

Alexandria Court Service Unit

**Lillian Brooks, JD
Director of Court Services**

Intake Unit

Gateway to the Juvenile Court

All cases in the Alexandria Juvenile and Domestic Relations Court come to the Intake Department first.

Intake reviews all JDR cases and prepares legal paperwork

- Child abuse and neglect petitions and protective orders

- Domestic violence protective orders

- Children in need of services

- Custody, visitation and support

- Paternity

- Juvenile Delinquency

- Violations of court orders

- Serious traffic offenses

In the Virginia Juvenile Justice
System

**Intake serves as the magistrate
for juvenile cases**

After an arrest – intake officers
make
probable cause determinations &
establishes jurisdiction for the
court

Intake Officers consideration of delinquent and CHINS cases

- ✓ Did the youth probable commit the crime?
- ✓ What other issues are going on with the youth?
- ✓ Should the youth be released or detained?
- ✓ Should the matter go to court or be diverted?
- ✓ If Diverted, what will be the most appropriate diversion?

Diversion consists of:

Programs

Counseling

Community Service

Restitution

Referral to another agency

Detention Decisions

- The Intake Unit decides whether a juvenile should be detained or released when the court is not available.
- The court holds a detention hearing within 72 hours of the detention of the juvenile. Juveniles are detained at the Northern Virginia Juvenile Detention Home on S. Whiting Street.
- The Intake Unit can also decide to impose an alternative to detention.

Sheltercare

Pre-trial Outreach Services

After Trial and the Youth is found guilty.....

The Court orders a Social History and sometimes a psychological assessment to be completed by the probation department

The Social History

A comprehensive investigation of the child's home environment, school performance, peer relations, health and mental health and interaction with extended relatives.

- Includes a recommendation to the court on the sentence

Purpose of Probation Services

Provides a balanced approach to working with the youth

Treatment

Accountability

Public Safety

The Role of the Probation Officer

Caseloads average 30-35 per probation officer

CSU Average overall caseload ranges 320 -380

Insure that the youth and his/family are involved in the services

Insure supervision and monitoring in the community

Insure that the rules of probation are followed

i.e. random drug screening, curfews, school attendance, mental health treatment, no hanging around negative peers

Recidivism rate is about 35%

Contemporary role of the probation officer includes:

Close working relationship with professionals
from other agencies

Linking with support from the community

Utilizing “best practice” programs

Parole Services

- Average of 14 -16 youth are in the State Department of Juvenile Justice Correctional Facility in any given year
- Youth stay a minimum of 18 months to 3 years
- Supervision in the community after return is Parole services. Caseload is about 14 youth).
- Parole's Concentration on GED and job training or placement and no recidivism.
- Recidivism rate is about 45%.

Community Based Programs

Prevention and Intervention
Efforts of the Court Service
Unit



INTENSIVE CASE MANAGEMENT

- **Serves court-involved youth in need of high-level supervision**
- **Life skills instruction**
- **Individual and group counseling**
- **Homework tutoring**
- **Support in finding jobs, internships and recreation activities**
- **Community service: reading to elementary students, assisting the elderly and adopting local parks**

SOHO...Space Of Her Own

An art-based mentoring program for at-risk girls

- o Partnership with The Art League
- o Matches girls with adult female mentors to attend art/design classes and make hope chests, lampshades, floor cloths, face masks, etc.
- o Homework support, life skills, sex education/refusal skills and communication/anger management classes.
- o “Trade Spaces” to remodel each others’ bedrooms

95% success rate!

BEFORE





AFTER

Youth Education Shoplifter's Program

- o For juveniles with first-time shoplifting charges
- o Understand the consequences of behavior
- o 6-hour home study and 8 hour classroom session at Target
- o 95% of class participants have no additional larceny charges



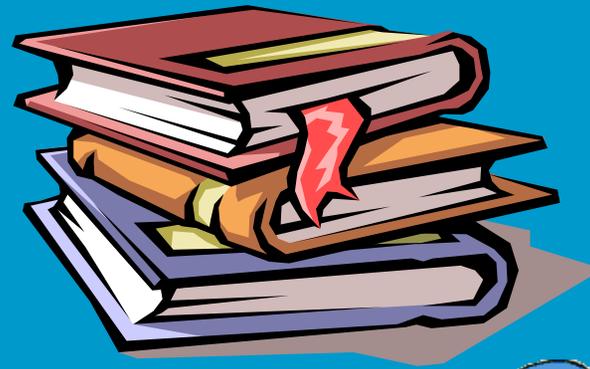


Parenting With Love and Limits

- o Promotes effective communication between parents and teens
- o Addresses teenager misbehavior, and gangs and community resources
- o Provided in both English and Spanish
- o 82% of program participants have no new re-arrests within one year of program completion

Education Support Program

E.S.P. provides accountability, juvenile justice education, academic support, life skills, gang prevention and anger management instruction to court-involved students suspended from school.



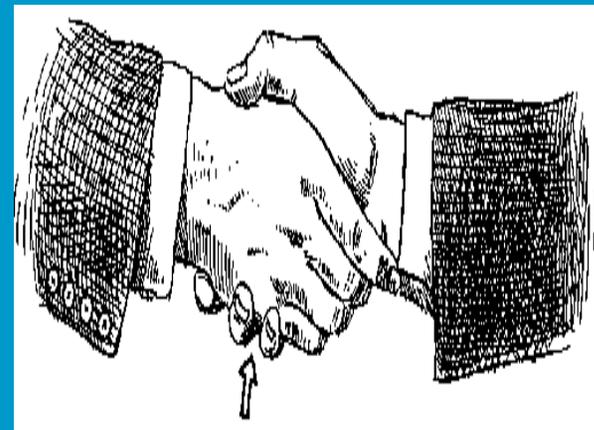
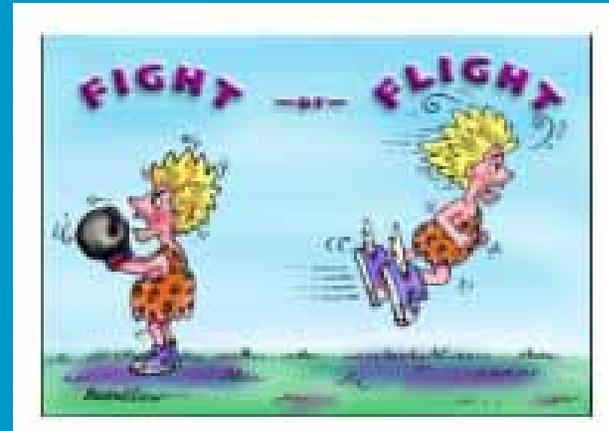
United We Sail



- o Entrepreneurial toy boat program run by youth for youth
- o 12-14 year-olds CHINS kids learn job skills while offering a community service
- o Participants earn passes and bus tokens to attend movies, the wave pool, batting cages and miniature golf

Conflict Resolution

- Changes negative thinking that leads to conflicts
- Offers research-proven methods of working through anger and solving problems





Wilderness Education

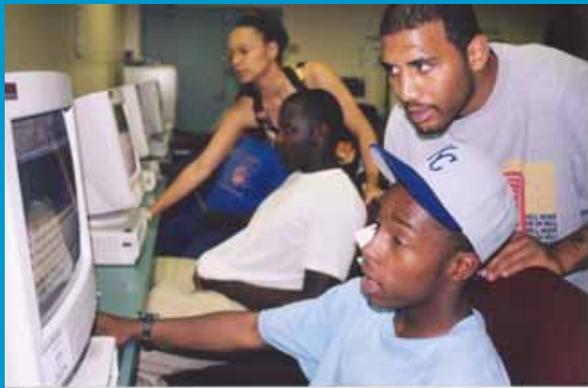
- o Available to all court-involved youth and trip-specific target groups
- o Year-round multi-day wilderness education trips
- o Backpacking, spelunking, rock climbing, canoeing, ropes courses, hiking and trail maintenance work
- o Promotes self-confidence, teamwork, responsibility and positive behavior change

Coming soon....

iMentor



Orientation date
for prospective
mentors is
Tuesday, March
13, from 6:00-8:00
p.m.



A movie making
mentoring program
for boys



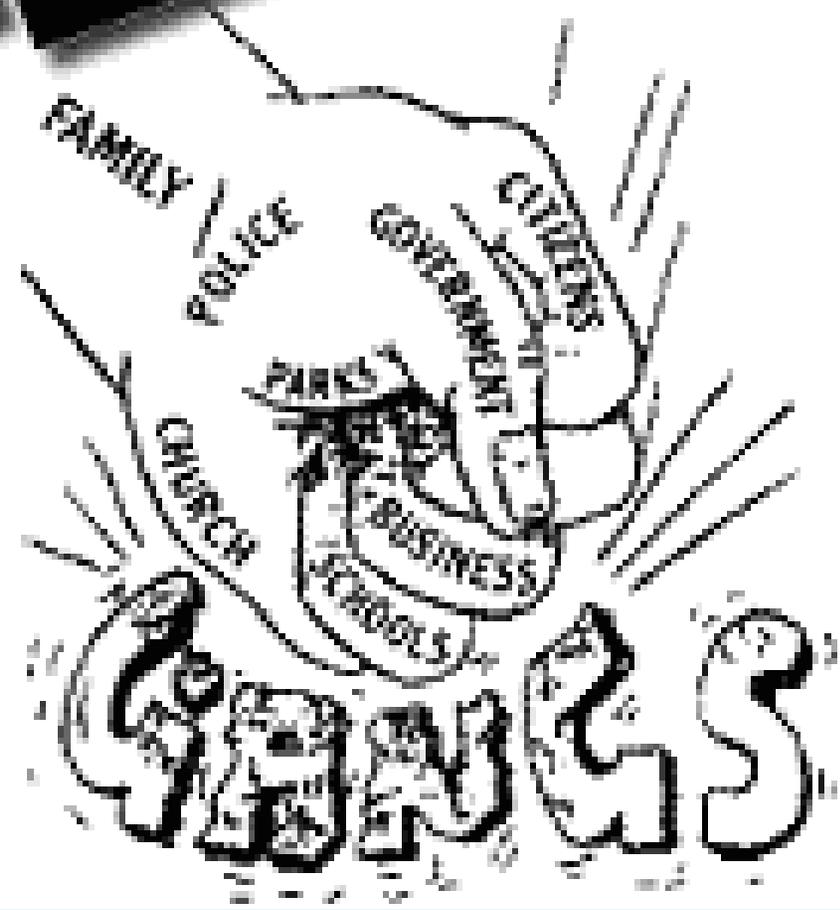
Gang Prevention and Intervention

Mike Mackey
City of Alexandria
Gang Prevention &
Intervention Coordinator

OJJDP RECOMMENDS:

- SOCIAL PROGRAMS/OUTREACH
 - i.e. **Street Outreach, Prevention and Intervention Groups**
- JOB AND EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES
 - i.e. **Seaport Foundation, Joblink**
- PUBLIC/PRIVATE AGENCY INVOLVEMENT or CHANGE
 - i.e. **Senior Policy Group, Gang Prevention Task Force, Brown Bags**
- LAW ENFORCEMENT
 - i.e. **Local and Regional Gang Units, CA's office**
- COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT
 - i.e. **Gang Awareness Summit, Small Group Outreach**

7-12-13



CALLS

NORTHERN VIRGINIA REGIONAL GANG TASK FORCE

- 14 JURISDICTIONS
- FEDERAL, STATE, LOCAL AGENCIES
- ENFORCEMENT
- PREVENTION, INTERVENTION

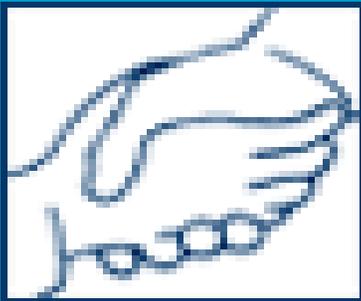
REGIONAL GANG TASK FORCE PROGRAMMING PREVENTION AND INTERVENTION

- BASED ON INFORMATION FROM LOCALITIES
- REGIONAL GANG ASSESSMENT
- IPE WORKERS
- PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENTS

CITY OF ALEXANDRIA

GANG PREVENTION
COMMUNITY TASK FORCE

SENIOR POLICY GROUP ON
GANGS



SENIOR POLICY GROUP 13 AGENCIES IN CITY

- CITY MANAGER'S OFFICE
- COMMONWEALTH'S ATTORNEY
- MENTAL HEALTH/MENTAL RETARDATION/SUB. ABUSE
- HUMAN SERVICES
- SHERIFF'S OFFICE
- POLICE DEPARTMENT
- JUVENILE DETENTION HOME
- RECREATION, PARKS, CULTURAL ACTIVITIES
- ACPS
- PUBLIC DEFENDER'S OFFICE
- ADULT PROBATION
- COURT SERVICE UNIT
- OFFICE ON WOMEN

MEETS QUARTERLY

GANG PREVENTION COMMUNITY TASK FORCE 17 Members

- Co-Chaired by 2 Members of Council
- 1 Member of School Board
- 1 Representative of T.C. Williams
- 1 Representative of Middle Schools
- 1 Representative of Elementary Schools
- 1 Representative of Private Schools
- 1 Representative of Organization with specific outreach to Latino Community Members
- 1 Representative of Organization with specific outreach to African-American Community Members
- 2 Representatives of Alexandria, at-large
- 1 Representative of Faith-Based Community
- 2 Representatives of Alexandria Youth, at-large
- 1 Representative of Business Community
- 1 Representative of parents of Alexandria Youth
- City Manager's Office

ACTIVITIES AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- HOSTED GANG AWARENESS SUMMIT: 600 ATTENDEES
- DEVELOPED STRATEGY PLAN BASED ON SUMMIT FEEDBACK
- TEAM WITH LOCAL AND REGIONAL LAW ENFORCEMENT (i.e. Centralizing of graffiti removal process, Intervention outreach with detectives)
- TEAM WITH REGIONAL TASK FORCE IN BEST PRACTICE PROGRAM DEVELOPMENT FOR ALL OF NORTHERN VIRGINIA
- MULTIPLE COMMUNITY GANG PREVENTION PRESENTATIONS, TRAININGS, CASE CONSULTATION, INCLUDING WITH GROUPS OF YOUTH (i.e. Community Lodgings, Sheltercare, Civic Associations)
- ORGANIZE INTERAGENCY GANG PREVENTION BROWN BAG LUNCH TRAININGS (30-35 Interagency and Non-Profit Staff Monthly)

ACTIVITIES AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- DEVELOPED INFORMATION RESOURCES AND WEBSITE
- SUPPORTED SET OBJECTIVES, ACHIEVE RESULTS
SUMMER PROGRAM TRAINING FOR OVER 500 YOUTH
- COORDINATE NON-TRADITIONAL OUTREACH TEAM (since July, 2006)
- TEAMED IN DEVELOPMENT OF ALEXANDRIA MENTORING PARTNERSHIP AND NATIONAL MENTORING MONTH EVENT (14 Programs, 90 Adults January 31st Event)
- ENGAGED YOUTH AND COMMUNITY MEMBERS IN PROGRAM DEVELOPMENT (Outreach to Barrios Unidos, Community Lodgings, Youth and Parent Representatives on Task Force)

SUMMIT TO MISSION

- REDUCE GANG AND CREW PARTICIPATION
- DECREASE GANG AND CREW CRIME AND INCIDENTS
- INCREASE SCHOOL ATTENDANCE AND GRADUATION RATES



Alexandria Mentoring Partnership:

- ASSISTANCE AND SUPPORT FROM:



- 14 ALEXANDRIA PROGRAMS, MULTIPLE STAFF AND MANY COMMUNITY VOLUNTEERS



www.alexandriava.gov/mentoring

- MENTORING CENTRAL

How did we get started?

COMMUNITY INPUT

- Community Services Board Public Hearing
- Gang Awareness Summit
- Initiatives by the Mayor and others

Mission: In Short

SUPPORT OUR
YOUTH



SUPPORT OUR
MENTORS



17.6
MILLION



2.5 million



Alexandria

150

99%



What does mentoring PREVENT?



What does mentoring
enhance?

60%



COST ANALYSIS

- 30 DAYS IN THE DETENTION HOME:
\$ 6360
- NURSING EXPLORATION SUMMER CAMP:
\$600, 4 WEEKS
- MENTORING FOR FOUR HOURS/MONTH:



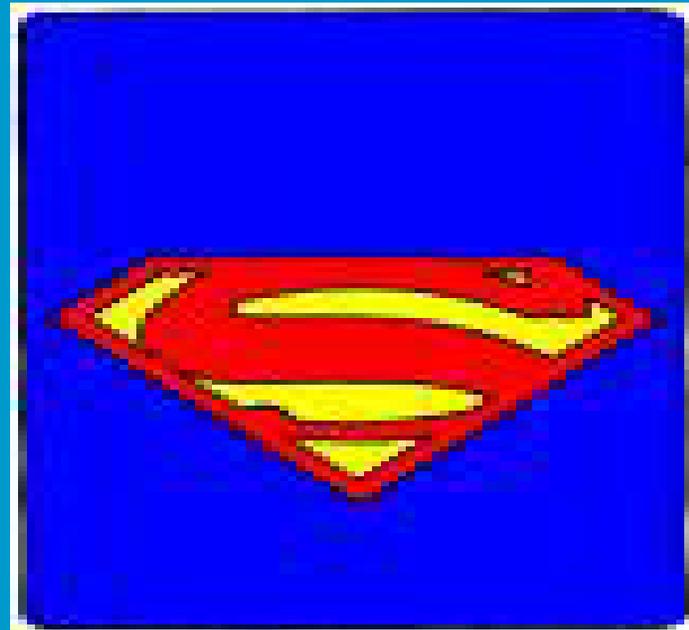
TIME COMMITMENT

- SUGGESTED: 4 HOURS/MONTH FOR ONE YEAR
“...whether mentors and mentees share a close, trusting relationship”.



BENEFITS FOR YOU

- Community
- Touch Lives
- Gratification
- Lead and Learn
- Bond
- Meet like minded adults
- Fulfill a New Year's Resolution



QUALIFICATIONS

- NO PRIOR EXPERIENCE REQUIRED
- NO SPECIAL DEGREES NECESSARY
- WILLINGNESS TO HELP

79.6%

