Agenda
Thursday, November 16, 2006
8 a.m.-3 p.m.
A follow-up to the December 5, 2005, "Youth, Violence and Gangs: A Call to Action" Conference
Learn Current Prevention/Intervention Strategies
Multpurpose Room
Sandra and David S. Mack Student Center
North Campus
Part B: Experts from Nassau and Suffolk County Police Departments will provide up-to-date information on bias-related crime as well as efforts being utilized to combat bias-related crimes.

Presenters: Detective Sergeant Gary Shapiro, Nassau County Police Department, Bias Crimes Coordinator; Detective Sergeant Robert Reeks, Suffolk County Police Department, Commanding Officer, Hate Crimes Unit

Workshop C (Two-Part Workshop; registration for both sessions required)

Female Gangs on the Rise. Now What?

This two-part workshop will include gang initiation methods for females, roles of females in various gangs, a look at female gang leaders, role of the girlfriends of male gang members and the mind-set of female gangsters. Young women on the periphery or gang involved will join this workshop.

Presenters: Leslie Anderson, J.L.C. Associates of New York State; Corey Allensey, J.L.C. Associates of New York State; Detective Deborah Berash, Nassau County Police Department

Workshop D (Two-Part Workshop; registration for both sessions required)

Drugs and Gangs - The Feds Are Coming

This two-part workshop will include field program specialists from the National Drug Intelligence Center (NDIC), U.S. Department of Justice, who will discuss national drug trends with a special focus on Long Island. This NDIC team will provide a threat assessment for Long Island communities and give law enforcement, schools and community agencies an analysis on the threat of drugs, gangs and violence, as well as an overview of promising prevention and intervention strategies. Participants will alert workshop participants to the latest drugs used by young people, the short- and long-term effects (physical and mental) caused by each particular drug’s use and intervention strategies.

Presenters: Ed Beach and Mike Greany, Field Program Specialists, U.S. Department of Justice

Workshop E

A Parent’s Role: Youth Violence and Gang Prevention on the Home Front

Parents/caretakers of children who want to be in a gang, children in a gang, and children who have left the gang behind will participate in a guided conversation on the role of parents and the strategies they can use in violence and gang prevention. A question-and-answer period will follow.

Presenters: Parents Who Care

Workshop F

Policy and Legal Implications of Youth Violence and Gang Behaviors

What are the laws and policies that impact violence and gang behavior in school and community settings? What are the responsibilities/liabilities of parents? What is the Federal Gang Deterrence Act of 2005? This workshop will explore some of the current and pending policies and laws related to youth, violence and gangs that impact youth, families and communities.

Presenters: Officer Moses Robinson, Rochester Police Department, President, Western New York Chapter, East Coast Gang Investigator’s Association; Cadilla Rippy-Simpson, Esq.

Workshop G

Ghosts From the Nursery: Tracing the Roots of Violence

Where do the violent kids who join gangs come from, and what do we do with them now that they are here? This workshop will first explore proven strategies for dealing with the existing gang problem and then look at what we know works to shut off the pipeline delivering new kids into gangs. While the causes of violence are highly complex and multifaceted, a growing body of scientific research demonstrates that abuse and neglect in the earliest months and years often lead to violent older children and adults. Using a case study, the workshop will give an overview of the research on early brain development and what we know works to get children off to a good start in life and keep them from joining gangs.


Workshop H

Project Safe Neighborhoods - A Strategic Approach to Combating Gang and Gun Violence

In February 2006, Attorney General Gonzalez unveiled his plan to combat gang violence across America. The cornerstone of the attorney general’s program is an expansion of Project Safe Neighborhoods to include new and enhanced anti-gang efforts, and a new comprehensive anti-gang pilot program to be rolled out in six cities. Workshop facilitators will present and discuss the comprehensive enforcement, intervention and prevention strategies including local initiatives of the U.S. Attorney’s Project Safe Neighborhoods.

Presenters: John Lenzer, Administrative Assistant U.S. Attorney, Eastern District, NY; Tereen Dammor, Director, Justice Policy Center, The Urban Institute, Washington, D.C.; Rene P. Firech, Assistant District Attorney, Director of Community Affairs, Community Oriented Prosecutions, Nassau County District Attorney’s Office

SESSION II

WORKSHOP SESSIONS A, B, C, D Part II

Workshop I

Lessons Learned: Best Practices and Programs to Prevent and Intervene With Youth Violence and Gangs

This workshop will provide an overview of the core ingredients of effective youth violence and gang prevention/intervention strategies, identify current and promising research-based models, and discuss community mobilization in addressing these issues.

Presenters: Dr. James C. (Buddy) Howell, Senior Research Associate, National Youth Gang Center, Tallahassee, Florida

Workshop J

Impact of Youth, Violence and Gangs: A Psychological Profile

This workshop will present a psychological profile of gang members, in addition to vignettes containing issues and concerns for treatment professionals, prevention workers, educators and outreach workers. Methodologies, concepts, patterns of treatment and prevention strategies that “work” and “do not work” will be presented.

Presenters: Wayne Rothwell, Director, Adult Psychiatric Unit, South Oaks Hospital

Workshop K

The Aftermath: Change Ain’t EZ. But It’s Possible

Is change possible? Come and listen to the trials and tribulations of young people who have been able to leave gang life behind. You will learn some of the issues and strategies that are currently being implemented to help young people who want to change. You will learn and develop an understanding of the difficulties and concerns a young person trying to leave gang life behind deals with.

Presenters: Sergio Argueta, Executive Director, S.T.R.O.N.G. Youth, Inc. and Company

Workshop L

Gang Members Anonymous – A Self-Help Recovery

Gang membership fills a void – but the consequence is death, prison and/or injury. Recover from the addiction to destructive behaviors with Gang Members Anonymous 12-Step Program. Learn how to overcome community obstacles and sponsor a self-help program in your area.

Presenters: Andrew Eichhorn, L.C.S.W., Supervisor, Nassau County Probation Department, Gang Unit

DIRECTIONS: By automobile, Hofstra can be reached easily by main east-west and south-north roads. The Meadowbrook Parkway is the closest east-west road running north and south between the Southern State Parkway and the Northern State Parkway. Exit the Meadowbrook Parkway at M4, Hempstead Turnpike. Proceed west on Hempstead Turnpike to the third traffic light, turn right onto the North Campus (just before the second pedestrian bridge that crosses Hempstead Turnpike). The Sondra and David S. Mack Student Center is on your left, parking is just beyond the Student Center.