

COUNTYWIDE CRIMINAL JUSTICE COORDINATION COMMITTEE

MINUTES OF THE July 6, 2016 MEETING

Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration
500 West Temple Street, Room 739
Los Angeles, California 90012

MEMBERS AND ALTERNATES PRESENT

Chair Pro Tem: Ronald Brown, County Public Defender

Jackie Lacey, District Attorney and Vice Chair of CCJCC

Reaver Bingham for Calvin Remington, Interim County Chief Probation Officer

Daniel Calleros, President, Southeast Police Chiefs Association

David Cons for Eileen Decker, U.S. Attorney

*Xiomara Flores Holguin for Philip Browning, Director, County Department of Children and Family Services

Janice Fukai, County Alternate Public Defender

Donna Groman for Michael Levanas, Presiding Judge, Juvenile Superior Court

Kelly Harrington for Jim McDonnell, Sheriff

*Charles Hearn for Charlie Beck, Chief, Los Angeles Police Department

Dan Jeffries for Mike Feuer, Los Angeles City Attorney

*Raymond Kovacic for David Jennings, Field Office Director, U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement

Karen Loquet for James Jones, Director, County Internal Services Department

Mary Marx for Robin Kay, Director, County Department of Mental Health

Jonathan McCaverty for Mary Wickham, Interim County Counsel

*Jim McGlynn for Sherri Carter, Superior Court Executive Officer

Edward McIntyre for Rodney Gibson, Chair, County Quality & Productivity Commission

Don Meredith for Joe Gardner, President, County Probation Commission

Chris O'Quinn for Bill Siegl, Chief, Southern Division, California Highway Patrol

*Felicia Orozco for Miguel Santana, Los Angeles City Chief Administrative Officer

Sharon Papa, President, South Bay Police Chiefs Association

Robert Philibosian for Isaac Barcelona, Chair, County Economy and Efficiency Commission

Ben Polk for Supervisor Hilda Solis, First District and Chair of the County Board of Supervisors, Chair of CCJCC

*Ray Regalado for Cynthia Banks, Director, County Department of Community & Senior Services

Ray Regalado for Robin Toma, Executive Director, County Human Relations Commission

Lakshmanan Sathyavagiswaran, County Coroner – Medical Examiner

*Anne Tremblay for Eric Garcetti, Mayor, City of Los Angeles

*David Turla for Sachi Hamai, County Chief Executive Officer

Lance Winters for Kamala Harris, California Attorney General

***Not a designated alternate**

I. CALL TO ORDER / INTRODUCTIONS

Ronald Brown, Los Angeles County Public Defender

The meeting was called to order at 12:09 p.m. by Los Angeles County Public Defender Ronald Brown, Chair Pro Tem.

Self-introductions followed.

II. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

Ronald Brown, Los Angeles County Public Defender

There were no requests for revisions to the minutes of the June 1, 2016 meeting. A motion was made to approve the minutes.

ACTION: The motion to approve the minutes of the June 1, 2016 meeting was seconded and approved without objection.

III. PARKS AFTER DARK: LIGHTING THE WAY FOR PREVENTION AND INTERVENTION

Faith Parducho, Special Assistant, County Department of Parks and Recreation
Kelly Fischer, Staff Analyst, County Department of Public Health

Faith Parducho, Special Assistant with the County Department of Parks and Recreation, appeared before CCJCC to provide an overview of the Parks After Dark (PAD) program. A video was shown that provided a background on this program that seeks to reduce crime and provide healthy social and recreational opportunities.

Ben Polk, Justice Deputy for Los Angeles County Supervisor Hilda Solis, Chair of the Board of Supervisors and Chair of CCJCC, informed the committee that Supervisor Solis was unable to attend the meeting. He noted that the PAD program and the wider spectrum of prevention and intervention programs in the county are a high priority to the Supervisor. The meeting's presentations provide information on successful models for addressing gang violence. Supervisor Solis is interested in working with criminal justice partners to determine ways in which effective programs can be expanded in the county.

Ms. Parducho stated that PAD began in 2010 as part of the county's Gang Violence Reduction Initiative. The program offers extended summer evening hours at selected parks throughout the county as one element in an overall violence prevention strategy. Security and events are provided that allow for the community, and especially youth in the community, to engage in healthy activities.

Ms. Parducho introduced Kelly Fischer, Staff Analyst with the County Department of Public Health, to provide details about the program.

Ms. Fischer stated that PAD provides a community-based framework for prevention and intervention. While it began as a violence prevention strategy, it has also had a constructive effect on health equity as well. She listed the following positive impacts that PAD has had:

- Results in a decrease in violence;
- Promotes physical activity, which can impact chronic disease;
- Improves social cohesion, which can affect mental health;
- Builds community trust;
- Provides services in a safe and welcoming space;
- Provides a strong network of multi-sector collaboration; and
- Provides cost savings.

These findings are the result of a Health Impact Assessment (HIA) that was conducted in 2014, as well as newer data from crime analyses and participant satisfaction surveys. The PAD program is led by the County Parks and Recreation Department, but it is a collaborative effort that includes support from the Board of Supervisors, County CEO, Sheriff's Department, Probation Department, Department of Public Health (DPH), Department of Children and Family Services (DCFS), Community and Senior Services (CSS), and other County departments, as well as Community-Based Organizations (CBOs).

DPH, the new Los Angeles Health Agency, and others have included the program in their strategic plans, and it is also included in Los Angeles County's My Brother's Keeper Initiative.

PAD initially included 3 parks when it began in 2010. This was expanded to 6 parks in 2012 with funding from a DPH Community Transformation Grant (CTG). However, this federal grant funding was cut early and led to a need to obtain additional funding in 2014.

The County CEO backfilled the lost grant funding in 2014. Additionally, the HIA was made available at that time and showed the value that the program was having.

In 2015, during her first year in office, Supervisor Solis provided funds for three additional parks in Supervisorial District One, which brought the total number of parks up to 9.

The CEO subsequently identified funding through the DPH Trauma Prevention Initiative and Probation's Federal Title IV-E Waiver funds. As a result, PAD was expanded to 21 parks this summer, which includes parks in each Supervisorial District.

There were about 290,000 visits at PAD parks from 2010 through 2015 (6 to 9 weeks per year, 3 days per week). With the expansion to 21 parks countywide, it is estimated that there will be an additional 150,000 to 170,000 visits this summer. Visitors are very representative of the community, with both adults and youth attending.

Surveys of participants have found that 98% would participate again and would recommend the experience to a friend. Comments have expressed a desire to see the program continued, expanded to more parks, and offered throughout the year.

There was a 32% decrease in serious and violent crime (Part I crimes) in the 3 original PAD parks between 2009 and 2013. This contrasts with an 18% increase in comparison parks in neighboring communities during that time period.

The decrease in the original 3 parks was 31% from 2009 through 2015. The 3 additional PAD parks added in 2012 saw a 20% decrease in serious and violent crime from 2011 through 2015, and the 3 parks added in 2015 saw a 30% decrease from 2014 to 2015. All PAD parks combined have seen a 20% decrease in serious and violent crimes since 2009.

The Sheriff's Department is a critical partner in the PAD program both for the security that they provide and in engaging with the community to foster positive relations between the deputies and the attendees.

A survey of participants indicated that 94% felt safer attending PAD parks.

The HIA found that PAD is cost effective in that it saved the county an estimated \$1 million in reduced criminal justice and healthcare costs between 2009 and 2013. The estimated annual criminal justice cost savings at the original 3 parks alone were one and-a-half times the cost to implement PAD at all six parks in 2013, including the cost of incorporating HIA recommendations.

The HIA recommendations that have been implemented include the following:

- Expand PAD to parks in communities with high crimes rates and obesity prevalence;
- Dedicate full-time staff to oversee implementation, leverage and sustain partnerships, and identify funding (The program is in the process of hiring a full-time coordinator to build core infrastructure); and
- Dedicate resources for formal evaluation and collaborate with similar local strategies (The program is in the process of selecting an evaluator to evaluate the program).

In addition, Ms. Fischer stated that they are seeking to expand youth leadership and employment opportunities, evaluating mechanisms to hire gang intervention workers at the park, and pursuing ways to connect PAD with comprehensive violence reduction efforts in the county initiative.

Ms. Parducho reported that the expansion to 21 parks is currently only funded through this year. The matching Title IV-E Waiver funds have not yet been identified for the summers of 2017 through 2019. Surveys and an evaluation are being gathered to present the case for securing ongoing funding.

For this summer, the PAD park programs are available Thursday through Saturday, 6:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m. For the south and north Los Angeles County PAD parks, this is for June 16th through August 13th. For East Los Angeles and San Gabriel Valley Parks, the schedule is for July 7th through August 27th.

CCJCC members and departmental representatives that are interested in obtaining additional information may contact Ms. Parducho at (213) 738-2811 and fparducho@parks.lacounty.gov, or may contact Ms. Fischer at (213) 738-6110 and kfischer@ph.lacounty.gov.

The video that was shown at the beginning of this presentation can be found at the following link: <http://youtu.be/7u1wN8Fbg48>. In 2014, the PAD program was recognized with a Health Equity Award from The California Endowment in the large county category.

ACTION: For information only.

IV. HOSPITAL-BASED VIOLENCE AND INJURY PREVENTION PROGRAMS

Damon Clark, M.D., Assistant Professor of Surgery, Acute Care Surgery, University of Southern California

Dr. Damon Clark, Assistant Professor of Surgery at USC, appeared before CCJCC to provide an overview of violence and injury prevention initiatives from a hospital/trauma-based perspective.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) found that in the United States there were 25,423 firearm homicides and 34,235 firearm suicides between 2006 and 2007. 85% of firearm homicide victims are male. For ages 10 to 24, it is the leading cause of death among African Americans, second leading cause of death among Hispanics, and third leading cause of death among Native Americans.

In 2013, the CDC reported that there were 33,000 deaths and 84,000 injured in the United States as a result of gun violence. This was the last year of the CDC collecting this data.

Firearms have been found to be involved in 67% of homicides, 50% of suicides, 43% of robberies, and 21% of assaults in the country. Dr. Clark also reported that a study found that the financial impact to the country and its health care system of firearm-related injuries is \$174.1 billion, which was 8th in U.S. government expenditures in 2010. This doesn't include the court and prison costs of those that commit these violent acts.

A study of 1,878 adolescents in Boston found that income inequality is associated with aggression and violence among adolescents in an urban setting. A total of 19% reported being assaulted, 22% reported being shown a gun, 21% witnessed a violent death, and 66% know someone close that had a violent death.

Another study of 1,890 patients (aged 12 to 24) in the Oakland-Bay area between 2005 and 2012 found that living in areas of low socioeconomic status exposes young people to substance abuse, an illicit economy (such as narcotics), and the carrying of firearms. Being young, male, minority, and living in an area of poverty are all independent risk factors for violent recidivism (i.e., someone is shot, treated at a hospital, and then returns at a later time with similar violent injuries).

Some of the predictors for gun violence include emotional distress, exposure to violence, being in environments where substance abuse is common, and peer delinquency.

In comparison to other industrialized/high-income countries, the United States has more firearms per capita, the most permissive gun control laws, and a disproportionate number of firearm deaths.

Dr. Clark noted that heavy consumption of alcohol and drug abuse have been found to be associated with higher rates of gun violence. In addition, the mental health population is at higher risk of behaviors and environments that expose them to gun violence.

In order to address the problem of gun violence, many hospitals began intervention programs in the late 1990's and early 2000's. These programs utilize adult mentors and advocates that provide positive role models for at-risk youth.

CeaseFire is one such program that began in Chicago, and SafeStreets is a similar program that began in Baltimore. Selected individuals will go into the neighborhoods and try to prevent retaliation and further violence after a violent incident occurs. These individuals are community members that may include former gang members, parents, and others that have respect in the particular neighborhoods that they are sent into.

In addition to preventing further acts of violence, efforts are also made to determine what services can be provided to address underlying problems. Gun buyback programs have also been established in these areas.

Another intervention effort is called Parents for Peace, which is associated with the County USC Hospital. This is made up of parents, family members, and friends of victims of violence. They offer support to one another but are also involved in local communities to try and prevent further violence.

A Baltimore hospital-based violence intervention program uses the admission of victims of violence as a teachable moment by allowing patients to reflect on the circumstances behind their injury and giving them the opportunity to receive services such as relocation, substance abuse counseling, and job training/placement. This has resulted in decreased crime offenses, aggression, and improved self-efficacy. This program also resulted in \$1.25 million in incarceration cost savings and a drop in the hospital recidivism rate from 26% to 5%.

A San Francisco hospital-based violence intervention program led to a fourfold decrease in injury recidivism, thereby avoiding costs of \$41,000 per injury.

Cure Violence, formerly known as CeaseFire Now, is a New Orleans hospital-based violence intervention program that seeks to deter further acts of aggression through intervention, but also includes interaction with the patient and family to assist with risk factors. This can include substance abuse counseling, housing, job or school placement, etc. While violence in the targeted zip code increased, it was less of a rise than that of surrounding areas that did not have this program in place.

Dr. Clark stated that another important feature of hospital-based violence intervention programs is family connectedness, which does not necessarily mean blood relatives. Rather, it refers to individuals (i.e., doctors, nurses, social workers, teachers, etc.) following-up with young people after they have been discharged from the hospital. This provides the person with someone showing care and concern that the young person can speak to about issues and who can help to guide the person on a positive path. Another benefit of this is that it can instill high educational aspirations in the young person.

All of the hospital-based intervention programs have a goal of improving neighborhood safety and decreasing weapon-related injuries in the community.

One of the organizations that Dr. Clark has worked with in Los Angeles is Soledad Enrichment Action (SEA), which provides services to high-risk individuals, families, and gang-affected communities. SEA combines individually-tailored high school educational services with a diverse array of wrap-around and support services.

SEA has about 15 high schools in the Los Angeles County area. These schools are specific for youth from bad socio-economic situations and who have not done well in the public school system. The schools provide a family-oriented environment that pushes the youth toward high academic achievement so that they can graduate from high school and live productive, self-determined lives.

The SEA charter schools have been successful in helping many at-risk youth to obtain a high school education and many have returned after obtaining higher education to serve the community as social workers and advocates.

Dr. Clark analogized the work of trauma surgeons to that of treating the symptoms of the disease, in this case violence within communities, but violence intervention efforts in all of their forms treat the disease itself.

ACTION: For information only.

V. CITY OF LOS ANGELES GANG REDUCTION AND YOUTH DEVELOPMENT (GRYD) PROGRAM

Anne Tremblay, Director, GRYD, Los Angeles City Mayor's Office of Public Safety

Anne Tremblay, Director of the Gang Reduction and Youth Development (GRYD) program of the Los Angeles City Mayor's Office of Public Safety, appeared before CCJCC to provide an overview of the GRYD program.

GRYD was established in 2007 to reduce gang crime and violence in the City of Los Angeles through the following:

- Promoting positive youth development;
- Addressing root causes that lead youth to join gangs;
- Reducing gang involvement among young people already engaged in gangs;
- Improving the relationships between the community and law enforcement;
- Responding to gang violence when it occurs to decrease the likelihood of retaliation; and
- Increasing information-sharing, the coordination of services, and collaboration between communities and the GRYD Office.

GRYD aims to identify the areas with the highest rates of gang violence and to provide those areas with intensive prevention and intervention services.

The mission of the program is to strengthen youth/young adults, family, and community resilience to the influence of gangs by fostering public/private collaborations and supporting community-based prevention and intervention services. The program utilizes gang prevention, gang intervention, violence interruption, and community engagement.

Gang Prevention

The primary gang prevention effort is focused on case management services for youth (ages 10 to 15) that are not deemed to be at high-risk for gang joining by the Youth Services Eligibility Tool (YSET). Activities targeted at the entire community attempt to include as well as bring together residents along the family life cycle stages.

Secondary gang prevention efforts are directed at youth (ages 10 to 15) and their families that are identified as high-risk for gang joining by the YSET. Agencies are contracted with the city to provide services.

Gang Intervention

The two focal points for gang intervention are violence interruption and proactive peacemaking in the community (Prong 1) and case management with gang-involved youth between 14 and 25 years old (Prong 2). Ms. Tremblay noted that reentry services for

gang-involved youth are incorporated within the case management services provided by select contractors.

GRYD gang intervention incorporates “peacemakers” to assist with violence interruption, proactive peacekeeping (i.e., establishing cease-fire agreements, quelling rumors, mediating conflicts between rival gangs, etc.), family case management, and outreach with incarcerated gang members immediately before and after their release to prevent them from returning to the gang life.

As with gang prevention services, the GRYD program contracts with Community-Based Organizations (CBOs) to provide services. Rehabilitative services that are offered include individual and family therapy, educational support, emergency housing, training in employment skills, and tattoo removal.

Violence Interruption

Similar to the violence intervention efforts that Dr. Clark described in the previous presentation, GRYD violence interruption efforts respond to shootings and homicides in the city with intervention workers and GRYD staff to prevent further violence and retaliatory shootings.

Additionally, the intervention workers engage in proactive peacekeeping throughout the year, even when there aren't violent incidents, in order to quell any tensions or rivalries that may arise.

Intervention workers may also have small transitional caseloads of young adults and youth that they help to link with needed services.

The Los Angeles Violence Intervention Training Academy (LAVITA) provides training and certification for intervention workers. There is also coordination with the LAPD.

GRYD services are voluntary in that individuals are not Court-ordered to participate. Enrollment has nevertheless been positive and the community has shown interest.

Ms. Tremblay reported that GRYD received an additional \$5.5 million in its current fiscal year budget to expand and add zones.

Juvenile Reentry

A Second Chance Act Juvenile Reentry grant was awarded to GRYD in 2013 that supported the implementation of a GRYD Juvenile Reentry program in select GRYD zones. The program is now being funded through general funds.

The focus on the Juvenile Reentry Strategy is to engage youth aged 14 to 21 that are on probation and returning from Juvenile Hall or Juvenile Probation Camp, are gang

involved or classified as having been gang involved by law enforcement, and reside within the proposed GRYD zones.

Youth are being referred 90 days before their release and the program is supporting their return home through various services. Data is currently being collected on this program.

Partner agencies in this effort include Homeboy Industries and SEA. This program also created a formal partnership between GRYD and the County Probation Department.

Community Engagement

The community engagement portion of the program includes collaboration with law enforcement and integrating their efforts to engage communities in GRYD activities. There is regular communication with law enforcement agencies and coordination of prevention and intervention activities after suppression activities when appropriate.

One of the GRYD community engagement programs is Summer Night Lights (SNL), which is similar the County's Parks After Dark (PAD) program. SNL has 32 sites citywide and provides extended and expanded programming for both prevention and intervention efforts.

In 2015, the total estimated participation in the SNL program was 723,501, with an average of 24,949 visitors per site. In addition, 452,192 meals were served and over 90 recreational activities were offered.

Also in 2015, over 400 youth and young adults from local neighborhoods obtained SNL jobs, 21,990 participants attended SNL art program workshops, 9,642 enrolled in sports leagues, and 503 participants received free HIV/STD screenings.

Youth Squad participants are young people from communities within two miles of the participating parks. These individuals assist in creating the programming and providing services to their communities.

The free services that are offered, such as meals and recreational activities, are important for many in the community and help to foster a positive relationship between the city government and its neighborhoods.

Surveys of participants revealed the following:

- 85.2% of participants felt that SNL improved relationships between the police and the community;
- 69.2% of the Youth Squad participants who planned to apply to college were in the process two months later;
- 87.2% felt SNL improved the quality of life in the community;

- 82.6% of Youth Squad participants surveyed engaged in some form of community services post-SNL; and
- 87% of participants reported that they would use services learned about during SNL in the future.

Ms. Tremblay noted that a Friday Nights pilot program was begun in the fall of 2015.

GRYD will also do community outreach and education campaigns as needed, whether it is in partnership with the LAPD or having community-based providers do it on various topics.

Earlier this year, GRYD was involved in a gun buyback program. This was a partnership that included the LAPD and various local media organizations.

Research and Evaluation

GRYD has a robust data collection, research, and evaluation component related to all aspects of the program. Moving forward, the GRYD evaluation will include the following features:

- Holistic: Captures process and outcome data and uses a mixed methods approach (i.e., includes quantitative and qualitative data collection) to capture multiple dimensions of GRYD services and impact.
- Integrated: Results for separate GRYD components will be connected to capture the interrelated nature of this work (e.g., examining the impact of the quantity of services on outcomes).
- Innovative: The approach to the analysis of gang crime will tap into cutting edge statistical methods to better understand the spatial nature of crime and its relationship to intervention.
- Timely: Research results will be produced throughout the year in various formats rather than as one large report with a time lag to account for analysis and report writing.

Ms. Tremblay informed the committee that a website for GRYD is under construction. Once completed, this website will include data and useful information about the program.

CCJCC members and departmental representatives that are interested in obtaining additional information about GRYD may contact Ms. Tremblay at (213) 272-0632 and anne.tremblay@lacity.org.

ACTION: For information only.

VI. OTHER MATTERS / PUBLIC COMMENT

A public comment was made by Mr. Nyabingi Kuti.

VII. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 12:55 p.m.