

# Peace Promotion Momentum Team

## DRFT Plan for Resident Engagement

**Goal:** *Eradicate violence in City Heights*

**Target Population includes:** Families and children who live in City Heights, as outlined by TCE.

**Temporary Co-Chairs:** Officer David Tos  
Gerardo Montero

**Note-Taker:** Elia Ramirez

**August 7<sup>th</sup> Meeting Rep.** Elia Ramirez

**Networking Council Rep.** June

### Convening Locations and Times:

- Locations; Hoover High School  
Springfield  
Mid-City Police Station
- Include the following for attendees;  
Orientation  
Child Care
  - Tutoring for older children
  - Free, open space with computers
  - Amelia Barile Simon, County Office of Health Services offered to assist organization
- Transportation;
  - MTS for day pass (Sheila Mitra-Sarkar @ SDSU will inquire)
  - Hoover High bus (possibly)
- Advertising;
  - Bus Posters (\$10 to create, \$1 to put on bus, multiple languages)
  - Church announcements
  - Library
- Language/Translation;  
Spanish, Karen, Somalia, Burmese, Farsi, Pashtio, Arabic, Dinka, Vietnamese

(Next meeting: Wednesday, August 5<sup>th</sup> Price Charities Room 640)

### NEEDS

Many more youth leadership and sports programs to be in schools to counter the gang activity (86 gangs)

Need positive role models from youth leadership programs to share their stories in schools

Need Teacher sensitivity training

Need law enforcement to be sensitized and stop harassment

Parent Engagement in  
Programs

Transition into Middle School and High School for Parents and children

Interdiction Programs/Truancy Program (currently used)

Anti Violence Task Force

Faith Based Programs

Sports

Tutoring

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***Contributing Factors to Violence and other Negative Behavior***  
***Summary***  
***(Based on the stories shared by the youth present)***

**School Environment**

Large class sizes, distraction, negative peer influence (drugs & alcohol), Transition from middle to high school, cultural differences, language barriers (depending on when they immigrated to the United States)

Too many gangs in school, too much recruiting in the schools

Gang members may be in the same class

Lack of supervision easy targets to drugs/fights in bathrooms or in the hall

Worst year is freshman: Recruitment goes on during freshman year

Teacher/Student interaction: Feeling discriminated and stereotyped

Race Relations (READ about the Black and Latino riots at Serra High)

Ineffective truancy prevention program

Negative effects of Expulsion

Bored at school

Lack of knowledge about what is needed to get to College, SAT etc.

Not getting help on time

Not enough after school programs

**Neighborhood Environment**

Presence of gang influence and friends involved in drugs and alcohol

First the gang members try to become friends, then offer drugs, then recruit into gangs. Gang members become role models and they are willing to listen.

Not many youth leadership or sports programs in place

**Home Environment**

Cultural and language barriers: ability to communicate

Influenced by brothers (drugs and alcohol)

Domestic Violence and other issues at home

Work Commitment (faced often by young women who perform dual or multiple roles as care-givers, wage earners and students)

**Legal Environment**

Undocumented Status (Barriers and constraints to attain goals)

Excessive police harassment

## **Personal Conflicts/Issues**

Self-Image and Self-Worth

Undocumented

Stress

Unable to resolve issues

Anger (home environment and at the school)

Unable to communicate issues having no one who's willing to listen (No one listening –finding gang members listening, no positive outlet)

Gender roles in the culture of the immigrant family

Cultural differences/conflicts

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## **What turned them around?**

### **Trauma**

Watching or losing their loved one (family) or friend to drugs and violence

### **Home Environment**

Influenced by a family member to change for better

Disengaged from family

### **School/Social Environment**

Joining after school youth/leadership and sports programs, Faith Based organizations

Influenced and guided by teachers

Truancy abatement programs

Sports programs

### **Resolving Personal Conflicts/Issues**

Realizing the negative effect of the lifestyle of drugs, alcohol, gangs, etc.

Trying to overcome barriers and self-esteem

**Thank you to our Moderators Shukri Adam and Kathy Myers. We appreciate their time and talent.**

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