



"Zero Tolerance" Alliance

Ongoing Projects:

Project YESS

Project Leader: Scott Seaman

San José Police Department

Project YESS (Youth Efforts for Safe Schools) began as a retreat for young people from area high schools to develop projects to address issues at their respective schools. The student projects developed at the camp were launched at the start of the 94-95 school year. A plan for a second retreat for new students is underway.

Fifth Grade Curriculum on Law & Justice

Project Leader: Marc Buller

District Attorney's Office

This innovative pilot program now underway at seven elementary schools brings judges, police officers, artists and other professionals into fun, educational, interactive activities with teachers and youth to enhance studies of the Constitution, our court and legal systems, and other law & justice issues.

Second Chance

Project Leader: Barbara Davis

Probation Department

Developing and expanding options for students who have been expelled. First activity was building on a program started by Legal Advocates for Children and Youth (LACY) to train advocates for children. Other programs to support "nonstudents" will be explored and developed in the coming months, including an intergenerational mentoring program.

Changing the Environment of C.W. Washington

Project Leader: Wes Mason

C.W. Washington School

Bringing together staff and students to develop various ongoing, activities that promote respect and recognition among students, and between students and staff. Four student-designed activities are already underway, all developed using Open-Systems planning.

Expanding After-School Options

Project Leader: Paula Garin

Discover Alternatives

Expanding young people's access to constructive activities after school by developing and providing no-cost or low-cost before and after-school programs. A pilot program will start by the Spring in Gilroy.

Anti-Graffiti Cleanup

Project Leader: Karen Jones

AmeriCorps

Youth volunteers from San José Conservation Corps will work to increase community participation in graffiti removal and promote a graffiti-free environment. Organizers hope to create after-school centers to keep "taggers" out of trouble and provide a place for students to develop artwork to display in public art galleries.

AmeriCorp Youth for Youth

Project Leader: Theresa Tran

San José Conservation Corps

AmeriCorps youth from San José Conservation Corps will work with the San Jose Unified School District to provide after-school activities at a local junior high school, such as tutoring, presentations on "teen" topics, special events, and teachings about community service. They will also receive training in conflict resolution and mentoring.

KARROT - (Kids Attending Regularly/Rewards Over Time)

A program to recognize and reward parents and their elementary-aged children for regular school attendance, and to educate parents regarding the consequences of truancy.

Creating "Good" Gangs

Project Leader: Lance Beizer

District Attorney's Office

Recruit groups of kids of all ages both on and off campus to participate in productive activities and discourage gang affiliation. The project hopes to change children's direction for the better, build life skills, and raise their self esteem.

Preventing Youth Violence in Our Community : A Multi-disciplinary Networking Event

Project Leader: Dena Dickinson

County of Santa Clara

Developing a conference to network community agencies and coalitions working on violence prevention, and to focus on stronger partnerships and a more directed knowledge of the existing resources in the valley.

Violence Prevention Lecture Series

Project Leader: Kurt Kumli

District Attorney's Office

This project will plan, produce and execute a lecture series that will focus on research-based aspects of youth violence. Youth-related professionals can speak, listen, interact and act on information received. ☉

Updates on all projects as well as new projects, will be published in the next issue of "Reaching for a New Reality."

For more information on any projects, please contact the Partnership, 408-261-7100