In March, Baylor University researchers Dr. Byron Johnson and William Wubbenhorst released results of Baylor's new case study of the VFZ in Milwaukee Public Schools, which showed that the VFZ schools had reductions in violent incidents of 11% compared to increases of 15% for non-VFZ schools; nonviolent incidents were down 21% compared to increases of 19% for non-VFZ schools; and total suspensions were down 29.6% compared with only a 9% decrease for non-VFZ schools. Further, motor vehicle thefts around VFZ schools decreased by 25% compared with only a 6% citywide reduction.

CNE Has 4-Star Rating from Charity Navigator:

Charity Navigator, the online charity evaluator that rates nonprofit organizations based on their ability to efficiently manage and grow finances, has awarded CNE its highest rating. In a letter to CNE President Robert L. Woodson, Sr., Charity Navigator CEO wrote, "This 'exceptional' designation from Charity Navigator differentiates Center for Neighborhood Enterprise from its peers and demonstrates to the public it is worthy of their trust." The 4-Star button will be displayed on CNE's website.

The Bob Woodson Show—What Works and Why:

Recent shows have included: How Reducing Youth Violence Impacts the Community, with Bernice Sanders Smoot, founder of Saint Wall Street, William Wubbenhorst, a Non-Resident Fellow of Baylor University's Programs on Prosocial Behavior who has recently completed case studies of the Violence-Free Zone program in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, and Richmond, Virginia, and Kwame Johnson, National Director of the CNE Violence-Free Zone program; The Role of Faith in Influencing Young People, Families, and Communities, with Jennifer Marshall, Director of Domestic Policy Studies at The Heritage Foundation and William Schambra, director of the Hudson Institute's Bradley Center for Philanthropy and Civic Renewal; Transformation: a Real Cure for Drug and Alcohol Addiction; with Bishop Shirley Holloway, founder of the House of Help City of Hope, and program graduates James and Angie Woods; and Transformation: Returning from Incarceration and Making a Positive Life, with Rachel Morrison, founder of the EFFORTS program in Washington, DC, and program graduates Michelle Staton and Clarence Miser. Bob is currently taking a break but these and all the previous shows are archived by TalkZone Radio and are accessible by going to www.cneonline.org and clicking on the Radio icon.