



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Workshop Empowers Community Leaders to Create Safe and Sustainable Neighborhoods Using Proven Techniques and Strategies

Ft. Lauderdale, Fla. (June 22, 2010) – *Analyze Your Community for Success*, a workshop that is presented as part of the Coordinated Community Anti Crime Initiative, will be held **Friday, June 25**, from 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the **Broward County Housing Authority** in Ft. Lauderdale (Headway Office Park, 4780 North State Road 7, Lauderdale Lakes). It will teach participants proven techniques to create safe and sustainable communities.

Analyze Your Community for Success is part of a statewide series of symposiums and follow up workshops conducted by the Coordinated Community Anti Crime Initiative, a project of the University Area Community Development Corporation funded by the State of Florida Office of the Attorney General.

Attorney General McCollum has been a strong supporter of the Strategies for Safe and Sustainable Communities symposiums across the state and has participated as the keynote speaker. These symposiums review the efforts and impact of the Coordinated Community Anti Crime Initiative pilot program as it was developed and implemented in the University Area of Tampa, an urban, economically distressed, culturally diverse neighborhood with the highest crime rate in Hillsborough County.

Because of the intense interest and feedback from the symposium attendees, smaller hands-on workshops have been developed to provide additional training and tools to help communities launch their own transformation efforts.

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“For people who are interested in motivating positive neighborhood change, this workshop provides techniques to help create a vision and the tools to make that vision a reality,” said Anne Williamson, Ph.D., a community analysis expert who is one of the trainers at the workshop.

Williamson and Robin Ersing, Ph.D. will conduct the workshop based on the methodology behind the pilot program which is grounded in the principle that the program can be adapted in any neighborhood faced with challenges which are often the root causes of crime such as unemployment, poor housing conditions and little or no access to social services.

As members of the pilot program development team, Ersing and Williamson will present an overview of several proven methods for transforming communities including specific techniques such as the design and implementation of surveys, housing conditions studies and demographic analysis. *Analyze Your Community for Success* participants will receive instruction on how to:

- Develop profiles of their community
- Apply concepts and tools to address unique issues
- Collect, analyze and present the data to effectively inform decision makers of the issues
- Use the data to apply for grants to assist in funding community transformation

There is no fee to attend the workshop, which includes lunch, handbook and materials. Pre-registration is required at <http://anticrimeworkshops.uacdonline.org>.

For details on the Coordinated Community Anti Crime Initiative and the *Strategies for Safe and Sustainable Communities* symposiums, visit <http://symposium.uacdonline.org>.

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