



Organizational Resources

Center of Study and Prevention of Violence

Institute of Behavioral Science of Colorado at Boulder Campus
Box 412

Boulder, Colorado 80309

<http://www.colorado.edu/cspv/index.html>

Discipline in Schools
National Center for Education Statistics
555 New Jersey Avenue N.W.
Washington, DC 20208

<http://nces.ed.gov>

The National Report on School Violence
Business Publishers Inc.
951 Pershing Drive
Silver Spring, MD 20910

National School Safety Center
141 Duesenberg Drive, Suite 11
Westlake Village, CA 91362

<http://www.nsscl.org>

Suggested Reading

The Gang Intervention Handbook
Goldstein, Arnold P. & Huff C.R.
Champaign, Illinois: Research Press

Crews: Gang Members Talk to Maria Hinojosa
Hinojosa, Maria
Harcourt, Brace & Company, NY

Islands in the Street: Gangs and American Urban Society
Jankowski, Martin Sanchez
Berkley, CA: University of California Press

Voices from the Streets: Young Former Gang Members Tell Their Stories
Atkin, S. Beth
Little Brown & Co.

Model Programs

(Continued from page 1)

Power of Peace:

This program helps empower youth to revitalize their lives and communities through the practice of non-violence as a way of life. The program focuses on building self-awareness, group cohesion and leadership skills. Youth learn about what leads to asocial behavior and have an opportunity to make choices and grow as individuals. For more information contact Michael Atterbury at (914) 636-4440.

Youth Success:

This program provides adolescents, ages 14 – 16 years, with job readiness and life skills training, mentoring, substance abuse counseling, and individual, group and family counseling. The program uses a nationally recognized skill building curriculum and youth learn life skills and are helped to successfully apply for and maintain jobs. For more information contact Suzanne Doll at (914) 813-5515.

Project FOCUS:

(Families Organized to Curb the Use of Substances) is a community coalition committed to preventing and reducing alcohol, marijuana and other drug use among youth. The program promotes positive youth development by facilitating initiatives that decrease risk factors and increase protective factors for young people. Project FOCUS accomplishes its goals by partnering with key community stakeholders from a variety of sectors including education, human services, medical, law enforcement, faith, parents, business and government. For more information contact Tomia Wooten at (914) 632-5000.

If you need assistance in identifying programs in Westchester which address youth violence please contact the Westchester County Youth Bureau at (914) 995-2745 or e-mail us at wac2@westchester-gov.com

Gang Prevention

(Continued from page 1)

What community members can do*

- Organize a graffiti paint-out.
- Volunteer at youth centers.
- Join your block watch or tenant association.
- Organize sports teams.
- Become a mentor and share your skills.
- Report suspected gang activity to the local police department.
- Hire a teenager and encourage local businesses to do so.
- Recognize and believe that concerned, caring adults can make a difference.

*From the New York City Department of Education, Office of School Intervention and Development

FYI...

Residents can sign up for emergency updates

Because you can never have too many ways to communicate, County Executive Andy Spano announced a new effort that would allow the county to contact the public directly during a large-scale emergency.

With the County Emergency Notification System (CENS), information can be sent by email and/or text messaging to mobile phones or devices before, during or after a major storm or other disaster. An automated phone system could also be used as well. Residents can get updates on what's happening and find out what they should do or where they should go.

These "news bulletins" would supplement the reports the county feeds to television, radio and other sources.

People can sign up by going to www.westchestergov.com and clicking on the emergency banner at the top of the page. All information will be kept confidential.

Gang Prevention

What parents can do*

- Talk with and listen to your child.
- Spend quality time with your child on a regular basis.
- Plan activities with your child.
- Put a high value on education.
- Praise and acknowledge your child's accomplishments.
- Keep your child busy – occupy their free time with constructive activities.
- Keep track of who your child's friends are.
- Know what your child is doing, where they are going and whom they are with.
- Talk about gangs with your child before there is a problem.
- Take an interest in your child's day-to-day activities.
- Network with other parents.
- Work as a community to look out for and protect each other's children.

What schools can do*

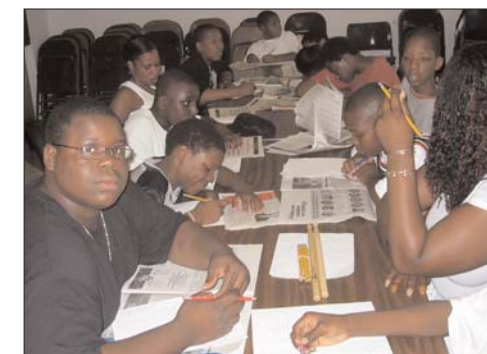
- Talk to the students. They know what gangs are at the school and who the members are. Remember that activity "on the streets" often continues on school grounds.
- Listen to parents concerns. Check out gang and criminal activity parents tell you about and report back what you find.
- Offer after-school activities and let parents know about them.
- When gang activity occurs at school, don't try to handle it yourself. Call the police and allow them to take appropriate action.

- Remove graffiti from school grounds. Pay particular attention to rest rooms, lockers and other secluded places. Report the graffiti you see to the police.
- Adopt a drug-free policy and support it.

*Some portions of this article are from the Oklahoma Gang Investigation Association and the United Family of Concerned Citizens.

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In Westchester Model Programs to Prevent Youth Violence



NCC Youth Corp Enrichment Workshop

Nepperhan Youth Corp:

This violence prevention program features one of the metropolitan's areas top drum and bugle corps. Young people gain confidence and musical skills as they participate in a 125 member drum and bugle corps. The program also provides academic support, community building, leadership opportunities, physical activity, and male mentoring for adolescent boys to help build self-esteem and pride. For more information contact Jim Bostic at (914) 968-0224.

Welcome to the
Summit on
Youth Violence
&
Gangs

April 4, 2006

Cluster Study Buddy Program:

This program, recognized by the National Crime Research Center as a model for gang prevention, uses a variety of interventions including social control and expectations, cultural activities, family involvement and employment opportunities to help youth avoid the lure of gangs. For more information contact Freda Macon at (914)963-6440.

Communities that Care (CTC):
CTC is a program which mobilizes communities to find solutions to problems that today's youth face including violence, delinquency, teen pregnancy, school dropout and substance abuse. The model brings together all of the key sectors in the community and provides the groups with research-based tools to develop a community-specific profile that then informs decision-making on programming for young people. For more information contact Claudette Coote at (914) 665-1067. (Continued on page 4)

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County Executive Andy Spano (R); Marlene Furtick, Youth Bureau Executive Director (center) and District Attorney Janet DiFiore (L) at press conference announcing the Youth Violence and Gang Summit.

A Message from County Executive Andy Spano and District Attorney Janet DiFiore

Welcome to our Summit on Youth Violence and Gangs. This is a very important safety initiative that we are pleased to collaborate on.

Through the work of the county's Youth Bureau and the departments of Probation, Correction and Public Safety, we want to deter kids from joining gangs and give those who want to leave a gang help in doing so. Through our police agencies and the District Attorney's Office – which operates a Gang Unit staffed by investigators and prosecutors — we are sending the message loud and clear that gang members will be dealt with harshly and prosecuted if there is a crime.

This summit should prove invaluable in helping law enforcement, educators and other social service professionals to recognize the early warning signs of gang involvement, to understand the reasons gangs are attractive to some young adults and to know what we can do to deter this. Our goal is for young adults to become productive members of society, not criminal justice statistics.

A Message from the Youth Bureau Executive Director Marlene Furtick

Thank you for joining us today at the Summit on Youth Violence and Gangs. This conference has been planned with you in mind: frontline youth workers, school and law enforcement personnel. We hope that you will take away information that you can use on your jobs and share with co-workers and friends about this ever growing national concern. One thing we know for sure is that youth violence is escalating in our country and in our county and we must all become more knowledgeable about how to prevent violence and help young people lead productive lives. After today's summit you will know:

- Why youth join gangs
- How to identify gang members
- What schools, parents and communities can do to address this issue

The Westchester County Youth Bureau, the Office of the County Executive and the Westchester County District Attorney's Office will provide ongoing support for local efforts in your communities. This summit is only the beginning. Together we can tackle the problem of youth violence and take positive action to help all of our young people.

Helpful Websites

GANG INFORMATION

www.westchestergov.com/gangprevention

Westchester County Government Gang Prevention website

This site contains information about why young people join gangs; how to identify gang involvement; and valuable resources on gang prevention and intervention, for parents, schools, police, and communities.

www.ngcrc.com

National Gang Crime Research Center

The NGCRC is a non-profit agency with the mission to: (1) Promote research on gangs, gang members, and gang problems in cooperation with federal, state, and local government agencies; (2) Disseminate up-to-date valid and reliable information about gangs and gang problems through the official publication of the NGCRC, the *Journal of Gang Research*, and (3) Provide training and consulting services about gangs to federal, state and local government agencies.

www.iir.com/nygc

National Youth Gang Center

The National Youth Gang Center conducts assessments of the scope and characteristics of youth gang activity in the United States, develops resources and makes them available, and provides training and technical assistance in support of community-based prevention, intervention, and suppression efforts.

www.ojjdp.ncjrs.org

Office of Juvenile Justice Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP)

OJJDP provides national leadership, coordination, and resources to prevent and respond to juvenile delinquency and victimization. OJJDP supports states and communities in their efforts to develop and implement effective and coordinated prevention and intervention programs and to improve the juvenile justice system so that it protects

public safety, holds offenders accountable, and provides treatment and rehabilitative services for juveniles and their families.

GANG PREVENTION AND INTERVENTION

http://www.dsgonline.com/mpg2.5/mpg_index.htm

OJJDP Model Programs Guide

This guide is designed to assist practitioners and communities in implementing evidence-based prevention and intervention programs that can make a difference in the lives of children and communities.



www.great-online.org

GREAT: Gang Resistance Education and Training

The G.R.E.A.T. Program is a school-based, law enforcement officer-instructed classroom curriculum. The program's primary objective is prevention and is intended as an immunization against delinquency, youth violence, and gang membership. G.R.E.A.T. lessons focus on providing life skills to students to help them avoid delinquent behavior and violence to solve problems.

www.safeyouth.org

National Youth Violence Prevention Resource Center

Interpersonal violence is one of the most important issues facing our nation's youth. The National Youth Violence Prevention Resource Center

web site and call center, 1-866-SAFE YOUTH (723-3968), serves as a user-friendly, single point of access to Federal information on youth violence.

LAW ENFORCEMENT

www.nagia.org

National Alliance of Gang Investigators Associations (NAGIA)

NAGIA is a cooperative organization composed of representatives from 16 regional gang investigators associations representing over 15,000 gang investigators across the country, as well as federal agencies and other organizations involved in gang-related matters.

www.gangorus.com

Gangs Or Us

The goal of GANGS OR US is to provide law enforcement and corrections personnel, parents, teachers, and concerned citizens the assistance and knowledge necessary to determine if street or prison gangs are in your community or corrections facility.

www.ecgia.org

East Coast Gang Investigators Association

The E.C.G.I.A. aims to increase the awareness of gangs in our society, and to assist law enforcement and related agencies in a cooperative effort to combat the gang activity.

<http://www.cops.usdoj.gov/Default.asp?Item=1309>

COPS Gang Toolkit

The COPS Gang Toolkit consists of resources for law enforcement officials, educators, and parents to address specific types of crimes committed by gangs.

www.ojp.usdoj.gov/BJA/

Bureau of Justice Assistance

Mission: To provide leadership and services in grant administration and criminal justice policy development to support local, state, and tribal justice strategies to achieve safer communities.

COMMUNITIES ■ PARENTS ■ SCHOOLS

www.ojp.usdoj.gov/ccdo/welcome_flash.html

US Department of Justice, Office of Justice Programs: Community Capacity Development Office (CCDO)

CCDO helps communities help themselves, enabling them to reduce violent and drug crime, strengthen community capacity to increase the quality of life, and promote long-term community health and resilience.

www.courttv.com/choices/al_roker_menace/index.html?sect=2

Al Roker Investigates:

"Menace on Main Street" gang documentary guide

NBC's Al Roker hosts this engaging Court TV program that looks at gangs in America. This documentary highlights the growing problem of youth involvement in gangs, provides insight into why youth are joining gangs, and includes strategies to reduce gangs and violence.

<http://home.inreach.com/gang-bang/magw.htm>

Mothers Against Gang Wars

Mothers Against Gang Wars is dedicated to ending gang violence and the destruction of youth. The organization was formed by Sandra Davis, a former gang member, who was able to go out into the streets and get an understanding of where young people were coming from and what was needed to offer them alternatives to a life of violence.

www.gangoutreach.com

Gang Outreach

Gang Outreach is a faith-based, award winning, multi-racial, multi-cultural gang prevention and intervention program in Lake County, Illinois, providing services to positively influence the lives of at-risk youth. The program includes activities which inspire and instill within the youth a desire to fulfill their potential in life. Gang Outreach accomplishes its goals by partnering with parents, ex-gang members, mentors, community-based organizations, police departments and probation officers.