Local Public Safety Coordinating Council Youth & Gang Violence Steering Committee

Summary Minutes for the September 24, 2012 Meeting

Present

Antoinette Edwards, City of Portland
Adrian Galvez, Immigrant and Refugee
Community Organization
Mary Li, Department of County
Human Services
Kevin Modica, Bureau of Police
Erika Preuitt, Department of
Community Justice
Eric Zimmerman, Multnomah County
District Attorney's Office

Attending

Samantha Kaan, Multnomah County Health Department Raffaele Timarchi, Multnomah County Interfaith Initiative

Staff

Mary-Margaret Wheeler-Weber, LPSCC Staff

Check in and Announcements

Steering Committee members and attendees each shared "one small success," something in their professional or personal life that has gone well recently.

Adrian Galvez announced that reports of violence in the Lloyd Center area have gone down by approximately 60% from last year.

Eric Zimmerman announced that the District Attorney's office has received a Project Safe Neighborhood grant to support outreach to youth. He will be speaking to 4th and 5th grade students in October as part of the project.

The Steering Committee approved minutes from the August 2012 meeting.

Action Plan

Erika Preuitt reported that Roberta Phillip had presented the Youth & Gang Violence Steering Committee's updated Action Plan at the September meeting of the LPSCC Executive Committee. LPSCC endorsed the work of the Steering Committee at their meeting.

Multnomah County Interfaith Initiative

Raffaele Timarchi of Multnomah County's Interfaith Initiative presented on some of the programs and issues that the Interfaith Initiative touches on that may be a resource for members of the Y&GVSC. The issues that the Initiative is focusing on include social justice, peace and nonviolence, stewardship and sustainability, and pluralism. Resources that faith organizations have to share include values, volunteers, space and pro-social activities and pro-social relationships. Information on faith-based organizations and resources have been shared with the City/County services 211 referral line. Rafaele is a resource to help Y&GVSC members identify and connect to services such as reentry programs offered by faith organizations.

Raffaele also presented demographic and geographic information regarding Multnomah County's faith communities that the Initiative staff have assembled.

Discussion included the question of whether the Interfaith Initiative violated the separation of church and state. The county attorney is working on the issue, but the sense is that as long as the work remains focused on the County's core mission and does not give preference for one religion over another, there is not an inherent violation.

On October 17, District 2 and Multnomah County's Interfaith Initiative are holding an Interfaith Peace and Nonviolence Summit, bringing together faith leaders from around Multnomah County.

Program Updates

CHI (Community Healing Initiative)

Mary Li and Erika Preuitt provided an update on the CHI program. CHI is looking at data on contacts and services delivery to the families involved in the program. They are serving over 70 families.

GIFT (Gang Impacted Families Team)

Mary Li shared the opportunity a local company is offering to hire and train individuals referred to them by Multnomah County and suggested that network mapping might be a way to identify appropriate people to refer.

Kevin Modica noted that not having a driver's license can be an obstacle to employment for some people in the process of reentry. He and Rod Underhill discussed options for improved access to Project Clean Slate for people participating in GIFT.

STRYVE (Striving to Reduce Youth Violence Everywhere)

STRYVE will kick off its Coalition in October. The STRYVE Coalition will include five members from the Y&GVSC, and they have received approximately thirty applications for additional memberships. The Coalition will meet monthly. The STRYVE Data Team is meeting from January 2012 through January 2013 and they will brief the Coalition with findings to will inform their strategies. The STRYVE teams has conducted almost 600 street interviews. They will have a community open house on in the winter, and would like to appear on the December or January Y&GVSC agenda.

Next meeting: October 22nd, 2012, room 201, Multnomah Building, 501 SE Hawthorne.