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THE JOHN HOWARD SOCIETY OF ALBERTA

Crime Prevention

Fact Sheet 2019

What is Crime Prevention?

Crime prevention is any initiative or policy, which reduces or eliminates victimization or the risk of individual criminal participation. It includes government and community based programs, which go beyond law enforcement and criminal justice to tackle the risk factors that cause crime because it is proven to be more cost effective and leads to greater social benefits and safety.[1]

Who is Responsible for Crime Prevention?
As a community we are all responsible in crime prevention.

Examples of Effective Crime Prevention in Canada:

- For crime prevention to occur risk factors need to be minimized and protective factors need to be emphasized. For example: [2]
  - Practicing safe and common sense habits.
  - Building/restoring safe environments.
  - Responding to at risk youth.
  - Reducing poverty.
  - Resolving homelessness.
  - Delivering employment opportunities.
  - Treating mental illness.
  - Treating substance abuse.
  - Protecting against abusive relationships.
  - Implementing individualized.
  - Reintegration strategies for offenders.
  - Providing supervised and supportive alternative
  - measures in response to criminal behaviour.
  - Encouraging restorative justice measure.

More about Crime in Canada:

- In 2013, the Crime Severity Index (CSI) declined for the tenth year in a row, dropping to 68.7. This was a 9% decrease since 2012 and a 36% decrease since 2003.[3]

What does the John Howard Society do in regard to Crime Prevention?

- Adult Housing Reintegration Program (Calgary)[4]
- Family Violence Prevention Centre (Edmonton)
- Bridge Treatment Program at Howard House (Edmonton)[5]
- Tabono Youth Centre (Grande Prairie)[6]
- Restorative Actions and Practices Programs
- (Red Deer)[7]
- Life Skills Program (Lethbridge)[8]
- Medicine Hat Restorative Justice Program (Medicine Hat)[9]

1 Public Safety Canada. (2016, April 26). Crime prevention. Retrieved from https://www.publicsafety.gc.ca/cnt/cntrng-crm/crm-prvntn/index-en.aspx
2 Crime prevention. (n.d.). Retrieved from https://www.alberta.ca/crime-prevention.aspx
3 Linden, R. (2016). Criminology: A Canadian perspective (8th ed.). Nelson Education.
4 Calgary John Howard Society. (n.d.). Adult housing. Retrieved from https://www.cjhs.ca/our-programs/youth-programs/education-and-learning-fund/
5 Edmonton John Howard Society. (n.d.). Family violence prevention centre. Retrieved from https://johnhoward.org/
6 John Howard Society of Grande Prairie. (n.d.). Prevention through education, treatment and support services. Retrieved from http://www.johnhowardgp.ca/
7 The John Howard Society of Red Deer. (n.d.). Restorative actions and practices program. Retrieved from http://www.jhsrd.ca/programs.html
8 Lethbridge John Howard Society. (n.d.). Life skills program. Retrieved from https://www.johnhoward.ab.ca/services/lethbridge/
9 Medicine Hat John Howard Society. (n.d.). Programs and services. Retrieved from https://www.johnhoward.ab.ca/services/medicine-hat/