## Initiative gives drug dealers a chance to clean up lives, streets

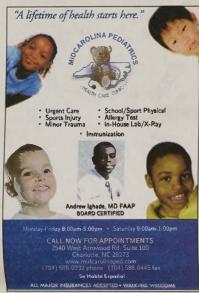
RALEIGH - A new initiative to combat the open-air drug market in Southeast Raleigh gives drug dealers a second

Churches, residents and nonprofit agencies are joining forces with the Raleigh Police Department to take back their streets from drug dealers. The boundaries of the project are Martin Luther King Boulevard, Hoke Street, Garner Road and South Wilmington Street. The area met the criteria for the presence of violent crime, seizures and arrests related to drug cases.

Crime statistics show that there were two murders, three rapes and 23 robberies reported within the area last year. There were also 30 calls for shots fired and 449 calls for drug-related activities, 201 arrests for drugs and 23 arrests for prostitution.

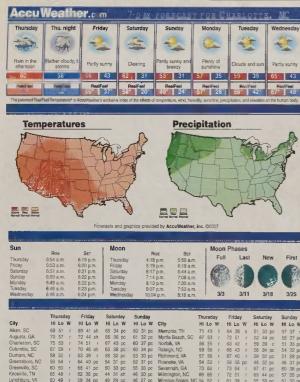
After a competitive bid process, community groups were chosen to provide offender case management/resource coordination and quality of life community mobilization services. Churches, residents and nonprofit agencies are joining

The project is based on the highly successful High Point model which gives non-violent offenders a second chance in hopes that they will make better choices.



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