
NEWS

Stop the Violence receives grant

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Spartanburg's Stop the Violence program is receiving a \$1 million grant to continue work on improving safety in its neighborhoods.

Andy Davis, spokesman for Sen. Fritz Hollings, said the funds came from the Department of Justice's Bureau of Justice Assistance.

Stop the Violence is a grassroots, community advocacy organization.

"Stop the Violence has developed an impressive and innovative program to decrease violent crime in some of Spartanburg's most crime-ridden neighborhoods, and STV has consistently produced significant results," Hollings said.

The money will allow STV to build and expand upon this work.

"And it will allow them to begin to develop a national model to share with other neighborhoods around the country that face the same challenges," he said.

According to information provided in the request for funding, STV began working in 1996 in Una and Northside --two of Spartanburg's most violent communities -- building strong neighborhood associations and providing the necessary resources to bring them together to make them safer, said Davis.

Between 1997 and 2000, these neighborhoods experienced more than 50 percent decreases in victimization.

As previous chairman and current ranking member of the Senate Appropriations Subcommittee that funds the Department of Justice, Hollings secured funding for

several local law enforcement programs despite the Bush administration's elimination of many programs from the fiscal year's budget, Davis said.

STV's Executive Director Franklin McCrary Jr., who lives in Charlotte, could not be reached for comment Friday night.

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