



Binford Redevelopment & Growth, Inc.

Community Crime Watch Network Residential Crime Watch

Network Description, History and Functions:

Binford Redevelopment and Growth (BRAG), initially in 2006, worked cooperatively with the Marion County Sheriff's Department to establish a Residential Crime Watch Network that now includes 43 neighborhoods containing over 7300 residential homes that surround Binford Blvd. and 71st Street in the Northeast side of Indianapolis. Starting in 2007 BRAG Crime Watch Network established a close working relationship with the Indianapolis Metropolitan Police Department (IMPD), North District. Through BRAG efforts, a Police Satellite Office opened in Oct. 2006 at 5699 E. 71st St. - with snacks supplied by BRAG.

Features of this Network:

Established to reduce criminal activity by joining neighborhoods together by:

1. Each BRAG neighborhood assigning a Crime Watch CONTACT Person to be notified by any resident of that neighborhood that has experienced a criminal incident or observed a suspicious activity (AFTER reporting it to the Police Department- by calling 911 for emergency or 327-3811 if non-emergency).
2. The Contact person then immediately notifies the central BRAG Residential Crime Watch Communicator who sends a Crime Watch Notice on the incident or activity to the Contacts in all the other BRAG neighborhoods. They in turn notify all of their respective residents so they can be on the ALERT.
3. Communication between the central Communicator and the neighborhood Contacts is done by Electronic Mail (Email) or telephone. The neighborhood Contacts then also use Email or telephone to notify their residents.
4. Many neighborhoods already have a "Neighborhood Crime Watch Network" program with a central COORDINATOR (the Contact person in this case) and a group of Crime Watch Captains each assigned to specific homes. BRAG recommends having such a program and it is highly recommended by IMPD which has a Crime Watch Specialist to work with neighborhoods to instruct and guide them in setting up such a Neighborhood Crime Watch Network.
5. With the BRAG Residential Crime Watch Network, as described, it is possible to put all of the surrounding neighborhoods on HIGH ALERT when a criminal incident or suspicious activity occurs in any one neighborhood.
6. IMPD provides weekly reports of Crime Activity for the entire North district and further provides monthly reports of major crime specific for the BRAG area (which is within 82nd St. on the North; 56th St. on the South; Dean Rd. on the West; Sargent Rd. & Fall Creek Rd. on the East) that go out to neighborhoods.
7. IMPD North District has a Crime Reduction Specialist, Crime Watch Specialist and a Community Relations Liaison Officer who establish contact with neighborhoods, attend neighborhood meetings and are a valuable source of information. The Community and Crime Specialist personnel have worked closely with BRAG and all BRAG Neighborhoods since the inception of IMPD.
8. To join, contact: Joe Komenda, Residential Crime Watch Communicator, at 317/849-0716, Email brenkomen@aol.com

February 2011