Alameda County:
Toward a Lifetime Commitment to Violence Prevention
Violence Prevention

“Violence prevention efforts contribute to empowerment, educational, and economic progress, and improved life management skills while fostering healthy communities in which people can grow in dignity and safety. Finally, these efforts realign institutions to be more inclusive and receptive in responding to community needs.”
Define the problem (May-Sept. 2003)
Conducted interviews and wrote report; presented findings to advisory board

Describe the solution and define the roles that different sectors play (Sept. 03-Dec 04)
Convened core group; structure development; develop priorities and recommendations; delineate responsibilities; write Blueprint

Full implementation of the blueprint (2005)
Alameda County
Violence Prevention
Planning Outcomes as of 2/9/04

◆ Interviewed key informants

◆ Delineated key findings/recommendations

◆ Convened an Advisory Board (50 members) and Core Group (20 members)
Alameda County Violence Prevention Planning Outcomes as of 2/9/04

- Ratified preliminary report
- Identified and prioritized key risk/resilience factors
Delineated key activities along the Spectrum to promote resilience factors

- economic development
- meaningful opportunities for participation
- positive attachments/relationships

…and eliminate risk factors

- illiteracy/academic failure
- alcohol/other drugs
Alameda County
Violence Prevention
Planning Outcomes as of 2/9/04

◆ Developed a website dedicated to the planning process
◆ Developed a document that examined possible structure options and a preliminary structure
Where We’re Headed

- Continue to use the *Spectrum* to examine key risk/resilience factors
- Describe roles and specific actions of each key sector within the county in relation to violence prevention
- Identify the most effective structure option
Where We’re Headed

◆ Delineate who will be responsible for violence prevention within the county

◆ Implement the Alameda County Violence Prevention Blueprint
Alameda County:
Findings & Recommendations
Findings

- An absence of unified leadership
- Lack of accountability for outcomes
- No designated venue for coordination
- Need more understanding of effective prevention
About the Preliminary Recommendations

- Recommendations are *not* about “fixing” the system

- Recommendations *do* strive to lay an initial groundwork for establishing an effective violence prevention system that spans departments and disciplines
Preliminary Recommendations

- Institute a structure to support prevention
- Develop a strategic blueprint
- Create a venue for coordination and communication
Preliminary Recommendations

- Increase public awareness about root factors
- Provide interdisciplinary staff training
- Ask for assistance from the state
- Establish effective data and evaluation systems
Preliminary Recommendations

- Shift the norm to: violence is unacceptable
- Build hope
- Establish shared violence prevention principles
The 3 Keys

Violence Prevention Framework
Violence is complex and requires a comprehensive approach.
The Spectrum of Prevention

- Influencing Policy and Legislation
- Changing Organizational Practices
- Fostering Coalitions and Networks
- Educating Providers
- Promoting Community Education
- Strengthening Individual Knowledge and Skills
Violence Prevention Coalition

Lao Family Community Development

Girls, Inc.

West County Youth Service Bureau

Familias Unidas

EB Center for the Performing Arts

Police Activities League

Opportunity West

Family Violence

Battered Women’s Alternatives
Risk and resiliency factors must be addressed.
Poverty and economic disparity
- Discrimination and oppression
- Incarceration/Re-entry

Illiteracy and poor academic achievement

Firearms
- Experiencing and witnessing violence

Alcohol and other drugs

Negative family dynamics
- Community deterioration
- Mental illness
- Gender socialization
- Media violence
Identified Resilience Factors

- Meaningful opportunities for participation
- Positive attachments and relationships
  - Emotional and cognitive competence
- Good physical and mental health
- Economic Capital
  - Services and institutions
- Social capital
  - Built environment
  - Artistic and creative opportunities
  - Media/marketing
  - Ethnic, racial, and intergroup relations
Violence prevention requires an integrated strategy for action.
Toward a Structure for Violence Prevention

BOS or CAO

Coordinating Council

Cities, Schools, Departments

Office of VP?

Youth, CBO’s, Business, Community
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Level of Spectrum</th>
<th>Economic Capital</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Strengthening Individual</td>
<td>• Literacy development</td>
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<tr>
<td>Knowledge &amp; Skills</td>
<td>• Educate youth on how businesses work</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Provide a range of career paths</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Develop independent living skills</td>
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<tr>
<td>2. Promoting Community Education</td>
<td>• Raise awareness re: range of job opportunities</td>
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<td></td>
<td>• Counter messages regarding “unappealing jobs” with the reality</td>
</tr>
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<td>Level of Spectrum</td>
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| **3. Educating Providers**| ♦ Individuals should share their career paths with the community  
♦ See youth as a “commodity”                                               |
| **4. Fostering Coalitions and Networks** | ♦ Educate businesses on their role in creating a healthy community  
♦ Create a business advisory group for business recommendations |
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Level of Spectrum</th>
<th>Economic Capital</th>
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<tr>
<td>5. Changing Organizational Practices</td>
<td>Job training and apprenticeships</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Ensure banks/businesses are present in the community</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Corporations and business should adopt four square blocks to be present in training</td>
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<tr>
<td>6. Influencing Policy and Legislation</td>
<td>Develop enterprise zones</td>
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<tr>
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<td>Create enforceable subsidy agreements</td>
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<td>Implement a sustainable living wage</td>
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<td>Local governments should invest in violence prevention planning and programs</td>
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Partnerships Among Systems

Health

Justice

Education
Influencing Policy & Legislation
Changing Organizational Practices
Fostering Coalitions & Networks
Educating Providers
Promoting Community Education
Strengthening Individual Knowledge & Skills
The Need for Cross Sector Participation

SECTORS

Schools
Business
Media
Government
Health

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ACTIVITIES

literacy development
raise career awareness
educate businesses on healthy outcomes
apprenticeships
develop enterprise zones

www.preventioninstitute.org
PISEL 0104
“Only with combined efforts of all sectors and disciplines of society...

...can we hope to eliminate racial and ethnic disparities.”

-- Call to the Nation to Eliminate Racial and Ethnic Disparities in Health

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STOP THE KILLING
For more information: preventioninstitute.org/alameda.html

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