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'The PivotPoint' Documentary Highlights Successes of Innovative Violence Reduction Partnership

Strategy yields unprecedented results in 2 Cincinnati neighborhoods

CINCINNATI – A new short documentary, "The PivotPoint", tells the powerful story of how Cincinnati police, residents and various community stakeholders came together to combat violence in the East Westwood and Westwood neighborhoods and bring about effective change in both communities.

In 2016, the Cincinnati Police Department launched a new collaborative initiative to reduce violence called Place Based Investigations of Violent Offender Territories (P.I.V.O.T.). This effort concentrated resources from multiple City of Cincinnati departments and various community stakeholders to address violence in focused locations. Then, the City of Cincinnati's Neighborhood Enhancement Program (NEP), a 90-day effort to improve the quality of life in a targeted area, partnered with PIVOT and the communities of East Westwood and Westwood. The innovative violence reduction partnership yielded unprecedented community results in Cincinnati.

The Pivot/NEP initiatives led by Cincinnati City departments facilitated the empowering of these communities to work in their own best interest and in doing so reduce crime, increase engagement, address food deficits, and create an environment where children can grow, learn and play safely all while building community trust.

In "The PivotPoint," the audience is introduced to various residents, City leaders and community partners who helped these two neighborhoods "pivot" away from decades-long division for the greater good. Central to this amazing story is how one street corner once riddled with crime positively transformed into a symbol of hope and change. Different religious faiths come together to address problems that plague the community and find common ground in addressing them.

This fast-paced, emotionally moving documentary is full of testimonials and interviews with neighborhood ambassadors, community leaders, and dedicated police officers.

Produced by 24-time Emmy winning filmmaker, Zo Wesson, "The PivotPoint" is a beacon of hope and direction for the City of Cincinnati and the nation.

The video can be viewed at <https://vimeo.com/citicable/thepivotpoint>.

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