

OJJDP COMPREHENSIVE GANG MODEL

BRIEFING

OVERVIEW

ATTENDANCE

14 community teams (of up to five members) from across the country attended. Two teams represented Counties (including Fresno), while the remainder represented smaller regions or cities. Teams consisted of law enforcement, including attorneys and probation; school administrators; social services; and government agencies. Info on the Fresno County team can be found on the back page. A copy of the full roster is available upon request.

CONTENT

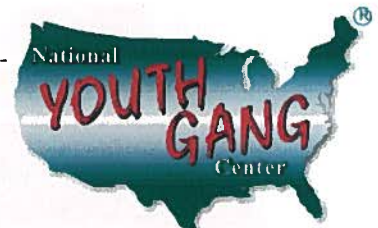
Training materials were provided via a CDROM (copies available on request). The OJJDP Comprehensive Gang Model requires that five

key strategies¹ be delivered in a focused manner, based on a thorough assessment of the current gang problem in a community, its potential causes, and contributing factors.

The Steering Committee provides authority and sometimes resources to make the work happen and the Intervention Team (called Community Action Teams in Fresno County) share information and develop opportunities enabling agencies to better engage the target population in services.



Trainers consisted of National Youth Gang Center Staff and key staff from OJJDP funded project sites implementing the model in Houston, Pittsburgh, and Miami-Dade. OJJDP representatives also attended.



¹ Community Mobilization, Opportunities Provision, Suppression, Social Intervention, and Organizational Change & Development

ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE FOR 'THE MODEL'



* Only comes together during assessment phase of Model

** Only comes together during implementation phase of Model

KEY LEARNINGS FROM THE TRAINING

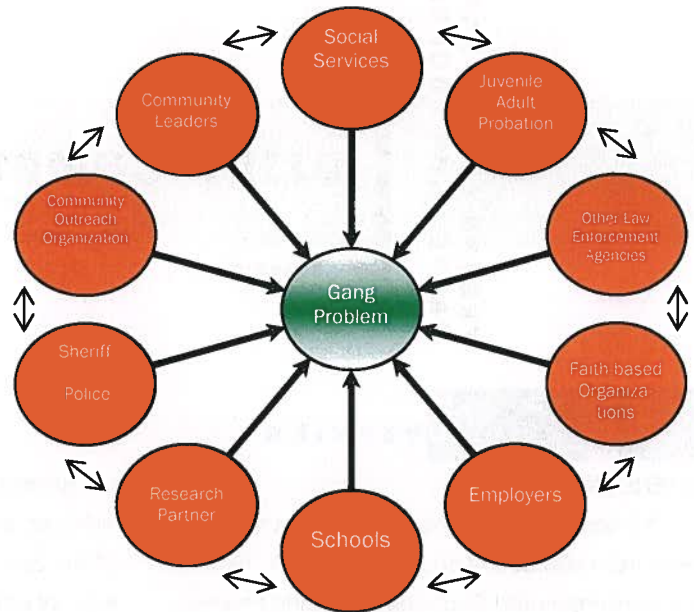
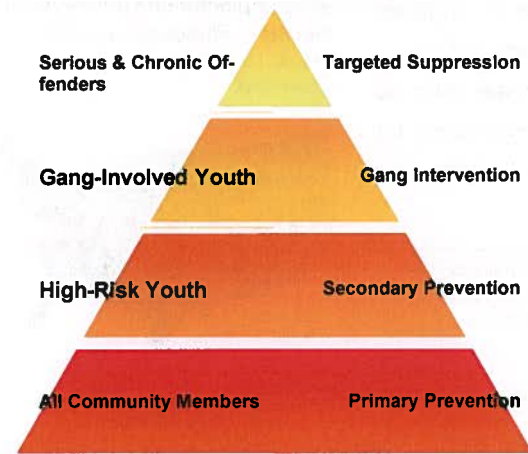
1. No community has implemented the entire Model as designed - some adaptations to meet local needs were necessary (and OK)
2. A strong, functioning Steering Committee is essential to the development and implementation of the Model
3. The Project Director serves as the person who focuses on implementing the Model 24/7. It must be a fulltime person that can work in a variety of arenas
4. All work is derived from the results of the assessment; activities should be focused (see diagram page 2)
5. The focus of the Model should be very targeted: target area should be limited to about 100,000 population or less²
6. Community 'will' is critical to success in securing resources—communities must be educated, motivated, acknowledge the problem, and be willing (and ready) to step up when needed

² While our project will be Countywide—the Community Action Teams will outline the targeted geographic focus for program services.

FOLLOW-UP & NEXT STEPS FOR FRESNO COUNTY

1. Strengthen Steering Committee
 - Establish Committee Chair (not Project Director)
 - Establish how to best facilitate partnership with Mayor's Gang Prevention Initiative going forward
 - Ensure make-up of members are decision-makers reflective of communities and agencies to be targeted by efforts
 - Re-establish Committee focus with education on the Model: membership, assessment and development of an implementation plan
 - Outline how Model may be adapted to fit Fresno County needs and resources
2. Improve Data Collection Systems for Assessment
 - Hire intern to analyze gang-related cases (timeframe TBD)
 - Provide training and support to law enforcement agencies for gang-related data entry/reporting
 - Develop system for consistent reporting
3. Request Technical Assistance from OJJDP

Focusing Anti-Gang Strategies



OJJDP outlines that the **Steering Committee Structure** include representatives or their delegates with decision-making authority. Additional community sectors can be added as needed

4. Strengthen and Complete Development of Community Action Teams
 - Finalize geographic areas ('hot spots') for Team locations based on assessment information
 - Provide training on the Model and role of Community Action Team
5. Secure Resources to Support Work
 - Look for in-kind and redirect of resources currently in place
 - Seek Recovery Act and other grant opportunities
 - Support policy change that will provide government and organizational resources
6. Determine focus of strategies for implementation plan

ABOUT THE FRESNO COUNTY TEAM

Debra McKenzie, MBA*
County Administrative Office
The County serves as lead agency. As Gang Task Force Coordinator, Debra's role would be considered that of Project Director. She provides staff support to the Steering Committee, assists with development of Community Action Teams across the county and assists with coordination of the Comprehensive Gang Model and the development of resources.

Lt. Michael Brand*
County Sheriff's Office
Lt. Brand is a part of MAGEC and provides a key connection between gang prevention/intervention, and law enforcement. The Sheriff's department and MAGEC is also key for gang-related data collection as they work with all jurisdictions in the County. Current and ongoing data analysis will support where to target the Model.

Gary Easley MA, PPS*
Caruthers Unified School District
Gary represents not only the education community, but smaller rural and unincorporated communities. He maintains close ties with law enforcement and provides gang awareness trainings. He also participates on a number of educational and mental health-related coalitions and brings these spheres of influence to the table.

Mitzi Lowe MSW, PhD
Fresno State University
Mitzi is on faculty at Fresno State and also manages a Learn & Serve grant through Focus Forward. The grant provides for student interns as mentors at the Juvenile Justice Campus. Her experience in criminology and social work are of great assistance in helping to develop an implementation plan that is doable and a fit for Fresno County needs.