



DURHAM



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CITY OF MEDICINE



Updated Gang Assessment

June 2014

Available Resources

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Available Resources

Durham's gang reduction strategy seeks to identify needs at the individual, family and community level. The intent is to then address these needs with a coordinated and comprehensive response.

Research-based programs that are fiscally stable and responsible and those that have strong connections to the Durham at-risk community are preferred for the response to gang activity. There is also a need for programs to collaborate effectively.

According to IBM's Smarter Cities Challenge Report, *"Durham's landscape contains more than 2,000 service organizations, of which more than 400 are estimated to be working on the issue of disconnected youth, yet many of these programs and pilots have not been assessed for results or scaled"*.¹

This report will not attempt to identify all of the youth serving organizations in Durham. Rather, the focus will be on those funded by Durham County's Juvenile Crime Prevention Council (JCPC)² in the most recent fiscal year. JCPC has identified community focused evidence-based strategies and services most likely to reduce/prevent delinquent behavior and has tracking and performance measures in place to ensure that funded programs comply with expectations.

The Durham County JCPC received state funding in the amount of \$536,666 for Fiscal Year 2013-14. Local in-kind or cash matches brought the total available funding amount in Durham County to \$1,043,837.

The JCPC funded programs (FY 2013-14) are described below:

Project B.U.I.L.D.

Project BUILD is a key implementation of the Comprehensive Gang Model deployed by Durham and as such is described in greater detail than other JCPC-funded programs.

Durham County began implementing components of the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP) Comprehensive Gang Model in 2009. Utilizing a grant from the North Carolina Governor's Crime Commission, the Durham County Cooperative Extension hired a project director and two outreach workers to implement the Intervention Team and street outreach components of the Comprehensive Gang Model.

The program was named "Project BUILD" (Building, Uplifting and Impacting Lives Daily) to avoid stigmatizing youth who participate in the program. Unfortunately, Durham's Governor's Crime Commission (GCC) funding application for 2012 was not funded. However, leaders in both Durham

¹ IBM's Smarter Cities Challenge Durham Report (May 2012)

² For detailed information on Durham County JCPC, please refer to the JCPC section located elsewhere in the Updated Gang Assessment.

County and the city of Durham allocated local funding to sustain the project director and two outreach personnel, and Durham City provided a full-time street outreach worker assigned to the program.

Project BUILD currently receives funding from four sources: Durham County, the City of Durham, the Durham Juvenile Crime Prevention Council (JCPC), and the Governor's Crime Commission (GCC).

In 2013, utilizing Governor's Crime Commission funds, Project BUILD added two full-time gang prevention specialists to serve youth between the ages of 12-14. At present, Project BUILD employs six full-time staff (project director, three street outreach specialists, and two prevention specialists) to provide coordinated case management and intensive services to youth and young adults between the ages of 12 and 21 who are at high risk of gang involvement.

Project BUILD's street outreach workers work one-on-one with young people to model pro-social behavior, support positive decision-making, encourage education and employment success, and support involvement in positive activities. Project BUILD's multidisciplinary intervention team includes representation from the following agencies:

- Durham Public Schools
- North Carolina Department of Juvenile Justice
- North Carolina Department of Public Safety – Adult Probation and Parole
- Durham County Criminal Justice Resource Center
- Alliance Behavioral Health
- Becoming Project
- Durham Police Department (School Resource Officer/G.R.E.A.T. unit and Crisis Intervention Team)
- Project Safe Neighborhoods (Durham Police Department)
- Durham County Sheriff's Office (School Resource Officer/G.R.E.A.T. unit)

During 2013-14, Project BUILD has created closer partnerships with local agencies to address existing gaps in services for at-risk and gang-involved youth:

- Project BUILD works with the Parenting of Adolescents Program at the Exchange Clubs' Family Center, to offer the Strengthening Families curriculum to adolescent clients of Project BUILD and their families in Project BUILD's facility; Project BUILD prevention specialists provide follow-up support and case management to these families and youth.
- Project BUILD has assigned outreach workers to work directly on-site at several Durham Public Schools campuses, including Lakeview Alternative School, Northern High School, Riverside High School, and Lucas Middle School to provide behavior management and support for students in these schools, and is in the process of working to assign workers to additional schools. In

addition, Project BUILD works closely Durham Public Schools, Durham Police Department and the Durham County Sheriff's Office to coordinate school-based responses to gang-related violent incidents in the community and to protect the safety of the learning environment. This included a swift and coordinated response to the shooting of two teenagers in Durham on December 3, 2013.

- Project BUILD clients are given the opportunity to perform community service hours on-site with the Durham Cooperative Extension through a partnership established with the Durham County Teen Court.

Durham County Teen Court & Teen Court Restitution

Teen Court provides first time misdemeanor youth offenders and middle and high school student's volunteer opportunities to develop skills and insight. They also contribute to their community in a responsible and positive manner through participation in Teen Court, community service, and educational workshops. The Restitution Program provides community service opportunities for adjudicated youth. This program also assists adjudicated youth with repaying victims for their crimes.

El Futuro's Durham County Clinical Program

The purpose of this program is to provide mental health and substance abuse treatment interventions for at-risk Latino youth, ages 7-17 in clinical and school settings while providing support for parents.

Evidence-Based Trauma Assessment & Treatment

This program works to reduce recidivism by identifying and treating mental health needs, allowing children, adolescents and their families to increase communication and overall functioning by employing evidence-based assessment and treatment models, particularly those needs stemming from exposure to traumatic events and chronic stress. The program serves youth between the ages 10-18.

Juvenile Justice Project

Victim-offender mediation and conflict resolution services are offered to court diverted and/or court involved youth referred from juvenile services through the Juvenile Justice Project. The program supports diversion planning for juvenile court involved youth in an effort to effect and reduce the disproportionate number of minority youth entering the juvenile justice system (DMC).

Parenting Of Adolescents (POA)

POA provides a 12-36 week, home-based family counseling program for at risk and court-involved youth and their families. POA works on developing healthy parent-child/family relationships, improve family management skills, problem solving and understanding adolescent development and behavior. The goal

is to strengthen families and reduce the likelihood of an adolescent's involvement in the court system. Services are offered in English and Spanish. This program serves youth ages 7-17.

P.R.O.U.D. Program

Personal Responsibility to Overcome with Understanding and Determination serves adolescents 13-17 referred by the juvenile justice system. They provide activities that reduce the criminal activity of the juveniles, re-ignite interest in school and engage parents in taking responsibility for their children.

Rites Of Passage

This program immerses young men in a comprehensive nine-month long program of enrichment that includes intensive mentoring, learning seminars and field trips. These activities emphasize traditional African rites of passage that mark the progression from childhood to manhood. This program serves youth ages 13-16.

Young Warriors Athlete Scholarship Program

This program allows court-involved youth to participate in a structured, interpersonal skill-building athletic activity outside of school two or more times per week, within a key area in Durham designated by police as having one of the highest concentrations of gang activity in the state. Through karate training these young people will improve in physical health, confidence, self-esteem, self-discipline, anger management and conflict resolution, all of which will leave them less inclined to get themselves into trouble with crime, drugs and gangs.

Service Provider Survey

The OJJDP Comprehensive Gang Model suggests conducting a survey of service providers as part of any gang assessment. Results of the survey will help facilitate the discussion of current resources that are available, and identify gaps in service that may need to be filled.

A survey instrument for this purpose was developed with input from the National Gang Center. The survey, consisting of 14 questions, was opened and distributed on October 1, 2013 and closed on October 11, 2013.³

³ A full report on the Service Provider Survey can be found in the Updated Gang Assessment Appendix

The survey was sent to all service providers who were either a) currently funded by the Juvenile Crime Prevention Council (JCPC) or, b) were youth-serving organizations that attended at least one meeting of the GRS Prevention Intervention Team since its inception. Thirty one (31) surveys were distributed and eighteen (18) were returned for a 58% response rate. Major findings from the survey are shown below.

1. More than 60% of respondents considered their program to be “research based”.
2. Approximately 95% of respondents indicated that they collect data to determine if their program meets outcome measures
3. Most programs are funded via a mix of government grants, grants from foundations and individual donations.
4. Approximately half of the programs have existed in their current format for more than six years.
5. 28% of the programs could grow with additional funding and 28% of the programs are at capacity due to limits of available funding. 17% of respondents indicated they could grow with additional staff and available space.
6. While 44% of respondents are fully staffed, 11% have difficulty finding qualified paid staff and 6% have difficulty finding volunteers.
7. Almost half of the programs collaborate with a wide variety of similar programs in Durham, while 28% indicate they would be willing to merge with another, similar program to be more competitive for funding.
8. When asked about very large gaps in programs and strategies, the following were mentioned most often:
 - Job training
 - School programs to increase academic success
 - Monitoring for ex-offenders
 - Services for ex-offenders (substance abuse, mental health, job training)
 - Early intervention programs

Results from the Service Provider Survey are appropriate for consideration when policies and funding decisions are crafted in the future.