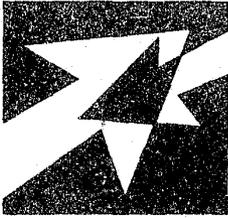


ASL



**TRANSFER OF
KNOWLEDGE
WORKSHOP**

Violence In The Community

**Prevention and Intervention Strategies
for High Risk Families and Youth**

101119

**MENT OF THE YOUTH AUTHORITY
OF CRIMINAL JUSTICE PLANNING**

**U.S. Department of Justice
National Institute of Justice**

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PREFACE

The Department of the Youth Authority, in cooperation with the State Office of Criminal Justice Planning, is conducting a series of Transfer of Knowledge Workshops on a variety of subjects that are of importance to the prevention of delinquency, crime and violence.

A Transfer of Knowledge Workshop is not a typical workshop or training event. Based on the belief that there currently exists in California sufficient knowledge and expertise to solve the major problems of crime and delinquency facing our communities, acknowledged experts are brought together to share information and experiences. They present and/or develop program models or action strategies that are then made available to interested individuals, programs and/or communities.

The Transfer of Knowledge Workshop on "Violence in the Community" and the resulting publication are dedicated to increasing the capacity for reducing and/or preventing violence in the homes, schools and on the streets of California communities.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The key to any successful workshop is the planning committee. This workshop was no exception. Without the hard work and dedication of the members of the planning committee, this workshop would never have materialized. Therefore, sincere appreciation goes to the following members of the planning committee:

Joe Salas, Chair
Callie Carney
Kathy Hill
Gail Jones

Joe Tavares
Rod Tull
Tanya Tull
Richard Tuttle

In addition to planning committee meetings, Kathy Hill, Gail Jones and Tanya Tull devoted many more hours of their own time to assist with "behind the scenes" activities in developing the workshop.

Special thanks goes to Brooke Allison for her excellent keynote presentation at the workshop and for subsequent technical assistance and expertise which have helped to make this publication possible.

Special thanks also goes to Valerie Chow-Bush, Kathy Hill, Gail Jones, Rosario Oliva and Richard Tuttle for excellent presentations on the program models.

Although Tanya Tull was unable to attend the workshop, two of her staff, Raymond Price and Debra Mercado did a terrific job in her stead. Their presentations were brief but powerful, and gave an excellent insight into Para Los Ninos.

Many others contributed to the success of this workshop, and appreciation and thanks also go to:

- Norm Stamper and Barney Oldham for providing law enforcement's view of violence in the community
- Troy Armstrong, Elgie Bellizio, Sharrell Blakeley and V. C. League for their informative panel presentations
- Bob Wiegel for making his presentation on Child Abuse Screening and Treatment System on such short notice
- Cecil Steppe for his inspiring talk on constituency building for probation

- Bob Fredricks and Greg Drilling for increasing our knowledge of alcohol abuse programs
- Mike Cardiff for his facilitation expertise and for being “equipment manager”

And finally, sincere appreciation goes to all of the workshop participants for contributing their time and sharing their expertise (see appendix for complete list).

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INTRODUCTION

This publication is the product of the Transfer of Knowledge Workshop on "Violence in the Community: Prevention and Intervention Strategies for High Risk Families and Youth," held in San Diego December 5-7, 1984. It offers a glimpse of what California's prevention experts do today and dream of doing tomorrow to reduce juvenile delinquency, crime and violence.

This transfer of knowledge workshop was one in a series of such workshops, cosponsored by the Department of the Youth Authority and the Office of Criminal Justice Planning. The purpose of these workshops is the exchange of information and clarification of key issues relevant to the prevention of delinquency, crime and violence.

Approximately 40 people representing the courts, law enforcement, probation, education and community-based prevention met in San Diego to share information and experiences in the areas of community violence prevention. Two and a half intensive days of listening and interacting enhanced individual knowledge and the collective ability to effect community prevention. The beginnings of an information exchange and support network were created.

The "Violence in the Community" workshop facilitated the transfer of knowledge via a combination of didactic and interactive methods. In the Keynote Address, Brooke Allison provided a statewide overview of community violence prevention efforts statewide. For the remainder of the workshop, group discussion of key issues alternated with in-depth presentations on exemplary prevention programs.

The second day began with a panel presentation that provided a cursory view of a broad range of perspectives on violence in California's communities, from changes in child abuse and day-care legislation to the school team approach to preventing teen drug abuse. Luncheon and dinner speakers also provided considerable "food for thought."

At the final session, Brooke Allison presented a summary of the workshop, including the concerns and needs expressed during presentations, formal deliberations and informal discussions.

The material presented in this narrative approximates that of the actual workshop. While some liberties are taken in the interest of brevity, the substance of the presentations and the result of the interactive sessions remain true. For the workshop program and a list of participants, please refer to the Appendices Section.

VIOLENCE IN THE COMMUNITY: A STATEWIDE OVERVIEW*

When we deal with the problem of delinquency and violence, their causes and community prevention, we're dealing with almost every aspect of the human condition — from the child developmental issues through the entire range of social and cultural conditions within which and from which an individual learns. Thus, it is difficult and critical work we do when we set out to comprehend violence in our communities.

This workshop is of special significance because the prevention of violence in general is best approached as a community problem. Within the community reside the motivation and the solutions, the creative resources, to accomplish prevention. It is at the community level that the fear and experience of victimization and the reality of loss takes place. It is here, also, where access to troubled youth and troubled institutions can be found.

Further, a prime breeding ground for violence of all types (in the home or in the back alley) is an apathetic community lacking in cohesiveness, collective purpose and concerted action, whose institutions have weakened and become dysfunctional. Thus, the very act of bringing the community together to grapple with the problem and share expertise is an important preventive step.

The U.S. Department of Justice estimates that 6 million people will be victimized this year by crimes of violence across the nation. Last year in California, violent crimes alone numbered about 200,000, a disproportionate share of which were committed by persons under 25.

Official reports tell us that over 13,000 women were raped and about 126,000 children were abused in California in 1983. (This, while we know that both of these crimes are vastly unreported.) There is no official compilation of national data on the incidence of domestic violence, but the best scientific surveys estimate that two to four and one-half million kids are abused every year across the county, and about 50 million women will be beaten sometime during their life by the man they live with.

So much violence. Why? Is violence embedded in the nature of being human, or, do the reasons for our violence lie in our social and cultural conditions? Perhaps the U.S. has the distinction of being the most violent of the western, industrialized democracies — not because as a people we're born more violent than people in Canada or Great Britain — but because certain

*Taken from the keynote address delivered by Brooke Allison, Violence Prevention Consultant and former Director of the Commission on Crime Control and Violence Prevention.

conditions have encouraged violence. This is, of course, the more hopeful perspective. Such conditions, being human made, can be remade.

The causes of delinquency, crime and violence are many. No simple answers exist to ensure their prevention. Some causes hold more preventive promise than others, however. Accordingly, this workshop emphasizes drug and alcohol abuse, schools and educational factors, self-esteem, economic issues and family violence.

The prevention of violence can be accomplished on three levels. Primary prevention approaches seek to prevent the violence from happening in the first place or at least prevent it from developing into a life pattern of behavior. These strategies are often educational, such as the child abuse prevention programs which teach children the difference between good and bad touch, how and when to say no, and when and where to seek help. Primary prevention also has to do with the mitigation of the social and economic stresses known to provide a fertile climate for violence.

Secondary prevention involves stopping the violence once it has started, intervening to change the cycle with crises intervention, temporary shelters, treatment and counseling services, etc. Tertiary prevention refers mainly to target hardening and incarceration.

Prevention can and is being accomplished on all three levels throughout California. Some excellent programs presented during the workshop are detailed later in this publication. A few more program examples are included in the following discussion of some important violence causal factors.

• **Drugs and Alcohol**

Drugs are strongly associated with violence of all types. Alcohol is the drug most often related to violence (in two-thirds of documented violent instances, alcohol is present), probably because it's the drug of common usage. The pharmacological properties of other depressant drugs, amphetamines and PCP are also highly conducive to violence given other trigger factors (e.g., vulnerable, weak personality system; volatile-approving environment or culture; high dosage and frequent usage).

One excellent primary prevention drug abuse program is the *Dis 'N Dat* curriculum. Used since 1978 by the San Juan School District in Sacramento for grades K through 12, it provides a sequential program in substance use and abuse. Services include classroom activities to teach responsible use of substances; strategies to promote self-esteem, personal responsibility, leadership ability, decision-making and coping; and teacher in-service training in use of materials.

• Schools

Research indicates a connection between the education system, school experience and delinquency. Poor academic achievement and school performance are related to both misbehavior in school and to delinquency. The strongest predictors of delinquency are academic failure, low self-esteem, lack of consistent school rules, alienation from mainstream values, and commitment to delinquent peers.

In addition, success in school is important to personal feelings of well-being and to the potential for job success. The *Children's Creative Project* in Santa Barbara enables children who have somehow failed in school to find some success using the arts. The Youth Authority has funded a portion of this project and reported that art seems to be an excellent medium for building self-esteem, especially for learning-handicapped youth and those with pre-delinquent tendencies. An evaluation of participating children after a 10-week art therapy program showed a significant improvement in self-initiative, self-image, attention span, socialization skills and cooperation.

Another excellent program is *Project Together* at George Washington High School in South Central Los Angeles, which has a student body that is 90% Black and 10% Hispanic. The original program concept was developed by students enrolled in a social studies class who observed that peer pressure could be a powerful, positive force within school and the community. They decided to rally other young people to confront, and work to reduce, the problems surrounding them.

Since the program's inception in 1979, the students (with considerable support from school administration) have adopted the theme "we are family" and have developed a peer counseling corps, human relations club, student court, school beautification effort, tutoring corps, school development program dealing with student-teacher relations, and a variety of community service activities. None of these received special funding; they are being implemented within existing resources.

• Economic Issues and Institutional Racism

While violence cuts across all class lines, it is highest among the lower socioeconomic ranks. Arrest and crime rates are highest among minorities who are over-represented in the ranks of the poor. All of the negative conditions of poverty are intensified by the effects of institutional racism for racial and ethnic minorities who experience the highest unemployment rates; face discrimination in their search for employment; live under the highly stressful conditions in high crime urban ghettos; and, for those who are arrested, receive differential treatment by the justice system. Obviously, one important preventive is the enhancement of economic opportunity.

Y.O.U. (Youth Opportunities Unlimited) in Los Angeles is especially noteworthy because of its long track record (since 1973) of finding summer jobs and employee training for youth in private industry. Since the inception of the program, 80,504 jobs have been located for high school youths. The program also distributes job requests to students in high schools, continuation schools, occupation and skill centers, and colleges.

Si Se Puede in San Jose is a program so comprehensive in its preventive potential that it is difficult to categorize. It is, however, a clear and powerful example of what a unified and motivated community can do to solve inner-city problems, including the reduction of youth crime and violence. *Si Se Puede* is Spanish for "it can be done."

The key workers are youth hired out of the inner-city and placed at school/neighborhood sites to work with schools, governmental and social service agencies, law enforcement, community based organizations, and neighborhood youth and adults (including gang members). Goals include: to enhance community development by identifying problems and implementing action plans; further interagency cooperation by holding interagency meetings and cosponsored activities; and to provide student support services emphasizing primary prevention of delinquent behaviors and improvement of school attendance and academic achievement, including building student self-esteem.

Initial analysis of the program by San Jose Police Department indicates that during their first year, *Si Se Puede* succeeded in reducing crime by 15% and truancy by 50% in the target areas.

• **Family Violence**

For many, home and family represent violence and pain. It is estimated that 60% of all marriages today contain some spousal violence; and up to four and one-half million children are abused every year.

Nowhere is it more apparent that violence begets violence than with child abuse. It is within the family context that a person first learns, or fails to learn, the values, rules, attitudes and skills necessary for functioning in society. Here a child acquires a sense of self and self worth and forms the primary bonds which, to a considerable extent, determine the nature and quality of subsequent social relations.

It comes as little surprise, then, that violence at the hands of one's parents does serious damage to a child's psychological and social development. The research is clear: a strong relationship exists between child abuse and

subsequent criminality. Today's abuse victim is tomorrow's victimizer — be he Charles Manson, David Carpenter or Alex Cabarga.

In addition, while not all abused kids become abusing parents, most abusing parents were abused as children. Thus, the violence training cycle is perpetuated.

The relationship between abuse and delinquency is an area where a little creative attention and funding are likely to pay high dividends in the prevention of crime and violence. Yet, no formal criminal justice system program exists to address the unique needs of the abused delinquent or his/her adult counterpart.

Numerous programs, however, operate across California to prevent and intervene on behalf of the abused child. The diverse range of programs includes perinatal attempts to identify at-risk families and mitigate the risk such as San Francisco General Hospital's *Infant-Parent Program*. The *Emergency Respite and Day Care Program* in San Mateo provides respite service and in-home parenting training, and the *Foothill Family Service* in Pasadena combines diagnostic assessment of abusive parents and abused children with a variety of therapeutic counseling and a grandparent-infant care center.

The San Jose based *Parents United* emphasizes rehabilitation for the perpetrator through family-oriented, long-term counseling. The Child Assault Prevention (CAP) programs operating around California teach kids how to prevent their own victimization. The list goes on and on...

We've come a long way in the last few years toward making child abuse prevention the priority it must be. However, much remains to be done to make practical use of what we know about its relationship to other crimes and violence.

We must not be discouraged by the enormity of the violence prevention problem. Talmudic wisdom reminds us that "none is required to complete the entire task." We don't have to solve the entire problem. Every effort makes a difference. Of course, the Talmud goes on to admonish that while

"None is required to complete the task;
neither is anyone allowed to relinquish it."

VIOLENCE IN THE COMMUNITY PANEL PRESENTATION

The four presentations highlighted below were made in panel format, allowing coverage of a broad range of programs and issues.

Troy Armstrong, Ph.D.
School Safety Law Enforcement Specialist
National School Safety Center

Federally funded by the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention, the National School Safety Center (NSSC) was created to take a leadership role in the prevention of school violence. Toward that end, NSSC functions as a clearinghouse to collect, assess and disseminate information on model programs. In addition, their multidisciplinary staff will, upon formal request, provide specific types of technical assistance.

Currently there are three program categories receiving special national attention. First are the programs that address the issue of perimeter control. Since much school crime is committed by campus intruders, programs that control entrance to the campus are considered fundamental to prevention efforts.

The second category is replication of successful gang prevention programs. "*Build, Inc.*" of Chicago, for example, stresses the importance of preventing youth from joining gangs in the first place by intervening early in their educational and socializational development.

The third category receiving attention includes programs that address risk management on campus. These programs seek to monitor, manage and intervene effectively with high-risk youth on campus, be those youth predelinquent or delinquents moving back into the mainstream from a detention facility.

Sharrell Blakeley, Chief
Adoptions Branch
Department of Social Services

The functions of the Department of Social Services (DSS) concerning abused and neglected children were reviewed. A highlight of the presentation was an overview of Assembly Bill 14 (Presley), the bill to redesign the county

welfare system with regard to intrafamilial child abuse and neglect. This law made "big changes in the private life within the public system," because it mandated purposive, time-limited movement toward the goal of finding a permanent, safe home for the abused child. The abusing family may receive up to 18 months of in-home help to make home life functional and non-abusive, and up to 18 months of out-of-home service (i.e., foster care). At the end of the assistance period, a permanency planning hearing reunites the child with his/her parents or terminates parental rights and finds a permanent out-of-home placement for the child.

The Office of Child Abuse Prevention (OCAP) operates within the DSS. Funded in the amount of approximately \$30 million per year, its monies go to child abuse and neglect prevention and intervention programs throughout California. A \$4 charge on birth certificates nets an additional \$2 million that is disbursed locally on a per capita basis for innovative child abuse prevention programs.

Last year's income tax form contained, for the first time, a "check-off" box allowing taxpayers to contribute \$1 to the Children's Trust Fund. This year, OCAP used these monies to fund: (1) a state-of-the-art assessment of child abuse prevention and intervention services and programs in California; (2) an information dissemination project for self-help, abuse-oriented programs; and (3) four perinatal abuse programs, including their evaluation.

**Elgie Bellizio, Director
Sunrise House**

Three philosophical issues are especially worthy of mention, even though they have been mentioned earlier: First, alcohol is a drug, and it is the drug most often associated with violence in the community. Second, drugs and violence are strongly associated — an increase in drug usage portends an increase in all forms of violence. Third, an increase in both drugs and violence in a given community is often a function of social stresses such as racial tensions or an economic downturn.

Sunrise House in Salinas operates a successful drug abuse prevention and intervention program. This community based program is sponsored by seven agencies including the schools and emphasizes counseling and other treatment early in the drug abusing pattern. They spend a great deal of time educating the public, especially youth in school, on the perils and realities of substance abuse.

Through a juvenile delinquency prevention grant, Sunrise House

provides a full-time crisis intervention specialist to work at Alisal High School. The specialist supervises the Crisis Resolution Team on campus and assists school administrators in the overall goal of reducing crime and violence on campus. In addition, each school has a team trained to handle drug related situations and work closely with families.

Sunrise House also provides the vehicle for services during the months school is not in session.

V. C. League, Executive Director
U.S. Department of Education
Region 8-West
Training & Development Center

School Team Approach is a federally funded program with a multidisciplinary approach to prevent and reduce drug abuse and other disruptive behavior in schools. The Region 8 Training & Development Center offers technical assistance to school administrators, staff and faculty who need help controlling and preventing antisocial behavior on campus.

Two concerns with regard to prevention programming in general need to be considered. First, it is critical to continue a successful program. All too often it seems, a program makes some changes, reduces the problem somewhat, and then goes out of business. Soon the problem resurfaces, but now those seeking to solve it must start over. Just as "we don't stop teaching math and English just because the class of '84 graduates," we must maintain those programs that work.

Second, any prevention program that wants to make a lasting difference must stay committed over the long haul. Closely related to the tendency to discard successful programming is our penchant for forgetting the successes of the past. We must learn from the past and reactivate what worked before.

PROGRAM PRESENTATIONS

Without exception, the program models described in this narrative offer excellent examples of what California is accomplishing in terms of community-based violence prevention. Each works well for reasons unique to its own content, geographic base and special brand of technical competence. However, these programs also share several ingredients that provide additional clues to their success.

Basically, each program:

- is truly community-based because it respects and reflects the needs and sensitivities of the population it serves — be that population a particular ethnic group, a school's student body or a geographic area made community by the common experience of poverty;
- is informed, developed and staffed by the very people who use its services and their representatives;
- utilizes and depends upon a trained, volunteer workforce;
- survives on a minimum of outside funding and a maximum of community resources — in terms of dollars, creativity and energy;
- dedicates itself to long-range prevention efforts and to continuous programming over time rather than mere crisis intervention;
- dispenses a diversity of services and preventive strategies; and
- benefits from the creative energy and charismatic dedication of a few.

It's clear, a handful of people with a good idea can make a big difference. The remainder of this section details the programs presented at the workshop. It is hoped that these program examples will create a sense of what's possible and, perhaps inspire similar violence prevention action in other communities. The programs presented at the workshop are but a small sampling of what exists in California. These programs are offered as models, all or parts of which might be tailored to the special needs of other communities and their concerns.

PARA LOS NINOS (For the Children)

Violence is best prevented by dealing with its most primary causal factors — those that affect an individual first and most deeply. The family — the lessons learned and the care experienced within it — is the very foundation of an individual's future.

Thus, it is difficult to imagine anything more damaging to the human psyche than abuse and neglect at the hands of one's parents or primary caretakers. Additionally, an abused child learns that abusiveness is an appropriate way of solving conflict and a means of bolstering a seriously damaged self-image.

It should come as little surprise, then, that child abuse and delinquency are related. Research findings show child abuse to be a factor in the antisocial and violent behavior of up to 85% of all delinquents. Today's victim is tomorrow's victimizer.

Troubled families do not exist in a vacuum; they are often the product of troubled social conditions. Thus, violence within the family often stems from external stress factors such as poverty, racism, social isolation, lack of a prosocial support network and inadequate access to the rewards of the mainstream social institutions. Both the dynamics within the family and those generated in interaction with external environmental stresses must be addressed to prevent child abuse and neglect.

Para Los Ninos exists for the hundreds of abused and neglected children growing up in the skid row area of Los Angeles. By providing a child care and development center for infants and young children, it offers an alternative to their abusive home experience and an environment that nurtures their spirit and development.

This program attempts to mitigate the detrimental impact of the skid row environment by providing food, shelter, clothing, mental and physical health counseling, parenting education, and assistance in securing social service support.

One of the *Para Los Ninos* children, an adult now, works as a peer counselor with other kids who, without help, are bound for a career of crime and violence, as he once was. His own case history documented both the problem and the solution. He told of his experiences as a gang member and leader, and of the difference *Para Los Ninos* made in his life on many levels. Not quickly or magically, but over time, the counseling, recreational activities, positive role-models and finally, employment helping others like himself, provided him with the chance to change. Without hesitation, he

praised Tanya Tull, founder and director of Para Los Ninos as the one factor in his life that made the difference. "She never gave up on me — whenever I failed, she was there to insist that I try again, to see that I did it right the next time."

A presentation by another staff member included some very vivid descriptions of what life is like on skid row in Los Angeles. This helped to explain why Para Los Ninos is considered an "oasis in the desert."

Program Purpose:

- 1) To serve the needs of children growing up in the decaying environment of Los Angeles' skid row by providing child care and development assistance;
- 2) To address the prevention of child physical and emotional abuse and neglect, child sexual abuse, pre-gang and teenage delinquency, and wife abuse.

Target Population:

The families of the approximately 1,000 infants, children and youth living in the transient and residential hotels of skid row and the central business district of Los Angeles. A majority of the families are Hispanic, although growing numbers of Blacks and Caucasians are being served. Fifty percent of the families are headed by a single parent. A majority of the mothers are young, many in their teens. Parents are either unemployed, under-employed, or on welfare.

Program Content:

- 1) Child Care and Development Center — includes mandatory parent participation, counseling and parenting education;
- 2) Latch-Key Child Care Center — offers "protective services" for high risk children between the ages of 5 and 9 years, before and after school and all day during vacations. Included here are coordination of treatment efforts with doctors, schools and service agencies; homework and tutorial assistance; group and individual counseling; and enrichment activities such as art, drama, music and field trips;
- 3) Youth Service Center — serves 200 children between the ages of seven and seventeen with counseling, back-to-school assistance for drop-outs, a first offenders program, drug abuse education and counseling, health

and pregnancy counseling, and sports activities;

- 4) Family Crisis Center — services provided as needed and in conjunction with other programs. Its main function is community outreach, crisis intervention, resource and referral, supplementary groceries, emergency food and shelter, rent subsidy and money management.

Staff Support:

The Executive Director oversees all program components and works with an administrative team composed of the director of each component, two social workers and a development director. There are fifty full-time employees and a part-time support staff composed of volunteers, elderly and student interns.

For further information, please contact:

Tanya Tull, Executive Director
Para Los Ninos Youth Service Bureau
845 East Sixth Street
Los Angeles, CA 90021
(213) 623-8449

CONFLICT RESOLUTION TEAM

Violence on school campuses is cause for considerable public concern for several reasons. Fear of violence alone interferes with the educational process and creates a climate detrimental to quality instruction, scholarship and citizenship. The damage done to person and property by on-campus violence is costly in both material and psychic terms. A school with its share of crime and violence can be a virtual training ground for delinquency. Furthermore, academic failure is closely related to juvenile crime and delinquency.

Schools — students, administrators and faculty — can do much to curb violent conditions on campus, encourage responsible, prosocial behavior and create a setting that fosters academic success. Research tells us that students respond favorably to clearly defined, consistently enforced rules, and that lack of meaningful involvement in the school decision-making, rule-defining process alienates students and discourages feelings of responsibility toward school property.

When they perceive themselves as powerless, studies show that students tend to engage in disruptive behavior to gain a sense of personal control. The influence of peer pressure can be used on campus for prosocial as well as

antisocial results. Finally, studies show that the policies and standards set by the school principal have considerable impact on levels of school crime.

The *Conflict Resolution Team* model utilized by Alisal High School in Salinas, California, is an excellent example of violence prevention at work on campus. The program was initiated in 1977 following the knifing death of a 15-year-old student on the front steps of the school.

This program provides a rational process for resolving conflict between individuals or among student groups or gangs. It offers a viable alternative to the traditional school disciplinary policy which is based on automatic suspension.

To date, the CRT program has had a tremendous effect upon the overall school climate. As a result, Alisal High School has not experienced a group confrontation since the inception of the program, and many individual conflicts have been likewise reconciled before they became serious altercations.

It should be noted that Alisal High School employs a number of prevention programs and strategies in addition to that provided by its *Conflict Resolution Team*. Alisal's administration believes that this combination of approaches is the key to Alisal's success in reducing the violence on its campus and the delinquency potential of its students.

Program Purpose:

To provide an alternative to the traditional school disciplinary policy of automatic suspension using a rational process to:

- 1) reduce the number of conflict situations arising on campus;
- 2) reduce tension among students and staff;
- 3) improve the overall climate of the campus; and
- 4) promote harmony and understanding among the various ethnic groups composing the student body.

Target Population:

Youth in conflict at Alisal High School in Salinas, be they individuals, groups of students or gang members.

Program Content:

Student members are selected by a formal interview process, the main criterion being the student's desire to help reduce conflict on campus.

Selected students attend a three-day training workshop off-campus. The focus of this training is creating team unity and building positive communication and resolution facilitation skills. Training then continues as long as the student remains on the team. In twice monthly meetings, skills are sharpened, cases discussed and additional information dispersed, e.g., drug use and abuse.

Teams of students then facilitate the resolution of conflicts that arise on campus. Follow-through and crisis intervention using long-term counseling with student and family is provided when needed.

Staff Support:

The Conflict Resolution Team is composed of a minimum of thirty students and five adult staff advisors. The adult staff advisors are two counselors, one conflict intervention specialist, a community/school advisor, an on-campus probation officer, and an administrator. Presently, Alisal has 63 trained student members, comprising six teams.

For further information, please contact:

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Alisal High School
777 Williams Road
Salinas, CA 93905
(408) 424-2811

PEOPLE REACHING OUT (PRO)

As mentioned throughout this narrative, troubled children become troubled adults; and troubled children often come from families and communities in trouble because of drug and alcohol abuse.

In 1980, over 400 concerned residents of a Sacramento suburb attended a town hall meeting. They came together to look for ways to help the youth and families in their community who were troubled by drug abuse.

As a result, they found their community had many drug and alcohol related questions and needs and no existing community agency to offer answers and assistance. Out of this void, *People Reaching Out* was established to give young people and their parents a place to turn to for counseling and information.

Studies in the area of violence causation have documented repeatedly the strong association between alcohol and violent behavior. In two-thirds of violent criminal activity, alcohol is a related, if not a single, causal factor. Drug and alcohol abuse is present in the majority of child and spousal abuse cases.

Clearly, preventing our young people from abusing drugs plays a critical role in reducing violence in our community. Research tells us that one of the general causes of violence is community apathy and a lack of community cohesiveness and purpose. Additionally, children who suffer from feelings of powerlessness and low self-esteem are prime candidates for drug abuse.

People Reaching Out is a true grassroots organization staffed by well-trained volunteer paraprofessional counselors. All services are provided free of charge. This program is an example of just what can be done to meet the needs of a community when there are people willing to volunteer their time and energies to meet those needs.

In addition, peer youth counselors, in the act of helping others, do much to prevent their own abuse of drugs. In a way, their work helps them intervene therapeutically on their own behalf as they educate themselves about the perils of abuse and enhance their esteem through their worthwhile efforts on behalf of others.

Program Purpose:

To provide supportive, educational and referral services dealing with the emotional and physical well-being of youth and their families, with an emphasis on drug and alcohol education and counseling.

Target Population:

Youth and their families, already in need of assistance or to prevent that need.

Program Content:

Prevention activities include the following:

- *Educational Materials* on the topics of drug and alcohol abuse, parenting, communication and preventive care are widely distributed and made available to anyone free of charge.
- *Monthly Community Forums* covering a broad range of topics are open to the public free of charge. Speakers include highly skilled professionals in the areas of substance abuse, education, psychology and health.

- *Junior and Senior High School Programs* include Decision Making Assemblies where high school students present a dramatic program for junior high students with follow-up discussions concerning peer pressure, refusal skills, factual information and enhancement of decision-making skills.
- *Athlete-to-Athlete Program* is designed to help high school athletes, their parents and coaches effectively address the drug/alcohol issues. Professional and college athletes and coaches are utilized to increase awareness of drugs and alcohol and to create healthy attitudes and encourage responsible choices.
- *Speakers Bureau* provides speakers to inform the community of the services available at the PRO Center, i.e., counseling, information and referral.
- *Parent Education Classes* are provided to enhance family relationships. Generally cosponsored by the school district or another county agency, classes are taught by professionals in the areas of communication, discipline and parenting skills with a focus on adolescents.

Intervention activities include:

- *Paraprofessional Counseling* by well-trained volunteers is provided free of charge to individuals or families by telephone, appointment and also on a drop-in basis.
- *Youth and Parent Rap Groups* are offered frequently for those who want to share common experiences, problems, fears, etc., with their peers. These sessions are facilitated by trained paraprofessional counselors.
- *Referrals* are made by the counselors if additional care and/or services are needed beyond the scope of prevention and/or early intervention.

Staff Support:

People Reaching Out is staffed by well-trained volunteer paraprofessional counselors, a professional advisor, and administrative support of a paid executive director, two assistant directors, and an administrative assistant.

For further information, please contact:

Kathy Hill, Executive Director
People Reaching Out
2508 Garfield Avenue, Suite H
Carmichael, CA 958608
(916) 971-3300

FAMILY VIOLENCE

Home and family can be dangerous, especially for the women and children who must live there. Yet, only recently has family violence come out from "behind closed doors," to be viewed as a crime of violence.

Approximately 50% of adult women will be battered at some time in their lives; 24 million women are estimated to have been severely beaten at least once by men with whom they live. Sixty percent of all marriages today are estimated to contain some violence.

Physical abuse usually escalates over time in both frequency and severity. In California, for example, criminal statistics show that about one-third of all female homicide victims are killed by their husbands. While a battered woman is most often injured physically, domestic violence takes other forms as well, including insults, "slapping-around," mistreatment or intimidation.

The two domestic violence programs detailed below generally focus on the battered women. The abuse of children is not the central issue; however, it is one of considerable peripheral concern to these programs because children who watch violence within their families are negatively affected by it.

As they watch their parents fight, children learn to fight. They learn that violence is an acceptable way to solve a problem and, perhaps, even learn to believe that women deserve to be hit. Further, the existence of spousal abuse is often an indication that the children within the family are being or will be battered as well.

As always, effective violence prevention involves long-term educational efforts to change attitudes, values and ultimately behavior; immediate crisis intervention; and short-term counseling and/or treatment for both abuser and abused. The services provided by the *Family Violence Project* and *Women Escaping A Violent Environment (W.E.A.V.E.)* overlap to some extent but have different prevention emphasis. Together these two programs provide an example of the wide range of services and educational efforts needed to halt the cycle of domestic violence.

Family Violence Project

The Family Violence Project of San Francisco began in March of 1980 as a federal demonstration project designed to improve the criminal justice system's response to victims of domestic violence and to educate the Bay Area community to the seriousness of domestic violence. To that end, the project has developed and implemented model domestic violence policies and procedures in all branches of the justice system, including police, prosecution, probation, and diversion.

The project presentation focused on their public education/prevention efforts in San Francisco's Latino and Asian Pacific Island communities. Key to such efforts is the need to tailor both the content of the educational materials and the organizing approach to the cultural values and practices of the ethnic/racial group to be reached. Community leaders and activists must be consulted and included in the initial planning stages as well as the ongoing implementation of any prevention program.

These educational efforts included:

- 1) A Domestic Violence Community Conference which targeted the Pacific-Asian community; and
- 2) Educational outreach to the Latino community which resulted in the design and mass distribution of a culturally appropriate and effective brochure on domestic violence.

Program Purpose:

Advocacy for victims of domestic violence, community education and outreach.

Target Population:

City and county of San Francisco

Program Content:

The project provides comprehensive direct services to victims and conducts extensive community education and outreach efforts. Educational programs and materials are tailored to the cultural values and practices of the ethnic or racial group to be reached.

Staff Support:

Staff at the Center consists of an Executive Director, Training Coordinator, Medical Services Unit Director, Administrative Assistant, Coordinator of Victim Services, three Victim Advocates/Counselors, Men's

Program Coordinator (half-time) and student interns to supplement the counseling staff.

For further information, please contact:

Valerie Chow-Bush or Rosario Oliva
Family Violence Project
850 Bryant Street
San Francisco, CA 94103
(415) 552-6554

Women Escaping a Violent Environment (W.E.A.V.E.)

W.E.A.V.E. is a family violence program in Sacramento, California.

Services cover the spectrum from crisis intervention to an emergency shelter for the battered woman and her children to counseling for both batterers and battered. W.E.A.V.E. also spends considerable time educating the community regarding the causes of and alternatives to domestic violence.

Closely tied to W.E.A.V.E.'s work with spousal abuse is their groundbreaking Teen Violence Project. The project evolved from research findings that 28% of the female students surveyed in the Sacramento area had experienced violence in dating situations, ranging from pushing and shoving to full-fledged beating.

The Teen Violence Project, still in its early stages, will offer peer counseling to teen batterers and the battered and an in-depth course curriculum on family violence tailored for high school students. As noted by its funding agency, Ms. Foundation, the Teen Violence Project is "compellingly proactive." Here is an opportunity to intervene early to halt the cycle of abuse that family violence portends.

Program Purpose:

To provide assistance to families experiencing violence in the home.

Target Population:

Families in the Sacramento area involved in domestic violence.

Program Content:

- 1) A 24-hour telephone hot line which provides crisis intervention, counseling and referral services.

- 2) Shelter, counseling and advocacy for battered women and their children.
- 3) A children's program offering child abuse/neglect assessment and intervention; tutoring activities; arts, crafts and recreation; positive parenting groups; and family counseling.
- 4) Emergency transportation, food and clothing.
- 5) Individual and group positive anger control counseling for the abuser.
- 6) Individual and group counseling for nonsheltered battered women; and
- 7) Community education.

Staff Support:

The executive director administers all components of the program and oversees the efforts of five counselors, two advocates, two children's workers, the program coordinator who supervises direct service volunteers and interns, and the resource and development coordinator who is in charge of fund raising volunteers.

For further information, please contact:

Gail Jones, Executive Director

W.E.A.V.E.

P.O. Box 161356

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(916) 448-2321

ADDITIONAL PRESENTATIONS

Child Abuse Screening & Treatment System (CASTS)

It is believed that 80% to 90% of the men and women in our state prisons were physically or sexually abused when they were children. If those figures are correct, it would seem reasonable to assume that there is a vital link between child abuse and crime and delinquency. It would also be reasonable to assume that at some point in time, many of those men and women passed through the gates of the juvenile justice system as delinquents.

Here, then, lies an important preventive edge. If those delinquents who have been abused can be identified when they first enter the juvenile justice system, it may be possible to provide the abuse-specific treatment and intervention that could turn around their violent behavior patterns. This is the assumption behind the purpose of the *Child Abuse Screening and Treatment System (CASTS)* developed and implemented by Santa Clara County's Probation Department. As far as can be determined, this program is the only one of its kind in California.

Since its inception two years ago, CASTS has identified 2,000 abused delinquents. For this group of delinquents, Santa Clara County Probation Department then makes an official report of the abuse, works with community agencies to set up an appropriate treatment program and family counseling regime, and recommends abuse-related attention by law enforcement, courts and district attorney's office.

The purposes of the CASTS Program are:

- 1) To question *each and every* minor who enters the juvenile justice system in Santa Clara County to find out if they are or were the victims of physical or sexual abuse.
- 2) To put an end to the abuse that is occurring.
- 3) To call into action public and private resources, support systems, etc., that can help the minor and, whenever appropriate, the minor's parents.
- 4) To bring to the attention of law enforcement and the courts the perpetrators of the abuse.
- 5) To inform the court regarding the minor's problem so that it can be made fully aware of the possible causal connection between the abuse the minor has received and the minor's delinquent behavior.

- 6) To collect data for research for studying the relationships between child abuse and crime and delinquency.

In the past, we have used a rather generalized approach in counseling and treating those delinquents who come to our attention. If, however, we can more accurately diagnose the underlying causes of a minor's delinquency, we can more intelligently focus in on a treatment program that can deal with the minor's specific problem. In effect, we shouldn't be prescribing "insulin" when the problem really calls for "penicillin."

There is a large number of people who have come forward years after they were abused and revealed that they were victims of child abuse. Questioned as to why they did not come forward sooner, they commonly reply, "No one ever asked me." There are few things that better point out our failure to deal effectively with child abuse than one simple statement. "*No one ever asked me.*" It is of the utmost importance that we "*start asking.*"

For further information, please contact:

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Santa Clara County Probation
840 Guadalupe Parkway
San Jose, CA 95110
(408) 299-2141

San Diego County Probation Dept.

Many of the difficulties affecting attempts at delinquency prevention and intervention stem from inadequate or nonexistent communication and coordination within criminal justice and among justice system professionals and the community. The need to stimulate effective interaction and build an informed public constituency prompted the U.S. Department of Justice and the National Institute of Corrections to fund the mobilization of such efforts in California. The California Probation, Parole and Correctional Association (CPPCA) requested and received an NIC Technical Assistance grant and selected probation departments in San Diego and Los Angeles for the pilot.

San Diego Probation administration recognized the need to sell the value of probation services to the community and the need to develop responsible ways of informing and involving the public and decision makers. They realized that before a department can develop informed community support, it must first define its own mission and understand its total environment. This is not an easy task; it demands a commitment of time and resources. San Diego Probation Department made that commitment and is beginning to see

itself in a new light as a more valuable service.

The Department now has new avenues of communication with the public. The Chief Probation Officer has more direct involvement with the community, and the department is continuing to search for ways to build its constituency. Employees are seen as constituents and as individuals who have talents beyond their job assignments. These untapped human resources are beginning to be used, appreciated and publicly recognized.

For further information, please contact:

Cecil H. Steppe, Chief Probation Officer
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San Diego, CA 92123
(619) 560-3154

Joan B. Kroc Foundation-Operation Cork

Alcohol is present in up to two-thirds of all violent situations, including those that take place within the family. While alcohol is rarely a single or sufficient cause, it is an important disinhibiting factor and often functions as an excuse or justification for child abuse.

Chemical dependency within the family has considerable negative influence upon that family's abusive dynamic. Thus, successful intervention to stop child abuse must first or concomitantly intervene to stop the misuse of alcohol and other drugs.

COACH (Operation Cork, Child Abuse and Hazelden), just one of many programs sponsored by the Kroc Foundation's Operation Cork, addresses the connection between chemical dependency and child abuse. Hazelden is a residential alcohol treatment and education program operated by the Hazelden Foundation in Center City, Minnesota.

COACH is an informal networking group of multidisciplinary professionals and volunteers who have all participated in one of the Hazelden training programs sponsored by Operation Cork and subscribing to the following Statement of Purpose:

"We have a commitment as individuals and as professionals with an interest in child abuse, related family violence, alcohol misuse, and other chemical dependencies, to work with children and their families in a multidisciplinary fashion to develop a program of: (1) community awareness, (2) prevention, and (3) treatment, utilizing and working with self-help groups."

COACH members individually and as a group continue to work actively in the community. Operation Cork extends their support for the project by

continuing to send individuals nominated by COACH to Hazelden. When these individuals return, they are invited to join the COACH network and participate in its activities.

Sgt. Greg Drilling of the San Diego Police Department was one of the individuals nominated to participate as an observer at Hazelden. He explained to the workshop participants that he was very apprehensive about his assignment to actually live in with the program participants at Hazelden for five days. However, Sgt. Drilling indicated that it was one of the most beneficial experiences he ever had and that he came away with a tremendously increased understanding of alcohol and the causes and treatment of alcohol abuse.

For further information, please contact:

Robert Fredricks
Operation Cork
8939 Villa La Jolla Drive
San Diego, CA 92037
(619) 452-5716

SUMMARY AND RECOMMENDATIONS

The prevention work demonstrated and the expertise shared at the workshop in San Diego were truly inspirational. Representatives from the violence prevention community cogently and repeatedly voiced their concerns, needs and priority issues.

On the programmatic level, participants asked for:

- more and continually updated information about programs that work, including a central resource and referral clearinghouse and/or directory;
- help in translating into local needs and transferring to local jurisdictions program models proven successful;
- assistance in formalizing a statewide network of prevention programs and in coordinating and prioritizing local services;
- support in developing a broad public awareness of violence prevention issues and assistance in preparing and distributing educational materials for at-risk populations and services;
- advocacy for violence prevention at the state and local levels; and
- information about and access to funding sources and strategies.

On the substantive level, participants emphasized:

- the need to address environmental, social and economic factors. Services are insufficient to help individuals reduce the rate of violence in our society. Personal services must be combined with structural changes that create equal access to opportunities for education, employment and political influence;
- the fundamental, influential role played by the family. The family is the key to preventing the cycle of societal violence;

- the violence-provoking influence of mainstream cultural attitudes and values that approve violent solutions to conflict situations;
- inequitable relations between genders, children and their parents, and among classes of people; and
- the importance of self-esteem and the sense and reality of self-worth in preventing one's own victimization (including drug abuse) and tendency to abuse others.

Eleanor Roosevelt used to say that instead of despairing the darkness, she'd rather light a candle. The workshop provided evidence that many candles burn across California and offered information to assist some to burn more brightly. At the workshop's close, participants agreed they left with revitalized feelings of optimism, new facts, fresh ideas and useful contacts and resources.

The workshop was intended as a beginning exchange, the first step toward disseminating useful violence prevention information. The ultimate goal being, of course, the application of new knowledge towards preventive action.

It is hoped that this narrative will serve as a resource, and that it will motivate others to share their knowledge and to support one another in violence prevention activities across California. Toward that end, you and your community are encouraged to:

- replicate these programs, in part or in their entirety;
- educate other program activists about what you are doing and how you can help one another;
- form advocacy groups to lobby violence prevention into a priority issue;
- work with the California Youth Authority to see that this workshop report is widely disseminated and used on both the state and community level; and
- contact the Youth Authority for additional information and technical assistance regarding "Violence in the Community." (See Appendix for location of nearest office.)

It is easy to become discouraged by the multi-dimensional problem of violence and its prevention. Maybe you can take heart from the following story, which was often quoted by John Kennedy when he was faced with pessimism and inertia brought on by a difficult social problem:

A man went to his gardener and asked him to plant a tree in his back yard. "Oh no," said the gardener, "that tree will take 100 years to bear fruit." "Well, in that case," said the man, "we had better begin immediately."

Or perhaps the words of one of the workshop participants are more to the point:

"Let's just do it!"

APPENDICES

APPENDIX A

TRANSFER OF KNOWLEDGE WORKSHOP

"VIOLENCE IN THE COMMUNITY — PREVENTION AND INTERVENTION STRATEGIES FOR HIGH RISK FAMILIES AND YOUTH"

**Radisson Hotel
1433 Camino del Rio South
San Diego, CA
December 5-7, 1984**

AGENDA

Wednesday, December 5

- 11:00-1:00 p.m. Registration
- 1:00-1:30 p.m. Welcome/Introductions
Norm Stamper, Deputy Chief, San Diego Police Dept.
Ronald W. Hayes, Deputy Director, Youth Authority
Shirley Houser, Workshop Coordinator
- 1:30-2:30 p.m. Keynote Speech — Statewide Overview
Brooke Allison, Consultant
Former Executive Director to the Commission
on Crime Control and Violence Prevention
- 2:30-2:45 p.m. Introduction/Facilitator
Mike Cardiff, Youth Authority
- 2:45-3:00 BREAK
- 3:00-4:00 p.m. Individual Group Interaction (4 groups)
- 4:00-5:00 p.m. Entire Group Discussion/Wrap Up
- 5:30-6:30 p.m. No-Host Social Hour
- 6:30-8:30 p.m. DINNER (Group)
Al Howenstein, Executive Director, Office of
Criminal Justice Planning
Noreen Blonien, Assistant Director, Youth Authority
- Dinner Speaker:* Cecil Steppe, Chief Probation
Officer, San Diego County

Thursday, December 6

8:00-8:30 a.m. Coffee/Continental Breakfast

8:30-8:40 a.m. Convene
Barney Oldham, Assistant Sheriff, San Diego County

8:40-8:45 a.m. Review
Mike Cardiff, Facilitator

8:45-10:15 a.m. Panel Presentation — "A Perspective on Violence
in California Communities"
Ronald W. Hayes, Moderator

Sharrell Blakely, Dept. of Social Services
V. C. League, A. H. Training & Development Systems
Troy Armstrong, National School Safety Center
Elgie Bellizio, Sunrise House, Salinas

10:15-10:30 a.m. BREAK

10:30-12:00 noon Program Presentation #1 -
Para Los Ninos Youth Service Bureau
Tanya Tull, Executive Director

12:00-1:30 p.m. LUNCH
Speaker: Bob Fredricks, Kroc Foundation

1:45-3:00 p.m. Program Presentation #2 -
Conflict Resolution Team
Richard Tuttle, Assistant Principal
Alisal High School

3:00-3:15 p.m. BREAK

APPENDIX B

VIOLENCE IN THE COMMUNITY WORKSHOP

PLANNING COMMITTEE

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APPENDIX C

VIOLENCE IN THE COMMUNITY WORKSHOP

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Debra Mercado — Presenter
Raymond Price — Presenter

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VIOLENCE IN THE COMMUNITY WORKSHOP

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APPENDIX E

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ATSS 466-4748

Ronald W. Hayes, Deputy Director

Richard W. Tillson, Assistant Deputy Director

Regional Offices

REGION I—SAN LEANDRO

1234 E. 14th St., Ste. 201
San Leandro, CA 94577
(415) 464-1236
ATSS: 561-1236

Jack Gifford, Regional Administrator

Counties in Region I:

Alameda	Napa
Contra Costa	San Benito
Del Norte	San Francisco
Humboldt	San Mateo
Lake	Santa Clara
Marin	Santa Cruz
Mendocino	Solano
Monterey	Sonoma

REGION II—SACRAMENTO

7171 Bowling Drive, Ste. 320
Sacramento, CA 95823
(916) 427-4878
ATSS 466-4878

Edward J. Harrington, Regional Administrator

Counties in Region II:

Alpine	Madera	Sierra
Amador	Mariposa	Siskiyou
Butte	Merced	Stanislaus
Calaveras	Modoc	Sutter
Colusa	Nevada	Tehama
El Dorado	Placer	Trinity
Fresno	Plumas	Tulare
Glenn	Sacramento	Tuolumne
Kern	San Joaquin	Yolo
Kings	Shasta	Yuba
Lassen		

REGION III—GLENDALE

143 S. Glendale Avenue, Suite 305
Glendale, CA 91205
(213) 620-2450
ATSS: 640-2450

Marilyn Langford, Regional Administrator

Counties in Region III—Glendale:

Los Angeles
San Luis Obispo
Santa Barbara
Ventura

REGION III—TUSTIN

SUB-OFFICE

250 S. El Camino Real, Ste. 212
Tustin, CA 92680
(714) 558-4556
ATSS: 657-4556

Counties in Region III—

Tustin Sub-Office:

Imperial
Inyo
Mono
Orange
Riverside
San Bernardino
San Diego

APPENDIX F

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