

At the 4th Friday Night Potluck Dinner & Discussion on June 20th, residents and neighbors broke out into small groups to discuss issues and answer two key questions: what can our community do to help keep kids safe, and how should the community respond if something bad occurs with youth?

Below is the summary of ideas and suggestions generated from this discussion.

What can our community do to help keep kids safe?

Programs

- More programs to keep children occupied; both day and night
- Create workshops with parenting classes and personal finance training
- Provide safe transportation for children to outside activities
- Create structured and community events tailored to youth of different ages
- Add Big Brothers Big Sisters and other mentoring opportunities
- Create an Adopt-A-Kid program to create mentoring relationships
- Create greater accountability of parents for their children's actions

Resources & Recreation

- Place social workers in Potomac Gardens
- Repair and open the recreation center in partnership with the neighbors; maintain with appropriate staffing and programs

Public Safety / Enforcement

- Lower city-wide curfew hours
- Orange Hat Patrols inside and around Potomac Gardens

Facilities

- Changes in property management
- Identification badges for Potomac Gardens residents
- Add cameras and better lights inside the building
- Improve security for residents

How should the community respond if something bad occurs with youth?

- Better communication network of parents and neighbors is needed
- Strong communications are needed internally
- Potluck meetings have created a forum to reconvene if a crisis occurs