



FORMAT FOR PROJECT'S DESCRIPTION

MEMBERSTATE: Sweden

NAME OF THE PROJECT: The Munkmora Project (Munkmoraprojektet)

IN USE SINCE: 2001

INFO ON THE WEB: www.varmdo.se/bravarmdo

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Please answer the questions on the following pages in English and in no more than the given six pages. This way the information will be as comparable as possible.

Projects can be submitted until November 1st. Entries that will be received later than this will not be eligible to compete for the European Crime Prevention Award.

You can send your projects and the one page summary by e-mail to:

Mrs Janny Pols
Ministry of Justice
The Netherlands

E-mail janny.pols@ccv.nu

If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact us.

We look forward to receiving your submission for the ECPA!



PROBLEM (intelligence)

Give a short description of the problem?

The residential area of Munkmora has long had a bad reputation, which has affected those living in the area. A relatively high proportion of residents have social problems. There has also been a lack of social meeting places in the area, particularly for young people. This has manifested itself in a high crime level and perceptions of insecurity among many residents in their local community.

Since when is it a problem?

These problems have existed almost since the neighbourhood was built during the 1960s. Munkmora was part of a governmental housing initiative which involved building apartments quickly and on a large scale. This led to an impairment of opportunities for social control in these neighbourhoods and made them rather poor as residential environments.

Is it possible to give any data regarding the problem?

Before the start of the project, the most problematic types of crime were various forms of vandalism, car thefts, break-ins in cellar storage spaces, thefts from laundry rooms and violence against women in the home.

Describe the type of offenders?

Two types of offender were judged to be responsible for the crime in the area. 1) Youths with too few meaningful activities to fill their leisure time. These hung around the area in the evenings, scaring other people and engaging in vandalism. 2) Older individuals with social problems or drug dependency problems.

What is their modus operandi?

See above.

Who are the victims?

Those affected by the crime in the area were primarily: 1) Residents whose property was destroyed or damaged by youths, 2) Children having to grow up in a turbulent and unstimulating environment and 3) Business owners (of shops and restaurants) who were subject to vandalism and harassment, which was in part of a racist character.

What are the causes?

At the beginning of the project, an analysis was conducted of the causes of the high crime levels. This concluded that there was a lack of social meeting places and activities for young people. The physical conditions in the area were also deemed to be poor.

Do's

The project's interventions built to a large extent on a survey of the area's problems based on questionnaires distributed to, and personal interviews with, residents. Meetings were later held with residents together with those responsible for the project and politicians. This introduced a grass-roots perspective into the project whereby the residents were given substantial opportunities to participate and affect the future of the area.

Dont's



WHAT (intervention)

Give a short description of the project.

The Munkmora project involves a broad mustering of resources, and the use of several methods to reduce risk factors associated with crime in this residential area. The project's initiatives are based on a thorough survey conducted among the residents. On this basis several measures have been implemented with both a social and a situational focus. A number of the measures involve the participation and commitment of young people. The project also employs a gendered perspective, the situation of young girls has been noted, and has led to concrete measures. The project is characterised by a broad mobilisation both among residents and leading politicians and public sector agencies.

What is the short, medium and long term objective of the project?

Short term: Listening to residents, analysing the measures required. Medium term: Initiating various projects, building confidence between different actors, illuminating opportunities. Long term: Creating structures to continue the work after the project period, spreading positive experiences from the project to other parts of the municipality.

What are the activities in the project?

1) Youth projects: forming youth association, building skateboard park and race course, starting IT-café and youth camps. 2) Neighbourhood projects: better lighting, clearing shrubs, more park benches, increased self-management, tidy-up days, informational leaflets to residents, study circles/lectures 3) A more visible police presence in the area.

Is the project to address

- situational
- offender or
- victim

orientated causes? Namely,

Example: Situational oriented causes - improved lighting and clearing of shrubs and bushes in the area in order to make it more difficult to commit crime. Offender oriented causes - social activities for young people with the objective of reducing their motivation to commit crime in the area.

Do's

1) One learning experience from the project was that it is possible to create a natural social control in the area. In order to reduce thefts from laundry rooms, bushes were cleared from outside the laundry room and a park bench placed outside the window. This meant that passers by saw what was happening in the laundry. 2) One successful initiative involved a camp and a subsequent course to fortify young girls in the area and to increase their levels of awareness. This work has continued as a part of the activities of the local authority to increase student influence in schools.

Dont's

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HOW (implementation)

Give a short description of the history of the project?

The Munkmora project can be seen as a development and intensification of the crime prevention work that has taken place in the Värmdö municipality since 2001, and which is centrally orchestrated by a crime prevention committee under the municipal executive board comprised of leading politicians and municipal public officials. The project was initially run by the municipality's youth workers, but in order to provide it with a clearer local focus, this responsibility was transferred in 2002 to the voluntary organisation Verdandi, which had previously had experience of organising local projects in residential areas.

Is there a project plan?

There was no project plan initially. When the project was taken over by Verdandi, a contract was written by the local authority stating that the project's objective was to reduce crime and increase levels of participation and safety in the area. The types of crime prioritised were vandalism, thefts, family violence and drugs.

How is the project customised for the local situation and context?

The project proceeded from the residents' perceptions of the area and its problems. Residents' meetings to which all residents were invited were held after the residents' survey for example. Project leaders, police, housing companies, the tenants' association and central politicians participated. The meetings were concrete and solution-focused.

Do's

One learning experience is that the most successful parts of the project were those where the residents themselves shaped the activities. This was particularly true in relation to the youth project, where young people were given the opportunity to implement the projects themselves; this led to a more realistic picture of what was required for the implementation of a given initiative.

Dont's

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WHO (involvement)

Which –both public and private- partners are involved in each fase of the project?

A large number of actors have actively participated in the project. The organisation Verdandi, the police, the local residents' association, the municipal executive board, municipal youth co-ordinators, the social services, municipal alcohol case-workers and alcohol and drugs co-ordinators have been active participants throughout most of the project period. In certain parts of the project the municipal housing company and the municipal administration offices have participated.

What role and task does each partner have?

The tasks of the most important actors; Verdandi: project management; the police: visible patrols; the tenants' association: contacts with residents; the social services: work with youths/problem families; the housing company: funding; the municipal executive board: orchestration, funding.

Who gave the input on the know-how?

The work has to a large extent proceeded from Verdandi's earlier experiences of charting and implementing preventive projects in residential areas. Other important sources of information include the tenants' association, the police, the social services and the municipal youth and drugs co-ordinators.

How is the project financed?

The project has cost 1.7 million SEK (approx. 190,000 Euro) over three years in the form of salary costs. These have been paid for by the local authority.

Did the project effect them who it was ment to, or also others?

The project has succeeded in influencing the individuals/factors within the area that were targeted. Young people now have meaningful leisure time activities, residents feel more pride in the area and it has become more difficult to commit offences.

Do's

The project succeeded in uniting both residents and leading politicians around a common idea.

Dont's

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EFFECT (impact)

Has the project been evaluated?

The project has not been scientifically evaluated, but a follow-up has been conducted of crime statistics in the area.

What was evaluated?

Trends in police reported crime for various types of everyday offences committed in the area.

At what stage did the evaluation take place?

Continuously during the implementation of the project.

Who did the evaluation?

The local police authority.

What are the results?

The total number of reported crimes in the area has almost halved compared with levels prior to the project. Car crime has fallen by 60 per cent. Vandalism, violence against women in the home, bicycle thefts and break-ins in cellar storage places have also fallen. The numbers are so small, however, that it is hard to draw far-reaching conclusions.

Are the goals of the project achieved?

The project management is of the view that the project has already achieved its goals. Crime has been reduced, the reputation of the area has slowly improved, and residents feel more pride in the area. All of the crime types prioritised by the project have been reduced.

Do's

The Munkmora project shows that it is possible to bring about a substantial reduction in crime in residential areas by means of a combination of social and situational measures. The factors that may be emphasised as underlying the success of the project include the importance of a thorough analysis of the problem, the involvement of residents/young people in the work, and the short space of time between the proposal of measures and their implementation.

Dont's

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