From: Irving, Toni
To: Letavish, George
Subject: outcomes
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George, would you add anything in response to the question?

The bottom-line question: Is it (NRI) working or is it not working?

The Neighborhood Recovery Initiative was created to reduce the risk factors and enhance the protective factors associated with violence through the creation of jobs for community youth, adults, parents and professionals, and through the provision of a continuum of services for children and youth. The NRI program in and of itself cannot reduce violence; it augments law enforcement and other approaches that address some of the tremendous challenges that the 23 high-risk NRI communities face. NRI seeks to change the trajectory of kids' lives and have preventive effects over the long term.

The NRI program, in its infancy stages, has generated enthusiastic and positive responses from both participants and the community agencies and leaders involved. Over 3,000 full and part time jobs are created by NRI each year that provide an economic boost for individuals and the community, while building a coordinated community approach for supporting the healthy development of youth. Data is being collected though a unique, online database system that measures the reach of the program and will, over time, demonstrate the impact of the program. Early anecdotal reports suggest that the program is saving lives and is helping youth make positive choices that will help them live violence-free lives.

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