

## Public Safety Resources

On September 20, Jacob Brostoff, a Community Safety Coordinator with the Community Safety Program of the Office of Community and Civic Life, led a meeting in Grant Park about crime and safety issues in our community and city.

Below are some of the programs and resources Mr. Brostoff discussed at the meeting. If you have questions or would like more information, he can be contacted at 503-823-8973 or by e mail at [Jacob.brostoff@portlandoregon.gov](mailto:Jacob.brostoff@portlandoregon.gov) or [pdxnorthteam@portlandoregon.gov](mailto:pdxnorthteam@portlandoregon.gov) Another member of the North/Northeast Community Safety team available to answer neighbor questions is Daniel Franco-Nunez, who can be reached at 503-823-8236 or at [daniel.franco-nunez@portlandoregon.gov](mailto:daniel.franco-nunez@portlandoregon.gov)

For citizens wanting to contact Portland City leaders, Mr. Brostoff recommended **Advocacy Training**, a free training program of about 35-45 minutes, that teaches community members how to participate in Portland City Government. If a community member has a specific issue, concern, or solution they would like City Council to know about, this training is for them.

If someone appears to be a danger to themselves or others due to apparent **mental health problems**, neighbors can call the **Multnomah County Mental Health Crisis Line**. **This number is 503-988-4888, and the lines are open 24/7**. If this number is called, you will talk to a mental health professional, and they will decide whether to dispatch someone to the scene.

Neighbors should call **911** for true emergencies, where there is an **immediate danger to life or property, or a crime is in progress**. 911 should always be called if there is a weapon present at the scene of the incident you are reporting. Note that neighbors can also text 911, which is a good solution if you cannot talk or make noise during an incident. Texts can only be in English, and emojis are not accepted, just text. The **police non-emergency line number is 503-823-3333**, and this line takes calls from all of Multnomah County. Please note that when giving details on what you are seeing, housing status is not an important fact to report.

For neighbors concerned about **homeless camps**, and the behavioral and environmental problems associated with them, neighbors can call the **Homelessness and Urban Camping Impact Reduction Program**. This is a joint city-county program that manages the homeless camps. Go to <https://www.portlandoregon.gov/69333>

For neighbors concerned about crime and violence prevention, Mr. Brostoff recommended the **Community Peace Collaborative**, hosted by the Office of Violence Prevention. This is a “bi-weekly public forum that increases communication and coordination between service providers and the community to develop strategies to reduce violence.” Go to <https://www.portland.gov/oyvp/community-peace-collaborative>

Mr. Brostoff encouraged neighbors to get to know one another, to share information such as cell phone numbers, license plate numbers, routines, special skills, etc., and to keep an eye out for one another and develop a safety plan to prepare for contingencies. He also offered training opportunities including a free **Personal Safety Workshop**. According to Mr. Brostoff, this workshop is, “primarily focused on the role of intuition in keeping us safe, verbal de-escalation techniques for lower-level conflicts, escape options for dealing with situations where physical safety could be in danger, and being an Upstander versus being a Bystander.”

Additionally, **free physical self-defense trainings for women and female identified** include the Strength programs **WomenStrength** and **GirlStrength**, offered by the Portland Police Bureau. For more information on these classes and how to register, go to: <https://www.portlandoregon.gov/police/index.cfm?&c=35911>

An additional service offered by the North/Northeast Community Safety Program that was not mentioned at the meeting but in subsequent communications from Mr. Brostoff, is **the Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED) assessments**. These assessments are, “evaluations of the environmental factors that may help discourage certain types of criminal activity. They are free of charge, and we do them for all types of development in the City of Portland, including residential, commercial, and industrial development. There is no obligation to implement our CPTED suggestions. However, we prefer that there be an invitation from a property owner, manager, on person-in-charge for these assessments.”