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**Thomas Meets With Ward 5 Leadership to Highlight Community-Based Programs
Seeking to Bring Peace and Stability to Trinidad**

Washington, DC—Councilmember Harry “Tommy” Thomas, Jr. met with the civic leaders of Ward 5 on Saturday, July 26, 2008 to highlight community-based initiatives that are addressing the objectives of Councilmember Thomas’ 10-point plan to reduce teen/young adult violence.

Thomas noted that the Coordinating Council on Youth Violence Prevention (CCYVP) had recently issued nine grants to Ward 5 community-based organizations for violence prevention and intervention for Trinidad area crew/gang-involved youth between the ages of 14 and 24. The grantees and the purpose of the grants are as follows:

- **Edgewood/Brookland Family Support Collaborative:** To provide case management and support to identified families.
- **Family and Children Empowerment Services:** To provide therapeutic counseling services for teenagers who have witnessed or displayed violent behaviors.
- **Good Ground Good Life:** To offer programming designed to reduce violent behavior and dispatch a mobile unit to target areas three time per week.
- **Jamaa Extended Family:** To offer mentoring and case management for youth entering adulthood.
- **Neighbors of Seaton Place:** To engage 15 youth and involve them in a project-based learning experience.
- **Pilgrim AME Outreach Corp:** To provide workshops targeted toward reorienting crew-involved youth to positive ways of living.
- **Keys to Canaan:** To offer family roundtables in the Benning Terrace Community.
- **Trinidad Ivy City Community Project:** To prevent and reduce crime through community building programs and events.

“CCYVP and its grantees are making a tremendous difference in Trinidad and other Ward 5 neighborhoods that have experienced a surge in violence this year,” said Councilmember Thomas. “These programs are providing the one-on-one, grass roots level case management that we need, saving and changing lives one at a time.”

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