



# GANG PREVENTION COALITION (GPC)

## GPC Overview and Strategic Plan

June, 2009

# AGENDA

- What Is a Gang?
- Gangs In Charlotte-Mecklenburg
- Gang Prevention Coalition – Background & Overview
  - Shared Values
  - Vision
  - Mission
- Gang Prevention Coalition - Partner Organizations
- Strategic Plan
  - Goals
  - Initiatives
- Next Steps



# [ What Is A Gang? ]

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## **North Carolina Street Gang Suppression Act**

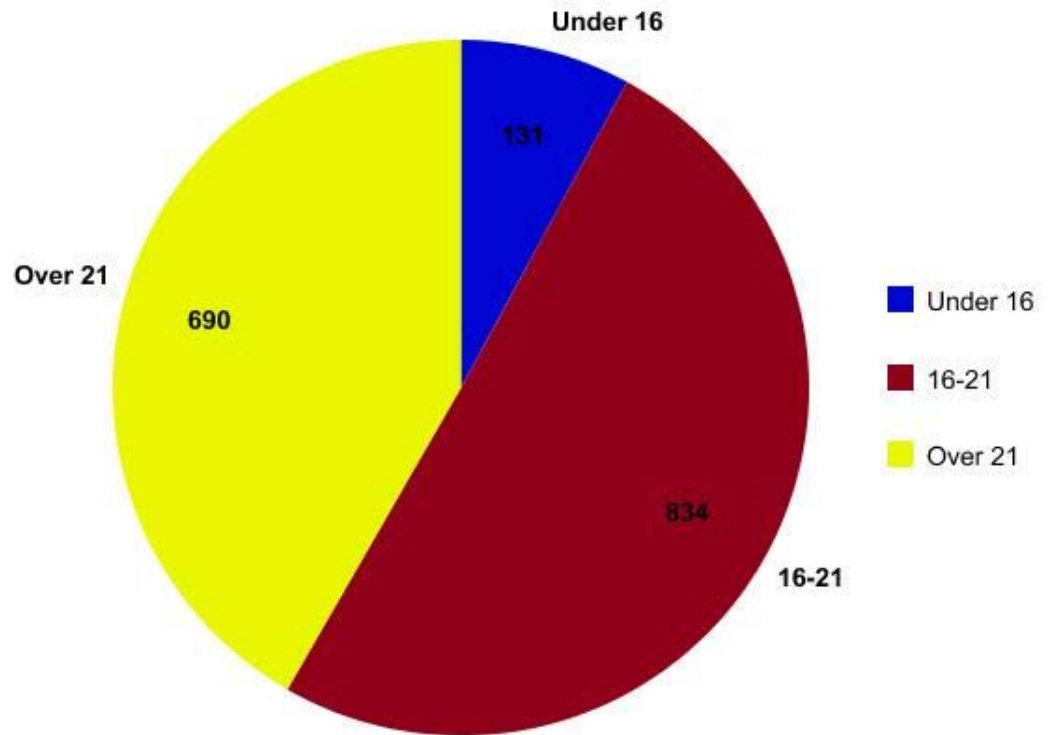
Any ongoing organization, association, or group of three or more persons, whether formal or informal, that:

1. Has one of its primary activities the commission of one or more felony offenses, or delinquent acts that would be felonies if committed by an adult;
2. Has three or more members individually or collectively engaged in, or who have engaged in, criminal street gang activity; and
3. May have a common name, common identifying sign or symbol.

# Gangs in Charlotte-Mecklenburg

## Gangs in Charlotte-Mecklenburg:

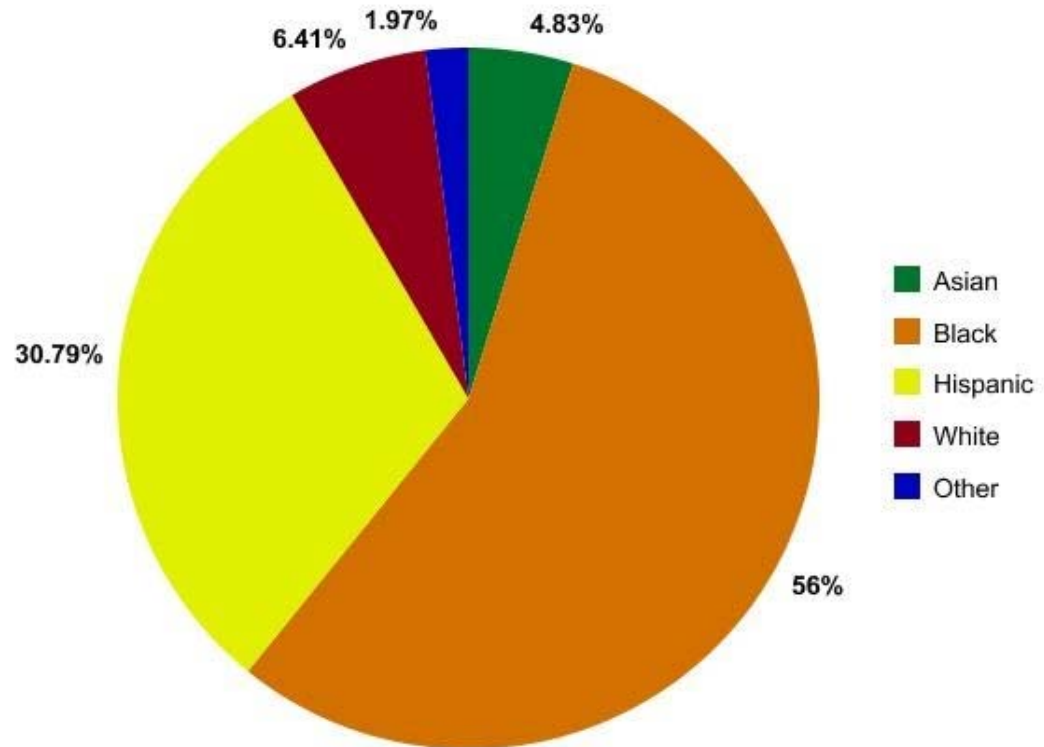
- Under 16 131
- 16-21 834
- Over 21 690



# Gangs in Charlotte-Mecklenburg

## Gangs in Charlotte-Mecklenburg:

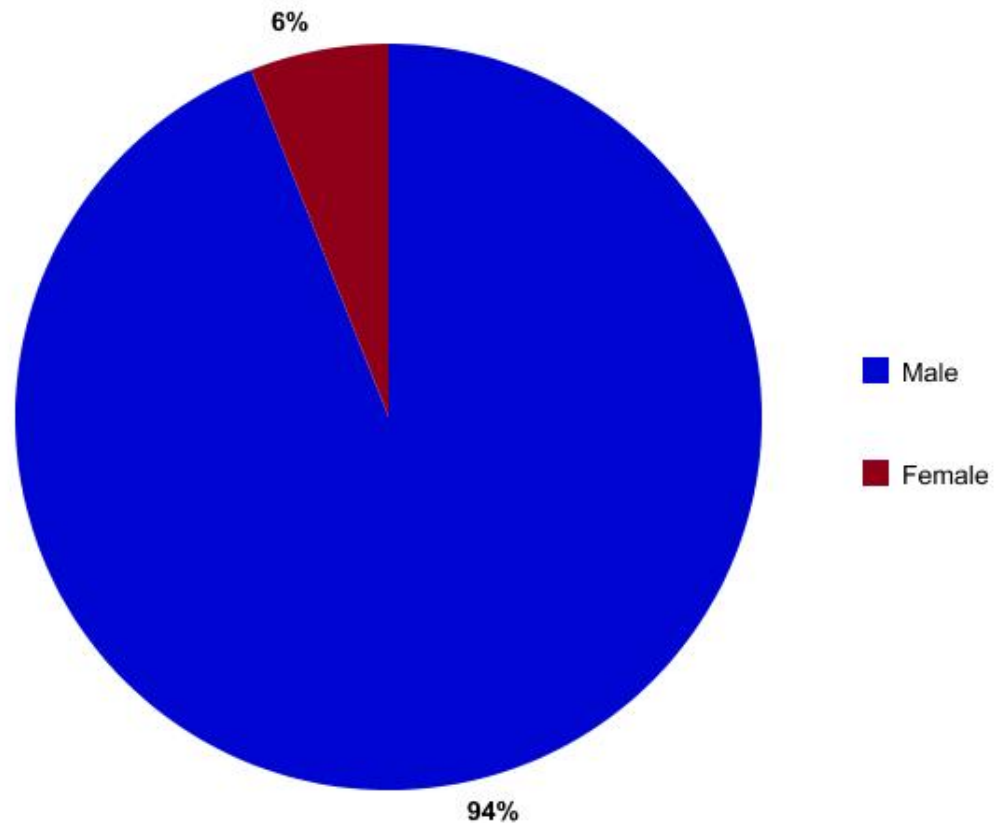
- Asian: 76 (4.8%)
- Black: 882 (56%)
- Hispanic: 485 (31%)
- White: 101 (6.4%)
- Other: 31 (2%)



# Gangs in Charlotte-Mecklenburg

## Gangs in Charlotte-Mecklenburg:

- Male: 94%
- Female; 6%



# Gangs in Charlotte-Mecklenburg

## Gangs in Charlotte-Mecklenburg:

- Mobile, widely distributed throughout the County
- Commit a variety of crimes
  - Armed Robbery
  - Break-ins
  - Auto thefts



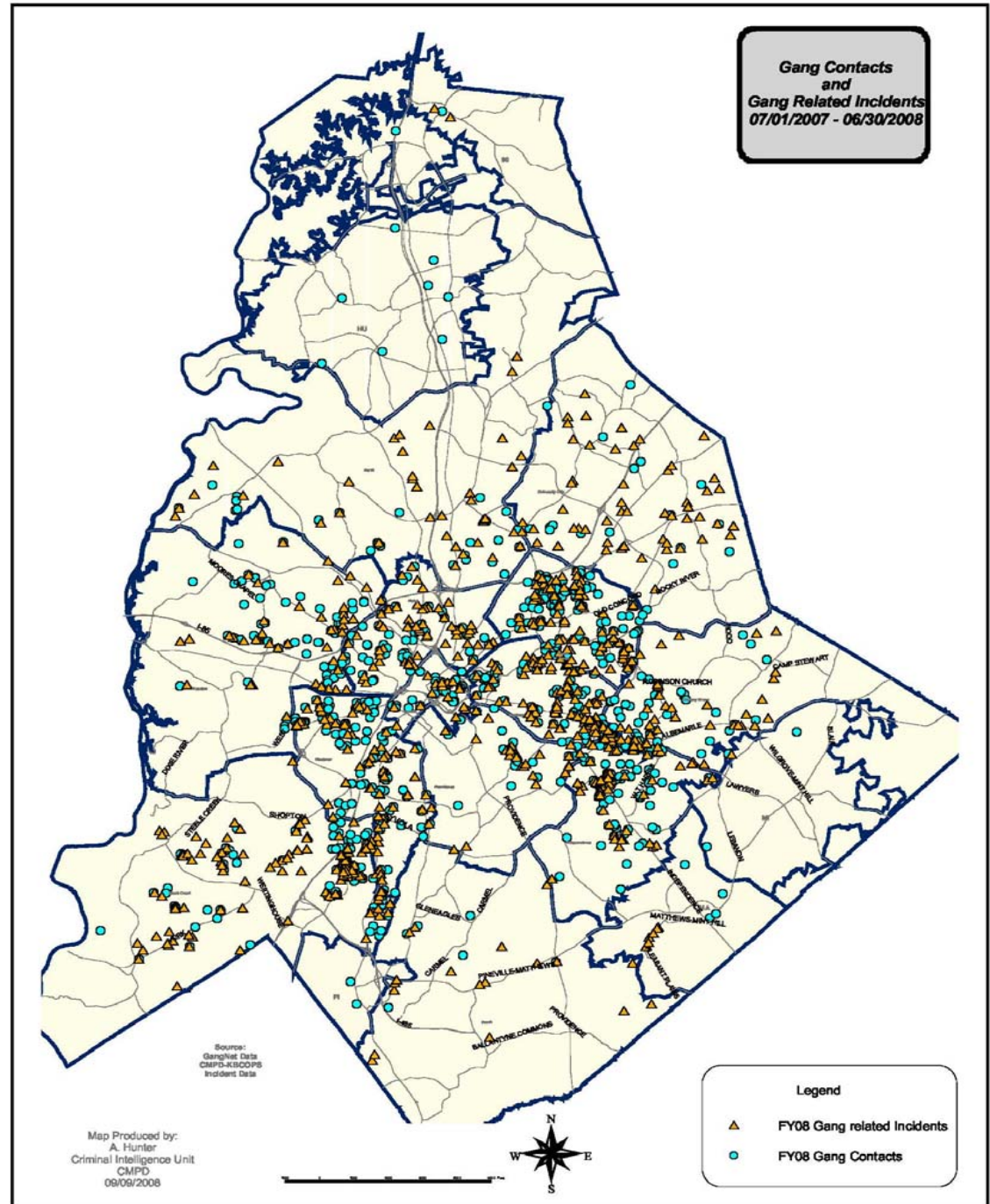
# Gangs in Charlotte-Mecklenburg

Since 2003, gangs, gang membership and activities of gangs in Charlotte-Mecklenburg have increased at an alarming rate.

	2003	2008	% Increase
<b>Number of Gangs</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>151</b>	<b>403%</b>
<b>Gang Members &amp; Associates</b>	<b>606</b>	<b>1854</b>	<b>206%</b>
<b>Gang Related Weapon Assaults &amp; Charges</b>	<b>71</b>	<b>174</b>	<b>145%</b>
<b>Gang Related Incidents</b>	<b>499</b>	<b>1340</b>	<b>169%</b>



# Gang Contacts & Related Incidents



# GPC Background and Overview

- Established May 2007 – broad representation of community partners
  - Gang of One (G01) Support:
    - Educated the GPC on gangs and the OJJDP comprehensive gang reduction model
    - Planned and underwrote site visits
    - Partnered with the US Attorney's Office, NC Western District to secure the Institute for Law and Justice to facilitate the Strategic Planning Retreat.
    - Will provide the fiscal support to implement the GPC strategic plan
- Mission statement adopted - November 2007
- Site visit to Richmond, VA (GRIP) – January 2008
- Site visit to Raleigh, NC (WCGPP) – February 2008
- Strategic Planning Session - May 2008
- Strategic Plan Adopted - January 2009



# [ GPC Shared Values ]



## **GPC Shared Values**

- Respect
- Safety for All Citizens
- Consistency
- Unity
- Integrity
- Partnership
- Trust
- Honesty
- Flexibility
- Empathy
- Commitment

# GPC Vision and Mission

## **Vision**

Mecklenburg County is a diverse community where the citizens work together to optimize all available resources to support the health, safety, and education of all residents.

## **Mission**

To partner with the community to eliminate gangs through collaboration, training, and technical assistance.

# [ GPC Partner Organizations ]

- Bethlehem Center, Charlotte
- Center for Community Transition
- Charlotte-Mecklenburg Community Relations Committee
- Charlotte-Mecklenburg Police Department / Gang of One
- Charlotte-Mecklenburg Schools
- Community Collaborative Youth in Transition
- Council for Children's Rights
- District Attorney's Office
- Department of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention
- Mecklenburg County Area Mental Health
- Mecklenburg County Community Support Services
- Mecklenburg County Park and Recreation
- Mecklenburg County Sheriff's Office
- Mecklenburg County Youth and Family Services
- Neighborhood Development
- Partners in Out-of-School Time
- Substance Abuse Prevention Services
- The Keys of Carolina
- The Relatives
- University of North Carolina at Charlotte

# [ GPC Goals ]

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Develop and implement a comprehensive gang reduction model and strategic plan

Hold monthly Gang Prevention Coalition meetings to begin implementation of the strategic plan

Engage and inspire local residents, community groups and agencies to participate in gang reduction activities

Inform and update the community, elected officials and service providers about gangs in Charlotte-Mecklenburg

# [ GPC Goals ]



Gain the support and endorsement of local officials and decision makers regarding the Strategic Plan

Develop financial support for gang reduction programs

Implement best practice programs

# GPC Initiatives

## OJJDP Comprehensive Gang Reduction Model

- Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention (OJJDP) - Adopted Best Practice Comprehensive Gang Reduction Model
- Result of national research (Spergel, 1995)
- Components include:
  - Primary Prevention
  - Secondary Prevention
  - Intervention
  - Suppression
  - Reentry

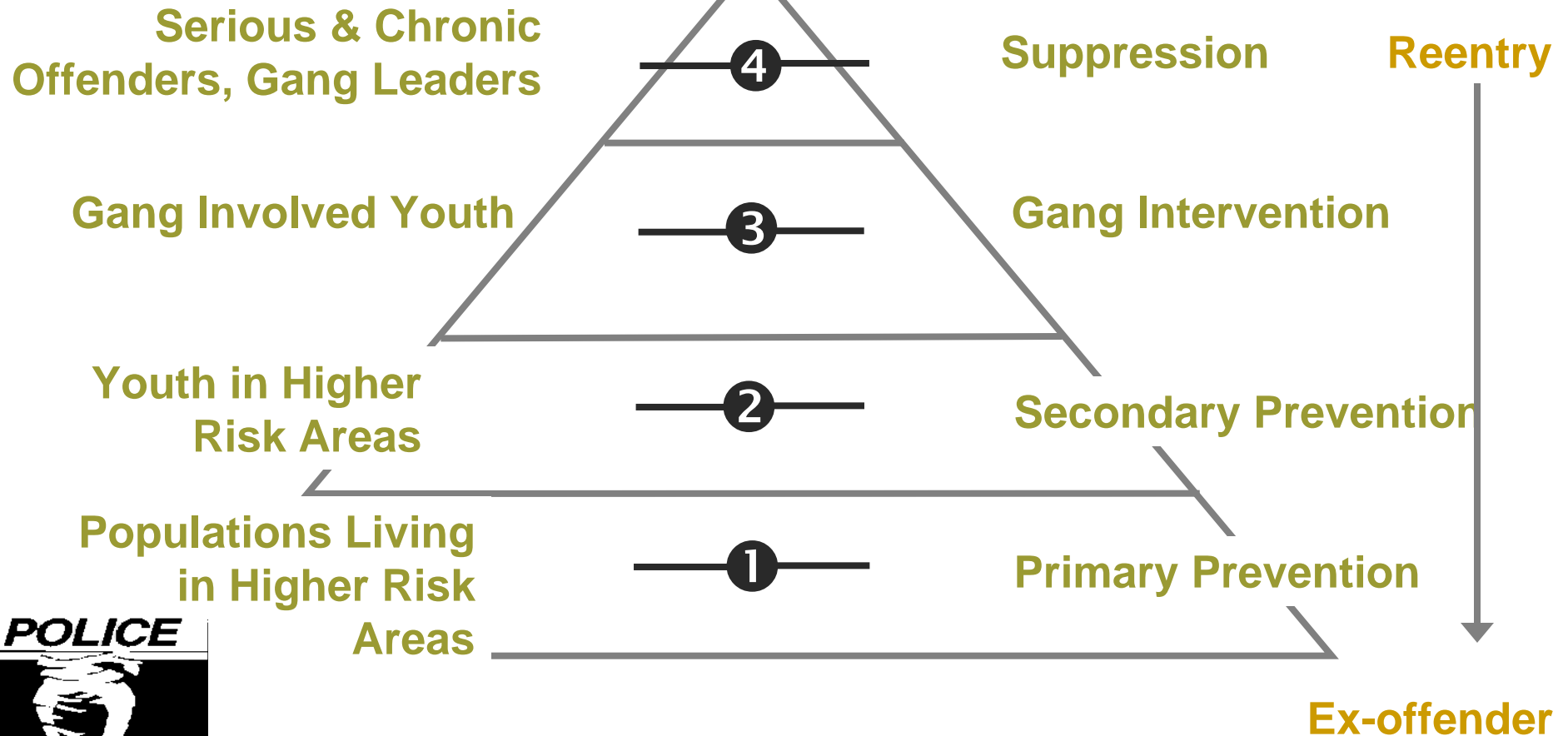




# OJJDP Comprehensive Gang Reduction Model



## Gang of One: Focusing Anti-Gang Strategies



# GPC Initiatives OJJDP Comprehensive Gang Reduction Model

## Primary Prevention

Goal: Provide families with access to services that connect them to resources they need for mental health, education, career preparation, recreation, life skills and safety.

Goal: Educate residents of Charlotte-Mecklenburg on signs of involvement with gangs and how to access supportive community resources/interventions.

Goal: Engage and inform local community groups and agencies on how to participate in gang reduction type activities.

GPC Initiatives

OJJDP Comprehensive Gang Reduction Model

## **Secondary Prevention**

Goal: Develop a variety of specific education, training, and employment programs for targeted youth.

Goal: Provide youth with access to fun and engaging activities that connect them to the resources they need for mental health, education, career preparation, recreation, life and safety.

# GPC Initiatives OJJDP Comprehensive Gang Reduction Model

## Intervention

Goal: Provide access to gang members, close associates, and delinquents to a system of care to address mental health, substance abuse, and other life domain needs.

Goal: Provide gang involved youth and their families with an array of services that will assist them in adopting pro-social values and access to organizations that will meet their social, educational, and vocational needs including health, housing and income needs.

# GPC Initiatives

## OJJDP Comprehensive Gang Reduction Model

### Suppression

Goal: Minimize the presence, illegal activities and violence of youth gangs through formal and informal suppression efforts.

Goal: Partner with CMPD, Mecklenburg County Sheriff's Office, the courts and other law enforcement entities to share information and coordinate activities.



GPC Initiatives

OJJDP Comprehensive Gang Reduction Model

## Re-Entry

Goal: Develop opportunities for former gang members to have access to resources that support their disassociation from gang involvement.

Goal: Develop avenues for former gang members to successfully integrate back into their community and families have access to resources that support their disassociation from gang involvement.

# Next Steps

Educate the community regarding the Strategic Plan and partnership Opportunities

Hold press conference to announce work of Gang Prevention Coalition

Award RFP / \$95K Dollars in conjunction with G01

Partner with the Juvenile Crime Prevention Council

Seek additional funding sources



# [ Questions ]

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- Isaac Applewhite  
Park and Recreation
- Grayce Crockett,  
Area Mental Health
- Fran Cook,  
CMPD/Gang of One
- Willie Ratchford,  
Community Relations  
Committee