

Team-Based Gang Intervention

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Foundations of Team-Based Gang Intervention

- Participation of key agencies
- A quantifiable understanding of the community's gang problem
 - Level and extent of gang crime
 - Profiles of gangs and gang members
 - Impact of gangs on schools, neighborhoods, and families
 - Demographic, economic, and cultural factors
- Data-derived screening criteria for program clients
- Access to needed services

Core Beliefs Integral to Team-Based Gang Intervention

- Each gang member is a unique individual
- Each gang member impacts (and is impacted by)
 - Family
 - Neighborhood
 - School
 - Peers

Core Beliefs Integral to Team-Based Gang Intervention (continued)

- Gang members often have multiple-agency involvement
 - Child protection agencies
 - Law enforcement agencies
 - Juvenile/adult courts
 - Social services agencies
 - Schools
- Gang members frequently experience barriers to needed services

Goals of Team-Based Gang Intervention—Short-Term

- Create an individualized case management plan
- Engage gang members in direct services
- Dismantle or surmount barriers to crucial services

Goals of Team-Based Gang Intervention—Long-Term

- Assist gang members in transitioning out of the gang lifestyle
- Improve the effectiveness of agencies serving gang-involved clients
- Reduce overall gang-related crime

Team-Based Gang Intervention

The Structure of the Team



Building the Team

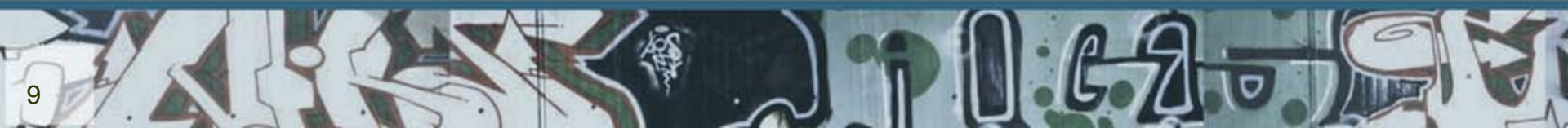
- The catalyst
- Key partners
- Select team members
- Formalize information sharing protocols

Team-Based Gang Intervention



Next Steps

- Screening
- Intake
- Needs assessment



Team-Based Case Management

- Once clients have been assessed, the team should
 - Create a plan to address specific areas of need
 - Take into account the client's current level of functionality
 - Assign responsibility for follow-up to members of the team

Team Roles

- Education
- Law enforcement
- Probation/parole
- Social services
- Outreach

Core Issues in Team-Based Gang Intervention

- Safety is paramount
 - Clients
 - Community
 - Team members
- Information sharing within the team has two goals
 - To assist the client
 - To protect the community and the client from potential safety risks
- Information should not be used to penalize or handicap the client
- Information should be closely guarded within the team

Adapting the Team-Based Approach to Varying Degrees of Gang Problems

- Most appropriate for areas with serious/violent gang problems
- Can be utilized on a smaller scale
- Can be adapted to address other issues

For Additional Information:

- National Youth Gang Center
 - www.iir.com/nygc
- Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention
 - www.ojp.usdoj.gov/ojjdp