Service Category: Neighborhood Watch/Block Watch

COMMUNITY NEED

Community need at the state level: Law enforcement officials report an increasing number of calls from individuals reporting suspicious activity (e.g., speeding, illegal parking, illegal solicitation, drug trafficking/labs, illegal drinking/driving, stalking, burglaries, theft, vandalism, kidnapping, arson, etc). According to news reports, “meth labs” alone have doubled since 2002 in South Dakota. Because some Dakota communities do not have a law enforcement officer or are understaffed, the public’s ‘watchful eye’ is critical in preventing crime. Police rely on neighbors to report home drug labs and other suspicious activity. Community members indicate they feel more vulnerable and unsafe as a result of increased illegal activity in their neighborhood/communities, and indicate they do not know what they should do when they observe something they think is suspicious.

Community need at the project level, including any particular issue the Neighborhood Watch group will address (county, district, town) and population served (each project writes their own).

What will change (related to end outcome): The RSVP volunteers’ neighborhood watch group will help community members understand what they should do when they notice something suspicious, and ultimately, feel safer in their areas.

SERVICE ACTIVITY

Service description and beneficiaries: RSVP volunteers will provide a ‘watchful eye’ in their neighborhood and community through observations around neighborhoods, elderly complexes, and on bike/walking trails, campgrounds, parks, and other public areas including (provide additional examples of public areas to be patrolled). RSVP volunteers will each be assigned an area to patrol/watch, typically consisting of (enter number block or mile radius, or describe how/what areas are assigned). When the RSVP volunteers witness something suspicious such as (provide typical example), they will alert the team leader, police/sheriff, or (enter other options volunteers have, e.g. talk to neighbors; make a note of the activity and continue to observe). RSVP volunteers will also raise awareness in the community by distributing materials and/or talking with residents on a regular basis, individually or at meetings.

Scope of service (how often, how long): RSVP volunteers will conduct these activities approximately (enter number) hours per (day/week/month).

Add other details of activity if needed (each project writes their own).

ANTICIPATED INPUTS

Volunteer numbers/number of hours: (Enter number) of RSVP volunteers will contribute a total of (enter number) of volunteer hours to this activity.

Training/supervision: With training by public safety officials, extension agents, and organizations such as (TRIAD, Weed & Seed, Community Oriented Program (COP), etc.) RSVP volunteers will learn what to look for and what to do if they observe unusual activity or traffic in their community/area. RSVP volunteers will be trained initially by (enter name of agency/organization) for (enter approximate number of hours). RSVP volunteers will receive subsequent training (enter when follow-up trainings/meetings occur, e.g. monthly, quarterly).

Resources: (Enter agency) will provide approximately (enter number) RSVP volunteers with cell phones with a programmed # for calls to authorities.

Add other details if needed (each project writes their own).
**Anticipated Accomplishments/Output**

Community members receive materials about the neighborhood watch activities and tips for fighting crime/staying safe.

*Indicator:* Number of households, businesses, community organizations, and public meeting places that receive educational/outreach materials

*Target:* (Enter target number) of households, businesses, community organizations and meeting places will receive neighborhood watch materials.

*How Measured:* Material Distribution Log

**Anticipated Intermediate Impact/Outcome**

Residents increase their awareness about crime issues in their community and how they can address them.

*Indicator:* Percent of surveyed residents who indicate they were aware of the neighborhood watch activities and learned more about crime issues, how to spot suspicious activity, and what to do to prevent crime

*Target:* At least 50% of surveyed residents will respond “yes” to five questions about their awareness of crime issues and prevention, and the neighborhood watch group (from questions 1 and 2a-e on the survey).

*How Measured:* RSVP/Neighborhood Watch Survey of Residents, distributed at the end of the program year.

**Anticipated End Impact/Outcome**

Residents in areas where neighborhood watch activity is taking place will report feeling safer than they did one year ago.

*Indicator:* Percent of residents reporting they feel safer in their neighborhoods/public areas than they did one year ago.

*Target:* At least 50% of residents living in areas with neighborhood watch activity will report they feel safer than they did one year ago by responding “yes, much safer” or “yes, somewhat safer” to two questions (question 4a and 4b on the survey).

*How Measured:* RSVP/Neighborhood Watch Survey of Residents, distributed at the end of the program year.
RSVP Neighborhood Watch
Material Distribution Log

Site/Location: ____________________________ Program Year: __________

Title of materials distributed: __________________________________________

**Instructions:** In the first column, write the addresses of the locations where you distribute materials. Check if the location is a residence, a business, or a community organization or public institution (school, church, senior center, etc.) in the second column. Check off whether you spoke with someone when you left the material or left it at the door of the location. Use the last column and the back of this sheet for comments, when applicable (e.g. “Resident would like to volunteer: please contact”; “20 pamphlets left at this senior center location”, etc.).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Materials were left at this address</th>
<th>Check if residence, business, community/public organization</th>
<th>Check off as materials are delivered</th>
<th>Comments (optional)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1.</td>
<td>☐ Residence ☐ Business ☐ Community/public</td>
<td>☐ Left on/under door ☐ Spoke with person</td>
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<td>2.</td>
<td>☐ Residence ☐ Business ☐ Community/public</td>
<td>☐ Left on/under door ☐ Spoke with person</td>
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<td>3.</td>
<td>☐ Residence ☐ Business ☐ Community/public</td>
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<td>4.</td>
<td>☐ Residence ☐ Business ☐ Community/public</td>
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<td>5.</td>
<td>☐ Residence ☐ Business ☐ Community/public</td>
<td>☐ Left on/under door ☐ Spoke with person</td>
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<td>6.</td>
<td>☐ Residence ☐ Business ☐ Community/public</td>
<td>☐ Left on/under door ☐ Spoke with person</td>
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<td>7.</td>
<td>☐ Residence ☐ Business ☐ Community/public</td>
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<td>8.</td>
<td>☐ Residence ☐ Business ☐ Community/public</td>
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<td>9.</td>
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<td>10.</td>
<td>☐ Residence ☐ Business ☐ Community/public</td>
<td>☐ Left on/under door ☐ Spoke with person</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
Dear Neighbor: Over the last ___ months/year, a neighborhood watch group has been active in your area. We would like to know how effective our efforts have been. Please take a few minutes to complete this survey. Your responses are confidential and you do not need to put your name on this survey.

1. Were you aware there was a neighborhood watch group in your area?  □ Yes  □ No

1b. If yes, how did you find out about the neighborhood watch group?
□ From talking with friends, neighbors, others. □ I am involved in neighborhood watch.
□ I saw signs or flyers posted. □ Other: ___________________________
□ I picked up a pamphlet. □ Not sure

2a. Have you seen written information (pamphlets, newsletters) about the neighborhood watch group in the last year?  □ Yes  □ No  □ Not sure

b. Have you talked to neighborhood watch volunteers about crime issues in your community in the last year?  □ Yes  □ No  □ Not sure

c. Have you become more aware of crime issues in your area, either from written information or from talking to neighborhood watch volunteers?  □ Yes  □ No

d. Have you learned more about how to recognize a potential criminal activity?  □ Yes  □ No

e. Have you learned more about how you can prevent crime in your area, including what to do if you see something suspicious?  □ Yes  □ No

3. Please rate the following crime issues in your community, from what you think should be the highest priority (1) to the lowest priority (5).

   __________ Auto theft  __________ School safety  __________ Vandalism
   __________ Property theft  __________ Drug issues

4a. Compared to one year ago, do you and your family feel safer in your neighborhood now? (please check one)  □ Yes, much safer.  □ Yes, somewhat safer.  □ No, we do not feel safer.  □ We have always felt safe.

4b. Do you and your family feel safer in other public places in your community now (e.g. parks, walking trails, school areas)? (please check one)  □ Yes, much safer.  □ Yes, somewhat safer.  □ No, we do not feel safer.  □ Does not apply: we have always felt safe.

5. In general, do you think crime has increased, decreased, or stayed about the same in your city/town in the last year?  □ Increased  □ Decreased  □ Stayed the same

6. What city/town do you live in?

If you would like to receive information, please provide your name and address on the back of this form, or call this number: ____________________________

If you have additional comments, please write them on the back of this form. When you are finished, please return this survey to ____________________________

THANK YOU!

Developed by Project STAR and CNCS North Dakota/South Dakota

Intermediate and End Outcome Instrument

REV 3/10/06