



Topeka

Department of Neighborhood Relations

CITIZEN ADVISORY COUNCIL

2020 Work Plan

2020 Work Plan Issues of Concern & Committees

- **Community Housing** – most concerned with vacant properties, homelessness, and housing/property violations.
 - 5 year goals – Vacant/rundown properties addressed, all landlords and home owners held responsible for the condition of their property and/or their tenants, cultivate vacant lots, more rehab programs
 - 1 year goals – Get rehab information out to public, push out slumlords, absentee owners/landlords, develop fines and guidelines like HOA's have

Housing Committee Members

Kimberly Thompson – Central Park NIA

Susan McClacherty – Valley Park NIA

Bonna Speakman – North Topeka West NIA

Ivan Weichert – City at Large

Yvonne May – Central Highland Park NIA

Donna Glave – Oakland NIA

Donald Fortin – Tennessee Town NIA

- **Community Crime** – most concerned about drugs, human trafficking/prostitution, person to person robbery/assault in Topeka
 - 5 year goals – Neighborhood watch, crime decreased (theft), Human trafficking out of all the NIAs, neighborhood peace and respect
 - 1 year goals – More follow thru with crimes (theft), more lighting

Crime Committee Members

Teresa Miller – North Topeka West NIA

Shirley Darby – Ward Meade NIA

Courtney Seever – Chesney Park NIA

- **Community Health**– Most concerned drug addiction, mental health, other medical conditions such as heart disease, diabetes, food security and safety, childhood obesity, etc. in Topeka
 - 5 year goals – Develop and support programs that offer solutions such as prevention, treatment and resolutions, increase the health and vitality by

increasing access to food through a variety of strategies such as increase food pantry hours, community gardens, low cost grocery stores and nutritional courses

- 1 year goals – Gather all organizations concerned with healthy citizens and initiate dialogue, awareness, and a plan to address issues such child obesity and other health issues

Health Committee Members

Elinor Cowell – Oakland NIA

Erma Forbes – Highland Acres NIA

- ***Community Engagement (Boots on the Ground)***– Most concerned with the lack of community pride/engagement, lack of community facilities/resources, etc. in Topeka
 - 5 year goals – Healthy, active, and engaged NIAs. Community wide garage sales, annual activities such as Egg hunts, National Night Out on Crime, and ice cream socials, other sustainable activities, and partnerships with businesses such as Holiday Open House
 - 1 year goals – Get other people involved in planning annual events, develop a system to get neighbors involved for a sustainable community pride atmosphere

Engagement Committee Members

James Prout – CAC Chair & Quinton Heights-Steele NIA

David Holl – Hi-Crest NIA

Debby DuBois – Historic Old Town NIA

Courtney Seever – Chesney Park NIA