



Park and Recreation Commission

City of Arts & Innovation

TO: HONORABLE COMMISSIONERS **DATE: MAY 21, 2018**

FROM: PARKS, RECREATION AND COMMUNITY SERVICES DEPARTMENT

SUBJECT: RECOGNITION OF PROJECT BRIDGE AT THE JUVENILE JUSTICE DELINQUENCY PREVENTION COMMISSION AWARDS CEREMONY BY THE COUNTY OF RIVERSIDE AND RECEIVING THE COMMUNITY DELINQUENCY PREVENTION AWARD; ADDITIONAL RECOGNITION FROM THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA SENATE AND CALIFORNIA ASSEMBLY

ISSUE:

Recognition of Project BRIDGE at the Juvenile Justice Delinquency Prevention Commission Awards Ceremony by the County of Riverside and receiving the "Community Delinquency Prevention Award;" additional recognition from the State of California Senate and the California Assembly.

RECOMMENDATION:

That the Park and Recreation Commission recognize the dedication and effort put forth by the Project BRIDGE staff on their commitment to serving gang-involved Riverside youth.

BACKGROUND:

The mission of Project BRIDGE (Building Resources for the Intervention and Deterrence of Gang Engagement) is to transport the lifestyle of gang-involved youth and their families and reduce gang violence in the community. The program provides comprehensive services to gang-involved youth between the ages of 12-22 and their families in the City of Riverside. Project BRIDGE focuses on delinquency prevention and early intervention for participants. Various services are provided to program participants at home, in school, and within the community through Outreach Workers. The program includes community service, group discussions, career workshops, peer relationships, and mentors to develop personal and social competence. In the past three years, Project BRIDGE has assisted 61 youth graduate high school or attain their GED. Currently, there are 120 registered Project BRIDGE participants, 98 of which are working on earning their high school diploma or GED.

Project BRIDGE was awarded the Community Delinquency Prevention Award by the County of Riverside, Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Commission. The award honored programs that provided or demonstrated a crime prevention or unique service to youth in the community.

DISCUSSION:

Project BRIDGE is a result of community collaborative efforts committed to reducing the incidence of youth gang violence. Riverside County Juvenile Probation Department, Alvord and Riverside Unified School Districts, Riverside County Office of Education, Robert Presley Center for Crime and Justice and various community-based organizations are vital participants. The collaborative component of Project BRIDGE is an integral part of the program's success. Outside agencies/partners provide additional resources to participants and help create alternatives to gang involvement. Project BRIDGE, along with community partners employ multiple strategies and services including strengthening families, job training, interpersonal skills training, tutoring and mentorships.

FISCAL IMPACT:

There is no fiscal impact associated with this report.

Prepared by:	Robin A. Metz, Recreation and Community Services Superintendent
Approved by:	Adolfo Cruz, Parks, Recreation and Community Services Director
Approved by:	Al Zelinka, FAICP, Assistant City Manager

Attachments:

1. Certificate of Recognition from County of Riverside
2. Certificate of Recognition from State of California Senate
3. Certificate of Recognition from California Legislature Assembly