TRANSFORMING911
transforming911.org
The What & The Why

TRANSFORMING 911
What is Forward Through Ferguson?

- Forward Through Ferguson (FTF) is an anti-racist systems change organization that was established as a 501(c)3 to be a catalyst for lasting positive change in the St. Louis region as outlined in the Ferguson Commission Report.

- Embracing the Commission’s mandate, FTF centers impacted communities and mobilizes accountable bodies to advance racially equitable systems and policies that ensure all people in the St. Louis region can thrive.
What is #Transforming911?

| Community Advocacy + Accountability Tool | Examination of 911 Data + Stories + Landscape | Call to Reimagine + Transform Public Safety |
Why #Transforming911? Why now?

2019
Community at State of Police Reform Forums name 911 response as top priority (Ferguson, O'Fallon Park, Dutchtown)

2020
Power Behind the Badge Series engages community, local, and national leaders

2021
Formation of First Responder Alternative (FRA) Pilot Coalition
#Transforming911 research

2022
Advocacy for FRA Program in St. Louis County
Activation around #Transforming911
We heard from St. Louis community members:

When we are in crisis, we expect to be able to pick up the phone, call 911, and get help.

However, too many in our region have experienced the gut wrenching moment when that help doesn’t answer or takes too long to arrive.

Some, mistrustful of our policing system, choose not to call 911 to begin with.
## How did we approach it?

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<th>Key Question</th>
<th>Geographic Scope</th>
<th>High-Level Approach</th>
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<td>What does the region’s 911 landscape look like?</td>
<td>St. Louis City + St. Louis County</td>
<td>Phone calls to each regional city/ municipality and Public Safety Access Point (PSAP); Internet searches, Secondary data analysis from census and other sources</td>
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<tr>
<td>911 in St. Louis: Why is it used, when, how, and by whom?</td>
<td>St. Louis Metropolitan Police Department (forthcoming)</td>
<td>Quantitative analysis of call-level data from 2015–2020 provided by two police departments</td>
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<tr>
<td>How much do police services cost, total and per capita? What do we know about how police spend their budget?</td>
<td>St. Louis City + St. Louis County</td>
<td>Quantitative analysis of police annual budgets and financial reports incorporating secondary data from census and other sources</td>
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<td>What is it like to live in this system?</td>
<td>St. Louis City + St. Louis County</td>
<td>Interviews with stakeholders from across the region and the 911 ecosystem, including individuals working within the system (e.g. dispatchers), adjacent to it (e.g. victim services), and using it (e.g. civilians)</td>
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Sample Findings & Stories
Why Forward Through Ferguson is
TRANSFORMING 911

Presented by:
STL FORWARD THROUGH FERGUSON

story first
The St. Louis region’s 911 landscape is as fragmented, inefficient, and troubled as its policing and governance landscape.

St. Louis City and County are home to 88 municipalities, which are served by 53 police departments that dispatch through a network of 15 public safety access points (PSAPs) which coordinate 911 services. The protocols, codes, and training used and received by those call takers and dispatchers vary widely as well.
The St. Louis region’s 911 landscape is as fragmented, inefficient, and troubled as its policing and governance landscape.

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St. Louisans use 911 mostly for non-criminal incidents, e.g. service and medical reasons.

In St. Louis County, calls for service for non-major crimes outnumber major crimes 4 to 1. Only about 1 in 20 calls (5.1%) were for violent crime.
In St. Louis and similar cities, policing gets more local funding than other municipal services.

In 14 out of the 15 St. Louis municipalities we examined from a staffing perspective, police departments were the most heavily staffed department, with an average of 2.5 full-time employees per 1,000 residents, or 40% of the average total 6.5 municipal employees per person. The next largest departments were often half the size of police, or even smaller.
TRANSFORMING 911
Part 1: Safety Is Community

Presented by:
STL • FORWARD THROUGH FERGUSON • FRIENDS

What’s Next & Actions
#Transforming911 Roll-Out

- **Three Community Events**
  - **Saturday, August 13, 2022 at 3-5 pm**
    - High Low, 3301 Washington Ave, St. Louis, MO 63103
  - **Friday, September 9, 2022 at 6-8 pm**
    - Thomas Dunn Learning Center, 3113 Gasconade St, St. Louis, MO 63118
  - **Friday, October 28, 2022 at 6-8 pm**
    - St. Peter's UCC Resource Center, 1425 Stein Rd, Ferguson, MO 63135

- **Later in 2022**
  - Release of full #Transforming911 Report
  - Ongoing story sharing @stlchange and transforming911.org/stories

- **2023**
  - Extend analysis to city 911 data
What’s Next?

1. Understanding and engaging with #Transforming911 findings and recommendations,
2. Learning and sharing the 911 stories of St. Louis residents, especially from those who are most impacted by racism and incarceration,
3. Investing in Non-Police Civilian First Responder Programs in St. Louis City and County, including signing and sharing the [petition for Funding a 2-year First Responder Pilot Program in St. Louis County](#)
4. And supporting the work of [Defund. Re-Envision. Transform.](#) coalition organizations, [Action St. Louis, ArchCity Defenders, Forward Through Ferguson, Coalition Against Police Crimes and Repression](#) and Freedom Community Center.