
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE



FOR INFORMATION CALL

March 19, 2015

Ald. Ashanti Hamilton
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Alderman Hamilton outlines need for safe zone initiative

Special media event scheduled for Friday at N. 26th and Atkinson

In the first three months of 2015, Milwaukee has already racked up 28 homicides. At this time last year, the city had tallied 11 homicides.

Alderman Ashanti Hamilton said the neighborhoods experiencing the intense level of violence and criminal activity this year are also the same neighborhoods plagued by foreclosures, high unemployment, failing schools and general disorder.

“The Milwaukee Police Department has been working hard to fight crime throughout the city, but as we all know, they cannot do it alone,” Alderman Hamilton said. “MPD has repeatedly called on community members to take a more active role in stabilizing their neighborhoods, and in our most challenged areas, unfortunately there are few residents willing to answer that call.”

In an effort to change that, Alderman Hamilton is working with Khalil Coleman, Shawn Moore, Muhammad Mosque #3, New Hope Baptist Church, Northwest Side Community Development Corp., the Garden Homes Neighborhood Association, Peace for Change Alliance, True Strength Group Milwaukee, We Got This, I Will Not Die Young campaign, Crossing Jordan Ministries, Alpha and Omega Ministries, the Coalition of Hope and the Universal Companies to build a coalition to address the void in what he calls “our community organizing strategy.”

Mr. Coleman, Mr. Moore, and their partners have designed an approach that is similar to the Interrupters model that has worked in other cities called H.O.O.D. Ambassadors (Helping Others Obtain Direction). H.O.O.D. will operate the Safe Zones across certain neighborhoods where crime, violence and disorder are prevalent, the alderman said.

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Safe Zones/ADD ONE

Alderman Hamilton will be joined by members of the coalition and others during a special **media event tomorrow (Friday, March 20) at 5 p.m. at Garden Homes Park, N. 26th St. and Atkinson Ave.**

“We are proactively inviting the media and others out so we can provide additional information about the initiative and the type of neighborhoods that can benefit from this effort,” Alderman Hamilton said.

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