



# Public Investments to Address Structural Violence & Direct Violence in the Community: Three Year Strategy

Below is an initial framework of investments and strategies over the next three years to help address structural violence and direct violence in the community, and improve school safety. This outline has been developed by New Hanover County after conversations with more than 60 diverse service providers, community leaders, school personnel, students and parents, law enforcement, community advocates, and content experts.

The charge of this work, as defined by those most directly affected and those working on community violence, is to address the variety and modes of interpersonal conflict that result in intentional injuries or deaths in the community; understanding these acts are not randomly distributed, and that racial and ethnic minorities bear a disproportionate burden as a consequence of historical racism and discrimination, access to poorer quality health care, housing, education, job opportunities, and persistent exposure to persistent toxic stress across our community

This outline is serving as a starting point, and additional details, funding information, and program development will take place over the coming months and will be brought before the Board of Commissioners prior to investments being made.

## Coordinate Community Care & Support Services

*Approximately \$15 million over three years*

- Provide wrap-around services, case management support, intervention, and prevention services to all students and families in a unified approach, including:
  - o Expanding existing and effective evidence-based programs.
  - o Place-based support services and coordination.
  - o Non-profit capacity building and assistance based on community goals.
  - o Comprehensive, unified, and coordinated service delivery.

## Enhance Reporting, Monitoring & Security

*Approximately \$19 million over three years*

- Develop a community-based reporting system that is confidential and secure, in coordination with robust social media monitoring capabilities, that all work together to allow for strategic information sharing of threats to the appropriate individuals, groups, and community at large.
- Build relationships within schools and enhance on-the-ground school security and monitoring with:
  - o At least one School Resource Officer at every school and an additional safety officer at all learning centers and middle and high schools, focused on perimeter management and campus-based interventions.
  - o Adult school bus monitors to help ensure safe transportation, monitoring and trust building with students.

## Eliminate Education Barriers

*Approximately \$12 million over three years*

- Double the number of high-quality pre-k opportunities to meet the community need.
- Provide at-risk education intervention in schools.
- Provide tuition support to qualified individuals for career and technical education certifications that meet the needs of the marketplace.

## Improve School Hardscapes & Education Facilities

*Approximately \$43 million total*

- Several facility improvements were identified in the school's safety risk assessment, to include:
  - o Perimeter and facility ingress/egress modifications across the entire school district.
  - o Campus-based and district-wide communication, monitoring, and surveillance enhancements.
  - o Community-based and facility renovations for education, social, emotional, and life-skill enhancements.