

## LB GRIP Advisory Council Meeting

### Minutes

Center for Working Families, 1900 Atlantic Avenue, Long Beach, CA  
 October 17, 2011 5:30 pm - 7:30 pm

### *Reducing Violence, Saving Lives*

**OUR VISION:** We envision a community where youth are highly valued, well educated, skilled for the 21<sup>st</sup> century workplace, healthy, law abiding, and contributing members of society who respect the rights of others and themselves.

**OUR MISSION:** The LB GRIP Project will create a collaboration of educational, prevention and intervention based programs, as well as related support systems designed to provide essential educational, career, social and life skills development training and services for at-risk youth and adults in the Long Beach Police Beats 4, 5, 7, 21, and 23.

### **ATTENDEES:**

#### **MEMBERS**

Almas Campos	J. Ray Vincent	Sara Pol-Lim, M.S.
Becky Gonzalez	Jeanette McAlpin	Sue Baker
Carolyn Bell	Jerlene Tatum	Tim Goddard
Cecile Walters	Jud Schoendorf	Lt. Ty Hatfield
Claudette Powers	Karen Reside	Patrick Dyson
David Wong	Kathy Berry	Rene Castro
Deborah Kearn	Ladine Chan	Rod Mills
Dr. Farah Naz Khaleghi	LaTanya Skiffer	Sandra Scott
Dr. James Saucedo	Lillian Parker	Sara Pol-Lim, M.S.
Eddie Ramos	Patrick Dyson	Sue Baker
Erik Miller	Rene Castro	Tim Goddard
Goretty Ramos	Rod Mills	Marc Rothenberg, Esq.
Hilary Rivers	Sandra Scott	MarQuitta Sutton
		Olga Skarlato

#### **STAFF/AFFILIATES**

Kezia Daniels, Teresa Gomez, Gary Lawson, Sgt. Steve Stough

#### **GUEST**

M. Yann, J. Lehman, C. Avila, U. Miller, K. Todd, C. Seagrem, O. Hernandez, D. Garvey, X. Alvarado, A. M., C. Fanco, C. Petit, . Sanders, C. Sanders, B. Meda, B. Espitia, A. Alexander, H. Blake, B. D., M. Francisco, L. Sidney

Meeting Called to order by Rene Castro at 5:40 pm.

Dr. Saucedo provided words of inspiration; he delivered a poem he wrote "Martin In Memphis."

Meeting attendees welcomed by Kezia Daniels. LB GRIP Coordinator. Self introductions were giving by attendees. Quorum was met.

# LONG BEACH GRIP PROJECT

Gang Reduction, Intervention and Prevention

## BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION/CHAIR REMARKS

Rene Castro gave an overview of the meeting agenda.

- Re-entry & Workforce development committee has been reaffirmed with the LBGRIP committee.
- Weed & Seed ended in reaffirmed with Cal GRIP
- We will be prepared to apply for grant #4 by pre-planning.
- Dr. Skiffer shared that the goal for future grant funding is to find evidence based programs and replicate them.

## Annual Meeting Updates

Rene Castro provided a brief overview and success of Annual Meeting.

Claudette Powers reviewed the GRIP Values that were developed during the annual meeting.

Values Reviewed:

*Active Listening* - paying attention to the person, listening for information and making sure you understand.

*Active Participation* - everyone participates, if you have questions, ask the person in charge, have a discussion in the meeting not in the parking lot.

*Trust* - We must trust each other, if we don't trust each other we have to talk about it.

Rene Castro reminded the advisory council that we must continue the discussion of our values.

Jerlene Tatum – due to overwhelming response at the annual meeting the Youth Engagement Subcommittee has been reactivated. At the Annual Meeting the membership determined that it is necessary for a Youth Engagement Subcommittee to be active in order to engage youth in our community.

Minutes were reviewed by membership. Motion made to approve minutes. Seconded and Passed. (MSP)

5 inactive members were removed from the council membership (S. Thomas, E. Pierson, F. Gonzales, S. Holden, A. Daniels). Motion was made to remove members, seconded, and passed unanimously. All individuals were removed in accordance with the LBGRIP bylaws.

Application for membership was submitted by Herb Blake. Blake has been an active of the Weed & Seed Workforce Development and Re-entry committee. Blake gave a brief history of himself and how he made it to Long Beach, after incarceration. Motion to accept as a new member, seconded, and passed unanimously.

Re-establish Workforce & Re-entry Subcommittee – Cecile Harris Walters gave an update on the results of the subcommittee's work. Under the Weed & Seed grant the Re-entry subcommittee exceeded its performance measures. The workforce development Expungement workshops were successful. The Re-Entry Navigator Program handout was distributed.

Ben Espitia & Herb Blake are the co-chairs of the committee.

## LONG BEACH POLICE DEPARTMENT REPORT

Lt. Hatfield gave an overview of a 7 week Youth Leadership Program that was led by LBPD. 20 youth participated in 140 hours of instructional workshops. Youth on probation is the target population. The program includes parenting classes. Brian, a 15 year old Millikan student, shared his experience of the program. Brian shared that the program helped him to change. He now goes to school and attends tutoring classes. He hangs out with a better crowd of peers. The goal is to deliver the program again in the spring. The LBPD is looking for additional funding to continue the program. LBGRIP, California Endowment and LA County probation funded the program.

**Human Dignity Program**

Youth and Gang Violence Prevention, University Education, Hate Crime Education and Response, Inter-Group Conflict Resolution, Community Harmony, Peace and Nonviolence



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Jason Lehman, LBP officer, shared with the council a program named "Why'd you stop me?". Lehman delivers 2 hour workshops to high school youth that educates the students on reasons they are or may be stopped by the police. Lehman is a volunteer presenter. A former gang member also shared his story and how he shares his story with youth to encourage them to make better decisions. Program is currently word of mouth. Teresa Gomez will put information about the workshops on the LBGRIP website.

Lt. Hatfield announced that he will be retiring in December 2011. Lt Hatfield will be being recognized at the CCEJ Dinner this month.

## **PRESENTATION – EDUCATION AND AWARENESS**

Tim Goddard presented Building Community Through Strength of Character Curriculum: An Evaluation of Violence Prevention Curricula Designed For Young Men of Color Report. A copy was distributed to the meeting attendees. Goddard gave an overview of the report. It was recommended that agencies involved in violence prevention curricula utilize the report. Kaiser Young Men of Strength Curriculum Research Report was a research study of evidence based curricula that is currently being delivered in the city of Long Beach to address needs of young men of color. Report is not a broad strategy. It is compiled to help to move partners toward using evidence based programs. The research was funded by Kaiser Permanente South Bay Medical Center Community Benefits Program.

The report, Building Community Through Strength of Character Curriculum: An Evaluation of Violence Prevention Curricula Design For Young Men of Color was distributed to the meeting attendees.

Questions asked: How does the city of Long Beach plan on using the data? How can Cal GRIP use it? Partners can be creative on how to use this report.

## **STAFF REPORT**

Teresa Gomez distributed the 2011 CalGRIP work Plan and the CalGRIP Grant Budget Report. The documents are also online.

Matt Saldana announced the opening of Beach High school; the school is designed to meet the needs of 10th, 11th, and 12<sup>th</sup> graders that are credit deficient. LBGRIP funds were used to purchase 100 LB Transit bus passes. Three students currently enrolled at Beach High School shared their experiences. It is open enrollment. The target students are students already enrolled in LBUUSD schools. Currently 340 students are enrolled. Dr. Hollie requested that the information about the school be posted on to the LBGRIP website.

## **SUBCOMMITTEE UPDATES**

### **Youth Engagement Committee**

Dr. Khaleghi reported out on the Youth Engagement subcommittee. The meeting was held on September 1, 2011 at the offices of the Community Improvement League. 7 youth from local high schools attended the meeting. The youth were able to have dialogue about how they [the youth] can provide leadership and guidance to the adults working on the issue of violence. The youth shared their experience with gangs and violence in the community. Ms. Sidney of the Community Improvement League brought one youth to the meeting and it was requested that members of the council bring youth with them for future LBGRIP meetings and the youth engagement meetings.

### **Research and Resource Committee**

Dr. Skiffer has been working with the Boys and Girls club and training youth on the SMART program.

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## **PARTNER UPDATES**

Operation Jump Start - Eric Miller thanked the council for referrals to the OJS mentoring program. Claudette Powers is one of their newest mentors. They will be distributing Christmas Trees and Wreaths for the holiday.

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

WomenShelter will be holding a candlelight vigil on domestic violence on Friday, October 21<sup>st</sup> at 6pm at the Promenade.

Centro CHA will be hosting its annual Dia De Muertos Art Fundraiser.

Big Brother Big Sisters is accepting applications for their mentoring program.

Claudette Powers closed the meeting with the following quote from a 98 year old man, "love has a bouncy quality, if you bounce it out, it bounces back."

Meeting adjourned at 7:30 pm.

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