



RODNEY PHILLIPS

Associate Director of Crisis Prevention & Response Unit (CPRU)

Rodney Phillips is committed to making peace a lifestyle in Chicago. He is currently the Associate Director of Crisis Prevention & Response Unit (CPRU) for Metropolitan Peace Initiatives with over 12 years of experience in the violence prevention field.

He has worked in various violence-plagued communities on the South Side of Chicago including: Englewood, Woodlawn, Grand Boulevard and Auburn Gresham. Rodney is a graduate of the first cohort of the Metropolitan Peace Academy, where he was also the Assistant Manager.

Rodney has been featured in several documentaries on violence, such as *The Interrupters*, *Diary of Girls in Gangs*, the A&E Network, and in the series *Character Witness* produced by the BBC Network. Rodney has assisted with trainings for U.S. probation officers to help them understand formerly incarcerated individuals and to equip them in providing better assistance. Rodney has also spoken at Princeton University on mass incarceration and violence.

Rodney grew up in Stateway Gardens, one of Chicago's most violent housing projects; he understands, and has experienced, violence firsthand. Making communities safe and peaceful is a very personal mission for him.