

TAKING EFFECTIVE COMMUNITY ACTION (TECA)

People want a **SAFE** community.

THEIR CONCERNS

- Crime
- Drug abuse
- Mental health issues
- Poverty
- · Lack of adequate numbers of police
- · Break-ins and robberies
- · Too many guns
- Jail overcrowding
- Drug addiction
- Chronic homelessness

"We don't feel safe; two shootings in Kokomo yesterday."

"My mom has been jumped at the gas station."

Howard County Residents, 2019

Actions that would make a difference	Who is working on it?	
Funding for a larger and more diverse police presence	There is optimism this will be addressed with the newly elected administration.	
Getting more ambulances	KPD said there is a real need for more ambulances, as there aren't enough to deal with the increase in overdose situations and other critical incident situations.	
	The Sheriff's Department said the only thing getting talked about is adding more people, not additional equipment, but they would like to see Kokomo Fire Department go back to having ambulance services.	
Having more mental health facilities	No one is addressing this issue, specifically.	
Revamping the justice system because it is not effective. Criminals get a slap on the hand and then they are back out committing crimes.	This is controlled by the lawmakers who currently have mandated that the magistrate system be in place by 2020. The magistrate role is to speed up the process of deciding if someone needs to be jailed, should be placed somewhere else, or be released. Unfortunately, a person may appear before a magistrate before the	



TAKING EFFECTIVE COMMUNITY ACTION (TECA)

Revamping the justice system because it is not effective. Criminals get a slap on the hand and then they are back out committing crimes.	prosecutor sees the information and they may be released without the proper process.
Establishing a reintegration process for those who are incarcerated.	Community Corrections has this jurisdiction with the Probation department. Probation tries to work on this, but they are currently grossly understaffed. At times, probation officers have 100-200 clients each.
Better collaboration between law enforcement and mental health providers	There is a monthly meeting between providers and the Sheriff's department. The City is currently short staffed and does not have someone participating in these meetings but hopes to in the future. St. Vincent's and Community Howard Hospitals, System of Care, County Commissioners and Probation are represented at the meetings. There is also a new full-time mental health psychologist/therapist at the jail.
Clean up vacant houses	The current City administration is working on this. They have a Blighted Property Project who works with Code Enforcement and the City/County Plan Commission.

People and organizations they trust:

- Churches
- Community Foundation of Howard County
- Law Enforcement
- Pastors
- United Way of Howard and Tipton Counties



SAFE community

Harwood stage of community life is

Impasse

Discussion on what role the Community Foundation could play in this Aspiration:

- Identify partners: hospitals, prosecutors, and other related non-profits. The prosecutor believes, if the hospital and law enforcement come together, we could achieve some meaningful progress.
- The convener will bring the above together. We discussed lack of knowledge of Turning Point, especially among ER staff and law enforcement.

The community foundation will focus on the following actions:

• Greg will share the report with Tyler Moore as incoming mayor.

And this role:

Communicator

Action Plan for Safe Community

Action	Lead	Completion by
Greg will share the report findings with incoming Kokomo Mayor, Tyler Moore	Greg Aaron	December 2019
Speak to the board about considering setting aside funds that could support non-profit grant applications that address this aspiration.	Greg Aaron	January 31, 2020