

Gang Prevention Community Action Team
West Fresno County

October 30, 2008 Meeting Notes

Attending: Officer Gerardo Vaca - Firebaugh PD; Chief Elsa Lopez - Firebaugh PD; Felipe Perez - Promotores Volunteer; Margarita Rocha - Centro La Familia; Bob Solis - Centro La Familia; Araceli Perez - Proteus, Inc; Chief Bill Newton - Kerman PD; Lieutenant Jeff Johnson - Fresno County Sheriff; Phillip Gallegos - City of Kerman; Greg Anderson - Fresno County DA; Lupe Estrada - City of San Joaquin; Sergeant Scott Moore - Fresno County Sheriff; Angie Vega - County Supervisor Larson's Office; Javier Marquez; Hector Soria - City of Mendota; Debra McKenzie - County of Fresno Administrative Office

CalGRIP Overview

Gang Task Force Coordinator provided an overview of the CalGRIP Request for Proposals. Similar to last year: Only cities are eligible to apply, up to \$400,000 awards with a dollar for dollar match (can be cash or in-kind) for a total project of \$800,000. Project can be prevention, intervention or suppression - depends on communities needs. Separate category for central valley and cities with population under 200,000. Full RFP can be downloaded from Office of Emergency Service here

Applications are due by 5:00pm, November 25, 2008

West Fresno County Action Planning Discussion & CalGRIP

It was asked how bad the gang problem in West Fresno County is? Responses from law enforcement agencies in the group were that the area had a growing gang problem. It was mentioned the area is seeing the startup of a Punjabi gang. It was also mentioned that gangs have been an ongoing issue in the area and are 'homegrown', i.e., not being pushed out of Fresno. Some communities are in denial of gang issues, but as more become aware - it is seen as a bigger and growing problem. If we can increase community awareness of the issue (through CalGRIP), then it would be easier to garner prevention/intervention support that complements current suppression efforts.

It was discussed and decided the CalGRIP application would focus on prevention and building the capacity of prevention service providers. The focus would be on improving community education and awareness on multiple levels, i.e., education, families, youth, community-based organizations, and general public and 2) providing positive opportunities for young people including afterschool/recreational programs, mentoring, and educational/vocational opportunities

Project Outline Basics (See attached objectives)

1. Centro La Familia will be project manager and oversee admin of the grant – City of Kerman will be the applicant and oversee fiscal responsibilities.
(Funds used for a Centro staff position; 5% indirect to Kerman)
2. CBO staff will be trained to provide gang awareness workshops and receive Positive Action train the trainer workshop
(Funds used for staff time, training, training materials, materials/equipment for positive opportunities)
 - a. CBO staff will conduct gang awareness presentations for community and families
 - b. CBO staff will train K-8 teachers to conduct 5 hours of Positive Action activities within the school over the period of 1 school year

c. CBO staff will conduct positive opportunities for youth that incorporate the Positive Action message approach

3. County Sheriff and local PD's will assist in development of gang awareness presentations and participate when possible

(Funds and in-kind match for staff time)

**NEXT MEETING - Wednesday, November 12 2008 12:00 - 2:00PM
Kerman Police Department**

**Lunch courtesy of City of Kerman Police Department
and the fabulous catering skills of Chief William Newton**

Please RSVP to Debra McKenzie by November 10th