

Safer Communities Task Force

Mission

Support a safer Mobile by advancing policies, programs, and practices that deliver services, supports, and appropriate accountability for the people and places at highest risk, protect youth and young adults, and strengthen pathways to stability and opportunity for residents who need it most.

Purpose

The Safer Communities Task Force brings together public safety, public health, education, social services, community based organizations, clergy, and industry partners to advise the City on coordinated strategies to address serious violence and chronic safety concerns.

The Task Force is intended to:

- Inform strategies that address shootings, serious assaults, and other life-threatening harm.
- Lift up approaches that better support youth and young adults closest to conflict and crisis.
- Recommend ways to connect high-need, high-risk residents to meaningful opportunities and practical support.
- Work together to align and better coordinate members' programs, resources, and influence so they can help drive positive change and improve safety across the city.

Core Focus Areas

1. **Serious interpersonal violence and gun crime**
Focus on shootings, near-fatal assaults, group-related conflicts, and serious harm occurring within families or intimate relationships, with attention to the people and locations where harm is concentrated.
2. **Youth and young adult safety**
Identify issues affecting youth and young adults involved in or exposed to conflict at school, in neighborhoods, or online, and highlight strategies that strengthen early intervention, conflict mediation, and connection to school, work, and trusted adults.
3. **Stability and opportunity for high-need, high-risk residents**
Work with education, workforce, housing, and health partners to identify pathways for residents at highest risk of violence involvement to access training, employment, housing stability, behavioral health care, and ongoing support.

How the Task Force Functions

- Review shared data from public safety, health, schools, and community partners to understand priority people, places, and patterns.
- Hold regular cross-sector meetings to discuss challenges, identify promising practices, and develop practical recommendations.

Safer Communities Task Force

- Use members' knowledge, experience, relationships, and resources to support the City in carrying out agreed strategies, while City leadership retains decision-making authority.
 - Strengthen alignment and coordination among member organizations so efforts in the community are more consistent, complementary, and easier to navigate for residents.
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Who Serves on the Task Force

The Task Force includes a mix of agency leaders and community representatives, such as:

- Community advocates and neighborhood leaders
- Clergy and faith-based leaders
- Business owners and industry representatives
- Youth and young adults
- Mental health and other health professionals
- Higher education partners
- Workforce development and job training leaders
- Survivors, impacted families, and people with lived experience of violence or the justice system

Key Institutional Partners

Supported through the Office of Public Safety, key institutional partners include:

- Mobile Police Department
- Mobile Fire-Rescue Department
- Mobile County Health Department
- USA Health Trauma Center and health care partners
- Bishop State Community College
- Industry leaders and local employers
- Mobile County District Attorney
- Public school systems and youth-serving agencies
- Behavioral health and social service providers
- Community and neighborhood organizations
- Faith-based partners
- State and federal public safety partners

Leadership Commitment

City and partner leaders commit to:

- Considering Task Force recommendations that are grounded in local data, evidence, and community experience.
- Supporting coordinated efforts focused on people and places at highest risk.
- Sharing periodic updates on how recommendations are used to inform policy, practice, and resource decisions.