

Minutes  
CITY OF UNION CITY  
Union City Youth Violence Prevention & Intervention Advisory Committee Meeting  
6:00 P.M. Wednesday, November 2, 2011  
Ruggieri Senior Center 33997 Alvarado-Niles Road  
Union City, California 94587

**I. ADVISORY BODY – Youth Violence Prevention/Measure UU Funds/CalGRIP Grant**

**II. INTRODUCTIONS AND MEETING OBJECTIVES – Jonathan Pettey, Chairperson/Human Relations Commission**

**In Attendance:**

Jonathan Pettey, Human Relations Commission; Tony Acosta, Leisure Services Director; Jill Stavosky, Leisure Services Manager; Patricia Abadesco, YFS Program Manager; Sergio Abundis, YFS Case Manager; Fabiola Camarillo, YFS Employment Coordinator; Carol Dutra-Vernaci, Community Member; Emily Duncan, City Councilwoman; John Cabrera, YFS Lead Outreach Worker; Darl Michael, YFS Outreach Worker; Jasmine Valentine, YFS Outreach Worker; Kristie Potter, YFS Clinical Supervisor; Karen Yifru, Parent; Susie Garcia, Todd Benson, COR; Ted Heinz, COR; Community Member; Michelle Matthews, NHUSD Board; Robert Rodriguez, Community Member; Gloria Lopez-Vaughn; UCPD; Rev. Jerome Brown, Pastors Alliance; Mary Schlarb, COR; Yesenia Molinar; La Clinica de La Raza; Zoneil Maharaj; UC Patch; Toni Aviles, Leisure Services Program Specialist; Alma Gomez, Leisure Services Office Specialist.

**III. Approval of Minutes – September 7, 2011**

John Cabrera motioned to approve the minutes; Rev. Jerome Brown seconded the motion. All approved the minutes.

**IV. Discussion on the Mission and Leadership of the Advisory Committee**

- a. A spirited discussion was held concerning recent community meetings and efforts led by Congregations Organizing for Renewal (OCR) to “improve” the YVPIP by restoring the YVPIP Working Group and engaging consultants to provide YFS staff with additional technical assistance support intended to improve community participation in the program. Different viewpoints on this effort were provided and discussed by several community members, including local clergy and elected officials. Tony Acosta advised the Committee that most of the Working Group functions had been ongoing at the staff level between YFS staff and various law enforcement agencies, due to the privacy issues that accompany discussion of juveniles and ongoing criminal investigations and databases; Tony agreed that the community also needed a forum to interact with the staff Working Group, as well.
- b. Tony Acosta stated that we would incorporate Working Group functions into future monthly meetings of the Youth Violence Prevention & Intervention Advisory Committee.

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- i. The Working Group portion of the Advisory Committee meetings would consist of several parts:
  - 1. Crime Data reporting by UCPD. Data would typically be 5-6 weeks old and would be used to help understand the issues surrounding the “hotspots” in the City and where to place Outreach Team staff. This element will continue to be constrained by ongoing litigation, and will therefore concentrate more on “counts” than analysis.
  - 2. Community Feedback. Information from residents and others who have seen, heard or otherwise become aware of dangerous situations involving youth, actual incidents or threats of youth violence, and other community issues related to youth violence.
  - 3. Street Outreach reporting by YFS. What is being heard “on the street”, and what it means for YFS staff
  - 4. Integration of 1-3 into a conversation about YFS program priorities and activities, including possible changes in focus and direction.
- ii. For YVIP Client Call-in status and planning, YFS staff, in consultation with UCPD and County Probation, would determine the date, location, who will attend (adults or youth), and whether or not the call-in will be for mandated youth, or be voluntary. Alameda County Chief Probation Officer, David Muhammad will be attending our January Board meeting along with County Probation Special Projects Coordinator, John Mein who will also attend future committee meetings.
- c. A Community Co-Chair to the Advisory Committee was discussed as a potential method of increasing community access and participation in the Advisory Committee. The City Council has delegated program oversight for the YVIP to the Human Relations Commission (HRC), and the HRC Chair has been the Advisory Committee Chair, as well. Due to the resignation of former HRC Chair, Jean Harper, Acting HRC Chair, Jonathan Pettey, will assume the duties as Advisory Committee Chair for the time being. A recommendation from the Advisory Committee is requested within the next 2 meetings. Acting Chair, Jonathan Pettey requested that people bring their suggestions for the role of a co-chair. The HRC will review the suggestions and make the final decision.

**V. Review High Risk Youth and Criteria Compilation**

Fabiola Camarillo & Sergio Abundis presented the edited version of the Client Progress Report Sheet to the committee. Everyone approved of the changes that were made. Jonathan Pettey asked that every other row be shaded to better help with reading the report. Michelle Matthews suggested visuals, such as pie graphs or charts. She offered to help with this process.

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For the Employer Report that Fabiola Camarillo presented, Michelle Matthews suggested that we shorten it and give it to Zoneil Maharaj for the UC Patch website when he gives his report on the success of the program. The report that UC Patch will use will only consist of client placement and the outcome of client progress.

**VI. Review Fiscal Year 2011-2012 Budget Development**

Tony Acosta stated that staff was working on obtaining line item budget information to present to the Advisory Board, but that it was not ready, yet; the budget will be presented in January, at the latest. Tony also noted that staff was working on a CalGRIP grant application to supplement existing YVPIP program funding. He also clarified that there was not \$83,000 in unspecified contract services money in the current budget – the real figure was more like \$30,000, and it was not staff's intent to spend that on anything we didn't absolutely need, since the entire program is currently "Deficit spending", meaning that we are spending more on program expenses than we receive in our annual Measure UU budget allocation, and drawing down on a fund balance to balance the budget. YFS has no more than two years' worth of fund balance to fall back on, and if we don't find new funding sources by early 2013, we will have to reduce program staffing later that year. This is why YFS is not spending any discretionary money on Technical Assistance or anything else, right now.

**VII. YFS Team Update**

Patricia Abadesco talked about the successful Call-In YFS had on October 12, 2011. She reported that 15 out of 22 youth who attended were enrolled as program clients, and according to surveys, were very satisfied with the services that were being provided to them. The majority of the participants expressed that their favorite speakers were two community members. Karen Yifru, because they liked hearing the life story of her son, Biniam, and Kevin Grant, who can relate to them and their stories through his own experiences. Patricia thought the only downside to the Call-in was that they ran on too long, due to the speakers' lengthy talks.

Although, this last Call-In was the biggest one yet, Patricia said that for the next Call-In she would limit the participants to ten, to allow for more rapport building time between staff, service providers, employers with the participants.

John Cabrera reported that he and Darl Michael are working with the school district to interview potential at risk youth for the Why Try Program. They are currently working with students at Cabello, on a one on one basis which helps them to determine a student's potential to complete the program.

**VIII. Adjournment**

Next meeting is on Wednesday, January 4, 2012.