

Fairfax County Gang Prevention Year in Review

***“Every Child Is Worth Saving:
A Community Partnership”***

*A Presentation to the
Board of Supervisors and School Board
September 25, 2006*

Fairfax County Coordinating Council for Gang Prevention
Fairfax County Gang Prevention Steering Board
Fairfax County Public Schools

Presenters

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Acknowledgements

- Chairman Gerald Connolly – Fairfax County Board of Supervisors
- Chairman Ilryong Moon – Fairfax County School Board
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- Fairfax County School Board
- Coordinating Council for Gang Prevention



Presentation Overview

- Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Gang Prevention Model
- Prevention, Intervention, and Suppression Initiatives
- Our Community Partners
- Regional Gang Task Force Initiative
- Accomplishments
- Future Challenges and Next Steps

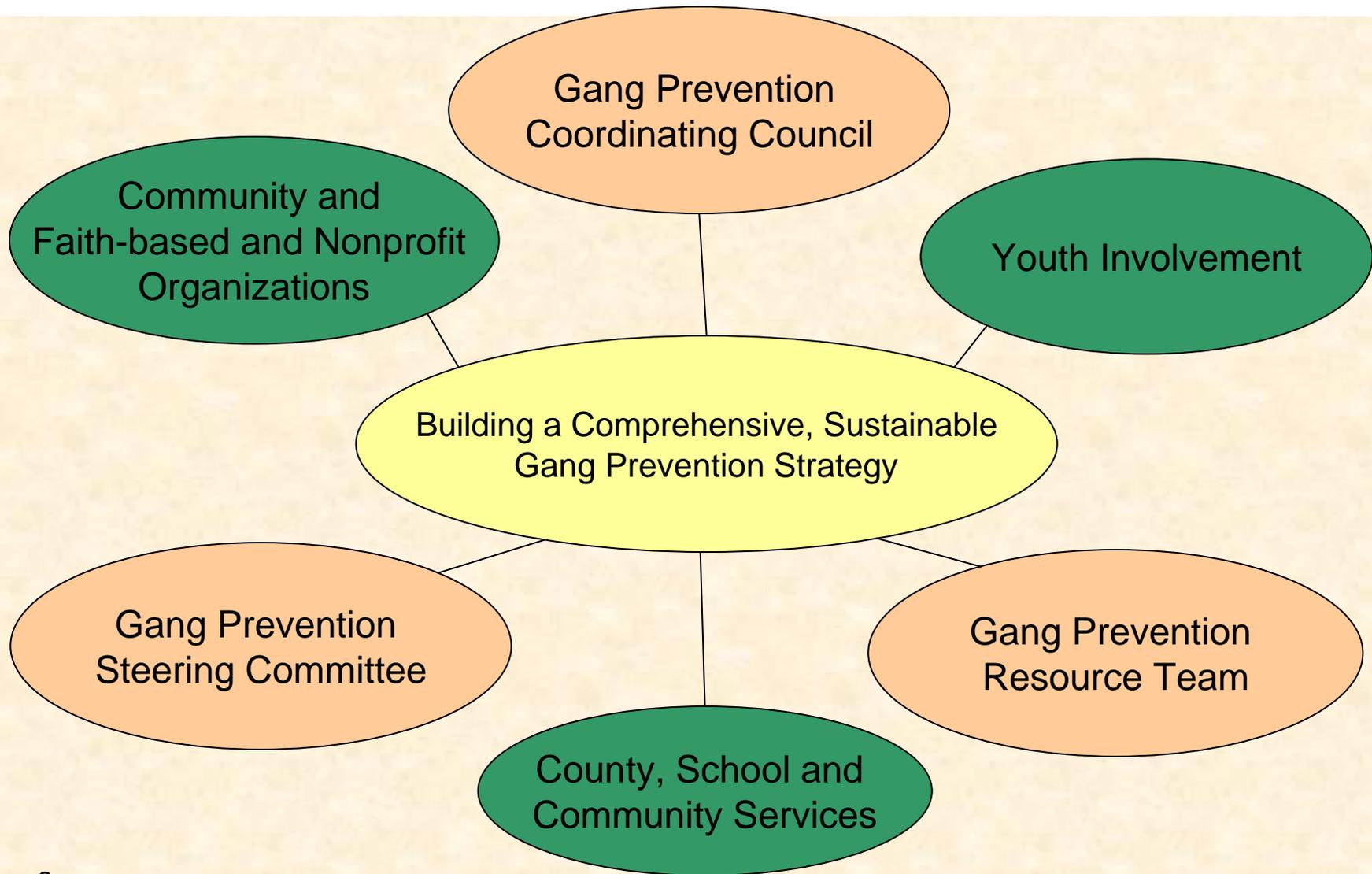


OJJDP Gang Comprehensive Prevention Model

- Adopted at the Gang Prevention Summit, February 25, 2005
- Balanced Approach to Address Gang Issues
- Based on a Three-pronged Approach:
 - Prevention
 - Intervention
 - Suppression
- Community Engagement and Collaboration
- Designed to Reduce Youth Gang Involvement and Violence
- 3 - 5 Year Implementation Period



Gang Prevention Coordination Efforts



Key Ingredients for a Successful Gang Prevention Model

- Firm Commitment to the Model Among Local County Government
- Strong Management Capacity of the Lead Agency
- Effective Development of a Steering Committee, Coordinating Council & Strong Community Involvement
- Interorganizational Collaboration & Service Integration
- Development of Interdisciplinary Intervention Team and Coordination of Outreach Workers
- Balance of Prevention, Intervention, and Suppression Strategies



Prevention Model: Three-Pronged Approach

- Prevention
 - highlighted initiatives
- Intervention
 - highlighted initiatives
- Suppression
 - highlighted initiatives



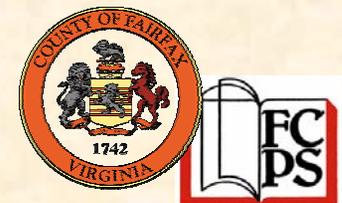
Prevention Goal

- Prevent Youth from Becoming Gang Involved
 - through the leveraging of new and existing resources
 - through the creation of enhanced gang awareness education
 - with improved parent and community partnerships



Sampling of Prevention Initiatives

- Girl Power Training Expansion
- Youth Workers Initiative
- Work Force Investment Board Summer Job Program
- Enhanced Teen Center Services
- **Middle School – After-School Program Expansion**
- Get Real About Violence Training Expansion
- Smart Kids/Safe Choices
- Healthy Choices Curriculum
- Road Dawg Camp Expansion
- Leadership and Resiliency Program
- Student Assistance Program
- “Skin Deep” Tattoo Removal Program
- FCPA Urban Adventure Camp
- Second Step
- **Multimedia Gang Prevention Awareness**
- Kingsley Commons Soccer Program
- Bright Futures Rec-PAC Expansion
- **Street Outreach Pilot Program**
- FCPD Gang Prevention and Intervention Coordinator
- Gang Prevention Resource Guides for Parents in English and Spanish
- School Education Officers Elementary School Presentations
- **Training of Staff, Parents, and Community Stakeholders**
- Sheriff’s Department - At Risk Kids (ARK) Program
- FCPA Raven Quest Stewardship Camp



Highlighted Prevention Initiatives

- Middle School – After-School Program Expansion
- Multimedia Gang Prevention Awareness
- Street Outreach Pilot Program
- Training of Staff, Parents, and Community Stakeholders



Middle School – After-School Program Expansion

- All Middle Schools Implementing Five-Day-a-Week After-School Programs this Year
- Student Attendance in After-School Programs has Increased (2005-06)
- 72% of Schools Perceive a Positive Correlation Between Participation in After-School Programs and Student Academic Performance
- School/County Partnership Allows for Additional Leveraging of Resources, Staff, Programs, and Activities



Multimedia Gang Prevention Awareness

- “*Gang Life: Exposing The True Colors*” – Ch. 16
- “*Gangs: A Community Challenge*” - Ch. 21
- Cox Communications PSAs
- Multiagency Training for School and County Staff
- Expanded Fairfax County Gang Prevention Web Page
- Development and Distribution of Gang Prevention Literature
- Development of Prevention Resource Phone Line



Street Outreach Pilot Program

- Partnership with Alternative House
- Expanded Outreach Services in Culmore Area
- Over 1,100 Outreach Contacts with Males and Females Under the Age of 20 in July and August 2006
- Over 500 Outreach Cards Distributed
- Over 30 Visits and/or Referrals to County and Community Organizations, Apartments Complexes, Schools, and Businesses



Training of Staff, Parents, and Community Stakeholders

- Over 250 Gang Awareness Presentations Over the Past 12 Months (estimated 5,000 attendees)
- Audiences Include School Staff, Parents, Service Providers, Faith-based Organizations, and Business Community Members
- Production of Gang Awareness and Education CDs for Distribution to Staff and Parents



Intervention Goal

- Provide Youth and their Families with the Necessary Resources to Discontinue Gang Involvement
 - through specialized gang intervention programs
 - through utilization of multidisciplinary response teams



Sampling of Intervention Initiatives

- Education of Frontline Staff & Community Stakeholders
- Multidisciplinary Team
- Consolidated Community Funding Pool
- Leadership and Resiliency Program
- **Student Assistance Programs**
- **Skin Deep Tattoo Removal Program**
- Family Counseling and Parent Education Classes
- Substance Abuse Treatment
- Mental Health Counseling
- Community-based Gang Intervention Services
- Street Outreach Pilot Program
- Employment Services



Highlighted Intervention Initiatives

- Student Assistance Programs
- Skin Deep Tattoo Removal Program



Student Assistance Programs

- School-based Collaboration Between FCPS and CSB
- Upgrades Schools Ability to Respond to Students' Needs
- The SAP Umbrella Covers Prevention, Identification, Screening, Intervention, and Support Strategies
- Coordinates Efforts in the Community, such as Assessments and Treatment



Skin Deep Tattoo Removal Program

- Collaborative Effort Headed by Health Department
- 21 Individuals Under the Age of 21 Participated in Treatments Over the Past Year
- Staff from 6 County Agencies Volunteered Over 200 Hours of Service in Support of the Program
- Doctors from the INOVA Health Care System have provided over 35 Hours of In Kind Services



Suppression Goal

- Reduce Violent Gang Crime and the Expansion of Gangs in Fairfax County
 - through targeted enforcement activities
 - through the support of federal, state, and regional law enforcement assistance
 - through comprehensive support of other county partner agencies



Sampling of Suppression Initiatives

- **Expansion of Fairfax County Gang Investigation Unit**
- Member of Northern Virginia Gang Task Force
- Partnerships with State and Federal Law Enforcement
- Coordinated Gang Specific Special Operations
- **Expansion of School Resource Officers**
- Comprehensive Gang Training for Law Enforcement
- Station Gang Coordinators



Suppression Initiatives (continued)

- Fairfax County Deputy Sheriff assigned to Gang Investigations Unit
- Gang Intelligence Deputy Assigned to ADC
- Community Inmate Work Force - Graffiti Removal Program
- Probation Officers Participate in Special Gang Operations
- Utilization of Virginia Department of Juvenile Justice Gang Management System
- Gang Member Specific Probation Rules
- Serious and Habitual Offenders Action Plan
- Intensive Supervision Services



Highlights of Suppression Initiatives

- Expansion of Fairfax County Gang Investigation Unit
- Expansion of School Resource Officers



Expansion of Fairfax County Gang Investigation Unit

- In July 1, 2005, Four Additional Detectives were added to the Gang Unit
 - Two Supervisors
 - 12 Gang Detectives
 - One Deputy Sheriff
 - One Sworn Crime Analyst



Expansion of School Resource Officers

- Five Additional SROs as of this Year
- All 52 Middle and High Schools now have an SRO Assigned
- Each SRO Has Received Specialized Gang Training
- Each Middle School SRO Co-Teaches the Healthy Choices Curriculum
- Approximately 16,000 Seventh- and Eighth-Grade Students Receive Specific Gang Prevention Lessons Each Year



Regional Gang Prevention

- Northern Virginia Regional Gang Task Force
 - Suppression Board
 - Intervention, Prevention, and Education Board
- Initiatives
 - Intervention, Prevention, and Education Program
 - Regional Public Service Announcement
 - Regional Gang Assessment (Northern Virginia Regional Commission)



Sampling of Our Community Partners

- Alternative House Inc.
- Alexandria City Gang Prevention Coordinator
- Arlington County Gang Prevention Coordinator
- Baileys Elementary School for the Arts & Sciences
- Boat People SOS
- Barrios Unidos
- Big Brothers & Big Sisters of the National Capital Area
- Boys & Girls Clubs of Greater Washington
- Boy Scouts of America
- Center for Multi-Cultural Human Services
- Community Mediation Services
- 10th District Hispanic Advisory Board
- Cox Communication
- Diocese of Arlington
- Fairfax Partnership for Youth
- Friends of the Fairfax County Juvenile Court
- Garfield Elementary School
- Girl Scouts of America
- George Mason University
- Hispanics Against Child Abuse & Neglect
- Kingsley Commons Association
- Loudoun County Gang Prevention Coordinator
- Lorton Community Action Center
- Lorton Community Action Coalition
- Montgomery County Maryland Gang Prevention Coordinator
- Northern Virginia Regional Commission
- Northern Virginia Work Force Investment Board
- North American Youth and Family Association
- Park Authority
- Prince William County Gang Prevention Coordinator
- School-Community Coalitions
- United Community Ministries
- Virginia Recreation and Parks Society
- Washington Metro Council of Governments
- World Vision



Key Outcomes

Regional Outcomes

- 14 Regional Law Enforcement Agency Partners
- 39% Decrease in Regional Gang Activity in the Past Year
 - Source: Northern Virginia Regional Gang Task Force

Fairfax County Outcomes

- Reduction in Violent Gang-related Crime (Murder, Rape, Robbery, Arson, Assault by Mob, and Malicious Wounding)
 - First Quarter 2005 - 35 crimes
 - First Quarter 2006 - 6 crimes
 - Result = 83% Reduction in Violent Gang Crime in the First Quarter 2006
 - Source: Fairfax County Police Department



Key Outcomes (continued)

- Reduction in Gang-related Cases Referred to Gang Investigations Unit Year to Date
 - Source: Fairfax County Police Department
- 100% Success Rate in Identifying Suspects in Gang-related Homicides
 - Source: Fairfax County Police Department
- No Evident Increase in Number of Gang Members Residing in Fairfax County Over the Past Year
 - Source: Fairfax County Police Department



Key Outcomes (continued)

- Reduction in Visible Gang Activity in Schools During the Past Year
 - Source: School Resource Officer Interview
- 50% Reduction of Youth Self-Reporting Having Been in a Gang from 2003 to 2005
 - Source: 2005 Fairfax County Youth Survey
- Expansion of Road DAWG Camps
 - Expanded to 3 sites
 - 116% increase in participants served
 - Formal evaluation continued
- Enhanced Multi-Media Gang Prevention Efforts
 - 250 Presentations in Past 12 Months (5,000 attendees)
 - Public Service Announcements and Video Productions (Ch. 16, 21 and Cox)
 - Staff and Community Gang Awareness CDs
 - Fairfax County Gang Prevention Web Page - Expansion
 - *FCPD Gang Resource Guide* – 9,500 (English and Spanish)
 - *FCPS Protecting Your Youth From Gang Involvement* – 200,000 (English and Spanish)
 - Gang and Youth Violence Prevention Resource Line (2006)



Key Outcomes (continued)

- Expansion and Collaboration of Gang Prevention Partners and Programs
 - Forty-five coordinating council members
 - Thirty-five community partners
 - Twelve county agencies
 - Over 40 prevention, intervention, and suppression initiatives



Challenges and Next Steps

- Maintain Commitment to Gang Prevention
- Continue to Expand Collaboration with Community and within Government Agencies
- Implement Coordinated Interdisciplinary Intervention Plan
- Increase Targeted Community Involvement and Engagement
- Enhance Coordinated Communication Gang Prevention Plan
- Develop Services for Young Adult Gang Members
- Strengthen Family Intervention Services
- Integrate Gang Prevention and Countywide Prevention Models
- Enhance Multi-lingual Prevention Capabilities

