



county of Santa Cruz 181

PROBATION DEPARTMENT

JOHN P. RHOADS, CHIEF PROBATION OFFICER

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July 2.2, 1998

Agenda: August 4, 1998

Board of Supervisors
County of Santa Cruz
701 Ocean Street
Santa Cruz, California 95060

Approve Probation Department Participation in the Office of the State Attorney General's California Gang, Crime and Violence Prevention Initiative Proposal, Submitted by Pajaro Valley Prevention and Student Assistance, Inc.

Dear Members of the Board:

On October 11, 1997, AB963 was signed into law by Governor Pete Wilson, authorizing the appropriation of three million dollars for a local assistance grant program to support community-based violence prevention efforts. Funds will be awarded to fifteen projects statewide, in the amount of \$200,000 annually for four years. Only community-based, non-profit agencies may apply. These applicants, however, must have partnerships with law enforcement agencies or probation departments.

During your Board's hiatus in July 1998, the Requests for Proposals were released with due date to the State of July 24, 1998. The Probation Department was contacted by Pajaro Valley Prevention and Student Assistance, Inc. (PVPSA) and requested to participate in the PVPSA proposal.

The PVPSA proposal would provide a counselor for a new alternative elementary school site for youth who have been expelled from mainstream programming due to behavior problems. The Probation component would provide funds for one Deputy Probation Officer II to provide services to youth who have chronic truancy and/or behavioral problems at three middle school sites. These prevention services are designed to target youth who are at the highest risk of entering the Juvenile Justice System. The grant is viewed as an opportunity for the Probation Department, in partnership with a community agency, to identify and intervene in the lives of high risk youth at an early stage.

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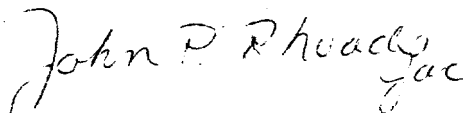
Probation Dept. Participation in California Gang, Crime and Violence Prevention Initiative Proposal Submitted by PVPSA, Inc.

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If funded, the Probation Department will return to the Board to accept unanticipated revenue, increase appropriations and obtain authorization for a fully-funded Deputy Probation Officer II position. There is no match requirement, and there will be no increase in net county cost resulting from this grant proposal.

IT IS THEREFORE RECOMMENDED that your Board approve the Probation Department's participation in the Office of the State Attorney General's California Gang, Crime and Violence Prevention Initiative Proposal submitted by Pajaro Valley Prevention and Student Assistance.

Very truly yours,


JOHN P. RHOADS,
Chief Probation Officer

JPR:JAC:fn

RECOMMENDED:


SUSAN A. MAURIELLO
County Administrative Officer

Attachment: Operational Agreement - Esperanza Project

Esperanza Project to Prevent Gangs, Crime and Violence in the Pajaro Valley**OPERATIONAL AGREEMENT**

This Operational Agreement stands as evidence that the Pajaro Valley Prevention and Student Assistance, Inc. (PVPSA), the Pajaro Valley Unified School District (PVUSD), Santa Cruz County Probation Department and the Watsonville Police Department intend to work together toward the mutual goal of implementing a Gang, Crime, and Violence Prevention Partnership Program in Watsonville. All agencies believe that implementation of the Esperanza Project, as described herein, will further this goal. To this end, each agency agrees to participate in the program, if selected for funding, by coordinating/providing services as outlined below.

Collaborative Partnership Meetings

All agency partners agree to fully participate in monthly meetings of the Esperanza Project Oversight Collaborative.

Case Management Team Meetings

In addition to the Esperanza Project Oversight Collaborative, the Pajaro Valley Unified School District agrees to establish a case management team for the newly created Elementary Alternative Program. The team will include PVUSD staff and the PVPSA Elementary Counselor and Administrator.

Pajaro Valley Unified School District also agrees to establish an Esperanza Truancy Team that will meet with staff from Santa Cruz County Probation Department, PVUSD Director of Child Welfare and Attendance, and the Elementary Counselor and administrative staff from the Pajaro Valley Prevention and Student Assistance, Inc.

Specific Role of Participating Agency:

Pajaro Valley Prevention and Student Assistance, Inc.

- Serve as lead agency and provide administrative and fiscal management support for all funded partners of the Esperanza Collaborative to Prevent Gangs, Crime and Violence in the Pajaro Valley.
- Participate on the Esperanza Project Oversight Collaborative.
- Provide counseling services for the Elementary Alternative Program for very high risk students.
- Provide the Elementary Counselor with resources. (puppets, clay, sand tray, and paints to work with elementary school age children).
- Provide Conflict Resolution Training for three middle schools in the Pajaro Valley Unified School District.
- Coordinate the classroom presentations provided to 10th grade students by the officers from Watsonville Police Department.
- Assist the Probation Officer to provide family support services for youth and families in the Esperanza Truancy Program.
- Participate on all case management teams required to fully operate the project.
- Provide meeting space for all collaborative and case management meetings.
- Provide counseling for student referrals from SBPO.
- Provide staff to assist the collaborative to evaluate services and to support the state evaluation efforts.

Santa Cruz County Probation Department

- Train all Probation Department staff regarding the agreements and services provided by the Esperanza Project.
- Participate on the Esperanza Project Oversight Collaborative.
- Assign a full time School Based Probation Officer (SBPO) to the Esperanza Truancy Program to work with truants and their families at three feeder middle schools in the PVUSD.

- The School Based Probation Officer will work cooperatively with PWSD and the District Attorney's Office on truancy mediation cases.
- . Participate in the assessment and screening of truancy referrals from PVUSD.
- Provide intervention, support and follow up services to youth and families who are referred to the Esperanza Truancy Program.
- The SBPO will participate on school site planning and in the implementation of activities relating to site safe schools' plans.
- . The SBPO will present or participate in PWSD staff in-service activities relating to gangs, violence or campus safety.
- The SBPO will refer students to PVPSA for counseling.
- Collect and provide pertinent data as identified by program objectives for the purpose of project evaluation.

Watsonville Police Department

- Participate on the Esperanza Project Oversight Collaborative.
- Refer truants to the Esperanza Truancy Program.
- Train all WPD staff regarding the agreements and services available through the Esperanza Project.
- Provide classroom curricula on Youth and the Law to all 10th grade students at Watsonville High and the feeder middle schools.
- Provide training to Watsonville High School Campus Security staff on a full range of local law enforcement issues relating to gangs, violence and campus safety to be identified in a planning session.

Paiaro Valle Unified School District

- Establish an Elementary Alternative Program for very high risk students. This includes hiring a teacher and providing program facilities and equipment.
- Establish a case management team to include the Assistant Superintendent of Elementary Education, Director of Special Services, Director of Child Welfare and Attendance, PVPSA Elementary Counselor and PVPSA Administrator.

- Train Elementary Alternative Program staff regarding the agreements and services provided by the Esperanza Project.
- Participate on the Esperanza Project Oversight Collaborative.
- Provide the School Based Probation Officer access to student records.
- Establish an Esperanza Truancy Program and Team to include staff from the Child Welfare and Attendance Office.
- Provide data to PVPSA for the purpose of program evaluation.

We the undersigned, as authorized representatives do hereby approve this document.

By: _____
Linda Perez
Executive Director
Pajaro Valley Prevention and
Student Assistance, Inc.

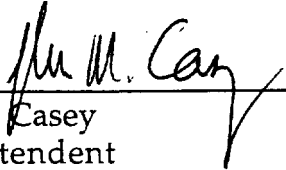
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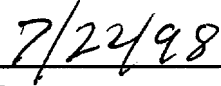
By: _____
John Rhoads
Chief Probation Officer
County of Santa Cruz

Date

By: _____
Terry Medina
Chief of Police
City of Watsonville

Date

By:  _____
Dr. John Casey
Superintendent
Pajaro Valley Unified School District

 _____
Date