

**PLAN TO PREVENT
YOUTH GANG ACTIVITY & VIOLENCE
IN WAKE COUNTY:**

APPENDIX

REPORT PREPARED BY:

WAKE COUNTY GANG PREVENTION PARTNERSHIP

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PLAN TO PREVENT YOUTH GANG ACTIVITY & VIOLENCE IN WAKE COUNTY

APPENDIX

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SECTION 1: School Principal Survey

In an effort to arrive at a better understanding of the presence and prevalence of gang activities in Wake County Public Schools, a survey was conducted among principals at the beginning of school year 2005-2006. In all, 84 elementary school principals, 28 middle school principals and 17 high school principals returned useable surveys. The survey instrument is included in the following pages and a report that discusses each of the items included in the survey.

The survey was adapted from the *Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP) Comprehensive Gang Model "A Guide to Assessing Your Community's Youth Gang Problem"*.

Wake County Gang Prevention Partnership School Staff Perceptions Survey

Position in your school _____

School level

Your School Region

School Name _____

- Elementary
 Middle
 High School

- Northern
 Southern
 Eastern
 Western
 Central
 South Central

1. Please check any concerning behaviors that you observe in your school?

- Graffiti
 Violence
 Property crimes
 Hand signs
 Intimidation of other students
 None of the behaviors listed
 Other _____

2. On the scale below, check the level that you believe best identifies the gang issues in your school.

- don't know not a problem minor concern/issue moderate concern/issue serious concern/issue very serious problem

3. What types of problems do gang members present in your school?

- | | |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> None | <input type="checkbox"/> Harassment |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Don't know | <input type="checkbox"/> Intimidation |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Graffiti | <input type="checkbox"/> Bullying |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Violence | <input type="checkbox"/> Hand signs |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Property crime | <input type="checkbox"/> School disruption |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Vandalism | <input type="checkbox"/> Increased fear |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Drugs | <input type="checkbox"/> Drug sales |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____ | |

4. When and where do gang issues occur most frequently in your school?

- | WHEN | WHERE |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> They don't occur | <input type="checkbox"/> They don't occur |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Don't know | <input type="checkbox"/> Don't know |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Before school | <input type="checkbox"/> Classrooms |
| <input type="checkbox"/> During class | <input type="checkbox"/> Outside of building |
| <input type="checkbox"/> During breaks | <input type="checkbox"/> Hallways |
| <input type="checkbox"/> During lunch | <input type="checkbox"/> Bathrooms |
| <input type="checkbox"/> After school | <input type="checkbox"/> Parking lots |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Athletic events | <input type="checkbox"/> Cafeteria |
| <input type="checkbox"/> On the weekends | <input type="checkbox"/> Athletic facilities |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____ | <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____ |

**OVER
Please** 

5. From the following list, rank from 1-5 the issues that you believe to be the main reasons that young people join gangs, with 1 being the top contributor to gang involvement.

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Don't know enough about gang involvement to rank | <input type="checkbox"/> Limited or negative role models |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Poverty | <input type="checkbox"/> Need for acceptance or recognition |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Lack of organized activities | <input type="checkbox"/> Family disorganization |
| <input type="checkbox"/> To gain a sense of self worth and status | <input type="checkbox"/> Need for physical safety or protection |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Poor academic achievement | <input type="checkbox"/> Financial benefit |

6. Do you believe gang issues are increasing, decreasing, or staying about the same level in your school as in previous years?

- Increasing
- Decreasing
- Staying the same

Why do you believe this?

Evaluation & Research Department
Wake County Public School System

Analysis of Responses To A Survey of Principals: Gang Awareness

In April 2005, the Wake County Public Schools Board of Education adopted *Policy 6424: Gang and Gang Related Activities*. The policy defines what a gang is and specifically prohibits several activities often associated with gangs or gang membership. The policy also requires the superintendent to consult with law enforcement officials to identify gang-related items, symbols and behaviors and to provide each principal with this information.

In an effort to arrive at a better understanding of the presence and prevalence of gang activities in Wake County Public Schools, a survey was conducted among principals at the beginning of school year 2005-2006. In all, 84 elementary school principals, 28 middle school principals, and 17 high school principals returned useable surveys. In this report, we discuss each of the items included on the survey.

1. Please check any concerning behaviors that you have observed in your school.

Principals were asked to indicate which behaviors often associated with gang activity have been observed in their schools. No limit was placed on the number of items that could be checked, although logically, if a person chose "None", then that would be the only response chosen by that individual. Table 1 indicates that among elementary school principals the most frequently chosen response was "none". However, "intimidation of other students" received 21 mentions, while "other" was chosen by 19 elementary principals.

Among middle school principals, the two most commonly reported behaviors were "graffiti" and "intimidation of other students" with 18 and 17 mentions respectively. Among this group, 7 principals reported "none" as their response to the question.

None of the high school principals chose "none" in response to this item. The most commonly chosen item was "graffiti" with 14 mentions, while "hand signs" was chosen by 13 principals. Almost as frequent, with 12 mentions, was "intimidation of other students".

While each of the proposed choices received mentions by principals at all levels, the most wide-spread behaviors reported, then, were intimidation of other students, graffiti, and use of gang-related hand signs.

2. Check the level that you believe best identifies the gang issues in your school.

As Table 2 shows, 53 elementary principals indicated either that they did "not know" about gang issues in their schools or that these issues were "not a problem". Thus, a majority of elementary school principals indicated that gang issues are not a problem in their school. Moreover, among elementary principals 26 indicated that gang issues constitute a "minor concern/issue".

Among middle school respondents, two indicated that gang issues were “not a problem”. Eleven middle grades principals selected “minor concern/issue” for this item, while 12 respondents indicated this was a “moderate concern/issue”.

High school principals were much more likely to identify gang issues as problematic and more serious in their schools. While only 1 high school principal indicated that gang issues constitute a “very serious” problem, four selected “serious concern/issue”, four selected “minor concern/issue” while eight chose “moderate concern/issue” in response to this item.

Thus, among elementary school principals, gang issues are not perceived as more than a minor concern or issue, among middle school principals, gangs are perceived as a “moderate” or “minor issue/concern” while among high school principals, gang issues are seen as more serious by more principals. When the responses are viewed by geographic region of the district, no clear pattern emerges.

3. What types of problems do gang members present to your school?

Responses to this item are tabulated in Table 3. A majority of elementary school principals indicated that gang members do not present problems in their schools. Of those choosing a different response, however, the most commonly cited problems were related to intimidation of other students (11 mentions) and bullying (nine mentions). “Hand signs” was also cited by eight principals. It should be noted that the two items related to drugs and drug use were not selected by any elementary principals.

Middle grades principals also selected intimidation (16 mentions), bullying (ten mentions), use of hand signs (11 mentions) as most common, but graffiti got the largest number of mentions among middle grades principals. Drug sales and/or use were mentioned by only three principals.

The most frequent choices by high school principals were graffiti (17 mentions), use of hand signs (11 mentions), harassment (11 mentions), and intimidation (16 mentions). Each of the other proposed problems was chosen by at least two principals, but none of these had more than six mentions. Drugs and drug sales were mentioned by 6 principals.

4. When and where do gang issues occur most frequently in your school?

As Table 4 below indicates, the majority of elementary school principals (58 respondents) chose the first response “They don’t occur” for both parts of this question. Among those reporting some gang issues, the largest number of elementary principals reported that such activities occur before or after school or on the weekends. The majority of those reporting gang issues stated that they occurred outside of the building.

Similar patterns are seen in the data from middle school principals. The majority of middle school principals (31) report that “they don’t occur”. Among those middle school principals who report that there are such issues, these are most likely to occur before school or after school. Some principals also reported that such issues occur “during breaks”. While “outside of the building” was the most common choice in response to where these issues occur (aside from the “they don’t occur” option), other frequent mentions were given to hallways, bathrooms, and athletic facilities, that is, places where students congregate in large numbers with relatively light adult supervision.

In contrast to elementary and middle school principals, no high school principals chose the “They don’t occur” option. The largest number of responses to when these issues arise were “before school”, “during break”, and “during lunch.” As with middle school principals, the largest number of high school principals reported that gang issues were likely to occur in hallways, bathrooms, the cafeteria and parking lots.

5. Do you believe gang issues are increasing, decreasing, or staying about the same level in your school as in previous years?

It should be noted at the outset that this item contains an inherent problem of interpretation. The survey did not establish a baseline for gang issues in schools and, therefore, it is not possible to interpret the meaning of “staying about the same”. Because we cannot ascertain the level of gang issues that would define the *status quo ante*, it is not possible to determine the meaning of this last choice.

With that said, it is possible to observe that very few principals reported that gang issues were decreasing. Only 3 elementary principals, 4 middle school principals, and 1 high school principal selected this option. By contrast, 41% of elementary school principals, 46% of middle school principals and 75% of high school principals indicated that gang issues are increasing at their schools.

This report, then, provides an overview of the responses of school principals. By way of summary, it may be noted that:

- ✓ Intensity and prevalence of gang-related behaviors increases as a function of students’ age;
- ✓ Most elementary and middle school principals do not perceive gang activity in their schools are more than a moderate concern;
- ✓ Harassment, intimidation, and bullying appear to be the most prevalent gang-related behaviors observed by principals;
- ✓ Gang issues are more likely to occur at times and in places where students are least well supervised: lunch time, before school; hallways, parking lots or lavatories; and
- ✓ Occurrence/prevalence of gang activity appears to be increasing or staying the same.

SECTION 2: Wake County Public School System Gang and Gang Related Activities Policy

In April 2005, the Wake County Public Schools' Board of Education adopted a new policy, "Gang and Gang Related Activities." The policy defines what a gang is and specifically prohibits several activities often associated with gangs or gang membership. The policy also requires the superintendent to consult with law enforcement officials to identify gang-related items, symbols and behaviors and to provide each principal with this information. The new policy, found in the following pages, went into effect on July 1, 2005.

Wake County Public School System
Policy 6424
Gang and Gang Related Activities

The WCPSS does not support or condone gang membership or gang activity. The Superintendent/designee shall regularly consult with law enforcement officials to identify gang-related items, symbols and behaviors, and provide each principal with this information.

No student shall commit any act that furthers gangs or gang-related activities. A gang is any ongoing organization, association, or group of three or more persons, whether formal or informal, having as one of its primary activities the commission of criminal acts, or the purposeful violation of any WCPSS policy, and having a common name or common identifying sign, colors or symbols. Conduct prohibited by this policy includes:

- A.** Wearing, possessing, using, distributing, displaying, or selling any clothing, jewelry, emblems, badges, symbols, signs, visible tattoos and body markings, or other items, or being in possession of literature that shows affiliation with a gang, or is evidence of membership or affiliation in any gang or that promotes gang affiliation;
- B.** Communicating either verbally or non-verbally (gestures, handshakes, slogans, drawings, etc.), to convey membership affiliation in any gang or that promotes gang affiliation;
- C.** Tagging, or otherwise defacing school or personal property with gang or gang-related symbols or slogans;
- D.** Requiring payment of protection, money or insurance, or otherwise intimidating or threatening any person related to gang activity;
- E.** Inciting other students to intimidate or to act with physical violence upon any other person related to gang activity;
- F.** Soliciting others for gang membership;
- G.** Conspiring to commit any violation of this policy or committing or conspiring to commit any other illegal act or other violation of school district policies that relates to gang activity.

Before being suspended for a first offense of wearing gang-related attire (when not involved in any other kind of gang-related activity or behavior), a student may receive a warning and be allowed to immediately change or remove the attire if the school administration determines that the student did not intend the attire to show gang affiliation. Reference policy 6400 for disciplinary action.

Adopted: April 19, 2005

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SECTION 3: Youth Perceptions

In order to have a better understanding of the prevalence and danger of gangs in Wake County and in our schools, and their perceived appeal to our children, youth must be involved in assessing the problem and developing solutions. Therefore, a youth survey was conducted in Wake County to: (1) identify differences between young people who self-report gang involvement and those who do not; (2) identify risk factors that increase the likelihood that a young person will develop problem behaviors including gang involvement; (3) identify protective factors that may reduce risk factors for gang involvement; (4) and identify the young person's perceptions of gang activity, crime and violence.

291 surveys were completed by high school-aged youth, with 45 young people identifying as currently or previously being involved in a gang. The survey was adapted from the *Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP) Comprehensive Gang Model "A Guide to Assessing Your Community's Youth Gang Problem"*. The survey instrument and a summary of the results follow.

Wake County Gang Prevention Partnership Youth Survey

1) How old are you? Please circle the correct answer.
10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 or older

2) What grade are you in? Please circle the correct answer.

6th 7th 8th 9th 10th 11th 12th

3) Are you:

- Female
- Male

4) Are you Spanish/Hispanic/Latino?

- No
 - Yes, Mexican, Mexican American, Chicano
 - Yes, other Spanish/Hispanic/Latino
 - Yes, Puerto Rican
 - Yes, Cuban
 - Other Spanish
- _____

5) If you are not Spanish/Hispanic/Latino, please mark what race you are.

- White
 - Black, African American, or Negro
 - American Indian or Alaska Native
 - Chinese Japanese
 - Filipino Asian Indian
 - Native Hawaiian Samoan
 - Korean Guamanian or Chamorro
 - Vietnamese
 - Other Asian
- _____
- Other Pacific Islander
- _____
- Some other race
- _____

6) Putting them all together, what were your grades like last year?

- Mostly Fs
- Mostly Ds
- Mostly Cs
- Mostly Bs
- Mostly As

7) I feel safe at my school.

- NO!
- no
- yes
- YES!

Think of your four best friends (the friends you feel closest to.) In the past year (12 months), how many of your best friends have:

8) Been suspended from school?

- None
- 1
- 2
- 3
- 4

9) Carried a handgun?

- None
- 1
- 2
- 3
- 4

10) Sold illegal drugs?

- None
- 1
- 2
- 3
- 4

11) Stolen or tried to steal a car?

- None
- 1
- 2
- 3
- 4

12) Been arrested?

- None
- 1
- 2
- 3
- 4

13) Dropped out of school?

- None
- 1
- 2
- 3
- 4

14) Been members of a gang?

- None
- 1
- 2
- 3
- 4

15) Are there any gangs at your school?

- No
- Yes
- Don't Know

16) Do any of the students at your school belong to a gang?

- No
- Yes
- Don't Know

17) What about gangs that don't have members attending your school...have any of those gangs come around your school in the past six months?

- No
- Yes
- Don't Know

If you answered YES to any of the three previous questions, please answer questions 18-29, otherwise continue on to the next section.

18) How often have gangs been involved in fights, attacks, or violence at your school in the past six months?

- Never
- Almost every day
- Once or twice a week
- Once or twice a month
- Don't know

Wake County Gang Prevention Partnership Youth Survey

19) Have gangs been involved in the sale of drugs at your school in the past six months?
 No Yes Don't Know

20) Have any gang members brought guns to your school in the past six months?
 No Yes Don't Know

Do the gangs around your school do the following things?

	No	Yes
21) Help out in the community	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
22) Get in fights with other gangs	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
23) Provide protection for each other	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
24) Steal things	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
25) Rob other people	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
26) Steal cars	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
27) Sell marijuana	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
28) Sell other illegal drugs	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
29) Damage or destroy property	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

The next section asks about your experiences with gangs. (A "crew" or a "posse" is considered a gang.) If you have NEVER been in a gang, please skip to the next section.

30) Have you ever belonged to a gang?
 No Yes

31) If you have ever belonged to a gang, did that gang have a name?
 No Yes

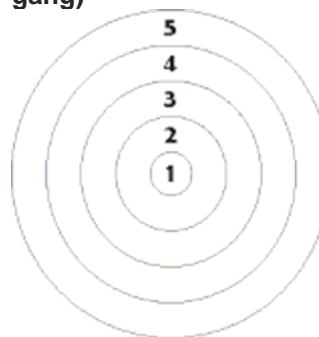
32) Are you a gang member now?
 No Yes

33) How many members are there in your gang?
 Not in a gang
 1 to 5
 6 to 10
 11 to 20
 21 to 30
 More than 30

34) How many boys belong to your gang?
 No boys
 1 to 5
 6 to 10
 11 to 20
 21 to 30
 More than 30

34) How many girls belong to your gang?
 No girls
 1 to 5
 6 to 10
 11 to 20
 21 to 30
 More than 30

35) If you belong to a gang, suppose the circle below represents your gang. How far from the center of the gang are you? (circle the number that best describes your place in the gang)



If you are in a gang, do the following describe your gang?

	Yes	No
36) You can join before age 13.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
37) There are initiation rites.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
38) The gang has established leaders.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
39) The gang has regular meetings.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
40) The gang has specific rules or codes.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
41) Gang members have specific roles.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
42) There are roles for each age group.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
43) The gang has symbols or colors.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
44) There are specific roles for girls.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

45) Why did you join the gang? Mark all that apply.

For fun
 For protection
 A friend was in the gang
 A brother or sister was in the gang
 I was forced to join
 To get respect
 For money
 To fit in better
 Other (specify) _____
 Not in a gang

Wake County Gang Prevention Partnership Youth Survey

If you are in a gang, does your gang do the following things?

- | | No | Yes |
|---------------------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| 46) Help out in the community | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 47) Get in fights with other gangs | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 48) Provide protection for each other | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 49) Steal things | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 50) Rob other people | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 51) Steal cars | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 52) Sell marijuana | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 53) Sell other illegal drugs | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 54) Damage or destroy property | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |

The next questions ask about the neighborhood and community where you live.

55) If you wanted to get some beer, wine, or hard liquor (for example, vodka, whiskey, or gin), how easy would it be for you to get some?

- Very Hard Sort of Hard
 Sort of Easy Very Easy

56) If you wanted to get some cigarettes, how easy would it be for you to get some?

- Very Hard Sort of Hard
 Sort of Easy Very Easy

57) If you wanted to get a drug like cocaine, LSD, or amphetamines, how easy would it be for you to get some?

- Very Hard Sort of Hard
 Sort of Easy Very Easy

58) If you wanted to get a handgun, how easy would it be for you to get one?

- Very Hard Sort of Hard
 Sort of Easy Very Easy

59) If you wanted to get some marijuana, how easy would it be for you to get some?

- Very Hard Sort of Hard
 Sort of Easy Very Easy

60) If a kid smoked marijuana in your neighborhood, would he or she be caught by the police?

- NO! no yes YES!

About how many adults (over 21) have you known personally who in the past year have:

61) Used marijuana, crack, cocaine, or other drugs?

- None 1 adult 2 adults
 3 or 4 adults 5 or more adults

62) Sold or dealt drugs?

- None 1 adult 2 adults
 3 or 4 adults 5 or more adults

63) Done other things that could get them in trouble with the police like stealing, selling stolen goods, mugging, or assaulting others, etc.

- None 1 adult 2 adults
 3 or 4 adults 5 or more adults

64) Gotten drunk or high?

- None 1 adult 2 adults
 3 or 4 adults 5 or more adults

Which of the following activities for people your age are available in your community?

- 65) Sports teams No Yes
66) Scouting No Yes
67) Boys & girls clubs No Yes
68) 4-H clubs No Yes
69) Service clubs No Yes

70) How many times have you changed schools (including changing from elementary to middle and middle to high school) since kindergarten?

- Never 1 or 2 times 3 or 4 times
 5 or 6 times 7 or more times

71) Have you changed homes in the past year (the last 12 months)?

- No Yes

72) I feel safe in my neighborhood.

- NO! no yes YES!

Wake County Gang Prevention Partnership Survey Results

Q.#	Question	Possible Results	ALL repondents		Specifically those who are/have been in a gang		Specifically those who are not/have not been in a gang	
Total number of surveys answered and returned			291	100.00%	45	100.00%	246	100.00%
1	How old are you?	10	1	0.34%	0	0.00%	1	0.41%
		11	0	0.00%	0	0.00%	0	0.00%
		12	1	0.34%	1	2.22%	0	0.00%
		13	2	0.69%	1	2.22%	1	0.41%
		14	17	5.84%	3	6.67%	14	5.69%
		15	74	25.43%	9	20.00%	65	26.42%
		16	77	26.46%	11	24.44%	66	26.83%
		17	63	21.65%	13	28.89%	50	20.33%
		18	44	15.12%	6	13.33%	38	15.45%
		19	5	1.72%	0	0.00%	5	2.03%
		older than 19	2	0.69%	0	0.00%	2	0.81%
		No answer given	5	1.72%	1	2.22%	4	1.63%
2	What grade are you in?	6th	3	1.03%	0	0.00%	3	1.22%
		7th	4	1.37%	2	4.44%	2	0.81%
		8th	2	0.69%	0	0.00%	2	0.81%
		9th	85	29.21%	10	22.22%	75	30.49%
		10th	63	21.65%	8	17.78%	55	22.36%
		11th	84	28.87%	18	40.00%	66	26.83%
		12th	46	15.81%	6	13.33%	40	16.26%
		No answer given	4	1.37%	1	2.22%	3	1.22%
3	Are you? (Gender)	Female	183	62.89%	24	53.33%	159	64.63%
		Male	102	35.05%	20	44.44%	82	33.33%
		Both Checked	1	0.34%	1	2.22%	0	0.00%
		No answer given	5	1.72%	0	0.00%	5	2.03%

Q.#	Question	Possible Results	All repondents		Specifically those who are/have been in a gang		Specifically those who are not/have not been in a gang			
4	Are you Spanish/Hispanic/Latino?	No	237	81.44%	33	73.33%	204	82.93%		
		Yes, Mexican American, Chicano	18	6.19%	7	15.56%	11	4.47%		
		Yes, other Spanish/Hispanic/Latino	11	3.78%	2	4.44%	9	3.66%		
		Yes, Puerto Rican	8	2.75%	1	2.22%	7	2.85%		
		Yes, Cuban	5	1.72%	0	0.00%	5	2.03%		
		Other Spanish	5	1.72%	1	2.22%	4	1.63%		
		No answer given	7	2.41%	1	2.22%	6	2.44%		
5	If you are not Spanish/Hispanic/Latino, please mark what race you are.	White	64	21.99%	9	20.00%	55	22.36%		
		Black, African American or Negro	172	59.11%	28	62.22%	144	58.54%		
		American Indian or Alaska Native	2	0.69%		0.00%	2	0.81%		
		Chinese	1	0.34%		0.00%	1	0.41%		
		Japanese		0.00%		0.00%	0	0.00%		
		Filipino		0.00%		0.00%	0	0.00%		
		Asian Indian	1	0.34%		0.00%	1	0.41%		
		Native Hawaiian		0.00%		0.00%	0	0.00%		
		Samoan		0.00%		0.00%	0	0.00%		
		Korean		0.00%		0.00%	0	0.00%		
		Guamanian or Chamorro		0.00%		0.00%	0	0.00%		
		Vietnamese	1	0.34%		0.00%	1	0.41%		
		Other Asian	1	0.34%	1	2.22%	0	0.00%		
		Other Pacific Islander	1	0.34%	1	2.22%	0	0.00%		
		Other race	5	1.72%		0.00%	5	2.03%		
		No answer given	43	14.78%	6	13.33%	37	15.04%		
		Responses for Other Races								
			Other Asian: Italian	1	0.34%		0.00%	1	0.41%	
	Other race: "Light Skin"	1	0.34%		0.00%	1	0.41%			
	Other race: Arabic	1	0.34%		0.00%	1	0.41%			
	Other race: Black/Chinese	1	0.34%		0.00%	1	0.41%			
	Other race: Haitian	1	0.34%		0.00%	1	0.41%			
	Other race: Italian	1	0.34%		0.00%	1	0.41%			
	Other race: White/Puerto Rico		0.00%		0.00%	0	0.00%			

6	Putting them all together, what were your grades like last year?	Mostly Fs	5	1.72%	2	4.44%	3	1.22%
		Mostly Ds	11	3.78%	5	11.11%	6	2.44%
		Mostly Cs	102	35.05%	19	42.22%	83	33.74%
		Mostly Bs	106	36.43%	16	35.56%	90	36.59%
		Mostly As	63	21.65%	2	4.44%	61	24.80%
		No answer given	4	1.37%	1	2.22%	3	1.22%
Q.#	Question	Possible Results	All repondents		Specifically those who are/have been in a gang		Specifically those who are not/have not been in a gang	
7	I feel safe at my school.	NO!	51	17.53%	12	26.67%	39	15.85%
		no	39	13.40%	10	22.22%	29	11.79%
		yes	148	50.86%	13	28.89%	135	54.88%
		YES!	46	15.81%	8	17.78%	38	15.45%
		No answer given	7	2.41%	2	4.44%	5	2.03%
8	# of 4 closest friends who have Been suspended from school?	None	154	52.92%	12	26.67%	142	57.72%
		1	42	14.43%	6	13.33%	36	14.63%
		2	29	9.97%	9	20.00%	20	8.13%
		3	22	7.56%	6	13.33%	16	6.50%
		4	38	13.06%	11	24.44%	27	10.98%
		No answer given	6	2.06%	1	2.22%	5	2.03%
9	# of 4 closest friends who have Carried a handgun?	None	227	78.01%	23	51.11%	204	82.93%
		1	25	8.59%	10	22.22%	15	6.10%
		2	17	5.84%	6	13.33%	11	4.47%
		3	4	1.37%	1	2.22%	3	1.22%
		4	12	4.12%	4	8.89%	8	3.25%
		No answer given	6	2.06%	1	2.22%	5	2.03%
10	# of 4 closest friends who have Sold illegal drugs?	None	197	67.70%	21	46.67%	176	71.54%
		1	22	7.56%	4	8.89%	18	7.32%
		2	20	6.87%	6	13.33%	14	5.69%
		3	17	5.84%	3	6.67%	14	5.69%
		4	28	9.62%	10	22.22%	18	7.32%
		No answer given	7	2.41%	1	2.22%	6	2.44%

11	# of 4 closest friends who have Stolen or tried to steal a car?	None	229	78.69%	27	60.00%	202	82.11%
		1	29	9.97%	5	11.11%	24	9.76%
		2	12	4.12%	4	8.89%	8	3.25%
		3	6	2.06%	4	8.89%	2	0.81%
		4	9	3.09%	4	8.89%	5	2.03%
		No answer given	6	2.06%	1	2.22%	5	2.03%
12	# of 4 closest friends who have Been arrested?	None	186	63.92%	18	40.00%	168	68.29%
		1	35	12.03%	10	22.22%	25	10.16%
		2	25	8.59%	7	15.56%	18	7.32%
		3	16	5.50%	3	6.67%	13	5.28%
		4	23	7.90%	6	13.33%	17	6.91%
		No answer given	6	2.06%	1	2.22%	5	2.03%
Q.#	Question	Possible Results	All repondents		Specifically those who are/have been in a gang		Specifically those who are not/have not been in a gang	
13	# of 4 closest friends who have Dropped out of school?	None	224	76.98%	30	66.67%	194	78.86%
		1	26	8.93%	4	8.89%	22	8.94%
		2	12	4.12%	4	8.89%	8	3.25%
		3	6	2.06%	2	4.44%	4	1.63%
		4	15	5.15%	4	8.89%	11	4.47%
		No answer given	7	2.41%	1	2.22%	6	2.44%
14	# of 4 closest friends who have Been members of a gang?	None	199	68.38%	14	31.11%	185	75.20%
		1	28	9.62%	14	31.11%	14	5.69%
		2	16	5.50%	5	11.11%	11	4.47%
		3	9	3.09%	2	4.44%	7	2.85%
		4	32	11.00%	9	20.00%	23	9.35%
		No answer given	7	2.41%	1	2.22%	6	2.44%
15	Are there any gangs at your school?	No	40	13.75%	2	4.44%	38	15.45%
		Yes	201	69.07%	36	80.00%	165	67.07%
		Don't Know	40	13.75%	5	11.11%	35	14.23%
		No answer given	10	3.44%	2	4.44%	8	3.25%
16	Do any of the students at your school belong to a gang?	No	30	10.31%	3	6.67%	27	10.98%
		Yes	203	69.76%	32	71.11%	171	69.51%
		Don't Know	49	16.84%	6	13.33%	43	17.48%
		No answer given	9	3.09%	4	8.89%	5	2.03%

17	What about the gangs that don't have members attending your school...have any of those gangs come around your school in the past six months?	No	42	14.43%	7	15.56%	35	14.23%
		Yes	133	45.70%	22	48.89%	111	45.12%
		Don't Know	109	37.46%	15	33.33%	94	38.21%
		No answer given	7	2.41%	1	2.22%	6	2.44%
Q.#	Question	Possible Results	All repondents		Specifically those who are/have been in a gang		Specifically those who are not/have not been in a gang	
If you answered YES to any of the three previous questions, please answer questions 18-29, other wise continue on to the next section.								
Number who met the stated criteria			229					
Total Number who Answered all/part of the questions anyway			270					
18	How often have gangs been involved in fights, attacks, or violence at your school in the past six months	Never	35	12.03%	8	17.78%	27	10.98%
		Almost every day	43	14.78%	7	15.56%	36	14.63%
		Once or twice a week	25	8.59%	6	13.33%	19	7.72%
		Once or twice a month	55	18.90%	10	22.22%	45	18.29%
		Don't Know	97	33.33%	10	22.22%	87	35.37%
		No answer given	36	12.37%	4	8.89%	32	13.01%
19	Have gangs been involved in the sale of drugs at your school in the past six months?	No	32	11.00%	5	11.11%	27	10.98%
		Yes	114	39.18%	20	44.44%	94	38.21%
		Don't Know	117	40.21%	17	37.78%	100	40.65%
		No answer given	28	9.62%	3	6.67%	25	10.16%
20	Have any gang members brought guns to your school in the past six months?	No	47	16.15%	6	13.33%	41	16.67%
		Yes	70	24.05%	21	46.67%	49	19.92%
		Don't Know	142	48.80%	15	33.33%	127	51.63%
		No answer given	32	11.00%	3	6.67%	29	11.79%
Q.#	Question	Possible Results	All repondents		Specifically those who are/have been in a gang		Specifically those who are not/have not been in a gang	
Do the gangs around your school do the following things?								
21	Help out in the community	No	208	71.48%	29	64.44%	179	72.76%
		Yes	39	13.40%	14	31.11%	25	10.16%
		No answer given	44	15.12%	2	4.44%	42	17.07%

22	Get in fights with other gangs	No	44	15.12%	7	15.56%	37	15.04%
		Yes	204	70.10%	35	77.78%	169	68.70%
		No answer given	43	14.78%	3	6.67%	40	16.26%
23	Provide protection for each other	No	57	19.59%	8	17.78%	49	19.92%
		Yes	187	64.26%	33	73.33%	154	62.60%
		No answer given	47	16.15%	4	8.89%	43	17.48%
24	Steal things	No	63	21.65%	11	24.44%	52	21.14%
		Yes	179	61.51%	31	68.89%	148	60.16%
		No answer given	49	16.84%	3	6.67%	46	18.70%
25	Rob other people	No	71	24.40%	11	24.44%	60	24.39%
		Yes	169	58.08%	28	62.22%	141	57.32%
		No answer given	51	17.53%	6	13.33%	45	18.29%
26	Steal cars	No	110	37.80%	16	35.56%	94	38.21%
		Yes	128	43.99%	27	60.00%	101	41.06%
		No answer given	53	18.21%	2	4.44%	51	20.73%
27	Sell Marijuana	No	63	21.65%	13	28.89%	50	20.33%
		Yes	180	61.86%	28	62.22%	152	61.79%
		No answer given	48	16.49%	4	8.89%	44	17.89%
28	Sell other illegal drugs	No	71	24.40%	11	24.44%	60	24.39%
		Yes	168	57.73%	30	66.67%	138	56.10%
		No answer given	52	17.87%	4	8.89%	48	19.51%
29	Damage or destroy property	No	64	21.99%	12	26.67%	52	21.14%
		Yes	179	61.51%	28	62.22%	151	61.38%
		No answer given	48	16.49%	5	11.11%	43	17.48%

Q.#	Question	Possible Results	All repondents		Specifically those who are/have been in a gang		Specifically those who are not/have not been in a gang	
<p>The next section asks about your experiences with gangs. (A "crew" or a "posse" is considered a gang.) If you have NEVER been in a gang, please skip to the next section.</p>								
Number who met the stated criteria			45					
Total Number who Answered all/part of the questions anyway			233					
30	Have you ever belonged to a gang?	No	183	62.89%	4	8.89%	179	72.76%
		Yes	41	14.09%	41	91.11%	0	0.00%
		No answer given	67	23.02%	0	0.00%	67	27.24%
31	If you have ever belonged to a gang, did that gang have a name?	No	146	50.17%	11	24.44%	135	54.88%
		Yes	37	12.71%	32	71.11%	5	2.03%
		No answer given	108	37.11%	2	4.44%	106	43.09%
32	Are you a gang member now?	No	180	61.86%	19	42.22%	161	65.45%
		Yes	24	8.25%	24	53.33%	0	0.00%
		No answer given	87	29.90%	2	4.44%	85	34.55%
33	How many members are there in your gang?	Not in a gang	138	47.42%	8	17.78%	130	52.85%
		1 to 5	5	1.72%	2	4.44%	3	1.22%
		6 to 10	11	3.78%	8	17.78%	3	1.22%
		11 to 20	7	2.41%	6	13.33%	1	0.41%
		21 to 30	3	1.03%	1	2.22%	2	0.81%
		More than 30	27	9.28%	20	44.44%	7	2.85%
		No answer given	100	34.36%	0	0.00%	100	40.65%
34	How many boys belong to your gang?	No boys	79	27.15%	6	13.33%	73	29.67%
		1 to 5	6	2.06%	3	6.67%	3	1.22%
		6 to 10	9	3.09%	5	11.11%	4	1.63%
		11 to 20	8	2.75%	5	11.11%	3	1.22%
		21 to 30	8	2.75%	6	13.33%	2	0.81%
		More than 30	26	8.93%	16	35.56%	10	4.07%
		No answer given	155	53.26%	4	8.89%	151	61.38%

35	How many girls belong to your gang?	No girls	83	28.52%	6	13.33%	77	31.30%
		1 to 5	10	3.44%	6	13.33%	4	1.63%
		6 to 10	11	3.78%	4	8.89%	7	2.85%
		11 to 20	10	3.44%	10	22.22%	0	0.00%
		21 to 30	7	2.41%	3	6.67%	4	1.63%
		More than 30	14	4.81%	12	26.67%	2	0.81%
		No answer given	156	53.61%	4	8.89%	152	61.79%
Q.#	Question	Possible Results	All repondents		Specifically those who are/have been in a gang		Specifically those who are not/have not been in a gang	
35	If you belong to a gang, suppose the circle below represents your gang. How far from the center of the gang are you?	1	8	2.75%	3	6.67%	5	2.03%
		2	8	2.75%	4	8.89%	4	1.63%
		3	16	5.50%	12	26.67%	4	1.63%
		4	7	2.41%	6	13.33%	1	0.41%
		5	10	3.44%	2	4.44%	8	3.25%
		"20"	1	0.34%	0	0.00%	1	0.41%
		No answer given	241	82.82%	18	40.00%	223	90.65%
If you are in a gang, do the following describe your gang?								
36	You can join before age 13.	No	55	18.90%	21	46.67%	34	13.82%
		Yes	40	13.75%	19	42.22%	21	8.54%
		No answer given	196	67.35%	5	11.11%	191	77.64%
37	There are initiation rites.	No	50	17.18%	13	28.89%	37	15.04%
		Yes	42	14.43%	24	53.33%	18	7.32%
		No answer given	199	68.38%	8	17.78%	191	77.64%
38	The gang has established leaders.	No	43	14.78%	11	24.44%	32	13.01%
		Yes	48	16.49%	25	55.56%	23	9.35%
		No answer given	200	68.73%	9	20.00%	191	77.64%
39	The gang has regular meetings.	No	44	15.12%	14	31.11%	30	12.20%
		Yes	45	15.46%	21	46.67%	24	9.76%
		No answer given	202	69.42%	10	22.22%	192	78.05%
40	The gang has specific rules or codes.	No	41	14.09%	12	26.67%	29	11.79%
		Yes	50	17.18%	24	53.33%	26	10.57%
		No answer given	200	68.73%	9	20.00%	191	77.64%

41	Gang members have specific roles.	No	39	13.40%	8	17.78%	31	12.60%	
		Yes	52	17.87%	28	62.22%	24	9.76%	
		No answer given	20	6.87%	9	20.00%	11	4.47%	
42	There are roles for each age group.	No	55	18.90%	18	40.00%	37	15.04%	
		Yes	36	12.37%	17	37.78%	19	7.72%	
		No answer given	200	68.73%	10	22.22%	190	77.24%	
43	The gang has symbols or colors.	No	39	13.40%	6	13.33%	33	13.41%	
		Yes	50	17.18%	28	62.22%	22	8.94%	
		No answer given	202	69.42%	11	24.44%	191	77.64%	
44	There are specific roles for girls.	No	52	17.87%	17	37.78%	35	14.23%	
		Yes	38	13.06%	18	40.00%	20	8.13%	
		No answer given	201	69.07%	10	22.22%	191	77.64%	
Q.#	Question	Possible Results	All repondents		Specifically those who are/have been in a gang		Specifically those who are not/have not been in a gang		
45	Why did you join the gang?	For fun	20	6.87%	15	33.33%	5	2.03%	
		For protection	16	5.50%	10	22.22%	6	2.44%	
		A friend was in the gang	21	7.22%	14	31.11%	7	2.85%	
		A brother or sister was in the gang	6	2.06%	2	4.44%	4	1.63%	
		I was forced to join	6	2.06%	3	6.67%	3	1.22%	
		To get respect	12	4.12%	8	17.78%	4	1.63%	
		For money	10	3.44%	4	8.89%	6	2.44%	
		To fit in better	7	2.41%	4	8.89%	3	1.22%	
		Other	12	4.12%	11	24.44%	1	0.41%	
		Not in a gang	75	25.77%	3	6.67%	72	29.27%	
		No answer given	169	58.08%	6	13.33%	163	66.26%	
		Responses for "Other"			0.00%		0.00%		0.00%
		No "Other" reason given	4	1.37%	3	6.67%	1	0.41%	
		"Because I was from N.Y."	1	0.34%	1	2.22%	0	0.00%	
		"Cause I wanted to"	1	0.34%	1	2.22%	0	0.00%	
		"Cousin in gang"	1	0.34%	1	2.22%	0	0.00%	
		"Good gang"	1	0.34%	1	2.22%	0	0.00%	
"Just cause"	1	0.34%	1	2.22%	0	0.00%			
"My father is O.G. Piru Blood"	1	0.34%	1	2.22%	0	0.00%			
"To get respect"	1	0.34%	1	2.22%	0	0.00%			

		"Protect Siblings"	1	0.34%	1	2.22%	0	0.00%
Q.#	Question	Possible Results	All repondents		Specifically those who are/have been in a gang		Specifically those who are not/have not been in a gang	
If you are in a gang, does you gang do the following things?								
46	Help out in the community	No	67	23.02%	23	51.11%	44	17.89%
		Yes	25	8.59%	11	24.44%	14	5.69%
		No answer given	196	67.35%	8	17.78%	188	76.42%
		No answer provided	3	1.03%	3	6.67%	0	0.00%
47	Get in fights with other gangs	No	49	16.84%	8	17.78%	41	16.67%
		Yes	42	14.43%	25	55.56%	17	6.91%
		No answer given	197	67.70%	9	20.00%	188	76.42%
		No answer provided	3	1.03%	3	6.67%	0	0.00%
48	Provide protection for each other	No	43	14.78%	6	13.33%	37	15.04%
		Yes	47	16.15%	27	60.00%	20	8.13%
		No answer given	198	68.04%	9	20.00%	189	76.83%
		No answer provided	3	1.03%	3	6.67%	0	0.00%
49	Steal things	No	55	18.90%	13	28.89%	42	17.07%
		Yes	36	12.37%	20	44.44%	16	6.50%
		No answer given	197	67.70%	9	20.00%	188	76.42%
		No answer provided	3	1.03%	3	6.67%	0	0.00%
50	Rob other people	No	52	17.87%	10	22.22%	42	17.07%
		Yes	40	13.75%	24	53.33%	16	6.50%
		No answer given	196	67.35%	8	17.78%	188	76.42%
		No answer provided	3	1.03%	3	6.67%	0	0.00%
51	Steal cars	No	56	19.24%	15	33.33%	41	16.67%
		Yes	33	11.34%	18	40.00%	15	6.10%
		No answer given	199	68.38%	9	20.00%	190	77.24%
		No answer provided	3	1.03%	3	6.67%	0	0.00%
52	Sell Marijuana	No	48	16.49%	7	15.56%	41	16.67%
		Yes	44	15.12%	27	60.00%	17	6.91%
		No answer given	196	67.35%	8	17.78%	188	76.42%
		No answer provided	3	1.03%	3	6.67%	0	0.00%

53	Sell other illegal drugs	No	53	18.21%	11	24.44%	42	17.07%
		Yes	37	12.71%	21	46.67%	16	6.50%
		No answer given	198	68.04%	10	22.22%	188	76.42%
		No answer provided	3	1.03%	3	6.67%	0	0.00%
54	Damage or destroy property	No	50	17.18%	9	20.00%	41	16.67%
		Yes	42	14.43%	25	55.56%	17	6.91%
		No answer given	196	67.35%	8	17.78%	188	76.42%
		No answer provided	3	1.03%	3	6.67%	0	0.00%
Q.#	Question	Possible Results	All repondents		Specifically those who are/have been in a gang		Specifically those who are not/have not been in a gang	
The next questions ask about the neighborhood and community you live in								
55	If you wanted to get some beer, wine, or hard liquor (for example, vodka, whiskey, or gin), how easy would it be for you to get some?	Very Hard	63	21.65%	4	8.89%	59	23.98%
		Sort of Hard	42	14.43%	9	20.00%	33	13.41%
		Sort of Easy	60	20.62%	7	15.56%	53	21.54%
		Very Easy	90	30.93%	18	40.00%	72	29.27%
		No answer given	33	11.34%	4	8.89%	29	11.79%
		No answer provided	3	1.03%	3	6.67%	0	0.00%
56	If you wanted to get some cigarettes, how easy would it be for you to get some?	Very Hard	48	16.49%	3	6.67%	45	18.29%
		Sort of Hard	28	9.62%	4	8.89%	24	9.76%
		Sort of Easy	43	14.78%	6	13.33%	37	15.04%
		Very Easy	136	46.74%	26	57.78%	110	44.72%
		No answer given	33	11.34%	3	6.67%	30	12.20%
		No answer provided	3	1.03%	3	6.67%	0	0.00%
57	If you wanted to get a drug like cocaine, LSD, or amphetamines, how easy would it be for you to get some?	Very Hard	103	35.40%	9	20.00%	94	38.21%
		Sort of Hard	48	16.49%	9	20.00%	39	15.85%
		Sort of Easy	46	15.81%	7	15.56%	39	15.85%
		Very Easy	56	19.24%	14	31.11%	42	17.07%
		No answer given	35	12.03%	3	6.67%	32	13.01%
		No answer provided	3	1.03%	3	6.67%	0	0.00%
58	If you wanted to get a handgun, how easy would it be for you to get some?	Very Hard	77	26.46%	4	8.89%	73	29.67%
		Sort of Hard	64	21.99%	8	17.78%	56	22.76%
		Sort of Easy	59	20.27%	13	28.89%	46	18.70%

		Very Easy	52	17.87%	14	31.11%	38	15.45%
		No answer given	36	12.37%	3	6.67%	33	13.41%
		No answer provided	3	1.03%	3	6.67%	0	0.00%
59	If you wanted to get some marijuana, how easy would it be for you to get some?	Very Hard	60	20.62%	7	15.56%	53	21.54%
		Sort of Hard	31	10.65%	4	8.89%	27	10.98%
		Sort of Easy	28	9.62%	7	15.56%	21	8.54%
		Very Easy	135	46.39%	21	46.67%	114	46.34%
		No answer given	34	11.68%	3	6.67%	31	12.60%
		No answer provided	3	1.03%	3	6.67%	0	0.00%
Q.#	Question	Possible Results	All repondents		Specifically those who are/have been in a gang		Specifically those who are not/have not been in a gang	
60	If a kid smoked marijuana in your neighborhood, would he or she be caught by the police?	NO!	94	32.30%	14	31.11%	80	32.52%
		no	89	30.58%	15	33.33%	74	30.08%
		yes	41	14.09%	4	8.89%	37	15.04%
		YES	31	10.65%	6	13.33%	25	10.16%
		No answer given	33	11.34%	3	6.67%	30	12.20%
		No answer provided	3	1.03%	3	6.67%	0	0.00%
About how many adults (over 21) have you known personally who in the past year have:								
61	Used marijuana, crack, cocaine, or other drugs?	None	114	39.18%	10	22.22%	104	42.28%
		1 adult	33	11.34%	3	6.67%	30	12.20%
		2 adults	33	11.34%	7	15.56%	26	10.57%
		3 or 4 adults	29	9.97%	6	13.33%	23	9.35%
		5 or more adults	50	17.18%	13	28.89%	37	15.04%
		No answer given	29	9.97%	3	6.67%	26	10.57%
		No answer provided	3	1.03%	3	6.67%	0	0.00%
62	Sold or dealt drugs?	None	123	42.27%	7	15.56%	116	47.15%
		1 adult	34	11.68%	7	15.56%	27	10.98%
		2 adults	25	8.59%	5	11.11%	20	8.13%
		3 or 4 adults	20	6.87%	5	11.11%	15	6.10%
		5 or more adults	55	18.90%	13	28.89%	42	17.07%
		No answer given	31	10.65%	5	11.11%	26	10.57%
		No answer provided	3	1.03%	3	6.67%	0	0.00%

63	Done other things that could get them in trouble with the police like stealing, selling stolen good, mugging, or assaulting others, etc.	None	125	42.96%	9	20.00%	116	47.15%
		1 adult	41	14.09%	7	15.56%	34	13.82%
		2 adults	31	10.65%	11	24.44%	20	8.13%
		3 or 4 adults	17	5.84%	3	6.67%	14	5.69%
		5 or more adults	39	13.40%	8	17.78%	31	12.60%
		No answer given	34	11.68%	4	8.89%	30	12.20%
		No answer provided	3	1.03%	3	6.67%	0	0.00%
Q.#	Question	Possible Results	All repondents		Specifically those who are/have been in a gang		Specifically those who are not/have not been in a gang	
About how many adults (over 21) have you known personally who in the past year have:								
64	Gotten drunk or high?	None	88	30.24%	8	17.78%	80	32.52%
		1 adult	29	9.97%	5	11.11%	24	9.76%
		2 adults	19	6.53%	3	6.67%	16	6.50%
		3 or 4 adults	24	8.25%	3	6.67%	21	8.54%
		5 or more adults	94	32.30%	19	42.22%	75	30.49%
		No answer given	34	11.68%	4	8.89%	30	12.20%
		No answer provided	3	1.03%	3	6.67%	0	0.00%
Which of the following activities for people your age are available in your community?								
65	Sports teams	No	57	19.59%	16	35.56%	41	16.67%
		Yes	197	67.70%	21	46.67%	176	71.54%
		No answer given	36	12.37%	5	11.11%	31	12.60%
		No answer provided	3	1.03%	3	6.67%	0	0.00%
66	Scouting	No	102	35.05%	16	35.56%	86	34.96%
		Yes	137	47.08%	19	42.22%	118	47.97%
		No answer given	49	16.84%	7	15.56%	42	17.07%
		No answer provided	3	1.03%	3	6.67%	0	0.00%
67	Boys & girls clubs	No	77	26.46%	14	31.11%	63	25.61%
		Yes	168	57.73%	22	48.89%	146	59.35%
		No answer given	43	14.78%	6	13.33%	37	15.04%
		No answer provided	3	1.03%	3	6.67%	0	0.00%
68	4-H clubs	No	128	43.99%	23	51.11%	105	42.68%

		Yes	103	35.40%	11	24.44%	92	37.40%
		No answer given	57	19.59%	8	17.78%	49	19.92%
		No answer provided	3	1.03%	3	6.67%	0	0.00%
69	Service clubs	No	101	34.71%	15	33.33%	86	34.96%
		Yes	133	45.70%	20	44.44%	113	45.93%
		No answer given	54	18.56%	7	15.56%	47	19.11%
		No answer provided	3	1.03%	3	6.67%	0	0.00%
Q.#	Question	Possible Results	All repondents		Specifically those who are/have been in a gang		Specifically those who are not/have not been in a gang	
70	How many times have you changed schools (including changing from elementary to middle and middle to high school) since kindergarten?	Never	59	20.27%	8	17.78%	51	20.73%
		1 or 2 times	60	20.62%	11	24.44%	49	19.92%
		3 or 4 times	86	29.55%	11	24.44%	75	30.49%
		5 or 6 times	31	10.65%	2	4.44%	29	11.79%
		7 or more times	21	7.22%	6	13.33%	15	6.10%
		No Answer given	30	10.31%	4	8.89%	26	10.57%
		No answer provided	3	1.03%	3	6.67%	0	0.00%
71	Have you changed homes in the past year?	No	176	60.48%	19	42.22%	157	63.82%
		Yes	80	27.49%	19	42.22%	61	24.80%
		No answer given	32	11.00%	4	8.89%	28	11.38%
		No answer provided	3	1.03%	3	6.67%	0	0.00%
72	I feel safe in my neighborhood	NO!	35	12.03%	7	15.56%	28	11.38%
		no	27	9.28%	4	8.89%	23	9.35%
		yes	107	36.77%	13	28.89%	94	38.21%
		YES!	88	30.24%	14	31.11%	74	30.08%
		No answer given	31	10.65%	4	8.89%	27	10.98%
		No answer provided	3	1.03%	3	6.67%	0	0.00%

Youth Survey Summary Results

	Gang Members	Non-gang Members
% Female	53.00%	64.63%
% Latino/Hispanic	16.16	14.60
% w/grades D or lower	15.55	4.87
% w/ a close friend who...		
Has been suspended	71.11	40.25
Carried a handgun	46.67	15.04
Sold drugs	51.11	26.02
Stolen a car	37.78	15.86
Has been arrested	57.78	29.68
Dropped out	31.11	18.70
Was a member of a gang	66.67	22.36
% who identified the following as “Very Easy” or “Sort of Easy” to get:		
Alcohol	55.56	50.81
Cigarettes	71.11	59.76
Drugs (cocaine, crack, etc.)	46.67	32.92
Handgun	60.00	34.15
Marijuana	62.23	54.88
% who believe that a kid smoking marijuana in their neighborhood would be caught by the police	22.22	25.02
% who have known 1 or more adults who have done the following w/in the past year:		
Use crack & other drugs	64.44	47.15
Sold/dealt drugs	66.67	42.28
Done other illegal things	64.44	40.65
Gotten drunk or high	66.67	55.28
% who identify the following as being available in their community:		
Sports teams	46.67	71.54
Scouting	42.22	47.97
Boys & Girls Clubs	48.89	59.35
4-H Clubs	24.44	37.40
Service Clubs	44.44	45.93
Feel safe at school	51.11	72.36
Feel safe in neighborhood	60.00	68.29

The only areas in which the non-gang %s are higher than the gang %s.

SECTION 4: Community Perceptions

The community plays a significant role in preventing and reducing gang membership and activity. Public perceptions regarding local gang issues help shape our community's understanding of Wake County's gang problem and our response to it. In order to gain these perceptions, community members completed surveys, provided input during the Partnership's gang awareness presentations, and participated in focus groups.

Focus groups were held in three locations in Wake County during October and November 2005, with community residents and leaders invited to participate. Forums were held at the DuBois Center in Wake Forest, the Wake County Commons building in Raleigh and the Fuquay Varina United Methodist Church. The primary focus of each forum was to gain input and understanding of how community members view local gang activity and their thoughts about how gangs affect their community. Of the 119 community members participating in the focus groups, most (111) participants also completed a 2-page survey at the close of the focus groups. The focus groups were arranged among 15 tables facilitated by trained facilitators. The focus group questions and a transcript of the responses follow. Each response in the transcript is followed by the number of groups within the 15 tables that discussed the particular response in their group.

In addition to the focus groups, participants were asked to complete a survey related to their views on gang activity and what they were experiencing in their community. There were 118 total responses to the survey, 111 from focus group participants and 7 from community members who were not a part of the focus groups. The survey was adapted from the *Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP) Comprehensive Gang Model "A Guide to Assessing Your Community's Youth Gang Problem"*. The survey instrument and data related to the responses follows the transcripts from the focus groups.

Wake County Gang Prevention Partnership Community Forum Focus group questions

1. Tell us your name and what city or town you live in.
2. When you hear the word “gang”, what comes to your mind?
3. Tell us about any signs that you are seeing that might lead you to believe that gangs are present in your community?
4. What are the major concerns that you have about gangs in your community?
5. What do you believe are the reasons that young people in your community are attracted to joining gangs?
6. What should be done to reduce gang activity in your community?
7. What should be done to prevent gang involvement in your community?
8. Have we missed anything? Is there anything that we should have talked about but didn't?

Focus Group Responses

Question: Tell us about any signs that you're seeing that might lead you to believe that gangs are present in your community

People congregating for no purpose.....	3		
Kids conforming, wearing the same color clothing.....	8		
Adults instructing a middle school kid on how to be a gang member.....	1		
Adolescents who are pushing to do more creative and exotic things.....	1		
Cary Police Dept. are beginning to admit that there is a gang presence.....	1		
The whole hip-hop trend – young kids trying to emulate older ones.....	1		
Young males gathering.....	1	Numbers painted.....	2
Peer pressure.....	1	Tattoos.....	7
Not fitting in.....	1	Disrespect.....	1
Wanting to belong to something.....	1	Anger.....	1
Dangerous.....	1	Durham	2
Colors	6	Fighting/violence.....	4
Handkerchiefs/bandanas	4	Knives and guns.....	2
Rivalry.....	1	Vandalism.....	3
Symbolism.....	2	Drug Activity.....	3
Kids claiming territory.....	1	Shoes on telephone lines	2
Identification.....	2	Pit bulls.....	1
Gang language.....	1	School suspensions.....	2
Hand signs.....	10	Kids skipping school.....	1
Spraying/graffiti.....	12	Increase in crime.....	3

Question: What are the major concerns that you have about gangs in your community?

The growth of gangs/gangs can grow quickly by number..... 6

The issue is bigger than we think..... 6

Elementary school kids are being recruited into gangs..... 4

Fear of children being pressured to be in a gang – recruitment..... 8

Gangs involved in drugs/ trafficking..... 6

The violence associated with gangs. Becoming victimized as an innocent bystander..... 7

Fear of retaliation for reporting suspicions of gang activity..... 1

Property damage..... 2

Overall crime rate..... 3

The endangerment gangs pose to family members and people in the community..... 8

The negative impact that drugs and gangs have on the stability of neighborhoods and the community..... 5

Fear that gangs will become a “way of life” in the community – fear of them taking over..... 2

Overall safety for kids and for myself – we are restricted in where we can go/freedom..... 9

Elderly neighbors having things stolen from their homes – elderly are unaware of how to protect themselves..... 1

Citizens in the community aren’t coming to discuss the issue and what to do about it..... 2

Community has taken too long to address the issue..... 3

Lack of information/action..... 4

There are too many kids involved in the court system..... 1

We don’t always know the best response to the problem – we don’t know what action to take to combat the problem..... 5

No money is spent on prevention or intervention – most is spent on jails and locked facilities – we need a balance 2

The wasted lives of the young people involved – the overall impact on children..... 5

Kids are getting attention for being in fights that are said to be “gang related”..... 1

Concerns about “wannabees” – it has the potential to escalate..... 2

Concerned about the youth who join not having the support they need..... 2

People in the gang have more contact with the youth than more positive people – parents don’t have enough free time to spend with their kids..... 1

We should encourage school resource officers to be in elementary schools..... 1

School curriculum is not desirable to all kids – we need to consider skill/trade education in the public schools..... 1

Long term suspended youth don’t have anything positive to do..... 2

Lack of communication between agencies to help teachers.....	1
Teachers are working under difficult situations and may not be prepared to (or be creative enough) to deal with the issue.....	1
Public schools are in denial.....	1
Transportation is a problem in getting kids to programs	1
How to help kids get involved with good people.....	2
Lack of respect for authority – disrespect for family unit.....	1
Denial of the problem.....	2
Lack of laws regarding gang activity.....	1
Gang persona has changed – they are more organized and education oriented and “professional”.....	2
How to fight media’s representation of gangs.....	1
More Latinos being incarcerated.....	1
Negative stereotypes of Latinos.....	1

Question: What do you believe are the reasons that young people in your community are attracted to joining gangs?

The need to belong – family substitute.....	14
Peer pressure.....	4
Kids don't have anything positive to do – recreation or job opportunities.....	7
Changes in society – kids have more time on their hands.....	2
Boredom.....	3
Homeless kids have nothing to do.....	1
Lack of awareness of available opportunities.....	2
Isolated communities in the county – transportation problems – resources are not in all of the communities.....	2
Lack of familiar environment results in cultural clash.....	1
Kids emulate older people.....	4
Love.....	2
Family issues/disintegration of family life.....	11
Denial of problem on parents' part – reality swept under the rug.....	2
Lack of community support.....	1
Protection, safety, security.....	8
Power.....	4
Recognition/respect/attention – it's cool.....	9
Money, material possessions.....	8
Family members in gangs.....	2
Kids who are “thrown out of school” and parents don't have alternative place for them.....	1
Minority kids feel like outcasts in schools – racism.....	2
School system does not understand minority youth – cultural diversity is a big issue.....	2
Kids don't have basic skills and can't communicate, and they feel bad about themselves...	3
Media – seen as exciting and a way to get attention – they do what they see in videos.....	8
Parents not taking responsibility – not teaching their children right from wrong.....	1
Drugs.....	2
Anger.....	1

Question: What should be done to reduce gang activity in your community?

Organized activities – available when and where kids need them the most.....	10
Provide kids with viable options that they are likely to attend	7
Internships/job opportunities for younger kids.....	4
Increase the age of after school programs.....	3
More bilingual professionals to support and guide youth.....	1
More resources in Spanish.....	1
Talk to and listen to kids – educate them.....	7
Make a special effort to invite young people to discussions – forums.....	3
Get feedback from former gang members.....	2
Teach kids to read.....	1
Neighbors need to be more involved /community watches.....	8
Property owners (some slumlords) are part of the problem – this needs to be addressed...	1
Churches should be more involved.....	6
Good role models.....	2
Parents need help/guidance	4
Educate the parents.....	7
Provide comprehensive list of what signs, colors, etc. to look out for.....	2
Family involvement - Involve more families in discussions about gangs, particularly younger families.....	7
Bring back family and basic values/rules – take back parental control.....	3
Too many kids are suspended, and the kids have nothing to do.....	2
Encourage kids to go to administration at school to report suspected gang activity.....	1
Make teachers and principals more aware of cultural diversity issues.....	1
Educate the school system.....	1
There should be a community response from churches, DSS, neighborhoods and others (even at state level) – we must work together – coordinate and communicate.....	6
Recognize that this is our problem and don't blame the kids – they are doing what society pushes them to do.....	2
Find alternatives to incarceration.....	2
Zero tolerance of the problems coupled with alternative activities.....	3
Stricter penalties.....	2
Focus on reducing criminal acts in general – not just gang activity.....	1
Need to deal with the problem of drugs in Wakefield and Wake Forest.....	1
Identify places that gang activity exists and send the “right person” to speak with community members.....	1

Get the police out to get to know people in the neighborhood – police substations.....	2
Police should allow anonymous calls about gang activity.....	1
When graffiti appears, take a picture, call law enforcement and get it removed.....	2
Get more people out to vote.....	1
Too much bureaucracy in government programs.....	1
Focus on the positive, not the negative.....	2
Need to have foresight – not wait until tagged.....	1
Reinstitute the draft and draft only gang members – it will give them some way to focus their energy.....	1
Schools should revamp the free lunch program.....	1
Uniforms in school.....	1
Educate politicians.....	1
Remove cultural biases/improve cultural awareness.....	3
Promote peaceful solutions.....	1

Question: What should be done to prevent gang activity in your community?

Parents need to take responsibility for their children – don’t place the responsibility solely on schools during school hours – visit the schools..... 3

Involve parents in addressing the problems of their children..... 5

Provide parenting skills..... 4

Need to break the welfare cycle..... 1

Restore respect in the home..... 1

Parents need to put fear in their children; when you say it, mean it. Don’t spare the rod..... 1

Kids need more love and support – need to spend more time with kids..... 2

Community groups, parent groups and neighborhood groups need to come up with a plan for dealing with gangs..... 4

Schools need to provide outreach to parents – particularly to those who can’t come to the schools..... 2

Schools should put more focus on kids who just need basic skills – they often move too fast for some kids..... 1

Stop redistricting and spreading kids out..... 1

Go to the Board of Education and find out which kids are being suspended and target them to prevent involvement..... 1

Consistency from the schools on enforcement..... 1

Focus on prevention..... 3

Early intervention..... 1

Get them while they’re young..... 2

Increase alternatives around the county, not just Raleigh – and not one size fits all..... 2

Provide the kids with something constructive to do – put the emphasis on programming for the kids – useful things so they think about the future..... 8

Provide opportunities for the youth to practice the skills that they learn in programs – places they can hang out, have recreational opportunities, learn job skills, computer skills and be more creative..... 3

Programs for kids who “fall through the cracks” – those who can’t afford activities, those without the grade to play sports..... 2

Football league takes preventive measures..... 1

More positive role models for youth..... 2

Give kids opportunity to build up their self esteem..... 1

Listen to, educate and support the youth..... 6

Educate adults – change adult perception of youth – public awareness..... 6

Change media representation/ stereotypes of youth..... 4

Find a way to keep successful minority youth in poor communities.....	1
Break the model of the successful gang member – make gang membership less glorified...	2
More social services – mental health services, treatment for drug addiction, access to counseling.....	1
The Hispanic community needs to unite.....	1
Prosecution – enforce laws and policies – tougher consequences.....	2
Stay connected with police gang unit.....	1
Contact law enforcement if you see illegal activities.....	2
Contact your political representatives.....	1
Have more forums.....	1
Isolate them.....	1
Have more diversified events.....	1
Increase church involvement.....	1
Enhance current gang policy.....	1
Support programs and group homes that are doing well.....	1
Have more Latino inclusion (immersion) programs.....	1

Wake County Gang Prevention Partnership Community Survey

Gender

- Male
 Female

What race do you consider yourself to be?

- White/Caucasian
 Black/African American
 Native American/American Indian
 Latino
 Asian
 Other _____

What is your:

Zip code _____

What neighborhood do you live in?

Are you: (check all that apply)

- An elected official
 City/town/county manager
 Faith leader
 Wake County resident
 Business leader
 Law enforcement
 School employee
 Other _____
 Government employee
 Human service private program provider
 Wake County Parent

1. How safe do you feel in your community?

- Not safe Somewhat Safe Safe Very Safe

2. Do you feel as safe in your community as you did 2 years ago?

- NO YES

Please explain _____

3. Please pick the top 3 concerns that you have about your community:

- Unemployment Drug use Domestic violence
 Violent crimes Drug dealing Prostitution
 Firearm violence Property crimes (e.g. Burglary, vandalism) Insufficient street lighting
 Gang activity Graffiti Law enforcement effectiveness
 Loud music Truancy I have no concerns
 Boarded up homes Other _____

4. Do you think there are gangs:

In your neighborhood?

- NO YES

In your city or town?

- NO YES

In Wake County?

- NO YES

Why do you believe this? _____

5. Do you think your child(ren) is in a gang or at risk of being in a gang?

- NO YES Possibly Don't have children

6. In the past year, has gang activity in your community:

- Increased Decreased Remained about the same Unsure Don't have gang activity

7. Please pick the top 3 problems, if any, that gangs cause in your community:

- Gangs are not a problem Increase in weapon crimes Family disruption
 Increase in violent crime Increase in fear for safety School disruption
 Increase in drug crimes Fighting Public nuisance
 Property damage Graffiti Prostitution
 Increased loitering Other _____

8. Please pick the top 3 reasons you believe young people are involved in gangs in your community:

- | | | |
|---|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Gangs are not a problem | <input type="checkbox"/> Poverty | <input type="checkbox"/> Power |
| <input type="checkbox"/> School problems (academic, behavioral) | <input type="checkbox"/> Boredom | <input type="checkbox"/> Need for Protection |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Lack of positive youth activities | <input type="checkbox"/> To feel love/sense of belonging | <input type="checkbox"/> Gang members move from other areas |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Family/friends in gangs | <input type="checkbox"/> Drug/alcohol abuse | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____ | <input type="checkbox"/> Family Problems | |

9. Please pick the top 3 things you believe should be done about issues related to gangs in Wake County:

- | | |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Gangs are not a problem | <input type="checkbox"/> Increased family involvement |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Increased law enforcement presence | <input type="checkbox"/> Early prevention programs |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Increased prosecution of gang members | <input type="checkbox"/> Recreational programs |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Job provisions and job training | <input type="checkbox"/> Positive, adult supervised activities |
| <input type="checkbox"/> School suspensions | <input type="checkbox"/> Curfews |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Mentoring | <input type="checkbox"/> Info/helpline |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Tutoring | <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____ |

10. Please rank the following from most responsible (score of 1) for dealing with issues related to gangs to the least responsible (score of 12):

- | | |
|--|---------------------------------------|
| ___ Neighborhood Associations | ___ Housing Authority |
| ___ Places of worship | ___ Mental Health Treatment Providers |
| ___ Court/Criminal Justice System | ___ Community Residents |
| ___ Family | ___ Wake County Human Services |
| ___ Law enforcement | ___ City Government |
| ___ Service Providers (agencies who have activities or programs for youth) | ___ County Government |
| | ___ Schools |

11. How satisfied are you with the current response to gang activity in your community:

- Not satisfied Satisfied Very satisfied Don't know

12. How has your community responded to gang activity? (Check all that apply)

- | | | |
|---|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Increased law enforcement presence | <input type="checkbox"/> Curfews | <input type="checkbox"/> Gang units in law enforcement agencies |
| <input type="checkbox"/> School suspensions | <input type="checkbox"/> Mentoring | <input type="checkbox"/> Positive, adult supervised activities |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Programs/recreation | <input type="checkbox"/> Tutoring | <input type="checkbox"/> Job provisions and job training |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Early prevention programs | <input type="checkbox"/> Info/Helpline | <input type="checkbox"/> Don't know |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____ | | |

13. What are you willing to do, if anything, to help deal with issues related to gangs in your community?

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Nothing | <input type="checkbox"/> Form sports leagues/teams |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Neighborhood outreach | <input type="checkbox"/> Mentor |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Become a youth group leader | <input type="checkbox"/> Teach skills (eg. auto mechanics, crafts, music, computer skills, electronics) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Tutor | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____ | |

Encuesta de la Comunidad

Trabajo en Conjunto para Prevención de Pandillas en el Condado de Wake

Sexo Masculino Femenino

De que raza se considera usted? Blanco Negro/Americano Africano Indio Americano/a Latino Asiático Otro _____

Cuál es su: Código Postal _____

En que barrio/vecindad vive usted? _____

Es usted: (marque todas las que corresponda)

Oficial electo Gerente de Ciudad/Condado Líder de Fe Líder de Negocios Agente de la Policía Empleado de Escuela Empleado de Gobierno Proveedor de Sector Privado de Servicios Humanos Padre/Madre en Condado de Wake

Residente del Condado de Wake Otro _____

1. Cuán seguro se siente en su comunidad/vecindad?

No seguro/a Un tanto seguro/a Seguro/a Bien Seguro/a

2. Se siente tan seguro en su comunidad/vecindad como hace dos años atrás?

NO SI

Por favor explique _____

3. Por favor escoja las tres (3) preocupaciones mayores que tiene de su comunidad/vecindad:

<input type="checkbox"/> Desempleo	<input type="checkbox"/> Uso de Drogas	<input type="checkbox"/> Violencia Doméstica
<input type="checkbox"/> Violencia Criminal	<input type="checkbox"/> Tráfico de Drogas	<input type="checkbox"/> Prostitución
<input type="checkbox"/> Violencia de Arma de Fuego (pistolas)	<input type="checkbox"/> Crimen de Propiedad (ej. Robo, Vandalismo)	<input type="checkbox"/> Calles con poca luz
<input type="checkbox"/> Actividad de Pandillas	<input type="checkbox"/> Graffiti	<input type="checkbox"/> La Efectividad Policiaca
<input type="checkbox"/> Música Alta	<input type="checkbox"/> Jóvenes Faltando a la Escuela	<input type="checkbox"/> No tengo preocupaciones
<input type="checkbox"/> Casas Condenadas		<input type="checkbox"/> Otro _____

4. Cree que hay pandillas:

En su vecindad/barrio?	En su ciudad o pueblo?	En el Condado de Wake?
<input type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/> SI	<input type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/> SI	<input type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/> SI

Porqué cree usted esto? _____

5. Usted cree que su hijos/as están en o en riesgo de estar en pandillas?

NO SI Posible No tengo niños

6. El año pasado, la actividad de pandillas en su comunidad:

Aumentó Disminuyó Permaneció igual No estoy seguro/a No tiene actividad de pandillas

7. Por favor escoja los tres (3) problemas, si alguno, que las pandillas causan en su comunidad:

<input type="checkbox"/> Pandillas no son problema	<input type="checkbox"/> Aumento en Crimen de Arma de Fuego (con pistolas)	<input type="checkbox"/> Problemas Familiares
<input type="checkbox"/> Aumento en Violencia Criminal	<input type="checkbox"/> Aumento de temor por seguridad	<input type="checkbox"/> Problemas Escolares
<input type="checkbox"/> Aumento en Crimen de Drogas	<input type="checkbox"/> Peleas	<input type="checkbox"/> Alteración Orden Público
<input type="checkbox"/> Daño de Propiedades	<input type="checkbox"/> Graffiti	<input type="checkbox"/> Prostitución
<input type="checkbox"/> Aumento de holgazanería		<input type="checkbox"/> Otro _____

8. Escoja tres (3) razones por las que usted cree, en su comunidad, los jóvenes están envueltos en pandillas:

- | | | |
|--|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Pandillas no son un problema | <input type="checkbox"/> Pobreza | <input type="checkbox"/> Para tener Poder |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Problemas Escolares (académico, y comportamiento) | <input type="checkbox"/> Aburrimiento | <input type="checkbox"/> Necesitan Protección |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Falta de actividades juveniles positivas | <input type="checkbox"/> Para sentirse amado/sentir que son parte de algo | <input type="checkbox"/> Miembros de Pandilla se mudan de otras areas y llegan a la comunidad |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Familiares/amigos en pandillas | <input type="checkbox"/> Abuso de Droga/alcohol | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Otro _____ | <input type="checkbox"/> Problemas Familiares | |

9. Seleccione tres (3) cosas usted cree se deben hacer en relación a pandillas en el Condado de Wake:

- | | |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Pandillas no son un problema | <input type="checkbox"/> Aumentar Participación Familiar |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aumentar la presencia de la Policía | <input type="checkbox"/> Programas de Prevención |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aumentar acción de la ley a miembros de pandillas | <input type="checkbox"/> Programas de Actividad Recreacional |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Proveer trabajo y entrenamiento | <input type="checkbox"/> Actividades Positivas, Supervisadas por Adultos |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Suspensión Escolar | <input type="checkbox"/> Toque de Queda/Restricción en Horarios |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Programa de Mentores | <input type="checkbox"/> Línea Telefónica con Información de Ayuda |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Tutoría | <input type="checkbox"/> Otro _____ |

10. Numere los siguientes de acuerdo al más responsable (anote el 1) en tratar con asuntos relacionados con pandillas, y el menos responsable (anote el 13):

- | | |
|--|--|
| ___ Asociaciones de Comunidad/Vecindad | ___ Autoridad de Vivienda |
| ___ Iglesias | ___ Proveedores de Tratamiento de Salud Mental |
| ___ Corte/Sistema Judicial del Crimen | ___ Residentes de la Comunidad |
| ___ Familia | ___ Servicios Humanos del Condado de Wake |
| ___ Policía | ___ Gobierno de la Ciudad |
| ___ Agencias de Actividades para Jóvenes | ___ Gobierno del Condado |
| | ___ Escuelas |

11. Qué tan satisfecho está usted con la respuesta actual, a la actividad de pandilla, en su comunidad:

- No satisfecho Satisfecho Bien satisfecho No sé

12. Cómo ha respondido su comunidad a la actividad de pandilla? (Marque todas las que aplican)

- | | | |
|---|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aumento de presencia policiaca | <input type="checkbox"/> Restricción de Horarios | <input type="checkbox"/> Unidades Especializadas en Pandilla en Agencias de Policía |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Suspensión Escolar | <input type="checkbox"/> Mentores | <input type="checkbox"/> Actividades Positivas, Supervisadas por Adultos |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Programas/Recreación | <input type="checkbox"/> Tutores | <input type="checkbox"/> Provisiones de Trabajo y Entrenamiento |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Programas de Prevención | <input type="checkbox"/> Línea Telefónica con Información de Ayuda | <input type="checkbox"/> No sé |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Otro _____ | | |

13. Qué está usted dispuesto hacer, si algo, para ayudar con lo relacionado a pandillas en su comunidad?

- | | |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Nada | <input type="checkbox"/> Formar Equipos Deportivos |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Alcance a la Comunidad/Vecindad | <input type="checkbox"/> Mentor |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Ser un Líder de Grupo de Jóvenes | <input type="checkbox"/> Enseñar destrezas (ej.: mecánica de auto, manualidades, música, computación, electrónica) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Tutor | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Otro _____ | |

Community Survey Results

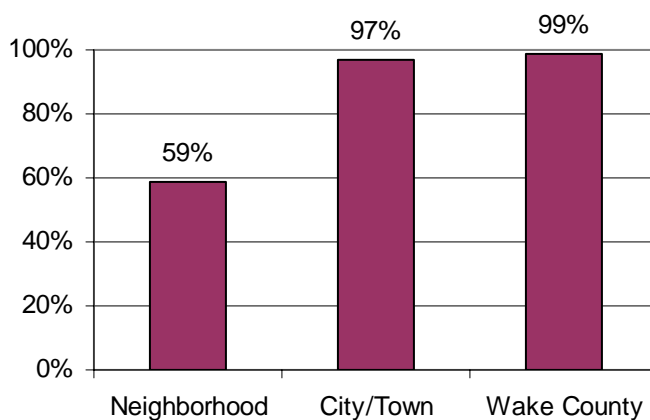
What are the top 3 concerns that you have about your community?

Gang activity	38.14%
Drug dealing	33.05%
Property crimes	27.12%
Drug use	26.27%
Unemployment	25.42%
Violent crimes	24.58%
Law enforcement effectiveness	17.80%
Insufficient street lighting	15.25%
Graffiti	13.56%
Firearm violence	11.02%
Truancy	11.02%
Domestic violence	10.17%
Loud music	9.32%
No concerns	5.08%
Boarded up homes	4.24%
Other	4.24%
Prostitution	3.39%

What are the top 3 problems gangs cause in your community?

School disruption	39.83%
Property damage	37.29%
Increase in fear for safety	35.59%
Increase in drug crimes	32.20%
Graffiti	32.20%
Increase in violent crimes	31.36%
Public nuisance	17.80%
Increased loitering	16.10%
Family disruption	16.10%
Fighting	15.25%
Increase in weapon crimes	7.63%
Prostitution	4.24%
Gangs not a problem	3.39%

Community Survey Results: Presence of Gangs



Are there gangs:

In your neighborhood

No	40.37%
Yes	59.63%

In your city or town

No	2.68%
Yes	97.32%

In Wake County

No	.88%
Yes	99.12%

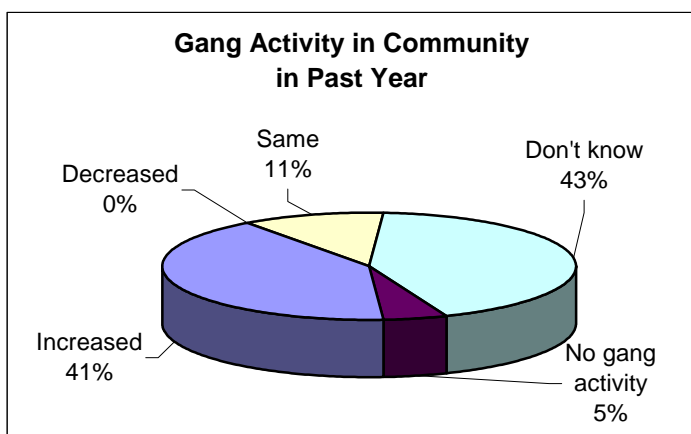
Community Survey Results

In the past year, has gang activity in your community:

Increased	41.03%
Decreased	0.00%
Remains the same	11.11%
Unsure	42.74%
Don't have gang activity	5.13%

Do you think that your child(ren) is in a gang or at risk of being in a gang?

No	43.59%
Yes	11.97%
Possibly	13.68%
No kids	30.77%



What do you believe are the top 3 reasons young people are involved in gangs in your community?

Lack of positive youth activities	65.25%
To feel love/sense of belonging	52.54%
School problems	29.66%
Poverty	29.66%
Boredom	29.66%
Family problems	28.81%
Power	19.49%
Family/friends in gangs	15.25%
Gang members move from other areas	13.56%
Need for protection	11.86%
Drug/alcohol abuse	11.02%
Gangs not a problem	2.54%
Other	2.54%

What do you believe are the top 3 things that should be done about issues related to gangs in Wake County?

Early prevention programs	58.47%
Increased family involvement	50.00%
Positive, adult supervised activities	40.68%
Job provisions and job training	35.59%
Mentoring	33.90%
Recreational programs	25.42%
Increased law enforcement	21.19%
Increased prosecution	18.64%
Info/helpline	6.78%
School suspensions	5.08%
Other	5.08%
Curfews	4.24%
Tutoring	3.39%
Gangs not a problem	0.85%

Community Survey Results

How has your community responded to gang activity? Respondents were to check all that apply.

Don't know	41.53%
Increased law enforcement presence	36.44%
School suspensions	29.66%
Gang units in law enforcement	19.49%
Curfews	11.02%
Early prevention programs	10.17%
Positive, adult supervised activities	9.32%
Info/helpline	8.47%
Programs/recreation	7.63%
Tutoring	7.63%
Mentoring	6.78%
Other	5.08%
Job provisions and job training	2.54%

How satisfied are you with the current response to gang activity in your community?

Not satisfied	41.88%
Satisfied	16.24%
Very satisfied	3.42%
Don't know	38.46%

How safe do you feel in your community?

Not Safe	1.00%
Somewhat Safe	35.00%
Safe	50.00%
Very Safe	14.00%

What are you willing to do, if anything, to help deal with issues related to gangs in your community?

Mentor	50.00%	Tutor	18.64%
Neighborhood outreach	43.22%	Form sports leagues/teams	18.64%
Become a youth group leader	38.98%	Other	10.17%
Teach skills	26.27%	Nothing	3.39%

SECTION 5: Community Resource Inventory

In order to identify programs and services in Wake County that would be able to address the issues of gang involvement and membership, a resource inventory of agencies was completed. The survey was adapted from the *Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP) Comprehensive Gang Model “A Guide to Assessing Your Community’s Youth Gang Problem”*. The survey was sent to over 150 youth service providers in the county to identify programs or services that currently provide or are willing to provide services to gang-involved youth or those at-risk of gang involvement.

Forty-two agencies (representing 57 youth-serving programs) completed the survey; these agencies represent a mix of prevention and intervention/treatment services including community based skill-building, juvenile court services, child mental health, and substance abuse outpatient and residential treatment programs. The number of youth and families served by the individual programs ranges from six in some residential programs to over 200 in some outpatient treatment services. The survey instrument and the results of the survey follow.

Wake County Gang Prevention Partnership Community Resource Inventory

Agency Name			
Address			Area Served/Program Location
Program/Service Name(s)			
Program Contact Name			
Phone Number		Email	
Program Purpose			
Service(s) Provided			
Target Population			
Eligibility Criteria			

Please answer the following questions:

1. If risk assessments are conducted, do they include questions about gang activity knowledge or involvement?
No
Yes

2. Have there been any youth in your program suspected to be involved with gangs? Percentage?
No
Yes Percentage _____

3. Have there been any youth in your program involved with gangs? Percentage?
No
Yes Percentage _____

4. Do any of your programs services address gang involvement/issues? How?
No
Yes How?

5. Do you have any staff with experience, knowledge, or expertise in gang issues or in working with gang involved youth?
No
Yes

6. Do you have any interest in developing the capacity to address gang risk factors in your program/service?
No
Yes

7. Do you have any interest in developing the capacity to address gang involvement in your program/service?
No
Yes

8. Do you have any other comments on this subject?

Survey adapted from the *Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP) Comprehensive Gang Model "A Guide to Assessing Your Community's Youth Gang Problem"*.

Community Resource Inventory Data Summary

Question	Total		Prevention Services (10 Agencies)		Intervention/ Treatment (29 Agencies)		Educational Services (3 Programs)	
	Yes #/%	No #/%	Yes #/%	No #/%	Yes #/%	No #/%	Yes #/%	No #/%
If risk assessments are conducted, do they include questions about gang activity knowledge or involvement?	23 55%	19 45%	5 50%	5 50%	18 62%	11 38%	1 33%	2 66%
Have there been any youth in your program suspected to be involved with gangs? What percentage?	36 86%	6 14%	7 70%	3 30%	27 93%	2 7%	1 33%	2 66%
Have there been any youth in your program known to be involved with gangs?	26 62%	16 38%	3 30%	7 70%	20 69%	9 31%	1 33%	2 66%
*Do any of your programs/ services address gang issues?	30 71%	12 29%	7 70%	3 30%	22 76%	7 24%	1 33%	2 66%
Do you have any staff with experience, knowledge, or expertise in gang issues or in working with gang involved youth?	28 67%	14 33%	5 50%	5 50%	22 76%	7 24%	1 33%	2 66%
Do you have any interest in developing the capacity to address gang risk factors/issues in your program/service?	40 95%	2 5%	9 90%	1 10%	28 97%	1 3%	3 100%	0 0%

*Agencies that responded “yes” to the provision of services to address gang issues gave the following examples of how this occurs:

Various assessment strategies, awareness presentations from “experts” for staff and/or youth, various group sessions & discussions, life skill development (e.g. decision making, conflict resolution, resistance skills), recreational activities, targeted outreach, out of home placements and Multi-Systemic Therapy

SECTION 6: Best Practice Research

The Wake County Gang Prevention Partnership supports initiatives that are research-based, data-driven, and outcome-focused. A list of best practice prevention and intervention strategies for specific age ranges from “The Strategic Planning Tool – Planning and Implementation Section – Best Practices” can be found in the following pages.

Best Practice Strategies by Age Range

From The Strategic Planning Tool – Planning and implementation Section – Best Practices (http://www.iir.com/nygc/tool/planning_and_implementation_best_practices.cfm)

Ages 0-2

Prevention

- Involve community stakeholders in establishing clear and consistent social norms and effective social policies.
- Support first-time, low-income mothers with education, nutrition, health, safety, and human service resources to improve maternal, prenatal, and early childhood health and well-being.

Intervention

- Build a comprehensive framework for the integration of child and adolescent services programming that links the juvenile justice system with human service and other related agencies, including schools, child-welfare services, mental health agencies, and social services.
- Create an infrastructure consisting of client information exchange, cross-agency client referrals, a networking protocol, interagency councils, and service integration.

Ages 3-5

Prevention

- Promote emotional and social competence and treat behavior and emotion problems in young children.
- Provide teachers and caregivers with a blueprint for daily routine, playground organization, classroom management and teacher-child interaction, all designed to create a warm, supportive learning environment.
- Assist teachers with a classroom management strategy designed to improve aggressive/disruptive classroom behavior.

Intervention

- Build a comprehensive framework for the integration of child and adolescent services programming that links the juvenile justice system with human service and other related agencies, including schools, child-welfare services, mental health agencies, and social services.
- Create an infrastructure consisting of client information exchange, cross-agency client referrals, a networking protocol, interagency councils, and service integration.
- Intervene early with disruptive children and child delinquents.
 - a) Intervene with disruptive children by providing social competence/skills training and early childhood education.
 - b) Intervene with high-risk families with parent training.
 - c) Intervene with high-risk children and their families with multidomain services.
 - d) Intervene with child delinquents with wraparound services.

Ages 6-11

Prevention

- Provide family strengthening/effectiveness training to improve parenting skills, build life skills in youth, and strengthen family bonds.
- Promote emotional and social competencies in elementary school-age children, while simultaneously enhancing the educational process in the classroom.
- Increase prosocial peer bonds, and strengthen students' attachment and commitment to schools.
- Increase teachers' classroom management, interactive teaching, and cooperative learning skills.
- Develop gender-specific programs.
- Improve parents' involvement in and support for their children's academic progress.
- Steer at-risk youth from delinquent peers to prosocial groups and provide positive peer modeling.
- Engage community groups, individuals, and institutions to respond to the multiple needs of youth and their families through case management for the highest-risk youth and their families; provide an array of services, after-school activities, and community activities to strengthen families.
- Mobilize community leaders and Boys & Girls Club staff to recruit at-risk and gang-involved youth into club programs in a non-stigmatizing way through direct outreach efforts to discuss local gang issues, and design a strategy to offer youth alternatives to the gang lifestyle.
- Educate youth to modify their perception that gang membership is beneficial.
- Involve grassroots organizations in the creation of violence-free zones.
- Provide social support for disadvantaged and at-risk youth from helping teachers, responsible adults, parents, and peers.
- Provide after-school programs.

Intervention

- Build a comprehensive framework for the integration of child and adolescent services programming that links the juvenile justice system with human service and other related agencies, including schools, child welfare services, mental health agencies, and social services.
- Create an infrastructure consisting of client information exchange, cross-agency client referrals, a networking protocol, interagency councils, and service integration.
- Establish a wraparound service delivery process for children and their families.
- Integrate the wraparound service delivery process within a "system of care."
- Create a system of graduated sanctions to control offenders and protect the public.
- Create a continuum of immediate intervention, intermediate sanctions, community confinement, and secure confinement options for offenders.
- Develop gender-specific programs.

Ages 12-17

Prevention

- Provide family strengthening/effectiveness training to improve parenting skills, build life skills in youth, and strengthen family bonds.
- Promote emotional and social competencies in elementary school-age children, while simultaneously enhancing the educational process in the classroom.
- Increase prosocial peer bonds, and strengthen students' attachment and commitment to schools.
- Increase teachers' classroom management, interactive teaching, and cooperative learning skills.
- Develop gender-specific programs.
- Improve parents' involvement in and support for their children's academic progress.
- Steer at-risk youth from delinquent peers to prosocial groups and provide positive peer modeling.
- Engage community groups, individuals, and institutions to respond to the multiple needs of youth and their families through case management for the highest-risk youth and their families; provide an array of services, after-school activities, and community activities to strengthen families.
- Mobilize community leaders and Boys & Girls Club staff to recruit at-risk and gang-involved youth into club programs in a nonstigmatizing way through direct outreach efforts to discuss local gang issues, and design a strategy to offer youth alternatives to the gang lifestyle.
- Educate youth to modify their perception that gang membership is beneficial.
- Involve grassroots organizations in the creation of violence-free zones.
- Provide social support for disadvantaged and at-risk youth from helping teachers, responsible adults, parents, and peers.
- Provide after-school programs.

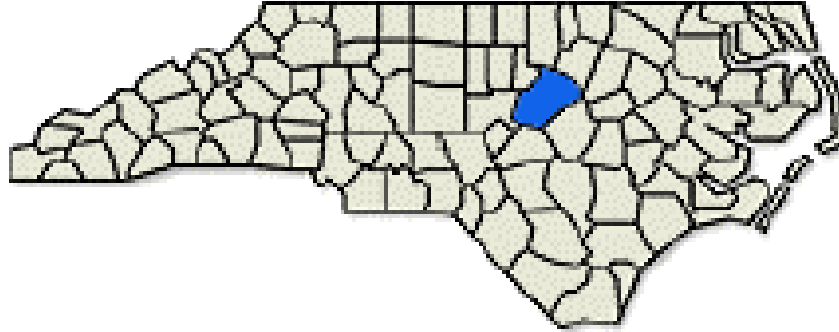
Intervention

- Build a comprehensive framework for the integration of child and adolescent services programming that links the juvenile justice system with human service and other related agencies, including schools, child welfare services, mental health agencies, and social services.
- Create an infrastructure consisting of client information exchange, cross-agency client referrals, a networking protocol, interagency councils, and service integration.
- Target potential and current serious, violent, chronic gang-involved juvenile offenders for resource priority.
- Provide case management by a particular agency for case conferencing and to coordinate services to offenders and the families of gang youth.
- Provide mentoring of at-risk and gang youths, counseling, referral services, gang conflict mediation, and anti-gang programs at schools in the community.
- Provide close supervision and monitoring of gang-involved youth by agencies of the juvenile/criminal justice system and also by community-based agencies, schools, and grassroots groups.
- Provide intensive probation supervision linked with more structured behavioral and/or skill-building and multimodal interventions.
- Provide direct placement and referral of youth for employment, training, education, and supervision.

- Provide alternatives to gang involvement, including remedial and enriched educational programs for gang youths with academic problems and vocational and apprentice training.
- Intervene with victims in the community or in hospital emergency rooms to break the cycle of violence.
- Provide rehabilitation services in prisons and in youthful offender facilities.
- Provide stepped-down control and support services for reentry of confined offenders by linking them with court-based services.

SECTION 7: Law Enforcement Overview

To assess the scope of the gang problem in Wake County, available gang data (1999 – 2005) from local law enforcement agency surveys were analyzed. Based on this analysis, the planning team sought further input and clarification from Wake County Chiefs of Police and the Sheriff, dedicated gang officers, school resource and DARE officers, the State Highway Patrol, the Governor’s Crime Commission, and the SBI. The following document presents an overview of Wake County’s youth gang problem from a law enforcement perspective.



GANGS IN WAKE COUNTY: LAW ENFORCEMENT OVERVIEW

REPORT PREPARED BY:

**WAKE COUNTY GANG PREVENTION PARTNERSHIP
LAW ENFORCEMENT PARTNERS**

**Last Updated:
January 13, 2006**

GANGS IN WAKE COUNTY: LAW ENFORCEMENT OVERVIEW

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GENERAL OVERVIEW

Wake County has an escalating youth gang problem at a time when such gangs are well established in some other communities. Historically, the growth of youth gangs in the county has been constrained. This has been due to the lack of a major gun or drug trafficking highway corridor bisecting the county, the absence of charismatic youth gang leaders determined to organize gangs, and law enforcement suppression efforts. Because youth gangs have not established a stronghold on our community, we have not yet seen a major problem of multi-generational gang families.

Yet, despite such factors in the county's favor, numerous indications suggest that the number of youth gangs and the number of gang members in Wake County are growing. The formation of a community galvanized to fight gang membership and the gang activity that inevitably results, is imperative to avoid a full-blown gang problem that has undermined the quality of life in other areas.

At a time when resources are needed to address gang activities and thwart gang recruitment, government and non-profit agencies are faced with tough budget decisions and limited funding opportunities. To the greatest extent possible, the community must find solutions that utilize underleveraged resources or expand on existing resources to address the growing need for gang prevention, intervention, and suppression activities.

Regional and Local Data

Limited reliable data on gangs and gang members, coupled with a lack of standardized gang definition and validation criteria, have made it difficult to accurately analyze Wake County gang data. However, the information that is available shows a need for reasonable concern.

According to 2004 figures compiled by the Governor's Crime Commission, there were 387 local gangs and 8,517 gang members reported in 56 of North Carolina's 100 counties in North Carolina.¹ Both the number of identified gangs and the number of members have increased since a similar report issued in 1999. The 1999 report found 332 local gangs and 5,068 gang members in North Carolina.

The 2004 report indicated that the Triangle and Charlotte/Mecklenburg metro areas have the highest number of reported gangs and gang members, with a substantial prevalence also recorded in the Triad region, Fayetteville and Wilmington. In both 1999 and 2004, many of the reported gangs appeared not to have a formal leadership structure.¹

Importantly, not all law enforcement agencies reported 2004 gang data within each of the 56 counties. For example, only seven of eleven Wake County agencies

Definition of Youth Gangs

Youth gangs are considered to be gangs comprised primarily of members at or below the age of 24 years.

Members typically "age out" of the gang with no further expectation of involvement, so they must continue to recruit younger members for their gangs to survive.

The North Carolina Gang Investigators Association defines a youth/street gang as:

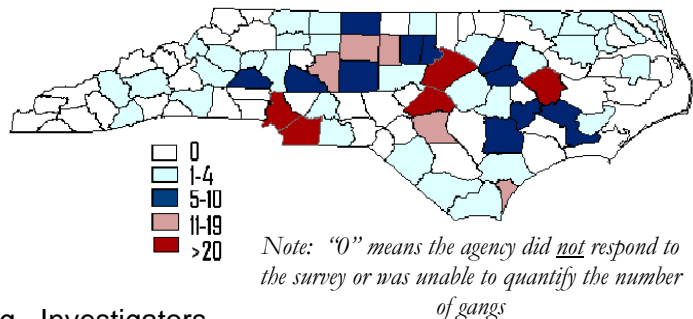
A group or association of three or more persons who may have a common identifying sign, symbol, or name, and who individually or collectively engage in, or have engaged in, criminal activity that creates an atmosphere of fear and intimidation.

participated in this 2004 survey.¹ In addition, only 15 responding agencies in the state had a designated Gang Unit, three of which were in Wake County. Only three agencies within Wake County reported that they specifically tracked gang activity in 2004.

While the less-than-total reporting response and the limited number of agencies with dedicated gang units may raise questions about the completeness of the state’s gang data, its implications for Wake County cannot be ignored. In 2004, Wake County law enforcement agencies reported 39 gangs and 1,753 gang members (highest in survey).¹ Seven counties are adjacent to Wake: Chatham, Durham, Franklin, Granville, Harnett, Johnston, and Nash. Wake and these adjacent counties accounted for over 45 percent of the gang members counted in the 2004 state report, even though Chatham, Granville and Johnston counties were unable to quantify the number of gangs and gang members in their counties.¹ To the north of Wake County, Franklin County agencies reported 27 gang members (3 gangs) and Granville County agencies did not respond to the survey.¹ To the south, Harnett County agencies reported 204 members (25 gangs).¹ To the east, Nash County agencies reported 300 members (5 gangs) and Johnston County agencies reported an “unknown” number of gang members (3 gangs).¹ To the west, Durham County agencies reported 1,620 gang members (10 gangs) and Chatham County reported an “unknown” number of gang members (2 gangs).¹

Of note, Mecklenburg County law enforcement agencies reported 65 gangs (highest in survey) and 1,739 gang members. When combined with Wake and Durham counties, these 3 counties reported 5,112 gang members (60% of reported state total) and 114 gangs (30%). Figure 1 depicts the number of reported gangs in North Carolina by county in 2004.¹

Figure 1: Gangs in North Carolina



According to the North Carolina Gang Investigators Association, a need exists to create standardized definitions of gangs and gang member validation within our state to improve the quality of gang intelligence data, in order to produce more accurate and more meaningful analysis. The data reported in the 2004 Governor’s Crime Commission survey provide the most comprehensive information available about gangs, but it is generally conceded that the results do not completely reflect the size and scope of the gang problem in North Carolina. However, the survey does reflect the perceptions held by the agency responding to the survey – no matter how stringently or loosely they define “gang” or “gang member.”

Clearly in Wake County and elsewhere, law enforcement agencies see an upward trend in gangs, gang membership and gang activity.

Gang Structure & Organization

According to law enforcement officers in Wake County, many youths on the street are claiming to be gang members. However, when speaking candidly with an officer, most of these same youths admit they are not a formal gang member and claim only an association. Such statements are supported by law enforcement’s perception that Wake County has loosely organized and structured street youth gangs. Most gang members do not seem to have been formally indoctrinated, nor have they been subject to the gang initiation rituals dictated by a

national or international gang's codes of conduct or "Book of Knowledge." So far, it appears that such formal procedures are being bypassed by the loosely organized gangs that are present here. As a result, members do not show the discipline or commitment to their national gang's doctrine – and many do not know the full history of the gang, which would be unthinkable in more gang-established communities. As a result, street youth claim gang membership without having been subject to the initiation and indoctrination practiced elsewhere, because these "members" are not being challenged by "authentic" gang members. In fact, because most Wake County gangs are presently loosely organized and undisciplined, they are relatively incapable of attaining control over large geographic areas and populations. As such they lack the capability to conduct large-scale, coordinated criminal enterprise. However, our existing youth gangs and gang members are dangerous threats that are capable of violent criminal activity. Gangs and gang members are responsible for localized criminal activities and are poised to become well-organized, well-disciplined and more dangerous organizations as the leadership and organizational vacuums are filled.

Known Gangs

Wake County Law Enforcement agencies have identified 12 primary gangs in our county, some of which may have two or more cliques. In alphabetical order, the primary gangs are: 18th Street, The 5% Nation, Aryan Nation Brotherhood, Bloods, Crips, Folk Nation, Hell's Angels, Latin Kings, Mara Salvatrucha (MS 13), Sureños (SUR 13), Tiny Rascal Gangsters (TRG), and Vatos Locos. Aryan Nation Brotherhood and Hell's Angels, however, are not considered youth gangs in our area. Wake County gang members are comprised of the spectrum of race and ethnic groups found throughout our county.

Summary of Findings

Below are the key findings of the law enforcement assessment:

- Limited reliable data on gangs and gang members, coupled with a lack of standardized gang definition and validation criteria, have made it difficult to accurately analyze Wake County gang data.
- Most Wake County gangs are loosely organized and undisciplined, and have been relatively incapable of attaining control over large geographic areas and populations. Wake County youth gangs tend to be in the development stage and membership is somewhat fluid.
 - Many gang members are not completely loyal to any one set or gang, and some members have changed their gang affiliation numerous times, without repercussion. In most cases, local gangs are not authentic or true affiliates of national/international gangs. They do not abide by the same structure, discipline, commitment, rules, and they do not operate under cohesive leadership. In fact, local gangs are creating their own rules and tend not to follow the detailed national standards that govern details of gang life, such as which side of the body to wear jewelry or clothing.
 - Gang initiation rituals, such as "beat-ins" have not been widely reported; however, they are occurring more frequently. That fact is seen as an early warning indicator that gang organization is increasing.

- Youth gang members are responsible for a wide range in crimes against persons and property throughout the county, including violent crimes. Gangs are involved in the sale and distribution of illegal drugs.
 - In North Carolina, the primary criminal activity of most all gangs is the distribution of illegal drugs, such as crack cocaine, powdered cocaine, marijuana, and Ecstasy. Gangs in Wake County are not producing or distributing methamphetamine. In addition to illegal drug distribution, many Wake County gangs are involved in property damage (e.g., graffiti).
 - At this time – with the exception of distinctive gang graffiti – no local gang has a particular “signature” (e.g., type of weapon, MO, type of wound, type of crime/violence, etc.) for how they commit crimes or retaliate, again pointing to a lack of comprehensive organization.
- Law enforcement identified 12 primary gangs in our county, some of which may have two or more cliques.
- Gang members tend to be male, between the ages of 13 and early 20s, and reflect the racial and ethnic diversity of the county. African American and Hispanic/Latino youth, however, are disproportionately overrepresented in gangs compared to the county’s demographic profile.¹ Asian and Caucasian youth tend to be less represented. This disproportionate minority involvement in criminal gangs is a social concern.¹ Local, state and federal law enforcement data and interview results also show:
 - Local gang membership remains predominantly male. Female gang membership is very limited at this time. Estimates suggest that less than 10 percent of the county’s known gang members are female.
 - While Wake County’s gang membership is predominately a “youth” issue, gang members are known to range in age from 10 to over 40 years of age.
 - The gang recruitment target is youth under the age of 24 – law enforcement has not seen evidence of many people over the age of 24 being recruited into gangs as new members.
 - According to the National Youth Gang Center, Latinos make up 49 percent of gang involved youths and African-Americans make up just over 30 percent nationally.¹ In North Carolina, Latinos and African-Americans accounted for approximately half of the gang-involved youth known to law enforcement between 1999 and 2004.¹ Caucasians and Asians accounted for about 15% of gang-involved youth in Wake County.¹ However, 36% of the gang members did not have a specific race/ethnicity reported.¹
 - Approximately half of all reported youth gang members in North Carolina were reported to be Latino/Hispanic (23%) or African-American (28%).¹ About 10% of these gang members were Caucasian and 4% Asian. However, 16% were reported to be of “mixed” race/ethnicity and 20% were reported to have an unknown race or ethnicity.¹
 - At this time, Latino and Asian gang members are involved in gangs that are not racially or ethnically diverse in Wake County.

- Wake County law enforcement agencies are working hard to fully serve the non-English-speaking and multi-cultural communities, including gang members. However, overcoming language and cultural barriers continue to rank among the priorities of most Wake County law enforcement agencies.
- Approximately half of the gang members known to law enforcement grew up in this area.
 - Almost all African-American and Caucasian gang members in Wake County were born in the U.S. and grew up or have family in our county.
 - Asian gang members in North Carolina are predominately of Vietnamese decent and were born in the U.S.¹ The majority of these gang members grew up within our state and some within Wake County.
 - The Wake County law enforcement agencies reporting the presence of Latino gang members estimated that 90 percent of the validated Latino gang members were believed to be immigrants, more than 80 percent of whom were estimated to be in the U.S. illegally.^{1,2} The majority of Latino gang members are Mexican or of Mexican descent.^{1,2} Others migrated from El Salvador or Honduras.^{1,2} Interestingly, local law enforcement perceived that the estimated 10 percent of the Latino gang members born in the U.S. were more likely to be criminally involved than immigrant gang members.^{1,2}
 - Most of these gang members who migrated to Wake County had already joined gangs in their former jurisdiction – coming typically from California, Florida, Georgia, Illinois, New Jersey, New York, Texas, Virginia, El Salvador, Honduras, or Mexico.
 - The primary reason for migration is “social” – to move with families, move in with relatives after being disruptive in their former jurisdiction, find legitimate job opportunities, or to avoid arrest warrants or law enforcement crackdowns.
 - Wake County law enforcement agencies are not seeing gang member migration for reasons that lie at either end of a gang-involvement spectrum – in other words, they are not coming here specifically for criminal purposes, such as setting up drug markets, or for positive purposes, such as getting away from gang life.
- Most Wake County law enforcement agencies do not have officially designated gang units, gang officers or formally-adopted gang strategies. Three law enforcement agencies within Wake County have trained gang units, ranging from one to six sworn officers; these units typically gather gang intelligence and investigate gang-related crimes and threats.
 - The loose organization and lack of stable leadership in local gangs increase the difficulty in compiling organizational intelligence information.
- Intelligence information indicates that there are gang members, associates or “gonna-be’s” throughout the county’s middle and high schools. Gang-susceptible students are fascinated with the gangster lifestyle they see on TV and in the movies, and they often imitate it.

- As noted above, gang membership here is typically not subject to the strict indoctrination and initiation rites observed by national and international gangs. Therefore, school-age youth are often able to easily claim gang membership.
- Local law enforcement officers are seeing more “gangsters” than “gang members” in Wake County, meaning that many youth are claiming to be a gang member but they are actually gang associates – but gang associates can and do participate in violent criminal activity and are gang “gonna-be’s” unless an effective intervention occurs.
- Local youth may lack the level of discipline or organization found in other cities’ gangs but they nonetheless pose a serious problem that appears to be growing. For example, at the beginning of this school year, there was a noticeable increase in the number of gang rival conflicts on school property.
- At least some of the increased reporting of gang activities in schools is believed to exist for a positive reason – because gang awareness among teachers, administrators, and in-school law enforcement officers has improved. In addition, the Wake County Public School System instituted a formal gang policy in the 2005-2006 school year.
- Parents are not paying attention to the messages their children are receiving through music, videos, movies, television, and video games, which glorify violence and the gangster lifestyle. Parents are encouraged to learn more about what attracts children to gangs and how to talk to their children about gangs and violence. Parents can access this information through the Internet or from the Wake County Gang Prevention Partnership’s Info Line at (919) 256-0919 and the Partnership’s website at <http://www.wakegov.com/humanservices/partnerships/gangprevention/>.
- Although the efforts of local law enforcement and its partners have done and will do much to reduce the threats posed by gangs, additional resources are needed that go beyond the scope and abilities of the police.

GANG PREVENTION, INTERVENTION & SUPPRESSION INITIATIVES

Most Wake County law enforcement agencies do not have officially designated gang units, gang officers or formally adopted gang strategies. There are three law enforcement agencies within Wake County that have trained gang units, ranging from one to six sworn officers; these units gather gang intelligence and investigate gang-related crimes and threats. Some agencies have sent officers, including School Resource Officers, to gang-related training programs or conferences. At least one police department has trained all officers during a mandatory gang awareness in-service training program. Trained School Resource Officers in the Wake County Public School System help identify gang-related policy violations, exchange information with school administration and security personnel, and provide gang-awareness training for teachers, counselors, parents, and students, as appropriate. Some DARE Officers include a gang awareness component in their DARE curriculum.

In Wake County, a small number of local law enforcement agencies takes a broad approach to gang prevention, intervention and suppression. A few departments participate in community activities designed to prevent young people from joining gangs and also to provide parents and others with information that will allow them to identify signs of gang activity. Below is a sample of work being done in Wake County:

Examples of Gang Prevention Initiatives

- ☆ **Wake County Gang Prevention Partnership (on-going):** Several Wake County law enforcement agencies are members of the Wake County Gang Prevention Partnership (WCGPP).
 - *Vision of the WCGPP:* Creating a community where youth and their families reject gangs and where gangs can no longer exist.
 - *Mission:* To prevent youth gang activity and violence in Wake County through community mobilization, opportunities provision, social intervention, gang suppression, and organizational change and development.
 - *Membership:* A coalition of Wake County law enforcement and government agencies – including the public schools – community-based organizations, and media.

- ☆ **Launch of Gang Prevention Info Line on April 18:** Existing community resources were leveraged to develop and launch the Wake County Gang Prevention Info Line (**256-0919**) on April 18. It is the first gang prevention information line in the state. A local law enforcement agency developed the script for the information line and trained the volunteer call takers. Volunteers use the United Way 2-1-1 database when making referrals. The Language Line is used for all non-English speaking callers. The purpose of the info line is to:
 - *Inform* the community about the general warning signs of gang activity and about what to do if they know about gang activity.
 - *Educate* parents about what they can do to reduce the likelihood that their child becomes involved in a gang.
 - *Provide* appropriate referrals to local agencies.

- ☆ **“Campaign of Intolerance” Media Campaign (Winter 2006):** A 12-week English & Spanish multi-media campaign will be launched to increase community awareness of and intolerance to gangs, and to promote the Wake County Gang Prevention Hotline as an information and referral resource for members of the community. Federal funds are being leveraged to increase the reach of this campaign (free and paid PSA placements). The campaign’s message will help build youth and adult intolerance toward gangs.
- ☆ **Community Education (on-going):** Wake County Gang Prevention Partnership members and local law enforcement agencies continue to provide different levels of gang awareness training to government agencies, community groups, neighborhood groups, school personnel, and many others. Presentations are available in English & Spanish and include a PowerPoint presentation or DVD and educational pamphlets.
- ☆ **Comprehensive Countywide Gang Prevention Plan (April – March):** Beginning April 20, 2005, Wake County Human Services has provided a staff person for 9-12 months to facilitate the development of a countywide, comprehensive plan to prevent youth gang activity and violence in Wake County through prevention, intervention and suppression initiatives. The Wake County plan also includes this law enforcement overview.
- ☆ **Crime Prevention, DARE and School Resource Officer Training:** There are at least three Wake County law enforcement agencies that have provided Crime Prevention, DARE and School Resource Officers (SROs) with information they can use in their respective roles to present gang awareness information to the community at large and to students, teachers, and school administrators. DARE officers offer a training module on gang awareness and prevention in their curriculum for some of the middle schools.
- ☆ **Community Curfew:** As a way to address youth gang activity, Knightdale has enacted a curfew, which also limits the number of youth that can gather at one time.

Examples of Gang Intervention Initiatives

- ☆ **Gang Tip Lines:**
 - Raleigh Police Department’s Gang Tip Line: 890-3904
 - Wake County Sheriff’s Office Gang Tip Line: 856-0707
- ☆ **Organized Internal Gang Task Force:** One Wake County law enforcement agency has an internal gang task force, which includes investigators, school resource officers and several patrol officers. The task force works special assignments in areas prone to gang activity and also maintains a gang member and graffiti database. Gang-related information is shared throughout the department through their intranet. A member of the task force serves as a liaison to the Wake County Gang Prevention Partnership and will participate in the Region 6/Wake County Gang Investigator’s Information Sharing Meetings.
- ☆ **Dedicated Sworn Gang Specialists:** Another Wake County law enforcement agency has at least one officer serving as the department’s gang information coordinator. Although all the department’s officers are responsible for addressing the emerging gang concerns, the Gang Information Coordinator serves as the main information contact point to ensure

information is widely distributed and accurate. Another agency is using a sworn Gang Specialist to work closely with the School Resource Officers and the Drug Investigators to share gang information. The sworn gang specialists also serve as liaisons to the Wake County Gang Prevention Partnership and will participate in the Region 6/Wake County Gang Investigator's Information Sharing Meetings.

- ☆ **Partnership with Wake County Public Schools & Local Law Enforcement:** Local law enforcement is working with the public schools to develop guidelines on how to share gang information and intelligence properly and expeditiously.
- ☆ **Graffiti Removal:** The City of Raleigh has a graffiti removal program with dedicated staff. Other Wake County jurisdictions are evaluating the possibility of dedicated graffiti removal teams and ordinances. The creation of a dedicated Graffiti Removal Team ensures the swift and professional removal of graffiti from public property. Promptly removing graffiti has been shown to be an effective way to deter future occurrences of graffiti and reduce the fear of crime.
- ☆ **School Resource Officers Information Sharing Meetings:** At least one law enforcement agency holds regular information sharing meetings for School Resource Officers to discuss current and emerging issues, including gang recruitment, activity and violence.

Examples of Gang Suppression Initiatives

- ☆ **Dedicated Gang Unit:** There are three gang units in Wake County. Two of these agencies employ numerous intelligence-gathering techniques and operational tactics to reduce and prevent gang-related crime and to ensure that gang members who commit crimes have the highest possible likelihood of being arrested and charged appropriately. When appropriate, these gang units provide a team presence that is very visible on the streets.
- ☆ **Zero-Tolerance Approach to Gang Violence:** Two local law enforcement agencies have a strategy in place to initiate a coordinated response to gang-on-gang and firearm violence to prevent further violence and retaliation.
- ☆ **Statewide Gang Intelligence Sharing & Analysis:** The local gang units participate in the Region 6/Wake County Gang Investigators Information Sharing meetings to exchange information on a regional basis. These officers share information, as appropriate, with gang units in neighboring jurisdictions and with other local, state and federal law enforcement and court system officials. At least three local law enforcement agencies are members of GANG NET, a subscription-based gang intelligence database for North Carolina law enforcement agencies that includes detailed intelligence on gang members in our state. One goal is to have all Wake County law enforcement agencies subscribe to GANG NET by the end of next year.
- ☆ **“Gang-Enhancement Sentence”:** On all cases where it can be established that an offender is a gang member, local law enforcement will work cooperatively with the Wake County District Attorney's Office to actively seek increased jail or prison sentences under the “Gang Enhancement” statute.

IMPORTANT COMMUNITY NEEDS

Although the efforts of local law enforcement and its partners have done and will do much to reduce the threats posed by gangs, additional resources are needed that go beyond the scope and abilities of the police. Local law enforcement solicits assistance that will lead to the development and availability of these additional resources, including:

1. Increasing capacity of Wake County juvenile and criminal justice system agencies to identify and suppress youth gang violence and membership.
2. Increasing capacity of Wake County community-based agencies, schools and grass-roots agencies to identify and suppress youth gang violence and membership, both formally and informally. Currently, very few resources specific to gang prevention exist in the county.
3. Providing structured, supervised environment/programs for Wake County public school students who have been suspended or expelled and who are either gang members or are considered to be susceptible to gang recruitment.
4. Developing safe avenues and alternatives for gang members who want to leave gangs.
5. Developing additional training and resources for parents, school officials and others who are in a position to influence youth who must make decisions about joining youth gangs.
6. Widely promoting the Wake County Gang Prevention Information Line (256-0919) and law enforcement Gang Tip Lines.
7. Providing information concerning the benefits of gang legislation that establishes stiffer criminal penalties and of legislation that provides funding for prevention, intervention and suppression initiatives.

POTENTIAL THREATS

The following list represents potential threats to preventing and suppressing gang activity and membership in Wake County:

- **The High Cost of Denial and Inaction:** Lack of awareness or denial of the threat of gangs creates fertile ground in which gangs can grow. Active engagement by the community to find solution to the gang threat is critical to prevent the dangers posed by gangs.
- **An Increase in Gang Member Violence:**
 - The growth in gang membership and the increasing number of younger offenders who are using a firearm as a weapon of choice, along with indications that young suspects are prone to participate in firearm violence, clearly set the stage for more gang-involved homicides and firearm-related crimes.
 - Gangs appear to be actively recruiting members, often times “blessing in” members and not requiring the initiate to commit a crime or be beat-in or sexed-in. However, we are beginning to hear more about “beat ins” in all gangs. This is a sign of increasing organization and adherence to formal gang rites.
 - According to the Governor’s Crime Commission report, “North Carolina gangs have yet to mature to older and multiple generation cohorts¹.” Without effective suppression, prevention and intervention steps, a trend towards more organized leadership can be expected to yield violent consequences.
- **An Increase in Gang Membership in & Gang Migration to Wake County:**
 - According to the Governor’s Crime Commission, there were nearly 400 gangs and over 8,500 gang members identified in North Carolina in 2004. The report indicated that the Triangle Area and Charlotte reportedly have the highest number of gangs; the Triad, Fayetteville and Wilmington also had a substantial presence. Many of these reported gangs, however, have no leadership structure or none has been identified. There is a danger that the current leadership vacuum will be filled by mature gang members who will see North Carolina as a “market” that can be developed. *Note: These figures came from completed surveys of law enforcement agencies within 56 of the 100 counties, where not all law enforcement agencies completed the surveys within the 56 counties¹.*
 - In 2004, the Durham Police Department and Durham County Sheriff’s Office reported 10 known gangs and 1,620 gang members. The Charlotte/Mecklenburg Police Department reported 65 gangs and 1,739 gang members. Seven Wake County law enforcement agencies reported 39 gangs and 1,753 gangs (highest number). ¹ Collectively, these three counties reported 114 gangs (30% of reported state total) and 5,112 gang members (60%). Clearly, gangs have a foothold in these key metropolitan areas and they are likely to try to increase their presence.

- Gang members in neighboring communities are mobile but are not always aware of other gang sets or cliques in the area. Because our gang problem is its early stages, gangs are actively recruiting to build their numbers. When they become aware of other gang members with the same affiliation, that the likelihood that these sets will attempt to merge increases.
- Intelligence indicates that North Carolina gangs and gang members have notable gang-to-gang connections with counterparts in portions of California, Florida, Georgia, Illinois, New Jersey, New York, Texas, and Virginia, which are experiencing wide-spread gang problems. These gang-to-gang connections make our state ripe for further exploitation.
- In some cases, disruptive youth from other cities have been sent to live with relatives in Wake County, where they have continued their disruptive behavior in our schools and neighborhoods. Often, these youth have been members of a gang in their hometown and bring their gang traditions and influence with them, which could hasten the development of national and international gang ties to the county.
- Based on interviews, gang members are aware that there are gaps in North Carolina gang and criminal gun-use laws, and these factors could make the state attractive as a relocation option.
- The presence of the Wake County Jail, the county court house and a state correctional facility in Raleigh attracts gang members and their associates and families to Wake County, which could result in both consolidation and rival conflicts. The jail attempts to identify gang members during processing. Based on jail information, the jail is processing gang members from gangs that do not yet have local members in Wake County.
- **Increased Tension and Conflict:** As community awareness of gangs increases and efforts toward gang prevention improve, the community as a whole must continue to address the potential racial and ethnic tension that gang activity can incite.
 - According to the National Youth Gang Center, Latinos make up 49% of youth gang members and African-Americans accounted for over 30% in the United States.¹ Approximately half of all reported youth gang members in North Carolina were reported to be Latino/Hispanic (23%) or African-American (28%).¹ About 10% of these gang members were Caucasian and 4% Asian. However, 36% of the gang members did not have a specific race/ethnicity reported - 16% were reported to be of "mixed" race/ethnicity and 20% were reported to have an unknown race or ethnicity.¹
 - According to the U.S. Department of Justice's Bureau of Justice Statistics in Violence by Gang Members, 1993 – 2003, "Hispanics are more likely to be victims of violence perpetrated by gang members than other race/ethnicities."
 - Preventing gang activity and violence requires a unified effort. Every member of the community has a stake in preventing gang growth and each viewpoint must be welcomed and respected.

- **Limited Community Resources:** At a time when resources are needed to address gang activities and thwart gang recruitment, government and non-profit agencies are faced with tough budget decisions and limited funding opportunities. To the greatest extent possible, the community must find solutions that utilize underleveraged resources or expand on existing resources to address the growing need for gang prevention, intervention, and suppression activities. Communication must also be maintained with state and local elected leaders concerning new gang legislation, including the need to fund key services and activities. In addition to limited funding, identified gaps include:
 - Very few formal and informal resources specific to gang prevention, intervention and suppression exist in the county.
 - The lack of on-going, consistent gang-related training for personnel from Wake County's community-based agencies, schools, and grass-roots agencies as to how to identify youth gang members and intervene early (formally and informally) in their lives in order to suppress youth gang violence.
 - The lack of structured, supervised environments/programs for students who have been suspended or expelled and who are either gang members or are considered to be susceptible to gang recruitment.
 - The lack of safe avenues and alternatives for gang members who want to leave gangs.
 - Parents, school officials and others who are in a position to influence youth who must make decisions about joining youth gangs are not up-to-date on gang-related information and available resources.
 - Few agency and school personnel are trained on how to identify and report suspected gang-related activity to their local law enforcement agency.
 - A system for community-based agencies, schools, and grass-roots agencies to communicate and collaborate with juvenile and criminal system agencies on gang prevention, intervention and suppression is lacking.

- **Limited Law Enforcement Resources:** Law enforcement resources provide limited opportunities to deal with the existing, emerging gang problem in our city and county. Currently, identified gaps include:
 - The lack of dedicated gang units and dedicated gang officers. Most law enforcement agencies in Wake County do not have such a unit or dedicated gang officers. Only three agencies have dedicated gang units or specifically assigned gang officers; collectively, there are only 12 gang officers in Wake County. According to the Governor's Crime Commission, only 15 agencies in North Carolina had established a designated gang investigative unit by 2004¹.
 - The lack of meaningful and coordinated law enforcement effort among agencies in adjacent jurisdictions to combat gangs. The need for support in this regard is particularly hard felt by smaller agencies that lack the ability to provide the required resources.

- The lack of accurate and standardized gang data collected and analyzed by local law enforcement agencies. Law enforcement agencies in Wake County do not compile comprehensive information about gangs, although 10 agencies were able to provide some information or some perceptions to the Governor's Crime Commission for the 2004 annual gang surveys. No agency is collecting information on gang-related or gang-involved crimes. There is no established standard for collecting gang-related information in Wake County.
- The lack of streamlined gang intelligence information sharing processes among local and state agencies.
- The lack of compiled and shared information about gangs. Gang symbols, methods and activities are changing constantly. Gang unit members and other officers need to be assured that their knowledge base remains up-to-date on local, regional, state and national trends and information.
- The need to maximize receipt of Homeland Security funding to combat domestic terrorism, including criminal youth gangs.
- The need to improve the ability of law enforcement agencies to serve non-English speaking and culturally diverse community members. This need is particularly important in Wake County, where multi-cultural communities, including gang members, are a part of daily life for law enforcement.
- The need to widely promote the Wake County Gang Prevention Information Line (256-0919) and law enforcement Gang Tip Lines.
- The need to provide information concerning the benefits of gang legislation that establishes stiffer criminal penalties and of legislation that provides funding for prevention, intervention and suppression initiatives.
- The need to inform decision-makers about the benefits of legislation that standardizes the definition of a criminal gang and provides a schedule of penalties or enhancements to existing penalties for crimes committed for furtherance of the gang.
- The need to inform decision-makers about the benefits of appropriated funding for a statewide gang intelligence database and for prevention, intervention and suppression initiatives.
- **Limited Juvenile and Criminal Justice System Resources:** The number of crimes being committed by gang members is increasing, and the resources of the juvenile and criminal justice system are not keeping pace. The needs include:
 - Increasing the capacity of Wake County juvenile and criminal justice system agencies to identify and suppress youth gang violence and membership.
 - Increasing the number of Wake County's juvenile and criminal justice system personnel dedicated to identifying, arresting, jailing, prosecuting, judging, sentencing, incarcerating, and/or supervising gang members who committed crimes.

- Providing on-going, consistent training to Wake County's juvenile and criminal justice system personnel as to how to identify youth gang members and intervene early (formally and informally) in their lives to suppress youth gang violence.
 - Creating a unified gang intelligence sharing network that allows Wake County gang data and intelligence to be collected, analyzed and shared among the county's law enforcement agencies and with other elements of the juvenile and criminal justice system, as appropriate.
 - Improving communication and collaboration within the juvenile and criminal justice system on matters relating to gang issues and information.
 - Improving communication and collaboration between the juvenile and criminal justice system and community-based agencies, schools, and grass-roots agencies.
 - Working to ensure that adequate and secure facilities exist throughout the juvenile and criminal justice system to appropriately and safely deal with gang members involved in crimes.
 - Jointly and independently seeking local, state and federal resources to increase the capacity of the Wake County juvenile and criminal justice system, including personnel, data and intelligence sharing systems, secure spaces, and equipment.
- **No Standardization Across Law Enforcement Agencies:**
 - A need exists for standardized county and/or methodology to be adopted for defining "gang-related" and "gang-involved" crimes.
 - Local and state agencies are not using the same method of validating gang members. The resulting discrepancies jeopardize the integrity of GANG NET, the developing statewide gang intelligence system. The North Carolina Gang Investigators Association is pushing for standardized definitions of what constitutes a gang or a gang member¹.

POTENTIAL OPPORTUNITIES

The following list represents potential opportunities to preventing and suppressing gang activity and membership in Wake County:

- **Increase capacity of Wake County justice system to identify and suppress youth gang violence and membership.**
 - Increase the number of Wake County's juvenile and criminal justice system personnel dedicated to identifying, arresting, jailing, prosecuting, judging, sentencing, incarcerating, and/or supervising gang members who committed crimes.
 - Provide on-going, consistent training to Wake County's juvenile and criminal justice system personnel as to how to identify youth gang members and intervene early (formally and informally) in their lives to suppress youth gang violence.
 - Create a unified gang intelligence sharing network that allows Wake County gang data and intelligence to be collected, analyzed and shared among the county's law enforcement agencies and with other elements of the juvenile and criminal justice system, as appropriate.
 - Improve communication and collaboration within the juvenile and criminal justice system on matters relating to gang issues and information.
 - Improve communication and collaboration between the juvenile and criminal justice system and community-based agencies, schools, and grass-roots agencies.
 - Work to ensure that adequate and secure facilities exist throughout the juvenile and criminal justice system to appropriately and safely deal with gang members involved in crimes.
 - Jointly and independently seek local, state and federal resources to increase the capacity of the Wake County juvenile and criminal justice system, including personnel, data and intelligence sharing systems, secure spaces, and equipment.

- **Increase capacity of Wake County community-based agencies, schools, and grass-roots agencies to identify and suppress youth gang violence and membership, both formally and informally.**
 - Provide on-going, consistent training to personnel from Wake County's community-based agencies, schools, and grass-roots agencies as to how to identify youth gang members and intervene early (formally and informally) in their lives in order to suppress youth gang violence.
 - Inform personnel on how to identify and report suspected gang-related activity to their local law enforcement agency.

- Improve communication and collaboration between the juvenile and criminal justice system and community-based agencies, schools, and grass-roots agencies.
- Jointly and independently seek local, state and federal resources to increase capacity of these agencies.
- **Increase Community Awareness of, Intolerance to and Action against Gang Activity:**
 - Participate in the development of the Wake County Gang Prevention Partnership's bi-lingual print and radio public awareness campaign to ensure the message is appropriate and on target. The purpose of the campaign is to raise awareness of gang activity in Wake County to create a community that is intolerant to gang activity, and to promote the Wake County Gang Prevention Information Line as a resource.
 - Promote the Wake County Gang Prevention Info Line and local Gang Tip Line using available private sector and public sector media and community awareness resources.
 - Continue to make targeted agency and community presentations, as appropriate, on the warning signs of gang activity and involvement.
 - Provide gang awareness information and community-based action steps to combat gangs on City/Town and local law enforcement websites in English and Spanish.
 - Present updated gang information and status reports on the "Plan to Prevent Gang Activity and Violence in Wake County" to the County Commissioners, the Town/City Councils, and the Wake County Public School System' School Board.
- **Increase Gang Information & Intelligence Sharing among Officers and Agencies:** Because gang members are mobile and because it is difficult for local law enforcement agencies to identify, monitor or measure gang activity, there is a need to take a regional approach to gang information and intelligence sharing. Steps could include:
 - Facilitating the exchange of information. Gang Units are beginning to share gang information and intelligence among their respective jurisdictions. The North Carolina Gang Investigators Association (NCGIA) – Region 6, which includes Wake County, is moving toward establishing regularly scheduled gang information/intelligence sharing meetings.
 - Working with NCGIA to create standardized definitions of gangs and gang member validation.
 - Encouraging all Wake law enforcement agencies, including the Wake County Jail, and the law enforcement agencies in surrounding communities to purchase the rights to GANG NET as the primary system for collecting and sharing gang data.

- Supporting the Governor's Crime Commission, which recently agreed to adopt GANG NET as the official statewide gang database application, in its efforts to secure funding to pay GANG NET licensing fees for local law enforcement agencies.
 - Collaborating with the State Bureau of Investigation on gang-related and domestic terrorism intelligence gathering and dissemination, as appropriate.
 - Evaluating opportunities to link the NCDOC Offender Database with GANG NET and other intelligence systems.
 - Providing training and regular updates about changes to local, regional, state and national gang trends and information to the gang units, as well as other officers as appropriate.
 - Working with the Wake County Public School System (WCPSS) to develop an information sharing protocol among WCPSS Administration, WCPSS Security, and local law enforcement agencies.
 - Striving for improved and streamlined communication between gang, drug and firearm investigators to uncover the connection between gangs, guns and drugs and to take swift action to dismantle the organizations.
 - Developing a method to code calls and reports of gang-related or gang-involved crimes, so that this information can easily be extracted from the data systems for intelligence, crime analysis and administrative reporting purposes.
 - Developing a protocol for properly, efficiently and effectively sharing gang information with sworn officers.
 - Expanding the focus of the Region 6/Wake County Gang Investigators taskforce to include gang intervention and suppression strategies.
 - Continuing to support and participate actively on the Wake County Gang Prevention Partnership.
- **Continue and Enhance the Collaborate Efforts Involving Local, State and Federal Law Enforcement Agencies.** Specific steps could include:
 - Working with local agencies to apply for state, federal and private funding to combat gangs as a form of domestic terrorism.
 - Working with the Wake County District Attorney's Office to prepare gang-related cases to increase the opportunities for seeking the gang-enhancement sentence.
 - Informing magistrates and judges on the "State of Gangs" in Wake County in the surrounding communities and supporting the roles they play in gang suppression.
 - Working with ATF/TRAC officers on crimes involving gang members and firearms.

- Continuing to conduct warrant operations with Immigrations & Customs Enforcement on confirmed gang members who are illegally in the U.S.
- Working with the North Carolina Division of Community Corrections on a program to check curfew compliance on youth probationers, who are validated gang members or identified as gang associates (a project known as “Operation Nightlight”).
- **Develop a Countywide Gang Prevention, Intervention & Suppression Strategy:** Wake County law enforcement agencies will actively partner with the Wake County Gang Prevention Partnership in the development and implementation of the county’s comprehensive strategic plan for addressing Wake County’s escalating gang problem, including identifying gaps in and recommendations for gang prevention, intervention and suppression resources.
- **Provide information concerning the benefits of gang legislation that establishes stiffer criminal penalties and of legislation that provides funding for prevention, intervention and suppression initiatives.**
 - Inform decision-makers about the benefits of legislation that standardizes the definition of a criminal gang and provides a schedule of penalties or enhancements to existing penalties for crimes committed for furtherance of the gang.
 - Inform decision-makers about the benefits of appropriated funding for a statewide gang intelligence database and for prevention, intervention and suppression initiatives.

GANGS IN WAKE COUNTY: A FRANK ASSESSMENT OF WHAT THE FUTURE WILL LIKELY HOLD

Within One Year

Within one year, it is likely that there will be:

- An increase in the reported number of gangs and gang members.
- An increase in the reported number of non-English speaking gang members, particularly Spanish.
- Continued violence from youth gangs.
- Increased violent conflict between members of rival gangs.
- Increased gang-related graffiti appearing throughout the county.
- Increased indications and understanding of the gang presence in schools, including elementary schools.
- Increased short-term and long-term suspensions and expulsions from Wake County Public Schools as a result of the district's new gang policy.
- Continued public interest in gang-related news coverage.
- A community outcry on gangs and a demand for action by law enforcement, particularly if there is a galvanizing violent event involving a gang member.
- Elected officials and candidates talking about the need to combat gangs in North Carolina.

Within one year, we also expect:

- A development and launch of a comprehensive, community-based strategy to prevent and suppress gang activity and membership in Wake County, with a blue-ribbon panel appointed to lead the drive for the strategy's implementation.
- The Governor's Crime Commission will sponsor the GANG NET user licenses for some if not all local law enforcement agencies. Durham and Charlotte will host the data for the state and the two host sites will be linked together to create one statewide gang intelligence system.
- The Wake County Jail along with other Wake County law enforcement agencies using GANG NET.

- The expansion of the focus of the Region 6/Wake County Gang Investigators taskforce to include gang intervention and suppression strategies.
- More prevention efforts targeting elementary and middle school students.
- A media campaign to increase awareness of gang activity and what citizens can do to make a difference (in English and Spanish).
- Local parks & recreation departments developing strategies for dealing with gang-involved persons using park property.
- An increased number of gang units and gang officers in Wake County.
- Increased funding for law enforcement gang suppression initiatives.

Within Five Years

Within five years, if the community unites to create a community intolerant to gang activity and membership, we expect:

- A leveling off or reduction in the number of gangs and gang members.
- A leveling off or reduction in the number of non-English speaking gang members, particularly Spanish.
- A leveling off or reduction in violence by street youth gangs.
- A leveling off or reduction in violent conflict between members of rival gangs.
- A leveling off or reduction in gang-related graffiti throughout the county.
- A leveling off or reduction in the presence of gangs in schools.
- A leveling off or reduction in short-term and long-term suspensions and expulsions from public schools as a result of the district's new gang policy.
- A leveling off or reduction in the number of gang-related news coverage.

Within five years, if the community does NOT unite to create a community intolerant to gang activity and membership, we expect:

- The emergence of local charismatic gang leaders, who can recruit effectively and instill allegiance to their gangs, resulting in more organized gangs with greater structure, discipline and hierarchy, and more sophisticated criminal enterprises.
- More organized and more disciplined gangs and gang members with respect to following their code of conduct and beliefs.

- An increase in the numbers of gangs and gang members.
- An increase in the number of non-English speaking gang members, particularly those in the Latino and Asian communities.
- Local gang members will become more organized and more closely affiliated with national and international gangs.
- More gang-related or gang-involved violence crimes, including murder.
- More inter-racial or inter-ethnic group violence.
- Violent gang-on-gang conflicts resulting from mounting tensions between gangs.
- Gang initiations requiring violent crimes to be committed.
- More females becoming full members of gangs.
- Increased presence of gangs in schools, including elementary schools.
- More short-term and long-term suspensions and expulsions from schools.
- Gang violence regularly dominating the news headlines.

Within five years, we also expect to see:

- Additional resources made available for each Wake County law enforcement agency to staff a gang unit.
- Additional resources made available to the Wake County District Attorney's Office for gang-related criminal cases.
- All law enforcement agencies in North Carolina using GANG NET, as the statewide gang intelligence database.
- Increased funding for law enforcement initiatives to suppress gang activity.
- Statutory changes that standardize the definition of a criminal gang and provides a schedule of penalties or enhancements to existing penalties for crimes committed for furtherance of the gang.
- Increased funding for the jail and courts to better handle gang-related crimes and criminals, and changes to the criminal code.
- Significant funding for gang prevention, intervention and suppression.

SOURCES

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2. N.C. Governor's Crime Commission Hispanic/Latino Gang Survey 2005, 6/21/06 NC Governor's Crime Commission
3. National Drug Intelligence Center – Unclassified Drugs and Crime, January 2004 website at http://www.indianadea.com/public_docs/pubs7/7691/

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