

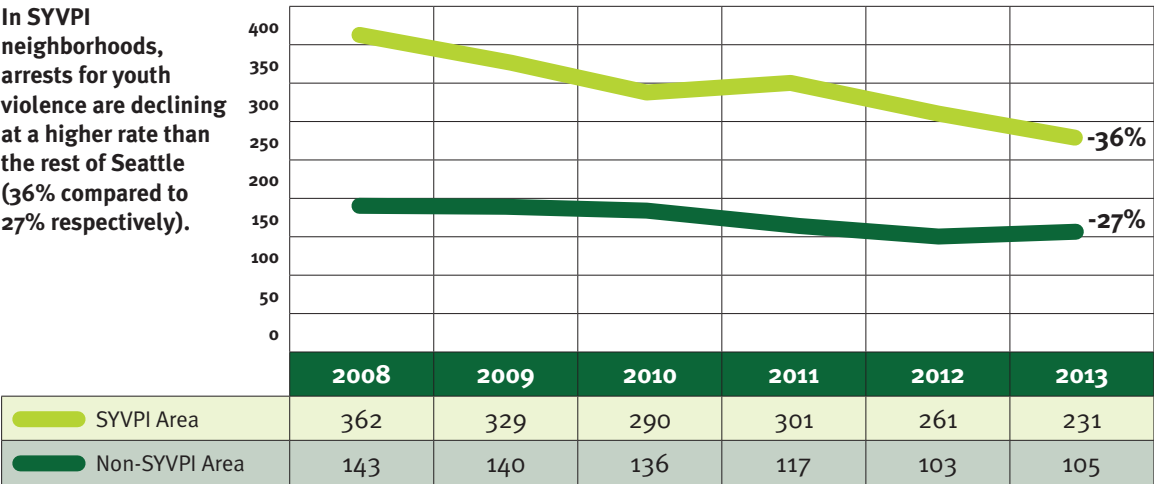
# Measuring our impact

We are constantly seeking ways to improve our work with youth. Formal evaluation is an important way to assess the impact SYVPI is having on youth violence. To get ready for evaluation, SYVPI will undertake some major new tasks in 2015 that include:

- 1. Updating our community assessment of youth violence to ensure we are focusing on the youth we can best impact.
- 2. Making sure we have the right outcome measures.
- 3. Identifying the most appropriate evaluation methods.
- 4. Ensuring that our data collection system and methods are strong.
- 5. Continuing to use and test our risk assessment screening tool to monitor youth progress.

We are encouraged by the data we've been tracking on youth violence in the neighborhoods and among the youth population we serve.

In SYVPI neighborhoods, arrests for youth violence are declining at a higher rate than the rest of Seattle (36% compared to 27% respectively).



## Contact us with your referrals and questions

Do you know a young person who could benefit from being involved in one of our three neighborhood networks? Or, do you have questions or comments about our work? Please contact us today!

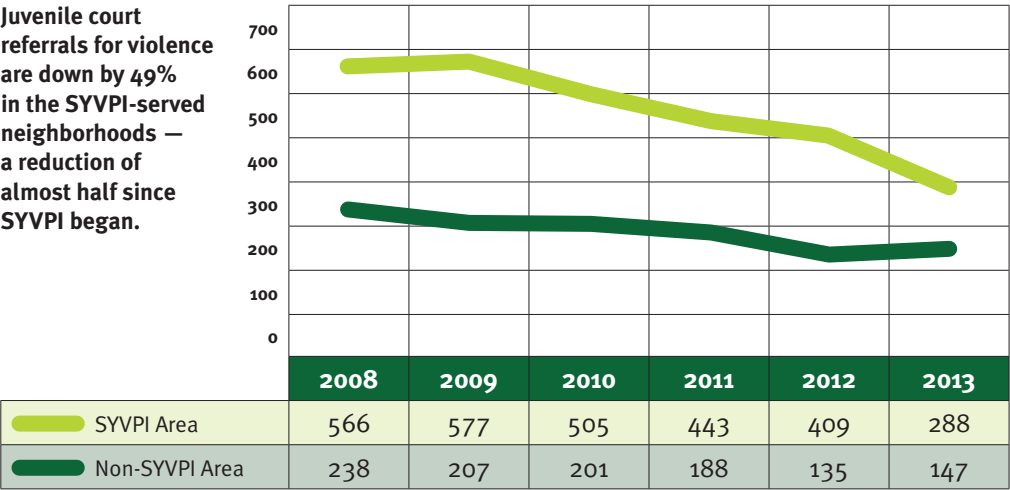
- Central Seattle: 206-323-9014
- Southeast Seattle: 206-436-1898
- Southwest Seattle: 206-937-7680



## Investing in youth pays off in safe lives

We are grateful to the Mayor, City Council and the taxpayers of Seattle for supporting the Seattle Youth Violence Prevention Initiative. In 2014, 89 percent of our \$5.6 million budget went directly to serve at-risk youth, with only 11 percent dedicated to administration, management and related costs.

Juvenile court referrals for violence are down by 49% in the SYVPI-served neighborhoods — a reduction of almost half since SYVPI began.



SYVPI is not reporting on middle school disciplinary actions for violence while the school district remains under investigation by the U.S. Department of Education for disproportionate discipline of students of color.

A Progress Report | DECEMBER 2014

# Together, we are working toward the goal of creating safe youth and safe communities



SAFE YOUTH,  
SAFE COMMUNITY

The Seattle Youth Violence Prevention Initiative (SYVPI) brings people together to find solutions that will protect kids, unite communities and build a safer world for us all. In this 2013–2014 report to our community, we highlight some of the many advancements toward this goal that were made possible by countless caring individuals, community partners, city government officials, staff, youth and families. We are grateful to each and every one of them for working with us toward the common goal of safe youth, safe communities.

Seattle  
Youth Violence  
Prevention  
Initiative



700 5th Avenue, Suite 1640  
Seattle, WA 98104  
PO Box 94649  
Seattle, WA 98124-4649

206.233.7915  
safeyouth@seattle.gov  
www.safeyouthseattle.org

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# Individually, we are one drop. Together, we are an ocean.

Ryunosuke Satoro, poet

## Turning my life around, one opportunity at a time

At a young age, I witnessed and experienced a lot of violence. I grew up around gang bangers and this soon became a way of life for me. They were my role models. They looked out for me by putting money in my pocket and clothes on my back.

By the age of 17, I had lost more than a dozen people to gun violence. I was devastated when my stepfather was killed. It made me think about changing my life.

This change came sooner than I thought when two of my younger brothers were shot inches away from me. This was definitely a wake-up call and I decided something had to change.

A Seattle Youth Violence Prevention Initiative outreach worker connected me to the Southeast Network at Rainier Vista Boys and Girls Club. They offered me a job and immediately engaged me with programs and opportunities. They embraced me and became my second family. They supported me through my challenges and celebrated my successes.

Now I am a member of SYVPI's SE Network Youth Action Team and use my leadership to provide the kind of positive influence I never had growing up and to give back to my community. I was chosen to represent Seattle at a conference in New Orleans where leaders from all over the country gathered to talk about what we can do to end black male homicide.

Today, I am hopeful about my future. I have a full time job and I am one test away from completing my GED. I have become the change that I want to see in my community.

The Seattle Youth Violence Prevention Initiative was established in 2009 to ensure that youth are safe, protected and productive. In 2014, we served 1,700 Seattle youth.

Seattle  
Youth Violence  
Prevention  
Initiative



SYVPI s  
our partners

It takes a community to care for its youth. We appreciate the time, talent and generosity of the more than 125 community partners who help to guide, implement and fund our work. See a list of all our partners at [www.SafeYouthSeattle.org](http://www.SafeYouthSeattle.org).