

Redesigning Public Safety in St. Louis

Data-Informed Community Engagement and Public Safety Collaborative

Data-Informed Community Engagement

Data-Informed Community Engagement (DICE) is an evidence-based, community-centered approach that **empowers communities to co-create equitable public safety strategies** through data analysis that is transparent, effective, and tailored to local problems. DICE is powered by **Risk Terrain Modeling (RTM)** and delivered via RTMDx software that diagnoses crime patterns, identifies environmental conditions that contribute to crime problems, and drives decision-making for public safety. RTM seeks to reduce crime by **focusing on places, not people**.

DICE in St. Louis

In St. Louis, DICE powered by RTM will help coordinate multiple community stakeholders to maximize existing local resources for better public safety outcomes. The DICE model enables community groups to diagnose crime patterns, prioritize places in need, and coordinate programs that are pragmatic, impactful, and connected to lived experiences.

What is a Public Safety Collaborative?

A Public Safety Collaborative (PSC) is a group of individuals from a community who work together within the DICE framework to co-produce comprehensive, dynamic, transparent, and effective crime prevention strategies tailored to their community.

- The PSC works closely with a **Trusted Broker** to explore community-driven approaches to address, resolve, and reduce harm in high-risk areas
- The group is typically made up of volunteers, with two-year terms, who are not beholden to a single agency or nonprofit organization
- Contact the Public Safety Collaborative at: stlpubsafetycollab@gmail.com

To learn more about the PSC and to get involved, contact **Farrakhan Shegog** at: f.shegog@youngvoiceswithaction.org

Public Safety Collaborative Network

Communities across the country are using DICE and PSCs to build public safety systems that are equitable, effective, and sustainable. Pioneers in Dallas, Newark, and St. Louis have come together to form a broader PSC Network to more fully empower people committed to making their communities safer. The PSC Network will share lessons learned, best practices, and provide support to other PSCs across the country looking to make bold change in their communities.

DICE Nationwide

In Dallas, DICE powered by RTM was used to identify the causes of crime in a neighborhood with vacant lots, convenience stores, and high poverty rates. Crime was addressed in several community-driven ways, including **improving lighting, building new homes on vacant lots, and creating a poverty assistance center**. After using DICE, this neighborhood saw a 23% crime reduction and a 59% drop in arrests in 2021 compared to 2019.

Similarly, in Newark, community partners in a **Public Safety Collaborative** used DICE to inform discussions about how to effectively remediate the situational contexts for crime in their neighborhood. As a result, community-based organizations **remediated abandoned properties, partnered to adopt vacant city-owned lots in high-risk areas, and improved access to affordable housing**. Motor vehicle theft decreased by 40% in the area after an educational campaign to inform locals about motor vehicle theft due to car idling.

What is a Trusted Broker?

The Trusted Broker, hosted by the **Urban League of Metropolitan St. Louis**, is a full-time role entrusted with leading the day-to-day operations of the PSC and DICE. St. Louis' Trusted Broker, **Farrakhan Shegog**, oversees, organizes, and coordinates a community-engaged approach to crime prevention.

- The Trusted Broker is supported by a part-time **Simsi Analyst** who uses Simsi's RTMDx software to help facilitate the dissemination of data, findings, and reports for the PSC and DICE
- The Trusted Broker is an experienced community organizer. In partnership with the Simsi Analyst, he will present the findings, explore next steps to help the community address risks, and take appropriate action to respond to the findings with the PSC