

Violence Prevented at Under-21 Club

When citizens and City Officials were ready to close a downtown under-21 club, One Vision One Life (1V1L) pleaded the case of the kids. Downtown is a neutral spot and the kids need someplace to go. If this club is closed, they'll just go somewhere else, possibly inviting more problems. The key, according to 1V1L Community Coordinators, is to have 1V1L and police present as the club lets out – to keep the kids apart and get them on their buses safely. City Officials agreed and the club was kept open.

The impact of 1V1L staff at the club was quickly felt. On Sunday, May 30th, the first time down at the club, 1V1L staff was clearly needed. What started up in the club, landed on the street as the club closed. As they spilled out onto the street, the kids were already “mobbed up and ready to square off”.

Unfortunately, there were only four 1V1L staff at the club – greatly underestimating the need. Despite having some success keeping the rival groups from fighting, as the group desperately waited for the buses – which were on holiday schedule – shots were fired from a nearby car. With shots fired, the City Police showed up in full force and helped disperse the kids. Police and 1V1L staff got the kids out of the area and nobody was hurt.

1V1L staff continued to have a significant presence at the club, sometimes having as many as a dozen staff there. Fights were broken up between girls from the Hill District and Northview, and boys from the same. Although things didn't always go perfectly, 1V1L's presence helped to make sure everybody got home safely.

Fights were broken up between boys and girls from the Hill District and Northview