

In 2010, the Colerain Police Department presented an idea to transition the old GT's Bar in Groesbeck to a "Community Resource Center" (CRC).

Several issues spurred the desire for the Center. Street prostitution, drug dealing, shootings, disorderly subjects and homicides were rampant in this part of the Township. In response to this, the Police Department formed a Special Investigations Unit to combat these issues.

- **The Center was envisioned to be a base of operations for these detectives. That goal was achieved.**

In just the first year, crime dropped:

Total crime: -37.73%

Violent crime: -24%

Property crime: -32.75%

Drug offenses: -50.91%

Weapons offenses: -50%

Disorderly conduct: -36.36%

In 2011, 2012 and again in 2019, crime was measured to observe the monthly crime averages.

Crime	2011 Average per Month	2012 Average per Month	2019 Average per Month	Difference
Homicide	.1	0	0	-100%
Rape	.2	0	0	-100%
Robbery	1	.4	1	-
Assault	1.3	1.5	.3	-81%
Burglary	2	1.7	.5	-75%
Theft	11	6.7	9	-18%
Weapons Violations	.1	.2	0	-100%
Drug Violations	6	2.7	1.5	-75%
Arson	.1	0	0	-100%
Disorderly Conduct	1	.7	.3	-75%
Criminal Damaging	2.6	1.8	1.5	-42%
Total Crime per Month Average	27.3	18	14	-49%
Violent Crime per Month Average	2.6	1.9	.75	-71%
Property Crime per Month Average	41.5	13	11	-73%

Many factors can be attributed to these substantial reductions in crime. The closing of Jonrose Avenue and the creation of the 70-unit West Union Square Senior Housing building is probably the largest factor at work. To date, there have only been (4) police calls to this area since their opening in August, 2018. The police calls were two requests for a report, a loud noise complaint and a crash on the lot. There has not been one single instance of a violent crime at West Union Square since its opening.

This is an area that once saw as many as (5+) calls per day when the Jonrose Avenue apartment buildings were still in existence. These calls involved shootings, stabbings, drug use and sales, prostitution, domestic violence and other violent crimes. Out of state vehicles frequented this small stretch of roadway to purchase drugs in Colerain. This section of Jonrose Avenue saw two drug-related homicides in just three years and was considered to be the heaviest drug trafficking area in Colerain.

The investments made by Cincinnati Mine and Machinery, the Colerain Township Community Improvement Corporation (CIC), Duke Energy to purchase the decades-vacant Western Home Center property brings an \$18 million investment and more than 150 jobs to Groesbeck.

The Northwest Local School District invested \$12 million in a new Struble Elementary school on Jonrose Avenue. The owners of the In Town Suites has also made a significant impact and improved the appearance and safety of the area.

This infusion of \$30 million in investment in Groesbeck was not on the radar prior to the CRC and the closing on the apartments on Jonrose Avenue.

In the presentation to the Board, the following goals were presented as reasons for the project:

- **The Center was originally intended to serve as a meeting place for the community and to provide services to our residents.**

Initially, the goal was to provide a substation for reporting crime and for a base of operations. We have exceeded the original vision by locating our Family Justice Center at the CRC. That effort has allowed us to be part of a grant through the YWCA to provide victims' services.

The Northwest Local School District used the CRC to conduct drug abuse counseling. Our own QRT has used the center for meetings and as a substation and a resource for the Addiction Services Council who have held treatment and counseling sessions.

We have hosted dozens of community meetings at the CRC to include the Colerain Businesses Against Crime (a group founded as a direct response to the creation of the CRC). Several neighborhood groups have used the CRC as a meeting place throughout the years.

- **Visibility of Police Department as a Deterrent**

Not only do many of our patrol officers and detectives use the station for use as a base of operations, the Ohio State Highway Patrol uses the CRC to process OVI arrests and to work on paperwork.

- **Finally, the vision and the message we conveyed to the Board and the community in 2011 was that we wanted to improve the environment of Groesbeck to a point that significant investment would occur. We told the Board that should someone purchase the long-vacant Western Home Center property, we would gladly vacate the CRC to see that improvement. That time has come and our vision has been realized.**

The CRC has exceeded the initial vision developed in 2011. All that was promised was delivered and then some. There is a need to continue to offer the social services provided at the CRC at another location and that is a major focus for the Police Department.