

12Community Connection

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Who Killed Our Kids Exhibit

LAST UPDATE: 7/26/2005 1:55:47 PM

Homicide rates have increased dramatically in Cincinnati during the past six years. During that time, 320 people lost their lives, with 118 murders remaining unsolved. To bring about greater public awareness of the problem, families of unsolved homicides created the group Who Killed Our Kids in 2002. A display focusing on the unsolved homicides is currently exhibited at the Main Library, 800 Vine Street, through August 12. Homicide Facts in Cincinnati ? 330 homicides in six years. ? Homicide rates have increased dramatically over the last five years: ? 40 in 2000 ? 63 in 2001 ? 66 in 2002 ? 75 in 2003 ? 66 in 2004 ? 20 in 2005 (as of March) ? 123 unsolved homicides in six years: There has been an explosive increase in unsolved cases, growing from 10 in to 26 in 2004. ? Witnesses are not coming forward: This problem empowers killers to continue murdering over trivial circumstances or to kill because of drugs and conflicts over neighborhood territories. Who Killed Our Kids supports public offices, officials, and community organizations that have a direct impact on fighting crime and supporting neighborhood safety. They contact families of unsolved homicides through information received from the Cincinnati Homicide Division, media, word of mouth, and from people who see posters of unsolved homicides placed around the Cincinnati area. Posters with the photos of the unsolved homicides are distributed in neighborhoods and storefronts where the homicides occurred. Additionally, the group has created a video about unsolved homicides that is viewed on a weekly basis in the Hamilton County Jail, offering rewards for information. They also contact the media on a regular basis to continue public awareness about the unsolved homicides and to let the community know the group's efforts to support families and help find the killers. Exhibit Hours: Monday-Wednesday: 9:00 a.m.-9:00 p.m. Thursday-Saturday: 9:00 a.m.-6:00 p.m. Sunday: 1:00-5:00 p.m.