

**S A F E S T**

Uniting Neighbors Against Crime



# Regional Gang Prevention

The Good Man Project

# Regional Gang Prevention Partnership

- DOJ/COPS Office
- Tacoma Police Department
- Pierce County Sheriff's Department
- Lakewood Police Department
- Safe Streets Campaign

- 1980's Gang Problem (caught off guard)
  - Cocaine/gang connection
- Intervene on Meth/Gang Connection
  - Get in front of the urban distro connection
- Address factors contributing to persistent gang activity by going into social infrastructure
- Build sustainable prevention through interdisciplinary and social engineering strategies

# Five Component Strategies

## Ten Year Study on Best Approaches

- Community Mobilization
- Suppression
- Social controls
- Systems or institutional change
- Opportunities and provisions

# Community Mobilization

- Block Organizing in high gang impact areas
- Gang graffiti paint outs engaging community
- Business and neighborhood coalitions
- Asset mapping for community strengths
- Promote strength based analysis of youth needs rather deficit analysis
- Adult and youth Appreciative Inquiry
- Boys Girls Clubs partnerships to assist with “ageing out population”

# Suppression

- Traditional Law Enforcement for those who can't be reached through prevention
- COPS for community based prevention
- Youth centers, such as BGC, patrol protection to intervene on predatory gang recruiters
- Building bridges between law enforcement agencies and communities of color
- Help parents and community understand the predatory nature of gang recruiters

# Social Controls

- The Good Man Project
  - After school programs in middle schools for life skills training and strength based assessments
  - Adult and community based life skills opportunities
  - Group interventions for high school youth identified as gang involved
  - YouTube and My Space. Develop prevention strategies for cyber space

# Social Controls

- Community Appreciative Inquiry
  - Discover that time when your community's youth were thriving
  - Dream about ways to replicate those successes
  - Do those things that create success for youth

# Systems/Institutional Change

- DOC Partners to address cycle of adults returning to communities with gang orientation
- Promote Strength Based Assessment tools to get prevention communities on same page
- DSHS resources for gang impacted families
- Educational Delivery to improve educational outcomes for vulnerable youth populations
- Assault Education for accountability education

# Opportunities/Provisions

- **Sustained** economic opportunities for target communities
- Career & Life Skills Training for adults and youth
- Creative food provisions programs via BG Clubs and WSU Teen chef and Cooking programs
- Effective culturally relevant mobilization opportunities for communities

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