



CITY OF SANTA BARBARA

COUNCIL AGENDA REPORT

AGENDA DATE: July 30, 2013

TO: Mayor and Councilmembers

FROM: City Administrator's Office

SUBJECT: South Coast Task Force On Youth Gangs Update

RECOMMENDATION:

That Council receive an update from Saul Serrano, Task Force Coordinator, regarding the work of the South Coast Task Force on Youth Gangs.

DISCUSSION:

The South Coast Task Force on Youth Gangs (SCTFYG) was formed in 2009 after a yearlong effort of community meetings and discussions on youth gang issues and solutions. This regional effort is funded by local governments in the south coast.

The regional approach recognizes that the problem of youth gang violence is a community problem and finding a solution will require on-going collaborative community efforts. The SCTFYG's focus is specific:

- Take a regional approach focused on the south coast jurisdictions of the cities of Carpinteria, Goleta, and Santa Barbara, and south Santa Barbara County
- Focus on youth in or at high risk of becoming involved in youth gangs
- Advocate for comprehensive programs that include suppression, intervention and prevention
- Advocate for coordination and partnerships by agencies involved with youth gang intervention, prevention and suppression programs
- Secure reliable funding to support programs with proven program effectiveness and efficiency
- Be experimental with solutions, programs and opportunities
- Be patient as the problem did not develop overnight and solutions will not be accomplished overnight

The SCTFYG is guided by a council composed of elected officials, chief executives from public, private and non-profit organizations, and community representation. The council

also include representatives from City Councils and the County Board of Supervisors, philanthropic organizations, youth and parents, service providers, law enforcement, county probation and social services, school districts, community college and UCSB, city and county executives and the faith community,

City of Santa Barbara representatives on the Task Force include Mayor Helene Schneider, City Administrator Jim Armstrong, Assistant City Administrator Marcelo A. López, and Police Chief Cam Sanchez. The councils meet quarterly throughout the south coast.

Regional administrative support is provided by the Community Action Commission serving as the host agency. Using a per-capita formula, the effort is funded by a combined contribution of \$128,866 from the County of Santa Barbara, and the cities of Carpinteria, and Santa Barbara. There is also a \$26,505, in-kind contribution from the Community Action Commission.

The partnerships formed through the SCTFYG have been key in securing funding for youth intervention programs in the South Coast. In the last five years, we received two CalGRIP grants totaling approximately \$750,000 to provide services to 250+ youth in the south coast. Last year, with the support of the partners, the City of Carpinteria secured a \$245,145 CalGRIP for programs linked to the Safe Schools Healthy Schools initiative. Additionally, although not a part of the south coast effort, but with our support, the City of Lompoc received \$125,000 to serve youth exiting out of the Los Prietos Boys Camp and for a job corps program.

Additional information about the work of the South Coast Task Force on Youth Gangs can be found at <http://youthgangtaskforce.org/>

PREPARED BY: Marcelo A. López, Assistant City Administrator

SUBMITTED BY: James L. Armstrong, City Administrator

APPROVED BY: City Administrator's Office



SOUTH COAST TASK FORCE ON YOUTH GANGS

SANTA BARBARA CITY COUNCIL

Tuesday, July 30, 2013



Mission

The Mission of the South Coast Task Force on Youth Gangs is to eliminate gang activity, thus improving the safety and quality of life for youths, their families, and the community.



Vision

Foster a caring environment and opportunities to fulfill their educational, employment, and personal potential rather than join gangs.



Project Funders 2012-2013

- City of Carpinteria
- City of Goleta
- City of Santa Barbara
- County of Santa Barbara

TASK FORCE RESPONSIBILITY

- Focus on the Guiding Principles
- Improve coordination of services to the target population
- Regional approach vs. individual city approach
- Track data
- Provide annual report that includes
 - Success and Challenges of effort
 - Future Goals

South Coast Target Population - Juveniles



SOUTH COAST DATA: 2009 to 2012

- Number of Youth On Probation in the South Coast

2009: 368 2012: 296 * 5 year low

- Less youth with gang terms and conditions

2009: 306 2012: 203 *33% decrease

- Increase in youth completing probation

2009: 35 2012: 79 *28% increase



Benefits of improved coordination

- CalGRIP I & II

 - Provided case management services to 120 youth in South County
 - Monthly Parent Support Group

- CalGRIP Carpinteria

- Bridges To Recovery

- Youth Offender Block Grant (YOBG)

- Services for Young Women



Challenges

- El Puente School Closing
 - Summit Schools Closing
- Information Campaign
- Database Project has taken long to launch



Service Provider Group

- County Wide Service Provider Summit 2012
- South Coast Service Provider Summit
 - Success through collaborative Prevention and Intervention Services
 - Monday, July 29, 2013 Carrillo Recreation Center
- Service Providers and Law Enforcement working closer
- Teen Court is currently working with law enforcement as an early intervention for low offenses.

Service Providers

- All For One
- Casa De La Raza
- City of Carpinteria CalGRIP
- Community Action Commission
- Council on Alcoholism and Drug Abuse
- Freedom 4 Youth
- Santa Barbara Police Activities League
- Santa Barbara Parks & Recreation Programs
- Santa Barbara Unified School District
- SB County District Attorneys Truancy Program
- SB County Probation
 - Los Prietos Boys Camp-YOBG-Bridges 2 Recovery-Drama Kings-Alternative to Detention Resource Center
- SB County Workforce Investment Board
- Youth Interactive

South Coast Youth Intervention Project



Database project will:

- Consistent inter agency data from services delivered to clients
- Access for case mangers, youth, and families to data of interventions used
- Allow the South Coast Task Force to track services delivered and quantitative reports
- Identify gaps in services for targeted youth



South Coast Youth Intervention Project (Database)

- MOU approval

 - Carpinteria School District

 - County Office of Education

 - Santa Barbara Unified School District

 - SB County Probation

 - CAC

- UCSB evaluation

 - Dr. Jill Sharkey, Gevirtz Graduate School of Education

- New Third Party Developer

Future Plans

- Apply for funding that will serve the target population
- Launch database project
- Continue to engage and improve coordination amongst service providers
- Provide monthly updates and annual reports to task force and community
- Information campaign to general public



Contact Information

Saul Serrano

Coordinator South Coast Task Force on Youth Gangs

(805) 964-8857 ext 152

sserrano@cacsb.com

www.youthgangtaskforce.org