Public Safety - Theft Reduction Initiative

The Problem
Theft of property is the most frequently reported crime at BIDMC.

Aim/Goal
The goal was to reduce theft through multi-prong strategies that focused on increasing investigative capacity and prevention through information sharing and education.

The Team
- BIDMC Public Safety personnel
- Local and campus police departments
- BIDMC employees

The Interventions
- Increased Investigators from 1 to 3 since 2010
- Add experienced supervisor to oversee unit
- Increased specialized training
- Used data to identify theft trends
- Prevention through alerts and info sharing with other agencies
- Closed “gaps” using security devices such as cameras & access control
- Added theft prevention to new employee orientation

The Results/Progress to Date
Theft Report Totals:
- 2008 to 2010 – Consistent at around 160 reports.
- 2010 to 2011 – Reduction of reports by 25%
- 2011 to 2014 – Reduction of reports by 50%

Lessons Learned
- Review of theft data can lead to pattern or trend and provide an investigative focus or reveal a security gap that can be addressed
- Experienced investigators increased identification of suspects
- Balance between open campus versus more restricted access is a challenge that requires a number of different strategies.

Next Steps/What Should Happen Next
- Continue to focus on Prevention, Problem-solving & Partnership using Education, Technology and Investigation

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