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Chapter 5: Community Resources

Question 14: How has the community responded to gang activity?

- ⇒ *What services are being provided (or could be provided) to gang members?*
- ⇒ *What strategies are in place to prevent, intervene, and suppress gang activity?*
- ⇒ *Do service providers conduct risk assessments that include gang membership?*

Observations on Community Resources Data

Multnomah County has a rich array of services available to youth and their families. Using several local resource inventories, we identified 469 programs in the Multnomah County area that provide services to youth and family; these programs are administered by 151 different nonprofit or governmental organizations.¹ Survey emails were sent to all of these programs requesting additional information about their services. Of those surveyed, 260 (55%) responded with detailed information. The analysis that follows is based on information self-reported by agencies and includes data only from the 260 agencies that responded to our request for detailed information about their programs.

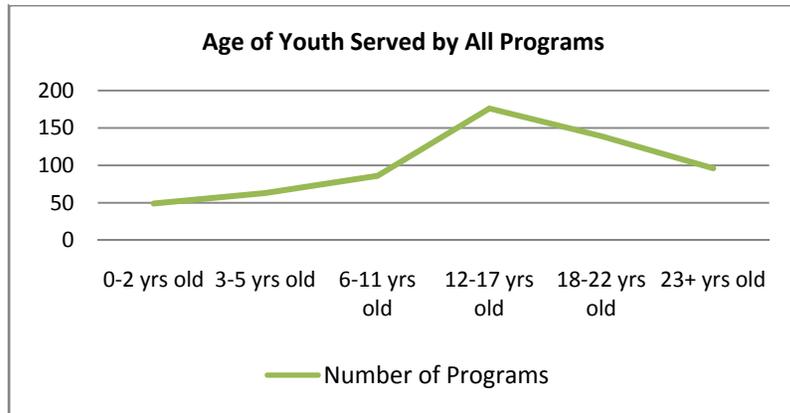
¹ District 2 / Gang Violence Task Force – Services Inventory, Service Programs for Youth & Gang Violence in Multnomah County – Youth & Gang Violence Steering Committee, Street Roots Rose City Resource Guide – Youth Services, Gresham’s 5 Core Strategies List , Oregon Mentors.

Although Multnomah County offers many services for youth and their families, only 22 programs (5%) specifically focus on serving gang members (Figure 63). These programs will be referred to as gang-specific programs.

Data Sources

Data Display	Source
Community Resources: Gang-responsive Programs (Appendix 14)	Community Resource List compiled by Multnomah County Department of Community Justice staff.
Community Resources for DCJ Comprehensive Gang Assessment (Figure 73)	Community Resource List compiled by Multnomah County Department of Community Justice staff. Map created by Multnomah County GIS Team, Information Technology Department
Concentrations of Youth Involved in Criminal Acts: 2009: Distribution of Community and Multnomah County Youth Resources (Figure 74)	Multnomah County Local High Risk Juvenile Crime Prevention Plan 2009-2010: http://www2.co.multnomah.or.us/ChildrenFamily/pdf/FINAL.JCPPlan6-18-10.pdf

Figure 66: Age of Youth Served



The programs included in the inventory provide services to young people of a variety of ages, from birth into adulthood. However, the highest number of programs target middle and high school-aged youth (Figure 66). Gang-responsive programs are much more likely to focus on children and youth than other programs are (Figures 67 and 68).

Nearly 75% of all the programs that responded indicated that they are not currently “full” (Figure 69). Another 13% explained that the fullness of the program varies based on such factors as the time of year, number of staff, and funding sources. Among gang-specific programs, even fewer programs indicated that they are “full” (Figure 70). However, it is important to note that many services provided by law enforcement and criminal justice agencies are unable to cap the number of people who they serve. Therefore, such programs would never be considered “full.”

Figure 67: Gang-responsive: Adults vs Youth

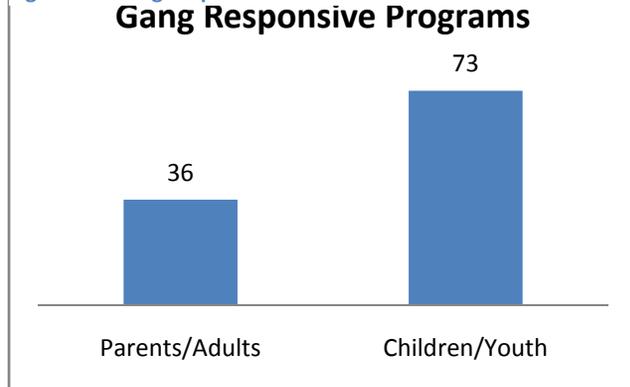


Figure 69: All Programs: Adults vs Youth

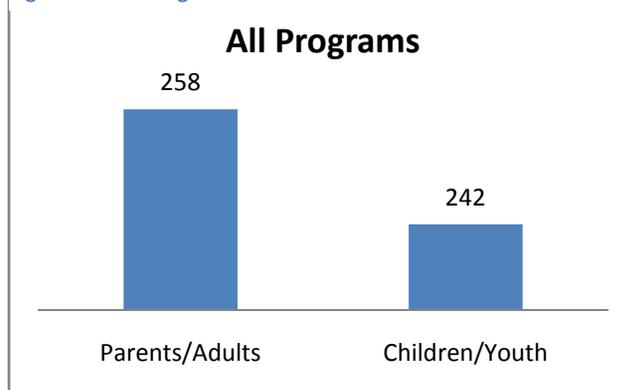


Figure 68: All Programs: Full?

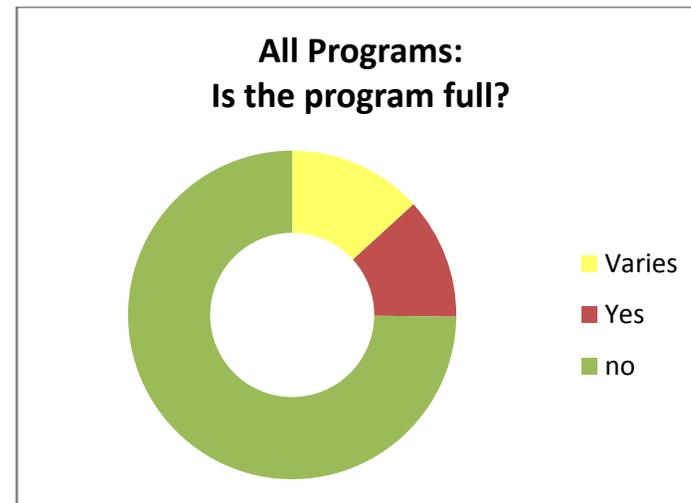
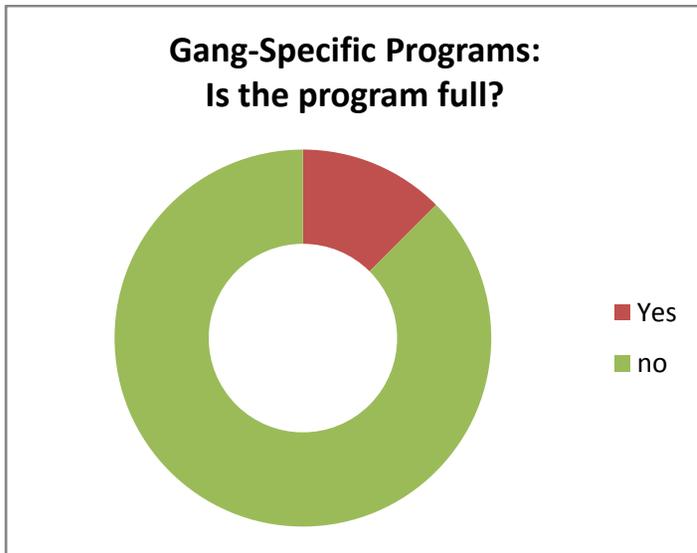


Figure 70: Gang-Specific Programs: Full?



Programs generally rely on diverse funding sources (Figure 71):

- 37% receive private funding (such as donations, local family/private foundations, national private foundations)
- 56% receive local funding (such as school districts, cities, county general funds)
- 38% receive state funding (such as State General fund, Oregon Health Plan)
- 33% receive federal funding (such as grants, Medicaid)

However, gang-specific programs rely primarily on local and state funding (Figure 72). Only one gang-specific program indicated that it receives funding from private sources, and only one program indicated that it receives federal funding to support it program. Multnomah County and the City of Portland are the largest funders of gang-specific services.

Figure 71: All Programs: Funding Sources

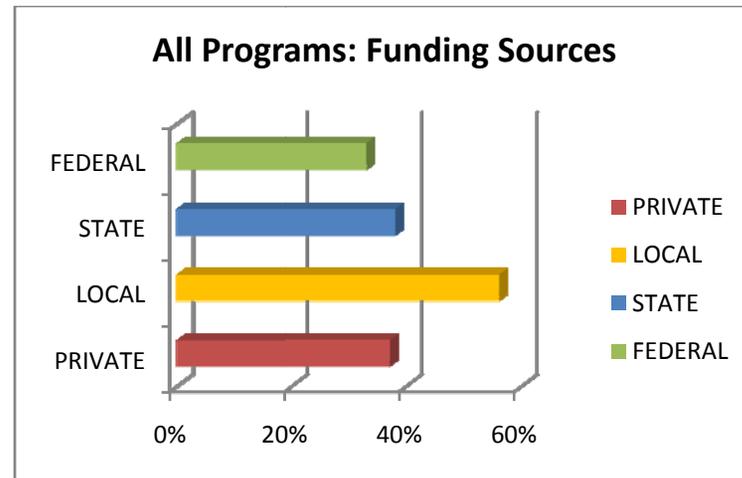
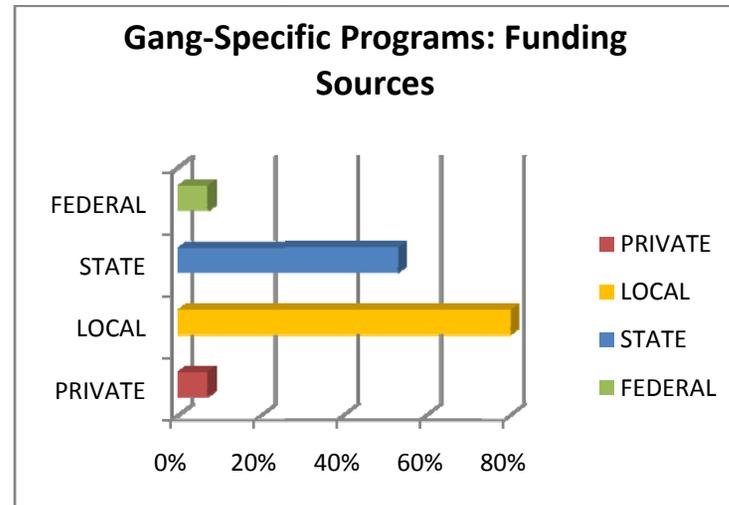


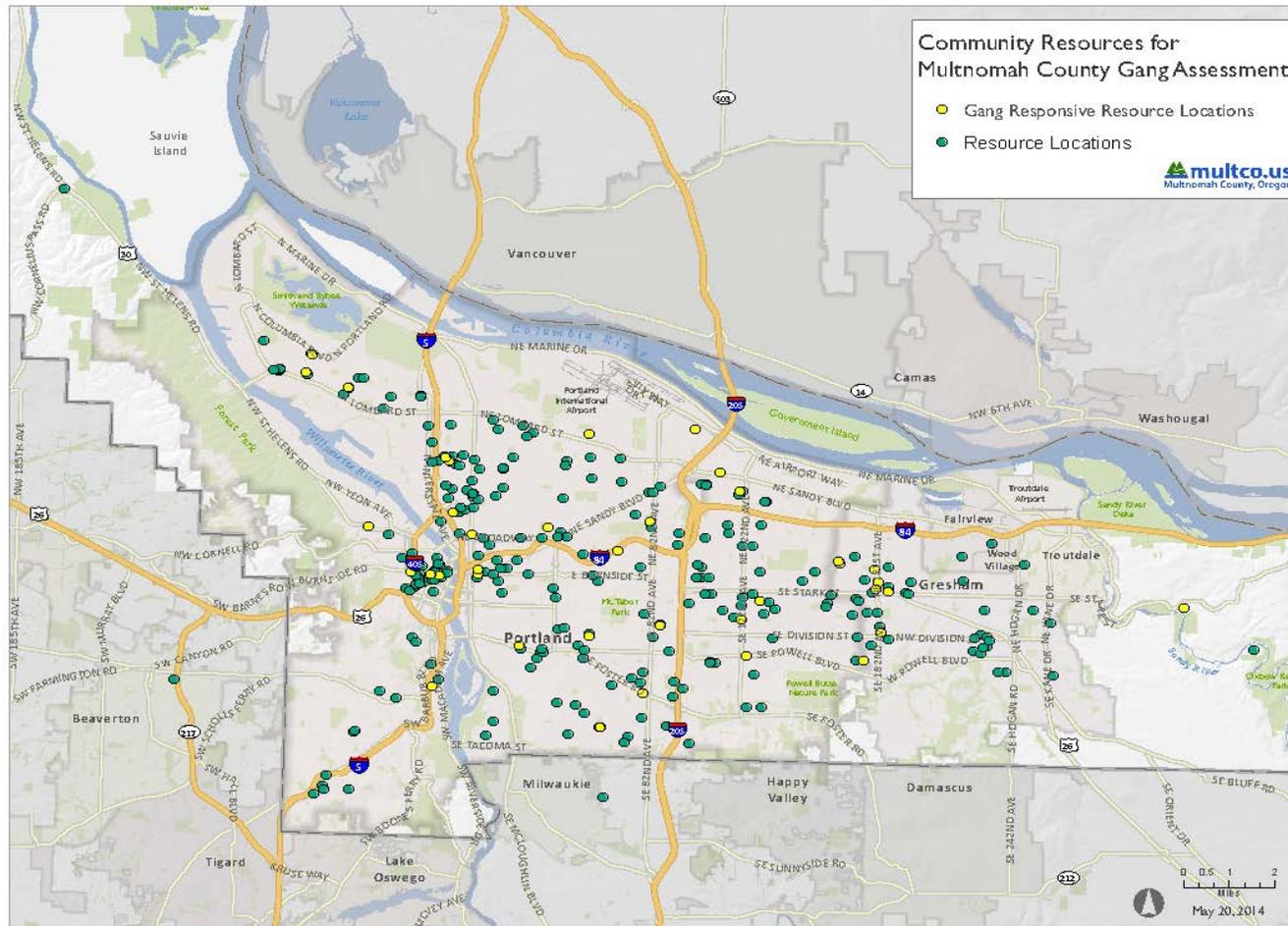
Figure 72: Gang-Specific Programs: Funding Sources



Geographically, the community programs are distributed throughout Multnomah County (Figure 73). The following map identifies all programs (green dots) and highlights gang-responsive programs in yellow. (Again, “gang-responsive” refers to programs

that describe themselves as being focused on gang members, have staff who are experienced at serving gang members, or conduct risk assessments that include gang involvement.)

Figure 73: Community Resources Map



Comparing data from 2014 and 2009 indicates that the distribution of services has shifted slightly in recent years. For example, the 2009 map of service distribution, which was developed during a Multnomah County Juvenile Crime Prevention planning process, shows services in East Portland and the Gresham area as being much less prevalent than they are now (Figure 74).

It is important to note that these maps were developed using differing methodologies. The 2009 map used data that were specific to services for school-aged youth, isolating layers for County investments (SBHC, SUN, Homeless and Gang Services). However, the map does not reflect a comprehensive listing of all services that may have identified as serving “gang” populations.

Figure 74: Distribution of Youth Resources 2009

