

# **Reducing Gang Violence across Cities and Cultures: Experiences from Cincinnati, Ohio and Glasgow, Scotland**

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**Robin S. Engel, Ph.D.  
University of Cincinnati**

**William Graham  
Glasgow Caledonia University**

Robin Engel, University of  
Cincinnati

# A Tale of Two Cities

## Cincinnati, Ohio

- 296,223 population
- 48.1% White, non-Hisp
- 44.8% Black
- Violence problem:  
Shootings committed by and against low-income Black males involved in groups/gangs, mid-20s, linked to drug markets

## Glasgow, Scotland

- 598,830 population
- 94.5% White
- 5.5% non-white
- Violence problem:  
Knifings committed by and against low-income White males involved in gangs, mid-teens, alcohol related

# What is CIRV?

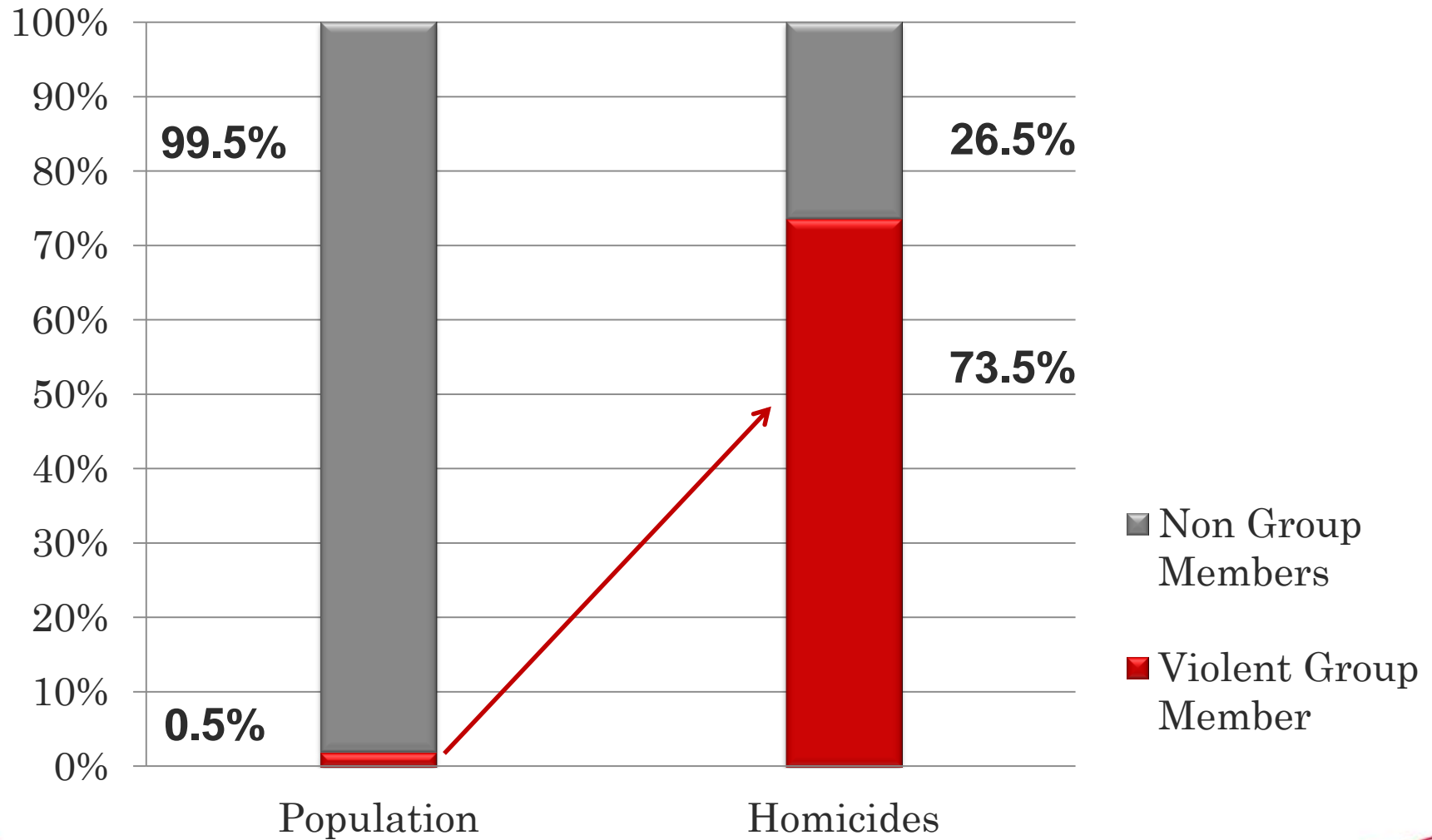
## Cincinnati (Community) Initiative to Reduce Violence

- Focused deterrence approach designed to reduce gun / gang violence while:
  - Strengthen relationships between law enforcement and communities
  - Helping offenders
  - Addressing racial conflict
  - Reducing incarceration
- Partners community, service providers and law enforcement to deliver key messages to target population

# Focused Deterrence Principles

1. Active chronic offenders commit majority of violence
2. Offenders loosely organized in groups/gangs
3. Most violence based on disrespect, norms, & narratives of the street
4. Violence can be impacted through group pressure & support
5. Must have sustained communication with offenders

# Group Members Disproportionately Involved in Homicides: June 06-June 07

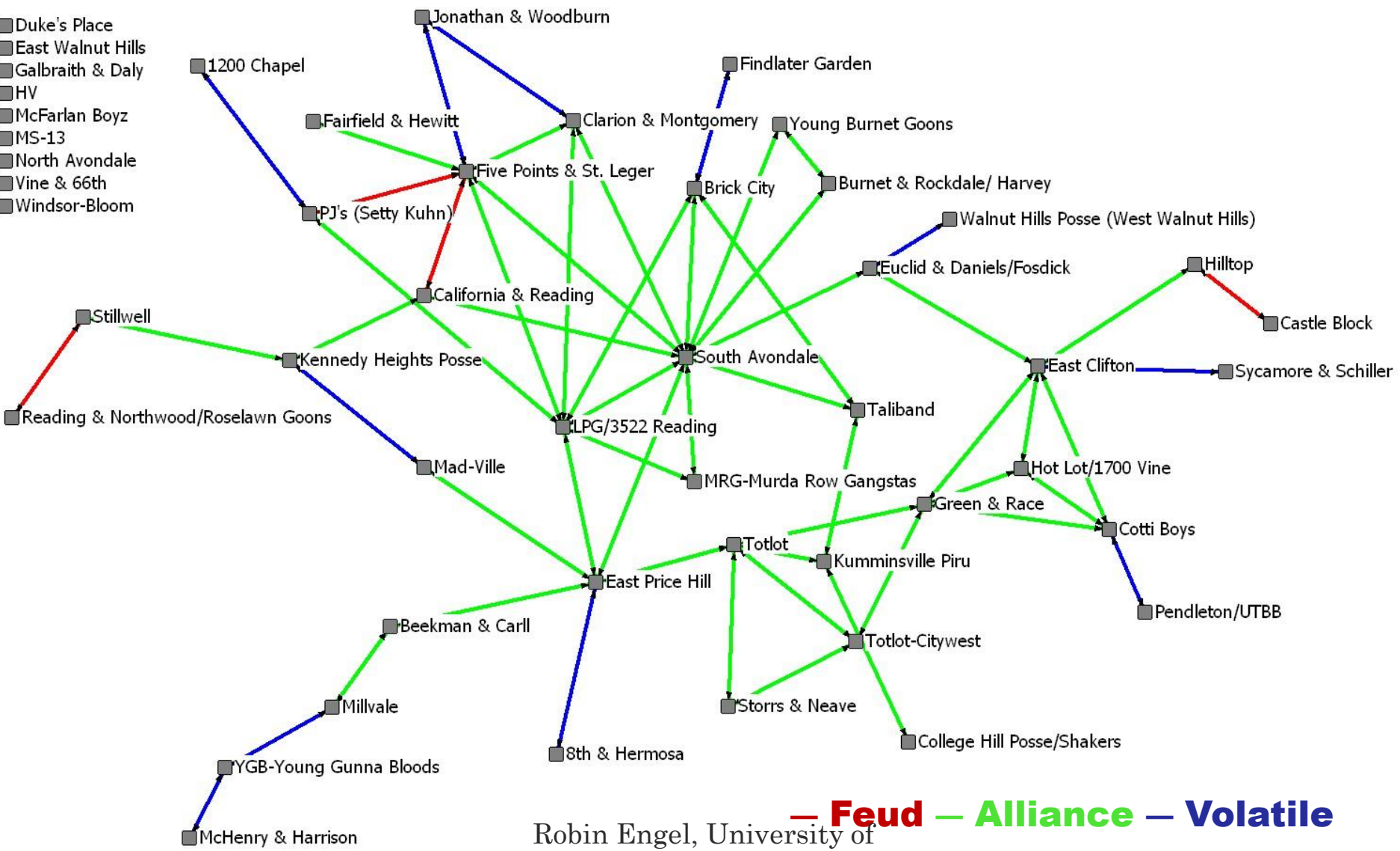






# Cincinnati Violent Street Groups – August 2010

- Duke's Place
- East Walnut Hills
- Galbraith & Daly
- HV
- McFarlan Boyz
- MS-13
- North Avondale
- Vine & 66th
- Windsor-Bloom

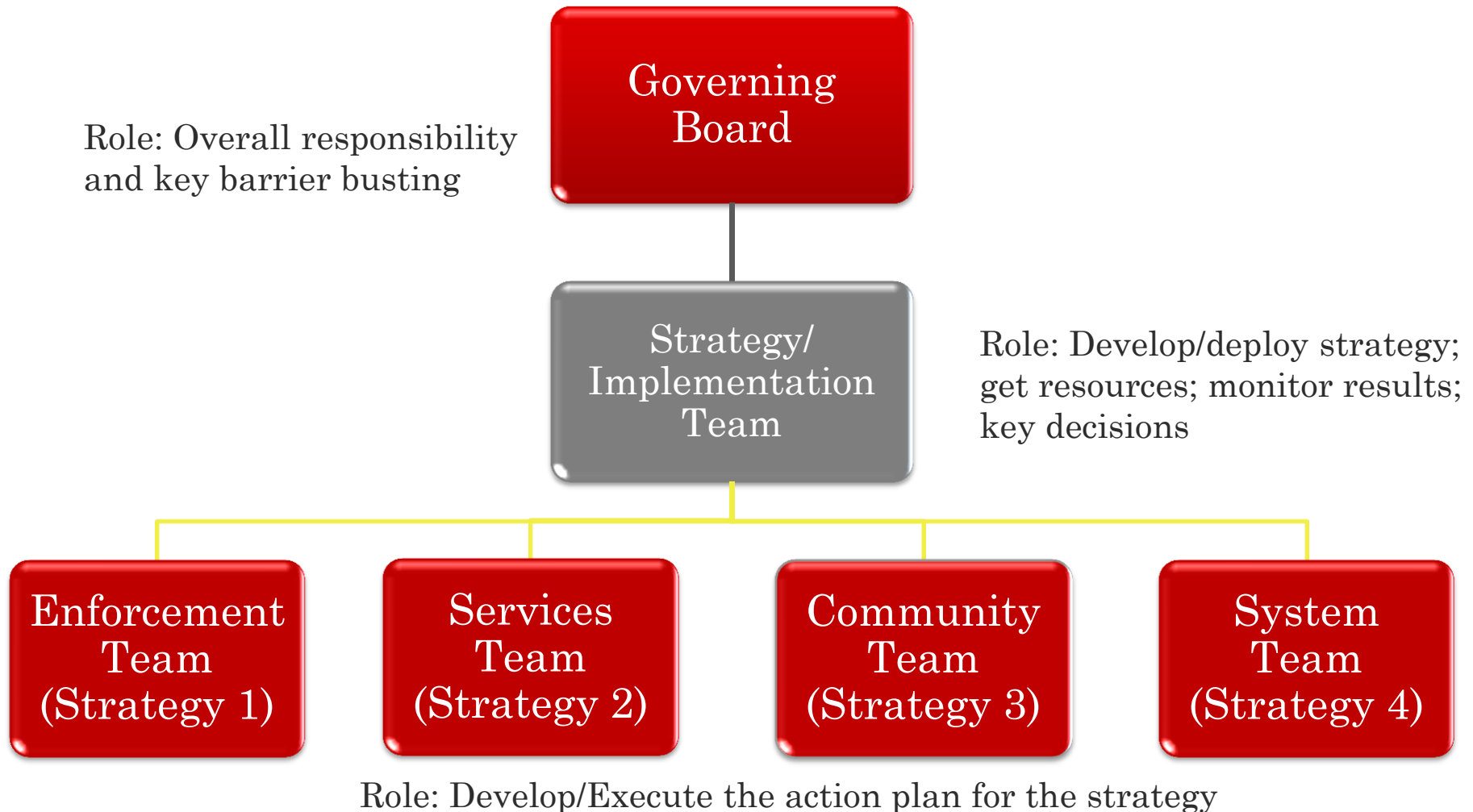


– Feud – Alliance – Volatile

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# Team Structure



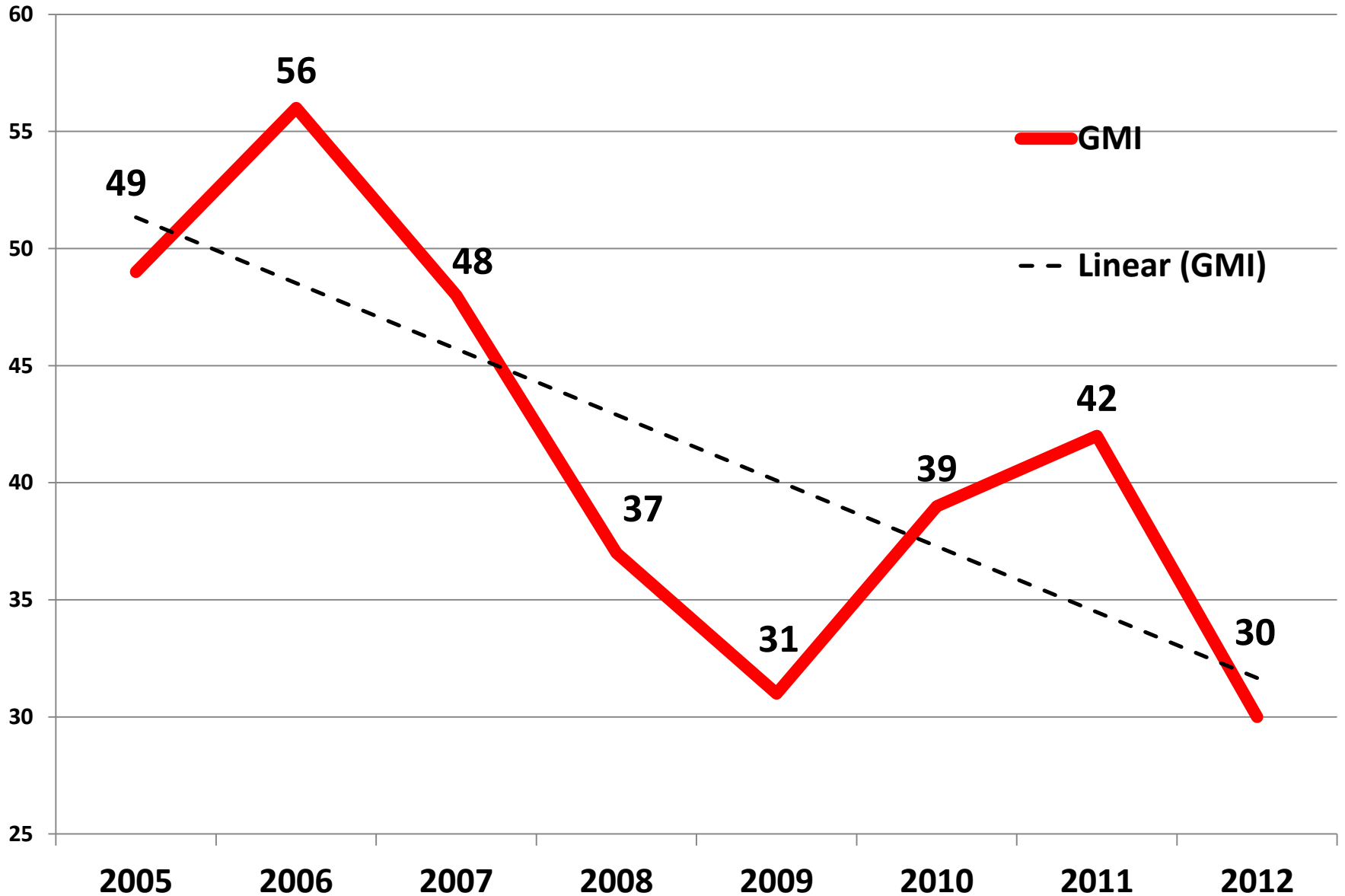
**Maintain team structure and ownership  
over time**

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# CIRV Impact on Violence in Cincinnati

- **41.2%** reduction in group/gang member involved (GMI) homicides comparing 42-months pre/post initiative
- **22.3%** reduction in non-fatal shootings
- No significant impact on non-GMI homicides
- Results suggests the change was not simply due to chance or a pre-existing pattern
- Growing body of evidence documenting effectiveness of strategy (Braga & Weisburd, 2012)

# Cincinnati GMI Homicide Yearly Totals: 2005 - 2012



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# CIRV Impact on Violence in Glasgow

- 400 youth involved in initiative, compared to controls over 3-year period
- **52%** reduction in violent crime
- **82%** reduction in weapons offenses

# Conclusions

- Focused deterrence approaches can significantly reduce violence
- Core principles of focused deterrence apply across cultures, racial groups, age groups, and types of violence
- Importance of understanding effective policy transfer to suit local needs
- Additional funding for local communities and researchers is critical

# Questions?

## Contact Information

**Robin S. Engel, Ph.D.**  
**Director, Institute of Crime Science**  
**University of Cincinnati**

**[robin.engel@uc.edu](mailto:robin.engel@uc.edu)**  
**(513) 556-5850 (office)**

**William Graham**  
**Glasgow Caledonian University**  
**[william.graham@gcu.ac.uk](mailto:william.graham@gcu.ac.uk)**