Pillars of Community Policing

Providing young minds a sense of Self-Worth and Literacy in their first 4000 days of their life is paramount to the health and safety of our community. **Sixty percent of adults in jail can’t read.** Twenty one percent of incarcerated individuals read below the third-grade level.

Social change to reduce gangs, violence and domestic conflict involve challenging a given form of traditional policing and thus retooling. Gangs in our community have thrived for almost four decades. That’s an effective business model. Safe Passage creates a competitive disruption of the gang(s) rubric.

This new concept of community policing is unique, and asymmetrically provides the same basic needs the gangs have supplied. These include: food, education, trust, safety and affirmation. Safe Passage centers are open six days a week, free of charge, to over 100 underserved K-5th youth who all live in micro-communities that have traditionally been targets for gang recruitment and violence. In 2019, Safe Passage helped reduced local gang size by another 9% from the 2018 gang population. Over a few short years, this policing concept has reduced gangs by 44% locally. Having safety a priority in two low-income, multi family communities is not completed through simply arresting gang leaders/members or by youth incarceration. It requires stopping gang recruitment of children from K-5th while concentrating police enforcement effectively.

**The First 4000 Days Of Life**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>STEAM PROJECTS COMPLETED</th>
<th>1,125</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>HOMEWORK COMPLETED</td>
<td>16,312</td>
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**2019**

A New Way

- Safety
- Literacy
- Trust
- Community

**HOT LUNCHES SERVED**

2,630
In 2019, Conejo Recreation & Park District (CRPD) Youth Counselors partnered with Ventura County Sheriff (VCSO) Deputies and community service club volunteers to provide these 100-130 vulnerable children daily after school mentoring which include academic tutoring, art, history, reading, STEM, physical fitness, summer camp, nutrition and health awareness.

Each Saturday these children attend Science/Technology/Engineering/Art/Math/Outdoors classes. Each month all of the children from both respective gang areas were taken out of their communities on combined field study trips with CRPD leading & VCSO police officers assisting.

These field study trips reinforce understanding between the two micro-communities and include classes at museums, theater plays, universities, colleges, musicals, outdoor parks and movies.

These children do not have back yards & live in micro-communities that often lack household computers and internet services. Providing regular field study access for these children to such programs as the Arts, STEM, Technology and Nature can ultimately make them and our community healthier and safer. 2019 was the first ever “Go Girls” one-week STEM camp. 40 Safe Passage girls spent a week with women mentors and science teachers who were excellent role models.

**REDUCING GANG VIOLENCE AND RECRUITMENT 2020**

- Increase the age of the youngest gang members, aging out the gangs.
- Partner with CLU and Moorpark College for a Rising Scholar College Pathway.
- Rebuild a Micro Community Pocket Park for the children to play in.
- Introduce the children to coding & robotics.
- Partner with AmeriCorps.

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