

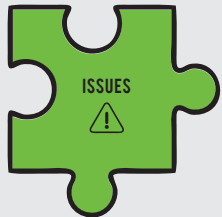
# BUILDING SAFE COMMUNITIES



# WHAT IS BUILDING SAFE COMMUNITIES?

Welcome to **Building Safe Communities**, a community development approach to working with community associations and other community partners to provide Calgarians with tools and resources to support resident-led solutions for crime prevention and safety. This guide will provide many opportunities to engage your community in **Building Safe Communities** concepts, principles, and actions. Let's get started!

## 3 STEPS TO BUILDING SAFE COMMUNITIES



**BUILDING SAFE COMMUNITIES** HAS BEEN RUNNING FROM

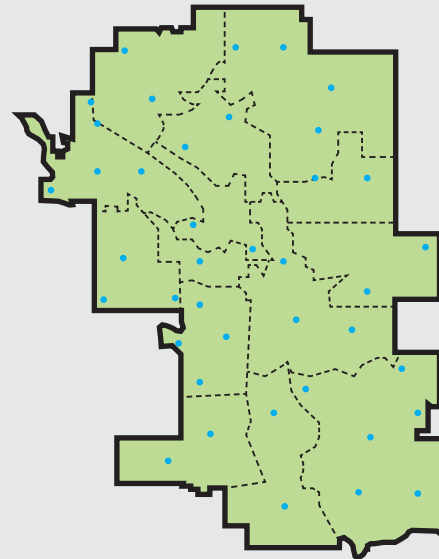


2011



2017

COORDINATED BY THE FEDERATION OF CALGARY COMMUNITIES



OVER  
**630**  
RESIDENTS  
FROM  
OVER  
**40**  
COMMUNITIES  
CONTRIBUTED  
TO  
**BUILDING  
SAFE  
COMMUNITIES**

## 3 MAIN PRINCIPLES

1. **BUILDING.....**  
*relationships*
2. **SAFETY & CRIME.....**  
**PREVENTION**
3. **RESIDENT-LED ENGAGEMENT.....**

**BSC** believes that when neighbours come together, people feel safer. When you can rely on the people who live closest to you it increases your sense of safety and prevents crime. There's proof that safety increases when neighbours watch out for each other, rather than watching each other. A goal of **BSC** is to prevent crime and live in a safe community.

**BSC** wants all residents to feel safe where they live. An increase in neighbourliness increases individual safety. Safety and crime impact all residents and each resident is affected differently. There are many ways to increase safety and prevent crime. **BSC** has helpful exercises to teach you how.

**BSC** is an activator; supporting resident leaders and focusing on solutions. Building a safe community is the best part of the job! Residents who want to live in a better community are always welcome. There are so many ways to be a change maker in your community! Let **BSC** show you how.

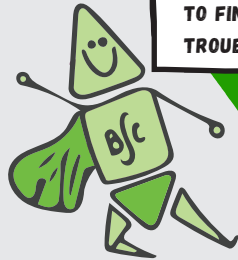


**I'M BSC – A SUPERHERO! I CAN HELP YOU NAVIGATE YOUR WAY TO BUILDING A SAFE COMMUNITY. I'M HERE TO OFFER YOU SUPPORT. SEE IF YOU CAN SPOT THE DIFFERENT PRINCIPLES THROUGHOUT THE GUIDE.**

# PART 1

# ISSUES

**BUILDING A SAFE COMMUNITY MEANS FIRST ADDRESSING THE ISSUES! YOUR RESIDENTS MAY HAVE DIFFERENT CONCERNS AND CHALLENGES. PART ONE GIVES YOU TOOLS TO FIND THE ISSUES THAT YOUR RESIDENTS ARE MOST TROUBLED BY.**



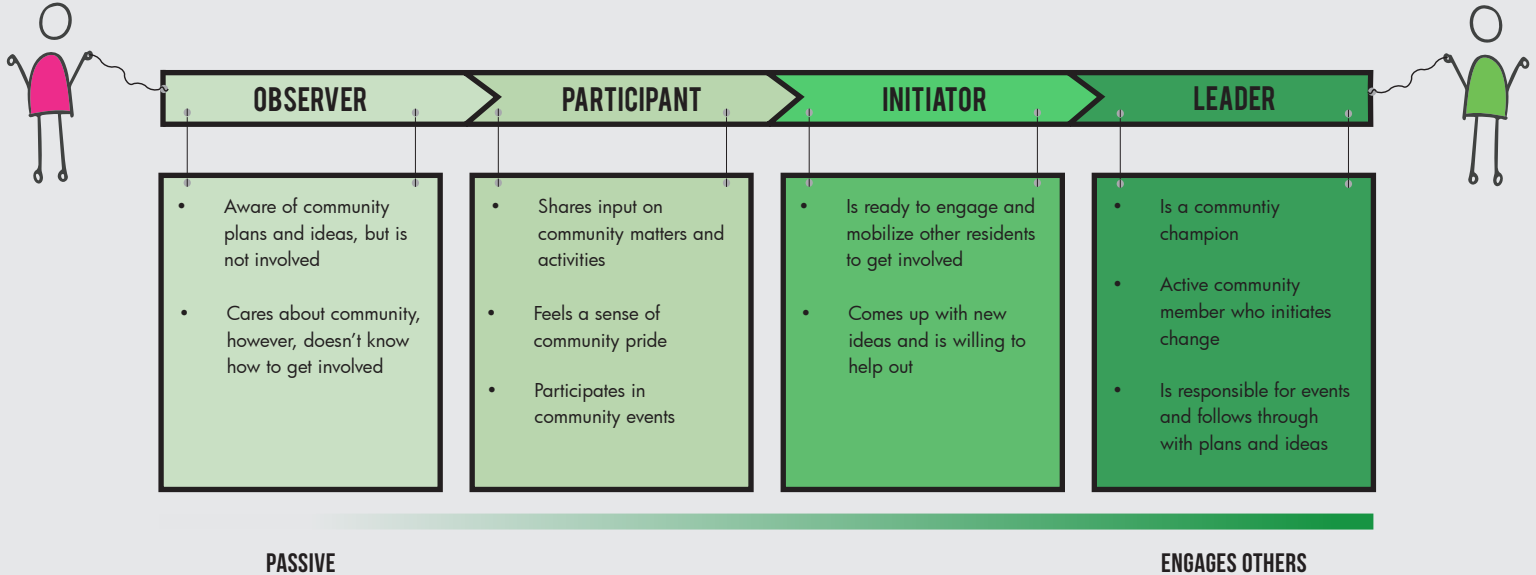
**BUILDING  
SAFE  
COMMUNITIES**

# LEVELS OF INVOLVEMENT

RESIDENT-LED ENGAGEMENT



How involved are the residents in your neighbourhood? Understanding the different levels of resident involvement will help in getting input from your residents.



# COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

RESIDENT-LED ENGAGEMENT



Think about other groups in your community that would like to get involved in building a safe community. It takes the whole community to be safe. Check off the different groups, organizations, and institutions in your community that are impacted by crime and safety, and could get involved.



**SCHOOLS**



**RECREATION CENTRES**



**RELIGIOUS INSTITUTIONS**

{ CHURCHES, MOSQUES, TEMPLES,  
OTHER FAITH BASED ORGANIZATIONS }



**SENIOR LIVING FACILITIES**



**POLITICIANS**

{ CITY COUNCILLOR, MLA, MP }



**CULTURAL GROUPS**



**SMALL BUSINESSES**

{ LOCALLY OWNED, GRASSROOTS }



**NON-PROFITS**

**WHO ELSE CAN GET INVOLVED ?**



**LAW ENFORCEMENT**

{ CALGARY POLICE, BYLAW }



**LIBRARIES**

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**COMMUNITY ASSOCIATIONS**



**BIG BUSINESSES**

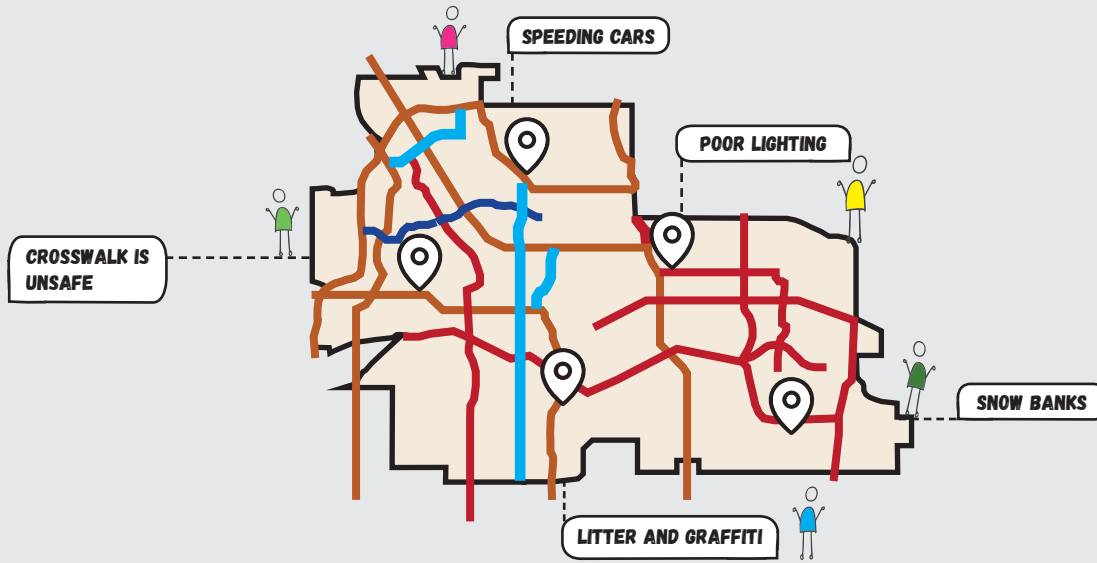
{ CORPORATIONS, FRANCHISES }

# HOT SPOTS



Hot spots are areas in your neighbourhood where you feel a lack of safety. Identifying hot spots is important because it highlights the areas in your community that need improvement.

Identify the hot spots in your community.



# SENSE OF SAFETY

Asking how residents feel about crime and safety related issues will help you figure out what issues are important to them. Consider having your residents answer these questions.

GENERALLY, HOW SAFE DO YOU FEEL IN YOUR COMMUNITY?



○ 1 = Unsafe

● 5 = Safe

WOULD YOU FEEL SAFE GOING TO YOUR NEIGHBOURS IN CASE OF AN EMERGENCY?



HOW MUCH OF A CONCERN IS CRIME IN YOUR COMMUNITY?



IS YOUR COMMUNITY PERCEIVED AS SAFE?





# LIST SAFETY ISSUES IN YOUR NEIGHBOURHOOD



# PART 2

# SOLUTIONS

**AS BSC, I KNOW THERE ARE MANY SOLUTIONS TO AN ISSUE! IT'S IMPORTANT TO BRING THE COMMUNITY TOGETHER TO FIND A SOLUTION. FOLLOW ALONG TO FIND THE BEST SOLUTION FOR A SAFER COMMUNITY!**



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## WATCHING YOUR NEIGHBOURS

When we don't know our neighbours it can lead to...

**ASSUMPTIONS** that are based on what we think we know about others. This creates **DISTANCE** between our neighbours. It keeps those who live near us as **STRANGERS** and it relies on an increase in **SURVEILLANCE**.



## WATCHING OUT FOR YOUR NEIGHBOURS

When we know our neighbours it can lead to...

**AWARENESS** of what we accurately know about our neighbours. This creates **CONNECTION** and it makes people who live nearby us more **NEIGHBOURLY** since it relies on relationships, which can increase **SAFETY**.



BUILDING RELATIONSHIPS

# ENGAGING FOR SOLUTIONS

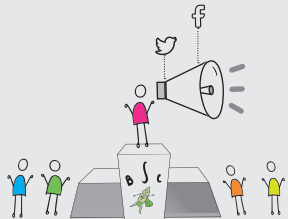
RESIDENT-LED ENGAGEMENT



Follow the steps below to organize residents to work together to find a solution and reach your goal of a safer community.

TAKE ACTION

START



STEP 1:

**SPREAD THE WORD**

Get the word out through social media, newsletters, word of mouth, bold signs, etc.



STEP 2:

**RECRUITMENT**

Interested residents will hear about your initiative. Let them know about the purpose so they can tell their neighbours!



STEP 3:

**IDENTIFY A SOLUTION**

Find a common issue, theme, or concern among residents. It can be easy to engage to find a solution.



STEP 4:

**MOVE TO ACTION**

Create a sense of belonging. This way, residents can feel more like a community and begin building their action plan.



BUILDING RELATIONSHIPS

# RESIDENT-LED SOLUTIONS



RESIDENT-LED ENGAGEMENT

Any resident-led solution should have these five elements.

## GATHERING INPUT FROM RESIDENTS

Residents that live in their neighbourhood should have a say in the solution.

## RESIDENTS LEADING & INITIATING

Residents should lead and initiate the solution, not an external group or program from outside the neighbourhood.

## GATHERING ASSETS

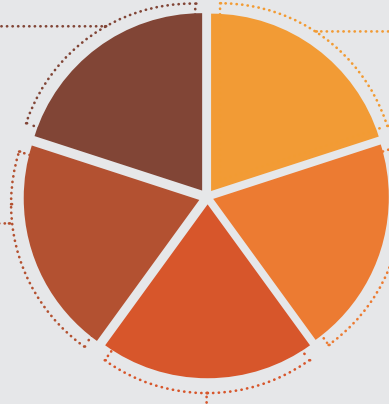
Find local assets from the neighbourhood! Assets can be any source that can lead to helping find a solution.

## OPPORTUNITY TO PARTICIPATE

Create a solution where all residents have an opportunity to participate.

## OUTCOME BENEFITS FOR THE NEIGHBOURHOOD

The outcome of a resident-led solution should benefit the neighbourhood and residents.



# WAYS OF GATHERING SOLUTIONS

Use different types of tools and activities to get solutions. Try these different methods to solve your community issues. Many of these can be found in the Engagement Toolkit.

## RESIDENT-LED ENGAGEMENT



**BRAINSTORMING ...**

**DRAIN THE BRAIN**

... PUT YOUR HEADS TOGETHER TO COME UP WITH GREAT IDEAS

**CLUSTER VALUES ...**

**CLUSTER YOUR VALUES**

... WHAT DOES YOUR COMMUNITY VALUE?

**SURVEY/COMMENTS ...**

**SIMPLE SURVEYS FOR THE SOUL**

... GATHER FORMAL METHODS TO FIND SOLUTIONS

**INTERVIEWS ...**

**COFFEE CHATS**

... HAVE ONE-ON-ONE CONVERSATIONS WITH RESIDENTS ABOUT SOLUTIONS



# ASKING THE RIGHT QUESTIONS



Insert a crime or safety issue that you identified earlier, and answer the questions to gain a better understanding about the issue. This will help you identify the right solution.

ASKING QUALITY QUESTIONS



FINDING THE RIGHT SOLUTIONS

**Q: WHEN DID THIS BECOME A COMMUNITY ISSUE ?**



**Q: WHAT IS YOUR GREATEST CONCERN ?**



**Q: HOW DOES THIS IMPACT YOUR COMMUNITY ?**



**Q: WHERE DO YOU SEE IMPROVEMENTS ?**

## ISSUE:

Any issue that you have can be addressed by asking these questions.

## SOLUTION:

Using this process of asking questions can help you understand the root of the issue.

# SIDEKICKS ARE PARTNERSHIPS

Creating community partnerships is an important step so that they can help support your solutions.



## LAW ENFORCEMENT ...



## CITY SERVICES ...



## NON-PROFITS ...



## COMMUNITY CHAMPIONS ...



...ARE RESIDENTS OR GROUPS WHO ADVOCATE FOR THE WELLBEING OF THEIR COMMUNITY.

Who are your Community Resource Officers?

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What's the location of your police district office?

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Remember these City Services:

- Bylaw
- Transportation
- 311
- Parks
- Fire Department
- Calgary Neighbourhoods

Services Provided:

- Federation Staff
- Member Services
- Workshops
- Online resources
- Engagement Toolkit

Resident in the community?

Community organization?

Community program?

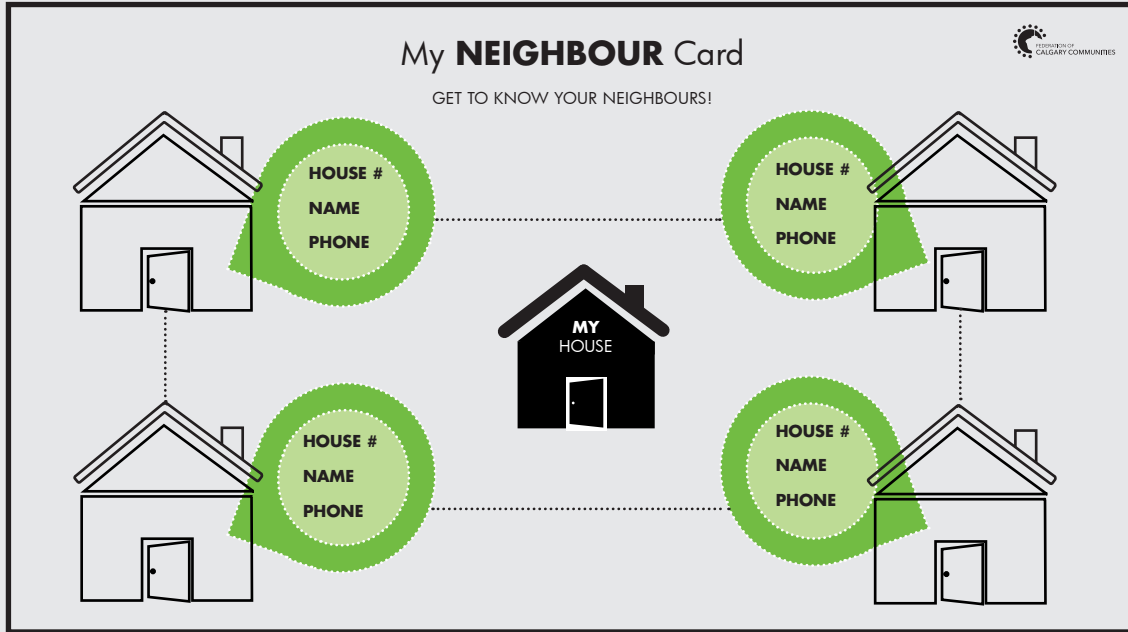


# BUILDING RELATIONSHIPS



BUILDING RELATIONSHIPS

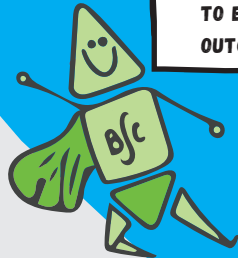
Use a My Neighbour Card to introduce yourself to your neighbours. Get to know your neighbours and gather their contact information so it can be used in case of an emergency.



# PART 3

# ACTION PLAN

**SUPER! YOU HAVE AN IDEA TO SOLVE THE ISSUES IN YOUR COMMUNITY. NOW YOU NEED A PLAN!  
AN ACTION PLAN IS A LIST OF THINGS TO CONSIDER TO ENSURE YOU ACHIEVE YOUR GOALS FOR THE BEST OUTCOME.**



**BUILDING  
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# CREATE A STRONG ACTION PLAN

Action plans are important because they provide structure, accountability and success!

1.

## ACTIVITY/ACTION

What activity or actions will the group take to prevent crime and increase safety? Identify the action that will be taken to build your safe community.

2.

## WHEN

Create a realistic timeline. Ask yourself when will the action begin or end? When will the event be held? Create a timeline to keep you and the group accountable.

3.

## LEAD

Establish leadership for each action plan. Who can give direction and follow through for the action? Assign responsibility and commitment.

4.

## RESOURCES

How many volunteers do you need? How much time will the action take? Who can support the action? Create a list of resources that are needed.

5.

## RESOURCES-FINANCIAL

How much will the action cost? Where the funding will come from? Maybe fundraising, grants or community sponsors? Create a budget.

6.

## OUTCOME

Finally, what's the outcome of the action, what's the purpose or goal of the action supposed to be, and how does it benefit the community?



# HEAD, HANDS, HEART



Action plans require people! Volunteers are a key component to any successful action. Consider using Head, Hands, Heart to identify people's strengths and how they can be part of it!

## DEFINITIONS:



What do you know? **'Head'** consists of one's knowledge, intellect or ideas.



What can you do? **'Hands'** is all about your skills. What you can operate, construct or fix?



What are you passionate about? The **'Heart'** answers the question "what does one care about and what makes you feel alive?"

## EXAMPLES:

### DEV



Knowledge in sustainability



Gardener



Connecting at-risk youth



### LUCY



An idea to increase safety



Illustrator



Pedestrian safety



## WHAT'S YOUR HEAD, HANDS, AND HEART?



If volunteers are engaging with things that are associated with their **Head**, **Hands** and **Heart** they will be great volunteers!

# VISIONING

Imagine what kind of community you want to live in. How does your action plan help fulfill the kind of community you want to live in?



## BSC WANTS TO KNOW...

Where do you see your community in 5 or 10 years?

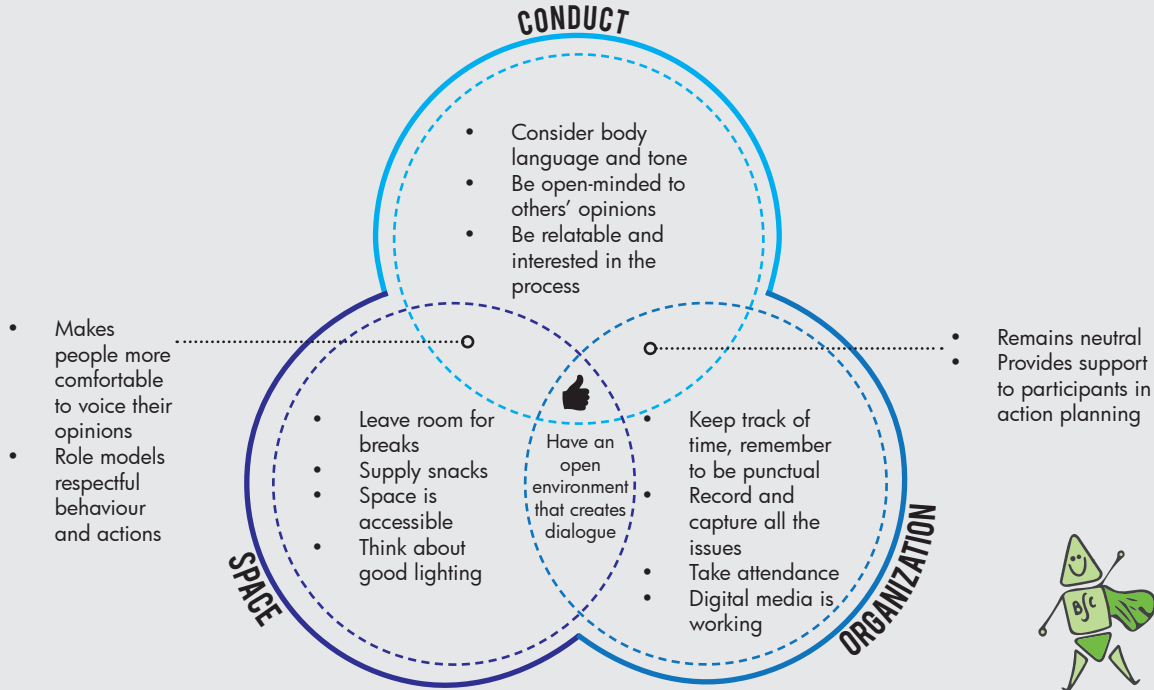
What do you want new neighbours to say about your neighbourhood?

What does a safe community feel like?

How does your community vision relate to your action plan?

# FACILITATION TIPS

Here are a few tips to think about if you choose to run your own Building Safe Communities.





# PAST BSC ACTION PLANS

Check out these great activities that came out of previous Building Safe Communities action plans!

- Little Libraries
- Park times changing
- Community clean-up
- Family movie night
- How to report crime campaign
- Community walking maps
- Recycling bin stickers
- Community pride campaign
- Block parties
- My Neighbour Card distribution
- Community garden
- Traffic calming
- Tactical Urbanism projects
- Community Evacuation Plan

# THE END

**YOU'RE NOW WELL EQUIPPED TO BECOME YOUR  
OWN BSC SUPERHERO! TAKE ACTION AND  
HAVE FUN BUILDING YOUR SAFE COMMUNITY!**



## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS:

