Longmont, CO Case Study

These statistics reflect substantial improvements in crime reduction, community engagement, and restorative practices, showcasing the success of Mike Butler's tenure as Public Safety Chief in Longmont, CO.

Crime Reduction:

Part 1 crimes (burglary, larceny, sex assault, homicide, robbery, auto theft) dropped from approximately 5,000 in 2004 to about 3,100 in 2020 despite the population increasing from 60,000 to 100,000.

Gang Activity:

Gang members reduced from 450 with thirteen active gangs in 2004 to fewer than 70 members and only two inactive gangs by 2020.

Domestic Violence:

Annual domestic violence fatalities decreased significantly, with only two cases of lethal domestic violence in twenty years.

Neighborhood Safety:

Number of unsafe neighborhoods reduced from 30-40 to none, exemplified by Stonehenge, which saw a drop in police calls from 150 per month to 5-10 per month.

Community Engagement:

Over five years, Butler and Dan Benavidez walked over 200 neighborhoods and met close to 4,000 people, significantly improving community involvement and safety.

Restorative Justice:

Over 7,000 people referred to restorative justice with recidivism rates of less than 7%.

Involvement of approximately 15,000-20,000 community members in the restorative justice process.

Addiction Treatment:

Several hundred individuals received free addiction treatment through policeinitiated programs, with treatment valued at nearly three million dollars provided by over ten service providers.

Forty businesses recruited to provide employment for those in recovery.

School Expulsions:

Annual school expulsions decreased from 90-100 students to less than ten after implementing the School Resource Officer (SRO) program.

Partnerships:

Legitimate community partnerships increased from zero to hundreds, including collaborations with businesses, neighborhoods, schools, faith communities, and non-profits.

Police and Community Relations:

Significant improvement in trust between the Latino community and the police, highlighted by the community involvement and feedback during neighborhood walks and other initiatives.