

GRAND RAPIDS HOUSING COMMISSION

Public Housing Program 2011 Safety and Crime Prevention Plan

Need for measures to ensure the safety of Public Housing residents

In assessing the need for a Safety and Crime Prevention Plan, the Grand Rapids Housing Commission (GRHC) has relied on the following informational resources:

- Resident surveys and reports
- PHA employee reports
- Police reports
- Analysis of crime statistics over time
- Analysis of costs associated with graffiti removal and the repair of vandalized PHA property over time
- Needs assessment conducted by local college
- Concerns expressed by representatives of community agencies

The GRHC has determined that all of its Public Housing developments are impacted by neighborhood criminal activity and threats to resident safety due to the following factors:

- Incidence of violent and/or drug-related crime in some GRHC developments
- Incidence of violent and/or drug-related crime in the areas surrounding or adjacent to GRHC developments
- Residents fearful for their safety and/or the safety of their children
- Observed lower-level crime, vandalism and/or graffiti
- People on waiting list unwilling to move into developments due to perceived and/or actual levels of violent and/or drug-related crime

Safety and crime prevention activities the GRHC has undertaken or plans to undertake in the next fiscal year

- The GRHC will continue to promote and facilitate on-site Community Policing Offices staffed by the Grand Rapids Police Department.
- The GRHC has identified HUD funding to continue the security services that are needed at Adams Park Apartments, a 188-unit facility that serves disabled and older adults.
- The GRHC has contracted to install security fencing along the Division Street boundary of Campau Commons Apartments.
- The GRHC has provided and will continue to provide safety and crime prevention training to residents.
- The GRHC has established and continues to maintain relationships with the neighborhood associations that serve its residents and the surrounding community.
- The GRHC has created an Emergency Preparedness Plan that will help ensure resident safety in the event of fire, weather-related emergencies or maintenance emergencies such as hazardous material spills or sewer backup. The GRHC has trained staff and residents regarding this plan.

- The GRHC has upgraded fire alarm and suppression systems and will continue to evaluate and upgrade systems as needed.
- The GRHC administers and continues to expand a “File of Life” program that helps to safeguard the health and safety of older and disabled residents.

Description of the coordination between the GRHC and the Grand Rapids Police Department for carrying out crime prevention measures and activities

The GRHC promotes and facilitates on-site Community Policing Offices to establish a consistent presence by the Grand Rapids Police Department (GRPD) at all Public Housing developments. The GRPD continues to maintain an on-site Community Policing Office at Adams Park Apartments.