

Meeting Summary

September 11, 2008

Attending: David Cerda (Parlier), Robert Kandarian (Fresno SO), Roseann Galvan (Selma), Karen Mukai (Fowler), Myriam Mota (Del Rey CSD), Nick Taylor (Sanger), Jeff Dunn (Kingsburg), Nicole Jizmejian (Fresno County EOC), Frances Velazquez (Fresno County EOC), Jeanette Lopez (Fresno County EOC), Michael Renteria (Orange Cove), Frank Renteria (Orange Cove), Julian Chapa (Orange Cove), Cyndee Trimble (Reedley), Steve Wright (Reedley), Arlene Mendoza (Fresno County), Rudy Matcham (Del Rey), Kim Ozuna (Parlier), Brooke Frost (Fresno County), Debra McKenzie (Fresno County), Ellie Palomo (Sanger), Sam Estes (Sanger)

State Update: Ellie reported that we are still awaiting the reimbursement payment for the April – June reporting period. In addition, we are waiting for the state budget to pass in order to be reimbursed for the second quarterly report.

Second quarterly report is due to Ellie by October 15, 2008. Cities will receive a new reporting form to complete no later than September 30, 2008. The form should be used to make it easier for Ellie to combine the information from all communities into one report; as requested by OES.

QUESTION: Can Sanger apply for an advance of funds from the state? ANSWER: Ellie will follow-up with Alma (not attending) on progress of this option and report to the group at the next meeting.

Community Highlight: Jeff Dunn, Chief of Police Kingsburg Police Department provided this month's highlight. He stated that CalGRIP has offered the opportunity to outreach to an agency that the department has not previously worked with: New Path Center and Victim Offender Reconciliation. They are already seeing results with their efforts.

- have trained officers on VORP and developed referral cards and reporting forms for officer to complete
- have seen improvement in the time that VORP mediators become involved in cases from months to 48 hours
- have begun development of a system that they will be sustainable after the grant funding ends such as referrals directly to VORP by Kingsburg PD and the school district

He also asked about the ability to tap into tattoo removal services and cited the case of a developmentally challenged young man who was coerced into being tattooed with gang symbols by "friends". Tattoo removal services can be contracted by any city or agency at the county discount rates if they have the funds to put forward. Reedley and Selma have gone through the process and have MOU's in place with the service provider. Either Assistant Chief Wright or Roseann Galvan should be contacted if you would like more information on what they did to establish their MOU's.

County Update: Debra announced the quarterly meeting of the countywide Steering Committee was September 10, 2008. Summary notes of the meeting will be available online by mid-October. The group received a presentation of the Countywide Gang Prevention Preliminary Assessment Report, an overview report on the Fresno Mayor's Gang Prevention Initiative model, and approved by consensus to move forward with a countywide gang prevention education roundtable concept to improve capacity countywide for providing gang prevention and gang awareness educational forums. The project will include requesting sponsorship of funds from The California Endowment.

Debra presented a stats version of the county website (www.fcgpc.org) that is available as a communication tool for task force members to advertise events and share information about successful projects and lessons learned.

CTCGTF New Business:

Announcements about upcoming events were shared. For example Fresno EOC offers no cost parent awareness workshops in the communities of Selma, Kingsburg, Coalinga, Parlier, Fresno, and Clovis. They can come to other communities if enough interested is demonstrated. Contact Nicole.Jizmejjan@fresnoeoc.org

9/25 - Cruising for Jesus Gang Awareness event Contact horacio@cruisingforjesus.com

9/13; 9/27; 10/29 Communities of Caring Task Force Block Parties Contact pastorsam@ocsnet.net

9/18 - Reedley Night Out Contact cyndee.trimble@fcl.org

9/19 and 9/26 - Boys & Girls Club Day For Kids - Contact Arlene@bgclubfc.org

Next month's community highlight: Big Brothers Big Sisters

Next Meeting:

October 9, 2008

9:00 am

Sanger Recreation Department

1789 Jensen Avenue, Suite A

Sanger, California 93657

Located on the corner of Jensen and Hoag