

**Strategy Planning Committee on Youth Violence**  
**April 7, 2008; 8:00am – 10:00am**  
**Franklin Community Center**

**1. CECILIA MOLINA, PRINCIPAL – EL PUENTE SCHOOL**

- El Puente – 20 years
- El Puente focuses on students with behavior issues
- Safety at El Puente is a **PRIORITY**
- Education at El Puente focuses on Core Subjects – it is not inferior to education offered in local high schools.
- Counseling is an important component
- Partnerships are essential to provide student services – i.e. Fighting Back, Los Compadres, Metal Health
- School Demographics
  - 90 Boys
  - 70 Girls – **DON'T FORGET THE GIRLS!**
  - Total = 160
  - 18 are gang members; Others – affiliated or think they are
  - 15 Teen Parents
    - Many girls quit the gang when they become pregnant
    - Girls are in high risk - it is important that girls stay in school – **DON'T FORGET THE GIRLS!**
  - 25:1 – Student/Teacher ratio
- School Program:
  - Does not offer vocational training
  - Offers personal (one-on-one) support
  - No sports program
  - Need jobs for students
  - No social activities – i.e. prom
- Three Semester Program based on:
  - Relationship – must be established
  - Trust – must be built
  - Understanding – must be mutual
  - GOAL
    - Return to a local high school; or
    - Remain at El Puente to succeed (a choice often made to stay away from gangs).
- To curb gang issues the program:
  - Has Adult Supervision -
  - Requires a Neutral Territory Agreement
    - Students come from Santa Barbara's Eastside and Westside, Goleta, and Carpinteria
  - Includes cameras in classrooms to promote and create safety and respect
  - Controls "Turf" Issues

- Eastside, Westside, Goleta, Carpinteria
- **Facility Suitable – a gym would be beneficial to have on-site.**

## **2. BILL BATTY – COMMUNITY RESOURCES INVENTORY REPORT**

- **Draft Completed**
- **Needs Editing**
- **Help Needed – Volunteer!**
- **Initial Finding: Limited services for target population → GAP**

## **3. FRED RAZO/MARTIN CONOLEY – SHORT TERM STRATEGY: COMMUNITY/SCHOOL RESOURCE TEAM**

- **Sub-Committee Team Profile/Educational Profile – Fred Razo**
  - **SEE REPORT NOTES**



Report.zip

- **45 Students**
  - **Student Characteristics**
  - **Measures and Outcome Goals**
  - **Community/School Resource Presentation - Neighborhood Intervention Specialist – Martin Conoley**
    - **SEE POWERPOINT PRESENTATION**
- 
- Presentation.zip
- **Core – Neighborhood Intervention Specialist/Mentor**
    - **Jobs**
    - **Education**
    - **Parenting**
    - **Counseling/Treatment**
    - **Vocational Education**
    - **Peers**
    - **Athletics**
    - **Mentoring**
    - **Los Compadres**
    - **Community Groups**
  - **Caveats: See list/PowerPoint**
    - **Accessible, affordable, noble options**
    - **30% program, 70% relationship**
    - **Individualized (not group) precision of fit services**
    - **Voluntary – minors are aware of need to change and desire it**
    - **Mentor has time to build trust, relationships, deal with issues**
    - **Kids involved agree to stop criminal activity, gang violence**

- Mentors funded by City youth funding, & to the degree possible, referral sources above (cash or in-kind)
- Focus on Latino population needs in south coast.
- Neighborhoods feel safe (law enforcement presence).
- Focus at this point
  - ONE LIFE at a time
  - ONE STUDENT at a time
  - ONE YOUTH at a time
    - With a focus on the 100/750 students in the focus group
- Jobs/Mentoring → Connection → Hope → Meaning of Self → Support → Gap Filled By Gangs → Grief → Social Class Issues → Life, Death and Emotions
- Funding
  - Public
  - Private
  - Foundation

#### 4. STRATEGIC PLANNING PROCESS

- Short Term Model – a good foundation
- Community/School Resource Team to come back with a draft, ideas, plan, next steps, comprehensive approach
  - Probation □ Education □ Law Enforcement □ Mentors □ Community Based Organizations
- QUESTION: Can we fund a full time staff person to help develop a strategic plan  
ANSWER: Issue to be considered by committee – explore need and return with response/need
- QUESTION: Youth – when and how to involve them?  
ANSWER: The Committee will discuss this issue
- Coordination – We need to figure out how to improve?
  - Services
  - Programs
  - Mentoring

**A “Planning Grant” is an option – the grant request would simply require information on:**

- Structure
- Goals and Objectives
- Funding