The opportunity to speak out about growing problems with drugs, robberies, shootings, and prostitution brought Chicora-Cherokee residents to this community center.

The meeting was organized by local leaders as a chance for residents to speak out and also to initiate a new citizen foot patrol.

Charleston officials such as Councilman Wendell Gaillard, were on hand to explain how a similar patrol known as C-PAD, which stands for Citizen Patrol Against Drugs…has worked in Charleston’s East Side.
community to curb a surge in drug activity and violent crime.

In fact, officials believe that Chicora-Cherokee’s increase in drugs and associated crimes may be the result of the citizen patrol’s success in the East Side, causing drug dealers and their customers to seek other locations.

After the meeting, residents signed up to volunteer for the patrol, which will start up after the holidays.

Stand up close