

South Coast Task Force on Youth Gangs

Santa Barbara County Board of Supervisors
September 18, 2012

Brief Background

- Increase in youth violence in the South Coast during 2007
- Convening of South Coast Cities, Government, Agencies and Community
- Direction towards a task force according to best practices
- Memorandum of Understanding and Funding
 - County of Santa Barbara
 - City of Carpinteria
 - City of Goleta
 - City of Santa Barbara

The Work of the South Coast Task Force on Youth Gangs

- Take a regional approach by focusing on the South Coast, which consists of the Cities of Carpinteria, Goleta, Santa Barbara and unincorporated Santa Barbara County
- Focus primarily on youth involved in gangs
- Focus secondarily on youth at risk of being involved in gangs
- Promote the establishment of prevention strategies in the schools and with families

Target Population

- Youth with Gang Terms & Conditions – 1 50
- Youth at risk of becoming involved in gangs – 750
- Females involved or at high risk of being involved in gang activities – 37

Milestones

- Summer 2008 pilot program
- Has grown into a number of programs & services in the South Coast
- Through Cal-GRIP I and Cal-GRIP II up to \$750,000 dollars were secured to provide services over four years
- The two grants helped fund services working with the target population

Cal-GRIP

- Cal-GRIP I (2009 – 2011)
 - Credit Compliance - Academic goals are in the forefront
 - 1st Quarter – 10% were credit compliant
 - 4th Quarter – 68% were credit compliant
 - 76% (19 of 25) of seniors were able to graduate high school
 - 70% (14 of the 20) of graduates enrolled in SBCC
 - 66 % of the Credit Compliant students satisfied their terms and conditions of probation
- Cal-GRIP II (2011 – Present)
 - 77% (14 out of 18) of enrolled seniors in the program have graduated from high school
 - 63% (70 out of 110) of youth are on the road to credit recovery by December 2012
 - 62% have demonstrated an increase in attendance since their enrollment in Cal-GRIP II

Milestones

- Some of the programs in the South Coast working with the target population
 - Cal-GRIP II – 110 youth (60 males and 50 females)
 - Bridges to Recovery – 70 youth
 - Cal-GRIP Carpinteria & Lompoc
 - Santa Barbara Unified School District
 - Outreach Specialist South County Efforts – 150 youth
 - Core Program (SBJHS)
 - Restorative Justice Pilot Program (SBJHS)

Parent Support

- Parent Support Services
 - Monthly and Weekly Support Groups
 - 30 parents of target population have been part of the support groups



Coordination

- Strategy Team
 - Monthly meeting to work on the strategies of the Task Force
- South Coast Youth Intervention Project
- Service Provider Summit & Group
 - Share resources, referrals, and inventory of services
- Law Enforcement Summit

South Coast Youth Intervention Project

- What we hope to accomplish
 - Empower youth and families while tracking services and progress of youth
 - Help agencies coordinate services for youth
 - Evaluate the quality of services
 - Provide community data reports

South Coast Youth Intervention Project

- Collect data in an integrated database with privacy settings that will display reports to identify return on investment
- Partners (MOU)
 - UCSB – Host Organization
 - County of Santa Barbara Probation
 - Carpinteria Unified School District
 - Santa Barbara Unified School District
 - Community Action Commission
 - Human Tools (Network)



Summary

- The Task Force has increased coordination in the South Coast by maintaining consistent involvement from key agencies at the table:
 - Schools, County Probation, and Agencies sit together to work on the strategies of the Task Force
 - A webpage, monthly update, and quarterly meetings have been established and maintained to keep members informed and engaged
 - Client specific programs are in place focusing on the target population while increasing collaboration amongst agencies
 - The South Coast Youth Intervention Project has been developed and is being implemented
 - Funding, new strategies, and stronger relationships have been formed due to the work of the task force, resulting in more comprehensive and coordinated efforts in the South Coast

Contact Information

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