

Preliminary Report

Salinas, CA

Community Policing and the COPS Youth Firearms Violence Initiative



Presented to
President William J. Clinton

August 1996

U.S. Department of Justice
Office of Community Oriented Policing Services

Director Joseph E. Brann

Salinas, CA

A federal COPS MORE grant allowed for the redeployment of four sworn officers from administrative functions to community policing roles.

The Challenge

With a population of 122,000 within a 15-square mile area, Salinas is the largest city in, and the county seat of, Monterey County, located on the central coast of California.

Although surrounded by rural and farming areas, Salinas suffered from the crime and gang problems that have plagued larger urban areas. In just 10 years, homicides jumped 200 percent, from eight in 1984 to 24 in 1994. Other crimes, such as assault and robbery, also increased over the same period; an increase the police attributed to gang activity. In fact, the people of Salinas identified gang violence and fear of gangs as the number one problem facing their community. The Salinas Police Department has identified between 20 and 25 local gangs, with approximately 1,500 members and associates, including 400 serious, full-time gang members.

The Solution

Direct Response – Community Policing

As part of the city's commitment to community oriented public service, the police department began implementing community policing in 1992. The Office of Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS), created by the 1994 Clinton Crime Act, has granted Salinas over \$1.3 million. This support has enabled the police department to increase its law enforcement ranks, enhance the sophistication of crime-solving technology, and strengthen the role and level of public involvement.

With three officers hired under a \$225,000 COPS AHEAD (Accelerated Hiring Education and Deployment) federal grant, the Community Coordinator program was implemented in July 1995. Through this program, these community policing officers act as liaisons between the police department, community-based organizations and residents in each of the three city sectors. In October 1996, the department hired four additional non-sworn police assistants through a federal COPS MORE (Making Officer Redeployment Effective) grant of \$97,000, allowing the redeployment of four sworn officers from administrative and clerical functions to community policing roles.

Since the beginning of the Youth Firearms Violence Initiative, the Salinas Police Department reports a 62 percent decrease in homicides, a 23 percent decrease in gang-related assaults, and a 31 percent decrease in drive-by shootings.

Targeted Response – The COPS Youth Firearms Violence Initiative

In October 1995, the COPS Office awarded nearly \$1 million under the Youth Firearms Violence Initiative to the Salinas Police Department to combat youth firearms violence.

The Violence Suppression Unit (VSU) was created with support from the \$989,524 grant. Its mission is to remove firearms from the hands of youth and gang members. With 17 officers, working seven days a week, the VSU targets specific gang territories, conducts probation searches and surveillance of homes or businesses where youth are known or suspected of obtaining firearms.

The VSU works closely with the District Attorney to track “certified” gangs and gang members. Under state law, the District Attorney can certify a gang after a certain level of violent crime has been committed. After certification, the gang or gang member is notified of the criminal classification. From that point on, any arrests for gang-related crime can lead to tougher criminal sanctions. By keeping detailed files on gang activity, the VSU has assisted the District Attorney in certifying six local gangs and thus provided the weapon of tougher sentences.

In operation since July 1996 and in support of the VSU, the Geographic Information System (GIS) tracks and analyzes criminal activity. This COPS-funded system gives the department the ability to track firearms crimes and identify gang hot spots. Recognizing the important potential of this system, the entire department has received training on the GIS.

The Results

Crime Rates Drop – Community Policing Pays Off

The Salinas Police Department reports a dramatic drop in violent crime since the beginning of the Youth Firearms Violence Initiative in October 1995, including a 62 percent decrease in homicides, a 23 percent decrease in gang-related assaults, and a 31 percent decrease in drive-by shootings.

The community policing efforts of the Salinas Police Department are paying off. Residents are more involved in crime prevention, gang violence is decreasing, and community police officers serve as mentors offering youth positive alternatives to a life of crime. As a participant in the COPS

Youth Firearms Violence Initiative, Salinas provides a powerful example to law enforcement agencies of the potential for reducing youth crime through community policing.

Community Policing Strategies

Background

The Salinas Police Department, comprised of 151 sworn officers and 47 civilian employees, is a community policing agency which provides full law enforcement services, including uniformed patrol, investigations, a gang task force, narcotics and vice investigations, traffic enforcement, special operations, DARE education, School Resource Officers, Community Response Officers, a Violent Injury Prevention Program, and the Police Activities League.

In January 1991, the City of Salinas implemented Community Oriented Public Service, using the International City Managers Association model, in all city departments. This public service philosophy is based on problem solving and community involvement, with a focus on youth and youth-related crimes.

In June 1992, Police Chief Dan Nelson issued Community Oriented Public Service guidelines to outline the implementation of community policing and officer training. This was followed by the development of a strategic plan, which identified specific action plans to address public-safety problems. To further involve the community in crime reduction strategies, the Police/Community Advisory Commission, comprised of citizens appointed by the city council and police staff, was created in January 1994.

To make policing services more accessible to the public, the department opened two community service centers in July 1994. The East Side Service Center (ESSC) is located in an area of the city with the highest population density and one of the highest crime rates. As part of the Neighborhood Mobilization Program, four Community Service Aides provide police services in the center. A sworn Community Response Officer is assigned to the ESSC to work with community groups and residents.

Other community policing efforts of the department include the Preventing Alcohol-Related Trauma in Salinas program to reduce alcohol-related crime through education and enforcement, and the Salinas Police Community Academy to increase citizen understanding of police services.

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The PeaceBuilders Project, a violence prevention program that targets elementary school-aged children, rewards constructive behavior in school.

Strong Commitment to Youth

As part of the city-wide implementation of Community Oriented Public Service in 1991, volunteers, utilizing donated materials, converted a vacant bakery warehouse into a gym. This popular gang-neutral center houses a Police Activities League office, recreation center, and the Second Chance Youth Program that provides counseling for at-risk youth. At the same time, all segments of the Salinas community and municipal government began the Violent Injury Prevention Program (VIPP), a cooperative effort led by Mayor Alan Styles to prevent and reduce violent acts and their effects in Salinas. Since January 1994, two police officers have been assigned to a low-income, high-crime area targeted by VIPP.

As part of its enforcement campaign targeting criminal street gang activity, the Salinas Police Department has instituted a Zero-Tolerance Gun Violence Policy. Adopted by the city council in March 1994, the policy publicly declared that the city would vigorously pursue strategies and procedures to prevent violent crime. In addition, the city council asked the county courts when exercising sentencing discretion to consider the dire impact that illegal gun use has on the city and its residents.

In another effort to reduce gang activity, the Salinas Acosta Plaza Neighborhood Crime Resistance Program now assigns a uniformed officer to a previously under-served townhouse complex with a history of gang-related violent crime. The program includes residential walking patrols, neighborhood watch and youth mentoring.

The city, the police department and the Violent Injury Prevention Coalition have joined forces with the Alisal School District to launch two violence prevention initiatives directed toward elementary-aged children. The PeaceBuilders Project, which has been implemented in seven area schools, is a violence intervention method of instruction that rewards constructive behavior in school. The Title V Delinquency Prevention program targets students in a high-crime area of the city to develop healthy community and familial relationships, thereby reducing exposure to and identification with gangs.

Conclusion

This initial community policing success can be attributed to visionary leadership: the commitment of the city council, the dedication of city management, and the exemplary efforts of the entire police department. Their collaborative effort, with support from the COPS Office, brought lower crime rates and safer streets back to Salinas. This local-federal partnership serves as a model for other communities to embrace in their comprehensive crime-fighting efforts.

~~old~~ - $\frac{\text{new} - \text{old}}{\text{old}}$

Crime Information on Salinas:

Overall Crime index

1994 7,084

1995 8,329

$$= \frac{8329 - 7084}{7084} + 0.175$$

Modified Crime Index

1994 7,855

1995 8,385

$$+ 0.067$$

Murder

1994 24

1995 15

$$= 0.375$$

Forcible Rape

1994 65

1995 49

$$- 0.246$$

Robbery

1994 414

1995 494

$$+ 0.1932$$

Aggravated Assault

1994 846

1995 950

$$+ 0.1229$$

Burglary

1994 1,209

1995 1,181

$$- 0.0231$$

Los Angeles:

Crime index total

1994 278,351

1995 266,204

$$- 0.0436$$

Modified Crime index

1994 282,727

1995 269,583

$$- 0.04649$$

murder

1994 845

1995 849

$$0.0047337$$

forcible rape

1994 1,554

1995 1,590

$$+ 0.3778162$$

robbery

1994 30,817

1995 29,134

$$- 0.0546127$$

aggravated assault

1994	39,886
1995	38,945

- 0.0235

burglary

1994	43,535
1995	41,325

- 0.05076

Salinas, California:
Curbing Youth Violence with Community Policing
August 8, 1996

Problem:

- Over the last decade Salinas, California has faced an epidemic of youth violence. Criminal gang activity plagued the city, strongly contributing to the number of crimes involving youths.
- More than twenty criminal street gangs terrorized the city, involving over 1,500 members, with another 750 youths estimated to be "at risk" for joining gangs. In 1995, 80% of all arrests were gang-related, and the average age of the suspect was 22.

Solution:

- In September 1995, the Clinton Administration awarded the Salinas Police Department \$989,524 as part of the COPS Youth Firearms Violence Initiative. Salinas was one of 10 pilot projects to target youth gang activity.
- Salinas used the COPS grant specifically to expand their gang task force into a full-time effort to combat youth violence. Under this initiative, the Salinas created a Violence Suppression Unit (VSU), a proactive, community-based law enforcement team of 17 officers that operates seven days a week.
- This program targets youth-related firearms violence by aggressively seeking out gang members and youths who are suspected of having firearms. Salinas has also made operational its Geographic Information System (GIS) database to enhance tracking of crime activity and gang violence.
- In addition, the city of Salinas joined forces with the Alisal School District to introduce "PeaceBuilders," a violence intervention program for elementary aged children that encourages them to engage in nonviolent behavior. The Second Chance Youth program also works to keep kids out of gangs and Healthy Start sponsors an after-school program. DARE and the Violent Injury Prevention Coalition also work to stop crime; the latter sponsored a twenty block cleanup program in Salinas.

Results:

- These community policing efforts have lead to 165 juvenile and 392 adult arrests by the VSU officers from October 1995 to May 1996. During that same period, the VSU also seized 43 handguns, 14 shotguns, 14 replica firearms and 51 other types of weapons.
- As a result, Salinas has experienced a dramatic drop in violent crime, including a 62% decrease in homicides and a 23% decrease in gang-related assaults. In addition, drive-by shootings have decreased by 31% and no gang-related or firearms-related homicides have occurred.

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- As a result, Salinas has experienced a dramatic drop in violent crime since the beginning of the COPS grant, including a 40% decrease in homicides and a 21% decrease in gang-related assaults. In addition, since January, drive-by shootings have decreased by 63% and no gang-related or firearms-related homicides have occurred.

The Clinton Administration: Meeting Salinas' Challenge of Taking Back Our Streets From Crime

"At last we have begun to find a way to reduce crime, forming community partnerships with local police to catch criminals and prevent crime."

Relevant Crime Rates:

Nationwide:

- Reported murders dropped 8% in 1995 -- one of the largest decreases in more than 30 years.
- The juvenile murder arrest rate declined 15.2% last year, and is down 22.8% since 1993.

In Salinas:

- The crime rate increased by 6.7% from 1994 to 1995.
- Murder fell by 37.5% from 1994 to 1995.
- Rape decreased by 24.6% from 1994 to 1995.
- Burglary decreased by 2.3% from 1994 to 1995.
- Aggravated Assault increased by 12% from 1994 to 1995.
- Robbery increased by 19.3% from 1994 to 1995.

*source: FBI Unified Crime Report, 1995 Preliminary Annual Release

Putting More Community Police Officers on the Beat:

Nationwide:

- President Clinton has pledged to put 100,000 more police officers on the street, and 44,000 officers have been funded.

In Salinas:

- Salinas has been awarded \$225,000 in COPS funding to put an additional 7 police officers on the streets.
- In October, 1995 the COPS office awarded the Salinas Police Department **\$989,524 for Youth Firearms Violence Initiative**. The 17 officers in the task force, the **Violence Suppression Unit (VSU)**, works 7 days a week to identify, track, and intervene in gang activity by targeting specific youthful offenders and seizing their firearms. The Salinas Police Department also made operational its Geographic Information System (GIS), an information database to enhance the ability to track crime activity.
- Salinas is one of 10 cities in the COPS Youth Firearms Initiative, a pilot program aimed at developing community policing efforts and helping to curb the rise of youth violence. Salinas is a model example of the program's effectiveness. As a result of this program, **gang related firearm assaults have dropped 23%, drive-by-shootings are down 31%, and homicides have declined by 62%**. The gang task force had made over 165 juvenile arrests and have seized over 69 firearms.

Keeping Guns Out of the Hands of Criminals:

Nationwide:

- As a result of the **Brady Bill** passed under President Clinton, more than **60,000 fugitives, felons and other prohibited persons** have already been blocked from buying handguns.
- Banned the manufacture and importation of **19 of the deadliest assault weapons**.
-

Fighting to End Domestic Violence:

Nationwide:

- Established a **nationwide 24-hour domestic violence hotline** providing immediate crisis intervention. Tripled funding for battered women's shelters. Through the Violence Against Women Act (VAWA), bolstered law enforcement, prosecution and victims' services through \$130 million for STOP state grants in FY96

In California:

- In FY96, under the S.T.O.P. Violence Against Women Act, the state of California was awarded \$11.4 million.

Making our Schools & Communities Safer for our Children:

Nationwide:

- The President has supported local truancy, curfew, and school uniform programs designed to keep children out of trouble.
- Keeping dangerous weapons out of our children's classrooms by enforcing a "Zero-Tolerance" gun policy in schools.
- Roughly 40 million students in 97% of America's school districts benefit for the Safe & Drug Free Schools Program

In California:

- The state of California will receive approximately \$47.5 million for the Safe and Drug Free Schools Program.

Other Programs in California

- The 1994 Crime Bill awarded California was awarded \$49,756,000 in the State Criminal Alien Assistance Program (SCAAP), \$14 million was awarded to the OVC Victim Assistance program, and \$31 million for the Victim Compensation Program to aid victims of violent crimes.

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

August 6, 1996

JUVENILE CRIME SPEECH TO THE COMMUNITY OF SALINAS

DATE: August 8, 1996
TIME: 11:30am - 12:40pm
LOCATION: Grounds of the Monterey County
Courthouse in Salinas, CA
FROM: Rahm Emanuel/Alexis Herman

PURPOSE:

To highlight your record on juvenile violence and your commitment to law enforcement.

BACKGROUND:

New FBI statistics to be released by the Attorney General at her weekly press availability on Thursday indicate that juvenile violent crime and murder arrests in 1995 decreased for the first time in nearly a decade. The juvenile murder arrest rate declined 15.2 percent last year -- and is down 22.8 percent since 1993. While this is a significant and hopeful finding, it is important that you emphasize the need for further action to fight juvenile crime so that this becomes a permanent trend, and not just a momentary lapse.

Salinas is a prime example of the impact targeted community policing can have in reducing crime. Salinas had faced an epidemic of gang activity, but with federal assistance and a commitment to community policing the police department was able to turn the tide in gang violence.

In addition to two COPS grants that funded the hiring or redeployment of 7 officers, Salinas received a COPS Youth Firearms Initiative grant of \$989,524 in October of 1994 to expand their gang fighting efforts into a full-time targeted gang task force. The 17 officers in the task force, known as the Violence Suppression Unit, identify, track, and intervene in gang activity by targeting specific youthful offenders and seizing their firearms. Salinas was one of 10 pilot cities to take part in the COPS Youth Firearm Initiative, and they are a model example of the program's effectiveness.

The COPS Youth Firearm Initiative in Salinas allowed for an increase in police manpower, greater access and training for the computer system that tracks and analyzes gang activity (the Geographic Information System), and more consistent contact with the community residents to assist in identifying gang members.

As a result of this program, gang related firearm assaults have dropped 23%, drive-by shootings are down 31%, and homicides have declined by 62%. Furthermore, the gang task force had made over 165 juveniles and 392 adult arrests and have seized over 69 firearms. (*Overall crime in Salinas is up slightly, but the reductions in gang activity are extraordinary).

You will be speaking to 3,000 Salinas community residents and law enforcement representatives to highlight the success of community policing in Salinas. The Salinas Police Chief Dan Nelson is a strong proponent of community policing and is very supportive of the Administration.

In addition, you will be receiving the endorsement of the International Union of Police Associations (I.U.P.A.), representing 80,000 law enforcement personnel nationwide -- 12,000 in California. I.U.P.A. was the first national police organization to endorse you in '92 and they have remained steadfast in their support ever since. You have met Sam Cabral, the President of I.U.P.A., and Art Reddy, the Treasurer for I.U.P.A., at several crime events and meetings at the White House. Following your speech, you will take a photo with the I.U.P.A. representatives.

PARTICIPANTS:

The President
Leon Panetta
Mayor Alan Styles
Salinas Police Chief Dan Nelson
Representative Sam Farr

SEQUENCE OF EVENTS:

Mayor Alan Styles makes welcoming remarks and introduces Police Chief Nelson
Police Chief Dan Nelson makes remarks and introduces I.U.P.A. President Sam Cabral
I.U.P.A. President Sam Cabral delivers the I.U.P.A. endorsement and introduces the President.

***HE WILL HAND YOU AN I.U.P.A. BADGE AT THE CONCLUSION OF HIS REMARKS.**

The President makes remarks and proceeds to do a photo-op with I.U.P.A. representatives.

PRESS COVERAGE:

Open

REMARKS:

Prepared by David Shipley

**Salinas, California Visit
August 8, 1996**

QUESTION AND ANSWER

Q. When do you usually release this data? Why are you releasing this data now?

This data is usually released in October. However, in recent months, the Attorney General has received reports from different sources -- police chiefs, mayors, and researchers -- that juvenile violent crime and murder arrest rates decreased in number of jurisdictions.

To determine if this was occurring nationally, she asked the FBI in June whether the 1995 violent crime and murder arrest data had been compiled by the FBI. The FBI indicated that the data had been collected and tabulated, and that they would provide it to her. After reviewing the data, the Attorney General asked the FBI whether it could be released to the public. Director Freeh told her that the FBI did not object to the release of the data.

Q. Is the FBI trying to help the White House by releasing this data now?

No. this data has been properly collected and tabulated no different than in any other year. In addition, if we released this data in October -- within a month of the election -- some would then accuse the Administration of releasing important and objective data for political reasons. Finally, Congress is now considering youth violence legislation -- including many provisions from the Administration's Anti-Gang and Youth Violence legislation -- and they should be provided the most current data before they move forward on legislation in this area.

Q. If the data are available now, why would it otherwise be released in October?

The juvenile and adult arrest data released today is one small part of larger FBI data set. The FBI publishes this data annually in a 350-plus page report that includes a wide variety of crime and law enforcement information.

As one would expect, it takes a substantial amount of time to review and prepare all of this data for publication. The juvenile and adult arrest data, in contrast to the other data, had been collected and reviewed prior to the Attorney General's request for this information.

Q. What is the Uniform Crime Report (UCR)?

The FBI's UCR program -- which began in 1929 -- collects information on serious crimes (homicides, forcible rape, robbery, aggravated assault, burglary, larceny-theft, motor vehicle theft, and arson) reported to law enforcement agencies. In addition, it collects

information on persons arrested for these crimes, as well as for 21 other less serious crime categories e.g. forgery, fraud, etc.

UCR data are compiled from monthly law enforcement reports or individual crime incident records transmitted directly to the FBI or to centralized state agencies that then report to the FBI. In 1994, more than 16,000 law enforcement agencies representing approximately 96 percent of the total U.S. population submitted crime data to the UCR program.

Q. This is arrest data instead of reported crime data. What is the difference?

Researchers and criminologists have used FBI arrest data for decades to measure juvenile violent crime trends.

Reported crime data include all serious offenses known to police and are used to provide a general picture of crime trends. However, reported crime data cannot provide information on the age of the offender for the simple and obvious reason that no arrest has been made. Once an arrest has been made by the police, one can record the age and other characteristics of the offender.

Q. How can you explain this decrease in juvenile crime and what do you attribute it to?

The Clinton Administration has worked hard during the last three years to give state and localities the tools they need to combat the problem of youth violence. Putting tens of thousands of additional police on the street engaged in community policing, banning deadly assault weapons, enacting the Brady Bill, and implementing tough, targeted enforcement initiatives against gangs, drug traffickers and other dangerous criminals have made our communities safer and reduced juvenile violent crime.

Finally, the Clinton Administration has continued its national leadership role by supporting new and other innovative state and local programs to reduce youth violence. Two recent examples of these efforts are the COPS Youth Firearms Initiative and COPS Youth Gang Initiative.

Q. Republicans contend that you have completely ignore the adolescent drug problem. Are you announcing this to draw attention away from rising drug stats?

No. First of all, overall drug use in the United States has declined under the Clinton Administration. During this Administration the number of cocaine users have dropped by 30%. Building upon this, President Clinton is committed to reducing adolescent drug use -- which began rising in 1991 -- and he has been very active and outspoken on this issue. That

is why the number one goal of his National Drug Control Strategy is to reduce adolescent drug use.

In his 1996 State of the Union, he challenged parents to talk openly and firmly to their children about the harm of drugs and he is the first President to convene a White House Leadership Conference that specifically addressed the issues of rising adolescent drug use and violence. He supported drug testing of high school athletes before the U.S. Supreme Court and he has fought and vetoed Republican efforts to eliminate or gut prevention programs -- like the Safe and Drug Free Schools program that reaches 97% of all school districts -- that address adolescent drug use.

He is the first President to propose restricting youth access to tobacco products and reducing the advertising and promotional activities that make these products appealing to young persons. He signed the 1995 Highway Act, which requires States to adopt a "Zero Tolerance" standard for drivers under the age of 21. The result -- alcohol related crashes involving teenage drivers are down as much as 20 percent in those States which have a Zero Tolerance law on their books.

In addition, earlier this year President Clinton submitted to Congress legislation that would increase the mandatory penalties for drug dealers who either sell drugs to children or use children to sell drugs. This legislation would also implement the legislative aspects of the President's Methamphetamine strategy by increasing the penalties for trafficking in this drug and expand the Attorney General's ability to control the chemicals used to make it. It would also give the Attorney General the emergency power to increase the penalties for emerging drugs that greatly impact adolescents, such as the "date-rape" drug -- Rohypnol (Ro-hip-noll) and provide grants for state and localities to establish juvenile drug courts.

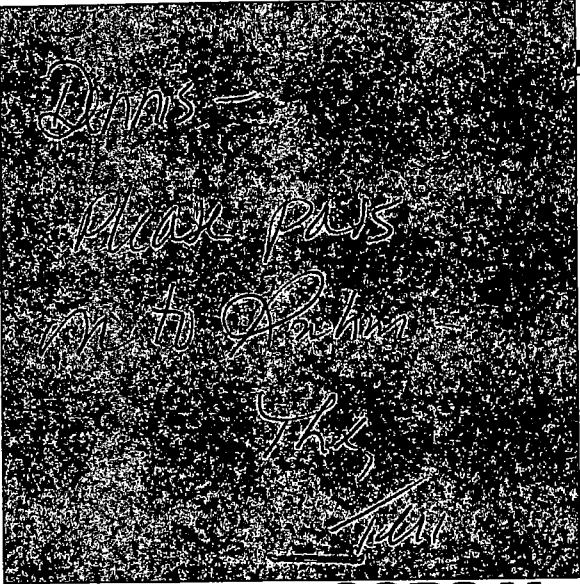
Q. What was the grant program that Salinas received money from?

In September 1995, the COPS office awarded up to \$1 million in 1994 Crime Bill funding to each of 10 police departments to develop innovative community policing and enforcement efforts to curb the rise of youth firearms violence.

The 10 cities were: Baltimore; Birmingham; Bridgeport, Conn; Cleveland; Inglewood, Cal.; Milwaukee; Richmond; San Antonio; Seattle; and Salinas.

Q. What is IUPA?

The International Union of Police Associations represents over 50,000 rank-and-file law enforcement throughout the country. They have lobbied Congress and prior Administration's for the Brady Bill, a ban on assault weapons, the 1994 Crime Bill, and public employee issues. They were the first police organization to endorse Bill Clinton and Al Gore in 1992.



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Other community policing efforts of the department include the Preventing Alcohol-Related Trauma in Salinas program to reduce alcohol-related crime through education and enforcement, and the Salinas Police Community Academy to increase citizen understanding of police services.

To make policing services more accessible to the public, the department opened two community service centers.

The PeaceBuilders Project, a violence prevention program that targets elementary school-aged children, rewards constructive behavior in school.

Strong Commitment to Youth

As part of the city-wide implementation of Community Oriented Public Service in 1991, volunteers, utilizing donated materials, converted a vacant bakery warehouse into a gym. This popular gang-neutral center houses a Police Activities League office, recreation center, and the Second Chance Youth Program that provides counseling for at-risk youth. At the same time, all segments of the Salinas community and municipal government began the Violent Injury Prevention Program (VIPP), a cooperative effort led by Mayor Alan Styles to prevent and reduce violent acts and their effects in Salinas. Since January 1994, two police officers have been assigned to a low-income, high-crime area targeted by VIPP.

As part of its enforcement campaign targeting criminal street gang activity, the Salinas Police Department has instituted a Zero-Tolerance Gun Violence Policy. Adopted by the city council in March 1994, the policy publicly declared that the city would vigorously pursue strategies and procedures to prevent violent crime. In addition, the city council asked the county courts when exercising sentencing discretion to consider the dire impact that illegal gun use has on the city and its residents.

In another effort to reduce gang activity, the Salinas Acosta Plaza Neighborhood Crime Resistance Program now assigns a uniformed officer to a previously under-served townhouse complex with a history of gang-related violent crime. The program includes residential walking patrols, neighborhood watch and youth mentoring.

The city, the police department and the Violent Injury Prevention Coalition have joined forces with the Alisal School District to launch two violence prevention initiatives directed toward elementary-aged children. The PeaceBuilders Project, which has been implemented in seven area schools, is a violence intervention method of instruction that rewards constructive behavior in school. The Title V Delinquency Prevention program targets students in a high-crime area of the city to develop healthy community and familial relationships, thereby reducing exposure to and identification with gangs.

Conclusion

This initial community policing success can be attributed to visionary leadership: the commitment of the city council, the dedication of city management, and the exemplary efforts of the entire police department. Their collaborative effort, with support from the COPS Office, brought lower crime rates and safer streets back to Salinas. This local-federal partnership serves as a model for other communities to embrace in their comprehensive crime-fighting efforts.

SAN JOSE

Crime Index Total

1994 36,559

1995 36,096

% change: -0.01266
 -1.2% dec.

Modified Crime Index

1994 37,033

1995 36,635

% change: -0.0107
 -1% dec.

Murder

1994 33

1995 38

% change: 0.1515
 $+15.15\%$ inc.

RAPE

1994 375

1995 387

% change + 0.032
+ 3.2% inc.

Robbery Aggravated Assault

1994 4,398

1995 5,015

% change: 0.140
+ 1.4% inc

Robbery

1994 1,109

1995 1,209

% change: 0.0901
+ 9% inc.

Burglary

1994 5,823

1995 5,477

% change: - 0.059

- 6% dec.

U.S. Department of Justice
Office of Community Oriented Policing Services



DRAFT

Preliminary Report

Salinas, CA

Community Policing and the COPS Youth Firearms Violence Initiative

Presented to
President William J. Clinton

U.S. Department of Justice
Office of Community Oriented Policing Services

Director Joseph E. Brann

Salinas, CA

Community Policing

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Youth Firearms Violence Initiative

Format
Sample

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Salinas, CA

Background

Located on the central coast of California, Salinas is the largest city in and the county seat of Monterey County with a population of 122,000 within a 15 square mile area.

Until recently, Salinas, while surrounded by rural and farming areas, suffered from the crime and gang problems that have plagued larger urban areas. From 1984 to 1994, homicides jumped some 200 percent, from eight to 24. Other crimes, such as assault and robbery, also increased over the same period; an increase the police attributed to gangs. In fact, the people of Salinas identified gang violence and fear of gangs as the number one problem facing their community. The Salinas Police Department has identified between 20 and 25 local gangs, with approximately 1,500 members, and estimates that 80 percent of all arrests are gang related.

Community Policing in Salinas

The Salinas Police Department, comprised of 151 sworn officers and 47 civilian employees, is a community policing agency which provides full law enforcement services, including uniformed patrol, investigations, a gang task force, narcotics and vice investigations, traffic enforcement, special operations, DARE education, School Resource Officers, Community Response Officers, a Violent Injury Prevention Program, and the Police Athletics League.

In January 1991, the City of Salinas implemented Community Oriented Public Service (COPS), using the International City Managers Association model, in all city departments. This public service philosophy is based on problem solving and community involvement, with a focus on youth and youth-related crimes.

In June 1992, Police Chief Dan Nelson issued COPS guidelines to outline the implementation of COPS and officer training in the community policing philosophy. This was followed by the publication of a strategic plan, addressing short- and long-term action plans to address specific community problems, in September 1993. To further involve the community in crime reduction strategies, the Police/Community Advisory Committee (PCAC) was created in January 1994. Comprised of citizens appointed by the city council and police staff, the 14-member committee meets monthly to identify community problems and discuss solutions. The PCAC also developed and conducted a survey to assess residents' needs and perceptions.

To make policing services more accessible to the public, the department opened two community service centers in July 1994. The East Side Service Center (ESSC) is located in an area of the city with the highest population density and one of the highest crime rates. As part of the federally-funded Neighborhood Mobilization Program, four Community Service Aides provide police services in the center. A sworn Community Response Officer is assigned to the ESSC to work with community groups and residents. The other service center is located in a shopping

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mall and provides similar community oriented services.

With personnel hired under the COPS AHEAD grant program, the Community Coordinator program was implemented in July 1995. Under this program, three community policing officers act as liaisons between the police department, community-based organizations and residents in each of the three city sectors. In October 1995, the department hired four additional non-sworn police assistants through a COPS MORE grant, allowing the redeployment of four sworn officers from administrative and clerical functions to community policing roles.

Other community policing efforts of the department include the Preventing Alcohol-Related Trauma in Salinas (PARTS) program to reduce alcohol-related crime through education and enforcement, and the Salinas Police Community Citizens' Academy.

Combating Gang-Related Crime

Using community oriented policing strategies, Salinas is now fighting gang violence on every front.

As part of the city-wide implementation of COPS in 1991, volunteers, utilizing donated materials, converted a vacant bakery warehouse into a gym. This popular gang-neutral center houses a Police Activities League (PAL) office, recreation center, and the Second Chance Youth Program that provides counseling for at-risk youth. At the same time, all segments of the Salinas community and municipal government began the Violent Injury Prevention Program (VIPP), a cooperative effort to prevent and reduce violent acts and its effects in Salinas. Since January 1994, two police officers have been assigned to a low-income, high-crime area targeted by VIPP. At that time, VIPP began functioning under the Violent Injury Prevention Coalition (VIPC), chaired by the Mayor of Salinas.

As part of its enforcement campaign targeting criminal street gang activity, the Salinas Police Department has instituted a number of programs, including a Zero-Tolerance Gun Violence Policy. Adopted by the city council in March 1994, the policy publicly declared that the city would vigorously pursue policies and procedures to prevent violent crime. In addition, they asked the county courts to consider the dire impact that illegal gun use has on the city and its residents when exercising sentencing discretion.

In another effort to reduce gang activity, the Salinas Acosta Plaza Neighborhood Crime Resistant Program now assigns a uniformed officer to a previously under-served townhouse complex with a history of gang-related violent crime. The program includes residential walking patrols and Neighborhood Watch.

The city, the police department and the Violent Injury Prevention Coalition have joined forces with the Alisal School District to launch two violence prevention initiatives directed toward elementary-aged children. The PeaceBuilders Project, which has been implemented in seven

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area schools, is a violence intervention method of instruction that rewards constructive behavior in school. The Title V Delinquency Prevention program targets students in a high-crime area of the city to develop healthy community relationships and familiar bonds and reduce exposure to and identification with gangs.

Youth Firearms Violence Initiative

In October 1995, the COPS Office awarded nearly \$1 million under the Youth Firearms Violence Initiative to the Salinas Police Department to combat youth firearms violence.

As part of the \$989,524 grant, the Violence Suppression Unit (VSU) was created. Its mission is to remove firearms from the hands of youth and gang members. With 17 officers, working seven days a week, the VSU targets specific gang territories, conducts probation searches and surveillance of homes or businesses where youth are known or suspected of obtaining firearms.

The VSU works closely with the District Attorney to track "certified" gangs and gang members. Under state law, the District Attorney can certify a gang after a certain level of violent crime has been committed. After certification, the gang or gang member is notified of the criminal classification. From that point on, any arrests for gang-related crime can be enforced through tougher sentencing. By keeping detailed files on gang activity, the VSU has assisted the DA in certifying six local gangs and thus provided the weapon of tougher sentences.

In operation since July 1996 and in support of the VSU, the Geographic Information System (GIS) tracks and analyzes criminal activity. This system gives the department the ability to track firearms crimes and identify gang territories. Recognizing the important potential of this system, the entire department has received training on the GIS. A two-officer intelligence unit specifically uses the system, supplemented by information from residents, informants and a variety of other sources. The unit then targets gang hotspots and provides information to the VSU.

The grant also funds training for the entire department in gang and handgun violence interdiction, night vision scopes for the surveillance of known gang locations, and local evaluation of the program, including the examination of gang movement into outlying areas.

In the future, the department would like to upgrade the GIS interface to be accessible to any other police department in the nation. Additional tools would allow the department to tie the GIS into their mobile terminal computers, making video mug shots available to cars in the field.

Community Oriented Strategies Paying Off -- Crime Rate Drops

Salinas has experienced a dramatic drop in violent crime since the beginning of the grant, including a 40 percent decrease in homicides, a 21 percent decrease in gang-related assaults, and

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a 63 percent decrease in gang-related drive-by shootings.

COPS Support

The Salinas Police Department has received the following grant awards from the COPS Office:

<u>Program</u>	<u># of Officers</u>	<u>Estimated Funds</u>
AHEAD	3	\$ 225,000
MORE	4 FTE	\$ 97,000
<u>YFVI</u>	<u>N/A</u>	<u>\$ 989,524</u>
Total	7	\$1,311,524

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Turning The Tide Against Youth Gang Violence Salinas, CA Youth Firearms Initiative

Snapshot: Plagued by gang violence, faced with a 200% jump in homicides over ten years, and beset by rising assault and robbery rates, Salinas, California, a central coast community of 122,000 people, fought back. Their weapons are now community oriented policing strategies and the Youth Firearms Initiative, funded by the Office of Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS).

These efforts are paying off. In the last year alone, Salinas has seen a dramatic drop in violent crime -- homicides down 40%, gang-related assaults down 21%, drive-by shootings down 63%.

Background: From 1984 to 1994, Salinas, the largest city in Monterey County, saw homicides rise from eight to 24. Local police attributed much of this and other crime increases to gangs. In fact, the community identified gang violence and fear of gangs as their number one problem.

The Salinas Police Department and the City of Salinas moved to implement a number of community oriented policing and public services. The Department, comprised of 151 sworn officers and 47 civilian employees, is a full-service community policing agency, including uniformed patrol, investigations, a gang taskforce, special operations, DARE education, School Resource Officers, Community Response Officers, a Violent Injury Prevention Program and the Police Athletics League.

In addition to these services, the Salinas Police Department turned to the COPS office for help under the Youth Firearms Violence Initiative.

Youth Firearms Violence Initiative: In October 1995, the COPS Office awarded nearly \$1 million under the Youth Firearms Violence Initiative to the Salinas Police Department.

As part of the \$989,524 grant, the Police Department created the 17-officer Violence Suppression Unit (VSU) to target street gangs and gang-related crime. Using a new Geographic-based Information System (GIS) also funded by this grant, the VSU tracks firearms crimes and identifies gang territories. The resulting information has helped the District Attorney certify six local gangs. Once a gang is certified, any future arrests for gang-related crime allow the DA to pursue tougher sentences.

Not only has the entire police department received training on the GIS, but the COPS grant has provided funds to train the entire department in gang and handgun violence interdiction. Funds have provided night vision scopes for the surveillance of known gang locations.

COPS Support: In addition to the \$1 million Youth Firearms Violence Initiative grant, the Salinas Police Department has received over \$1.3 million from COPS, helping fund seven additional officers.

To: David Shipley
From: Anne Brooks, 6-5603.

Facts on Salinas:

Population: 122,000, 15 square mile area

Location: Central Valley, California. Somewhat inland, about a 30 minute drive from the coast.

Primary industry: Agriculture---vegetables, fruits

Salinas has very fertile land, combined with its climate to make a perfect environment for agriculture. It is famous for producing large crops of various vegetables and fruits. Broccoli is the top product, also is a leading producer in lettuce, cauliflower, artichokes, celery, grapes, strawberries. Appropriately called the "**Salad Bowl of the U.S.**" People from Salinas like this nick-name, since it demonstrates their pride in being a top agricultural producer. Agricultural season almost year round. Grapes are an annual crop, for instance. May be several plantings a year.

Monterey county ranks third in the nation in terms of agricultural production, with 2 billion dollars in agricultural production in the nation.

Also known as the home of **Steinbeck**. Won the noble prize for literature. Born and raised in the Salinas valley, most of his novels were set in monterey county. Wrote East of Eden, Cannery Row, etc.

California Rodeo held each July in Salinas every year. Also a cattle drive every year.

Salinas also has a very large immigrant population and many **migrant farm workers**. In 1991, **51% of its residents were hispanic**, constituting the largest racial group in Salinas. In 1990, 61% of the residents were part of a minority group. Monterey County has one of the most interesting distribution of population in California, it is very diverse (multicultural).

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Quotations from John Steinbeck

Man, unlike any other thing organic in the universe, grows beyond his works, walks up the stairs of his concepts, and emerges ahead of his accomplishments.

---Grapes of Wrath, 1939.

An answer is invariably the parent of a great family of new questions.

It is the nature of man to rise to greatness if greatness is expected of him.

We have only one story. All novels, all poetry, are built on the neverending contest in ourselves of good and evil. And it occurs to me that evil must constantly respawn, while good, while virtue, is immortal. Vice has always a new fresh face, while virtue is venerable as nothing else in the world is.

About John Steinbeck

John Steinbeck is, at heart, the novelist of the California experience. Born in Salinas in 1902, he grew up in the fertile Salinas valley, the "Salad Bowl of the Nation." The sharply beautiful and expansive landscape, shaped Steinbeck's creative vision. At age 14 he decided to be a writer. To please his parents, he enrolled at Stanford in 1919; to please himself he took courses that he enjoyed. He left Stanford without taking a degree and moved to New York, and then returned to California shortly thereafter.

Many claim that the decade of the 1930s saw Steinbeck's greatest works, including masterpieces such as *Tortilla Flat*, *Of Mice and Men*, and *The Grapes of Wrath*. Each work of fiction informed the idea that people must be seen in their environments. He continued his California fiction with *To a God Unknown* and *East of Eden* (1952) which show how the dreams and defeats of common people are shaped by the magnificent land they inhabit.



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE *** OFFICE OF JUSTICE PROGRAMS
OFFICE OF THE ASSISTANT ATTORNEY GENERAL
CORRECTIONS PROGRAM OFFICE
633 INDIANA AVENUE, N.W.
ROOM 442-B
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20531**

PHONE: 202-307-3914 or 202-305-4866 (for local calls)
or 1-800-848-6325

FAX: 202-307-2019

TODAY'S DATE: 8/7/96

PLEASE FORWARD FAX TRANSMITTAL TO:

NAME: Ann Books

ORGANIZATION: WHITE HOUSE

FAX NUMBER: 456-7028 **NUMBER OF PAGES FAXED** 11

FROM THE OFFICE OF: ☐ LARRY R. MEACHUM - DIRECTOR
☐ STEPHEN P. AMOS, D.CRIM. - DEPUTY DIRECTOR
☐ PATRICIA MALAK - SENIOR POLICY ANALIST
☐ GENE CONTATORE - PROGRAM ASSISTANT
☐ BECKY RAYNOR - SECRETARY

COMMENTS: PRINCE J. HARRIS - CHIEF, GRANTS MGT

Per your telephone request



BJA Bureau of Justice Assistance
Office of Justice Programs ■ U.S. Department of Justice

DIRECTORY

FY 1995

Corrections Boot Camp Grant Awards

PLANNING•RENOVATION•CONSTRUCTION

revised 3/30/96

Grantee	Sub-Grantee	Project Director	Type of Project	Amount
ARIZONA Arizona Department of Youth Treatment and Rehabilitation 1624 West Adams Phoenix, AZ 85007		Darrell Morong Arizona Department of Youth Treatment and Rehabilitation 1624 West Adams Phoenix, AZ 85007 602-542-4038	Juvenile Planning Project	\$37,500
Arizona Governor's Division for Children 1700 West Washington Room 240 Phoenix, AZ 85007-2805	Gila River Indian Community P.O. Box 97 Sacaton, AZ 85247-0091	Esther Moyah Gila River Indian Community P.O. Box 97 Sacaton, AZ 85247-0091 520-562-3191	Juvenile and Adult Planning Project	\$43,701
CALIFORNIA Mr. George McKinney Board of Corrections 600 Bercut Drive Sacramento, CA 95814-0185	Jane Jennings Director, Program Development Alameda County Probation Dept. 400 Broadway Oakland, CA 94604 (510) 268-7256	Ron Johnson, Chief Probation Officer Alameda County Probation Department 400 Broadway Oakland, CA 94604 510 268-7256	Juvenile Planning Project	\$50,000
California Youth and Adult Correctional Agency c/o Mr. George McKinney Board of Corrections 600 Bercut Drive Sacramento, CA 95814-0185	Fresno County Probation Department P.O. Box 453 Fresno, CA 93709	Joe Walden Probation Officer Fresno County Probation Department P.O. Box 453 Fresno, CA 93709 209-488-3427	Juvenile Facility Construction Project	\$1,919,768

Grantee	Sub-Grantee	Project Director	Type of Project	Amount
California Youth and Adult Correctional Agency c/o Mr. George McKinney Board of Corrections 600 Bercut Drive Sacramento, CA 95814-0185	Orange County Department of Probation 909 Main Street Santa Ana, CA 97201	Marcia Fisher Orange County Department of Probation 909 North Main Street Santa Ana, CA 97201 714-569-2148	Juvenile Planning Project	\$30,098
California Youth and Adult Correctional Agency c/o Mr. George McKinney Board of Corrections 600 Bercut Drive Sacramento, CA 95814-0185	Santa Barbara County Department of Probation 2121 South Centerpointe Parkway Santa Maria, CA 93455	Frank Scozzari Santa Barbara County Department of Probation 2121 S. Centerpointe Pkwy. Santa Maria, CA 93455 805-739-8607	Juvenile Facility Renovation Project	\$865,000
California Youth and Adult Correctional Agency c/o Mr. George McKinney Board of Corrections 600 Bercut Drive Sacramento, CA 95814-0185	Santa Clara County Department of Correction 180 West Hedding Street San Jose, CA 95110	Robert Conroy Santa Clara Department of Probation 180 West Hedding Street San Jose, CA 951110 408-299-4005	Adult Planning Project	\$49,995
California Youth and Adult Correctional Agency c/o Mr. George McKinney Board of Corrections 600 Bercut Drive Sacramento, CA 95814-0185	San Diego Department of Probation 2901 Meadow Lark Drive San Diego, CA 92123	Lesley McClelland Probation Director San Diego Department of Probation 2901 Meadow Lark Drive San Diego, CA 92123 619-694-4213	Juvenile Planning Project	\$32,362

Juvenile Boot Camp Grant Awards

STATE Agency (sub grantee)	PROJECT NAME	AMOUNT FUNDED	SUMMARY DESCRIPTION
ARIZONA (Pima County) Department of Youth Treatment and Rehabilitation	Pima County Boot Camp <u>Planning</u> Project	\$37,500.00	The Arizona Department of Youth Treatment and Rehabilitation proposes to replicate in Pima County a boot camp modeled after its Phoenix program located on the grounds of the state's secure facility. Prompting this initiative is a 1993 consent decree in a Federal law suit requiring the department to reduce institution populations and provide a continuum of care for youth in its custody. Functioning as an alternative to incarceration, the Pima community-based project will target nonviolent adjudicated juveniles ages 14-17 otherwise institution-bound. A 24-bed facility is envisaged with referrals to the institution phase for 3 months followed by a 9 month aftercare segment for boot camp graduates. Planning tasks will build on existing guidelines approved for the Phoenix boot camp but stressing community-centered participation in development of a strategic plan and implementation process for the Pima County boot camp program. Oversight of the project will be the responsibility of juvenile justice practitioners, citizens and local government officials. The state's comprehensive planning agency is identified as the primary recipient of grant funds to conduct the coordinated planning and evaluation process.
CALIFORNIA (Alameda and Contra Costa Counties) Youth and Adult Correctional Agency	Alameda/Contra Costa Boot Camp <u>Planning</u> Project	\$50,000.00	Following a recommendation by the East Bay Corridor Interagency Task Force in support of regional approaches to public safety, probation departments in Alameda and Contra Costa counties have joined to plan a regional boot camp. The Alameda PD will be the lead agency in developing a "best practices" boot camp program for nonviolent male and female juvenile offenders ages 14-18 having been adjudicated for property and drug related offenses. The planning process is intended to advance preliminary program design efforts calling for a 75 bed facility, a 6-month in-custody phase, 2 months in pre-aftercare and 6-months in community aftercare supervision. Grant funds will be used to obtain consultant assistance in program design and evaluation procedures. Specific tasks involve design of a work plan, drafting the program model, obtaining community input to the model and production of a prototype program and evaluation strategy. The East Bay Corridor Juvenile Justice Committee will oversee the planning process. A site for the boot camp facility has been identified in Alameda County.

STATE Agency (subgrantee)	PROJECT NAME	AMOUNT FUNDED	SUMMARY DESCRIPTION
CALIFORNIA (Orange County) Youth and Adult Correctional Agency	Orange County Boot Camp Planning Project	\$30,098.00	Orange County Probation Department is requesting funding assistance to produce an implementation plan for its proposed boot camp program for nonviolent juvenile offenders. Documented changes in juvenile crime patterns, overcrowding in confinement facilities, budget constraints and enactment of repeat offender laws are the impetus for the county's boot camp initiative. Studies of the county's present confinement population suggest nearly 30% of the adjudicated juveniles would be boot camp eligible. The planning process is designed to involve probation staff, policy makers and private sector service providers in defining the target population, documenting the pool of eligible offenders, development of the institution and after-care program components, and design of a preliminary facility space plan. Workshops will be the forum for addressing these tasks. The resulting plan is to include an impact evaluation design for the boot camp program.
CALIFORNIA (San Diego County) Youth and Adult Correctional Agency	Santa Diego County Boot Camp Planning Project	\$32,362.00	The Department of Probation, County of San Diego is requesting funding assistance for planning a 200 bed boot camp serving nonviolent male and female juvenile offenders with a history of property and drug offenses. Escalating violence involving juveniles coupled with overcrowding in county and State confinement facilities is the impetus for the boot camp initiative. A preliminary plan contemplates offender referrals to a 90-day boot camp institution phase followed by up to 240 days in a community aftercare phase under intensive probation supervision. Program impact is anticipated to yield a 20% increase in bed space for violent offenders. Grant funds will be used to solidify the program design, involve key stakeholders in the decision making process, formalize linkages with county service agencies and produce a site architectural plan and evaluation strategy with consultant assistance. Viewed as a correctional treatment option, oversight of the planning process will involve county juvenile justice officials and public and private service providers.

STATE Agency (subgrantee)	PROJECT NAME	AMOUNT FUNDED	SUMMARY DESCRIPTION
CALIFORNIA (Santa Barbara, San Luis Obispo, Ventura Counties) Youth and Adult Correctional Agency	Santa Barbara Boot Camp <u>Renovation</u> Project	\$865,000.00	Prompted by persistent overcrowding in juvenile confinement facilities attributable to increases in youth violence and gang activity, a collaborative initiative to establish a boot camp for nonviolent offenders is proposed by the Santa Barbara Probation Department and sister agencies in San Luis Obispo and Ventura counties. The Target Population is identified as males ages 13-17 at high risk for future incarceration who exhibit substance abuse, school and community behavior problems. It is reported that 75-83% of nonviolent offenders in the counties juvenile systems would be eligible for the Tri-Counties Boot Camp Program. The regional facility would be co-located with the Los Prietos Boys Camp in Santa Barbara to accommodate 40 youth by enlarging an existing dormitory, construction of vocational shops and utilizing support services at the adjoining camp. Its emphasis is on providing boot camp participants with "a positive work ethic and legal lifestyle". A 4 month institutional phase is planned for structured activities with "strong" educational focus, vocational/work training, and treatment services. Program graduates move to the aftercare phase of 6-9 months with a continuum of services provided during the period of supervised probation. It is anticipated 160 offenders will be served by the boot camp annually thus increasing the availability of bed space in local facilities for violent juvenile offenders. Project oversight will be the responsibility of a key stakeholders group representative of juvenile justice officials, county and private sector interests. An evaluation study of project activity is to be conducted with assistance from faculty of the University of California-Santa Barbara.

STATE Agency (subgrantee)	PROJECT NAME	AMOUNT FUNDED	SUMMARY DESCRIPTION
CALIFORNIA (Fresno County) Youth and Adult Correctional Agency	Juvenile Male Boot Camp <u>Construction</u> Project	\$1,919,768.00	The Fresno County Probation Department proposes to launch a juvenile offender boot camp initiative in requesting funds to construct a 60 bed facility at the downtown Juvenile Justice Complex. An "astounding increase in juvenile crime in every area from vehicle thefts to homicides" impacting the county's existing facilities for repeat offenders is the impetus for this project. The new facility will free up 55 beds for violent offenders as space becomes available in two short term programs for nonviolent youth; these cases becoming the focus of the boot camp initiative. Support services will be accessible on-site. Boot Camp referrals are profiled as nonviolent juvenile males and females ages 14-17, primarily property offenders, court ordered into the program. To control net widening possibilities only offenders with delinquency histories that mirror prior confinement dispositions will be recommended by probation staff for admission to the program. The boot camp residential component consists of a 4-month regimented program of military drills, academic classes and treatment services. Program graduates then move to the aftercare component under community supervision for continuation of service plans initiated during the institution phase. Citizen volunteers will be involved in assisting with offender transition needs. The key stakeholders group involved in planning the boot camp project will be retained to ensure practitioner and community interests are represented in the construction/program development project. Grant funds are earmarked for the design and construction of the boot camp facility.

STATE Agency (sub grantee)	PROJECT NAME	AMOUNT FUNDED	SUMMARY DESCRIPTION
CALIFORNIA (Santa Clara) Youth and Adult Correctional Agency	Adult Boot Camp <u>Planning Project</u>	\$49,995.00	The Santa Clara Department of Corrections seeks to expand and enhance it's existing boot camp (Project PRIDE) to accommodate a "larger number of nonviolent felony offenders", males and females. Grant funds will be used to initiate a planning process expected to identify 200 offenders that qualify for boot camp placement; current capacity at PRIDE is 44 beds for females only. The impetus for expanding bed capacity is an increase in felony arrests; enactment of "three strikes" mandatory sentence law; increase in length of stay of felony defendants and the prospect of the state legislature increasing the sentencing threshold for jail commitments from 1 year to an 18-month maximum. Planning tasks include assessment of the target population; development of offender eligibility projections; refinement of boot camp program components (in-custody and aftercare); inventory of county treatment resources, and design of a facility expansion plan. A case management approach will be introduced to the boot camp process. Oversight of the project will be the responsibility of county justice officials and representatives of public and private service providers. The end objective is to free-up jail space for adjudicated violent offenders.



BJA Bureau of Justice Assistance
Office of Justice Programs ■ U.S. Department of Justice

SUMMARY REPORT

FY 1995

Adult Corrections Boot Camp Grant Awards

PLANNING•RENOVATION•CONSTRUCTION

REVISED 03/20/96



U.S. Department of Justice

Office of Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS)

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COPS Intergovernmental and Public Liaison

Phone: (202) 514-4229

Fax: (202) 616-5899

DATE: 7/31/96

PAGES (including cover sheet):

MESSAGE:

materials on Johnson, LA & Inglewood. As you know this is draft by COPS today. I know (and we agreed) Kim too! feel free to call. ~~draft this is~~ ~~forever~~ ~~let me know if~~ ~~and where~~ ~~you need different~~ info

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U.S. Department of Justice

Office of Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS)

Intergovernmental and Public Liaison
Division1100 Vermont Avenue, NW
Washington, D.C. 20530**MEMORANDUM**

TO: Christa Robinson

FR: Cynthia Caporizzo

DT: July 31, 1996

RE: Los Angeles, Salinas, and Inglewood, CA

Los Angeles, CA***COPS Grants:***

<u>Program</u>	<u># of officers</u>	<u>Estimated Funds</u>
PHS	54	\$ 4,000,000
Domestic Violence	n/a	\$ 200,000
MORE*	862 FTE	\$ 18,349,735
UHP	643	\$ 48,225,000
<u>UHP</u>	<u>710**</u>	<u>\$ 53,250,000</u>
Total	2,269	\$124,024,735

- Los Angeles and Los Angeles County received an Anti-Gang Initiative grant for \$1,000,000.
- California has received \$332,765,742 to hire or redeploy 6,155 officers and deputies.

*MORE (Making Officer Redeployment Effective) allows for the redeployment of officers into community policing by providing funds for technology and equipment, civilian administrative support and overtime. This allows current officers to spend more time on the street instead of at the station filling out paperwork. The number of officers funded under this program are full-time equivalents (FTE).

**Universal Hiring Program award announced May 15, 1996. Presently, there is some uncertainty as to whether or not Los Angeles will accept the full award amount. Los Angeles was recently awarded 710 officers in the May UHP announcement. The city council passed a final budget for only 450 new hires.

Mayor Riordan vetoed this, but the council met on June 4 to successfully override the veto. Although a budget for 450 officers has passed, Mayor Riordan continues to press the issue and has set up a committee to devise a long-term solution for funding 710 new police hires. This issue of accepting the full amount of officers remains contentious. Based on the grant advisor's conversations with Los Angeles PD, the City would still like to accept the full amount of officers and hopes that the city council will accept once the official award documents reach LA. LA will have 45 days upon receipt of the award documentation in which to accept the full award or request a smaller award.

Attorney General's Recent Visits to Los Angeles

On March 12, 1996, the Attorney General served as a keynote speaker at an LAPD Academy graduation to recognize COPS-funded graduates.

On June 13, 1996, Attorney General Reno visited the Marvin Avenue Elementary School in Los Angeles to visit with community police officers, school officials, and students about their experiences with "Helping Our Public Education System" (HOPES), a mentoring program that brings police officers and "at-risk" youth together.

1995 Part I Crime Index in Los Angeles down 3% from 1994

1995: 266,204
(-3%)
1994: 278,351

Also attached:

- Clip on LAPD's a new curfew crack-down program: officers serve as parent counselors.
- Recent clips on LAPD's community policing efforts.

Salinas, CA

COPS Support:

<u>Program</u>	<u># of officers</u>	<u>Estimated Funds</u>
AHEAD	3	\$ 225,000
MORE	4 FTE	\$ 97,000
YFVI*	n/a	\$ 989,524
Total	7	\$1,311,524

****YFVI: Youth Firearms Violence Initiative:***

In September 1995 the COPS Office awarded up to \$1 million to each of 10 departments (including Salinas and Inglewood, CA) to develop innovative community policing and enforcement efforts to curb the rise of youth firearms violence. Following is a summary of Salinas PD's efforts:

The Salinas Police Department has continued deploying its Violence Suppression Unit (VSU) seven days/week, from 4:00 p.m. to 2:00 a.m. There are 17 officers assigned to the VSU. They target specific

gang territories as identified by their intelligence unit and make contact with youth who may be in possession of a weapon. The VSU also conducts probation searches and surveillance of homes or businesses where youth are known or suspected of obtaining firearms. For the months of January - June, 1996, the Salinas Police Department has reported a 58% decrease in drive-by shootings as compared to the same time period in 1995. The Lieutenant in charge of the VSU reports no gang related homicides since the VSU hit the street in October, 1995. The Salinas Police Department also has made its geographic-based information system (GIS) operational within the last 30 days. A department-wide training was conducted so that all officers would have knowledge of the GIS system, but it is used primarily by the intelligence division where the VSU officers reside. Information in the database is updated every 24 hours and VSU officers access the system to look for trends regarding a specific type of crime or crimes that have happened near a specific suspect's residence. The Salinas Police Department's program has progressed right along with the schedule outlined for their YFVI grant (which ends September 31, 1996).

1995 Part I Crime Index in Salinas up 6.7% from 1994

1995: 8,329
(+6.7%)
1994: 7,804

However, murders (one type of Part I Crime) dropped from 24 in 1994 to 15 in 1995.

Inglewood, CA

COPS Support:

<u>Program</u>	<u># of officers</u>	<u>Estimated Funds</u>
AHEAD	5	\$ 375,000
MORE	16 FTE	\$ 75,000
PHS	9	\$1,000,000
<u>YFVI*</u>	<u>n/a</u>	<u>\$ 787,201</u>
Total	30	\$2,237,201

The Inglewood Police Department has computerized juvenile arrest data back to 1994 and will continue to computerize new arrest information. This will enable the task force formed under the Youth Firearms Violence Initiative to do crime analysis and target specific areas. The task force is deployed from Friday to Sunday and targets locations where members of the Crenshaw Mafia are likely to be found. According to members of the police department, these areas have become virtual "ghost towns" since the task force hit the street. The Los Angeles County probation officer hired to work with Inglewood under this grant goes out on the street with officers each night. The probation officer does not have a caseload, so he can devote all of his time to tracking probationers who are violating the conditions of their probation and conduct searches of their residences. The focus of both the task force and the probation officers is juveniles violating probation. The Los Angeles County Deputy District Attorney working with the Inglewood Police Department has gathered enough information to file for a court date to bring specified members of the Crenshaw Mafia to court in September, 1996. According to their COPS grant advisor, the Inglewood Police Department's program is approximately 3 months behind the schedule outlined for their YFVI grant.

APD officers to double as parent counselors

DAILY NEWS
LOS ANGELES, CA
SUNDAY 220,000

JUN 30 1996

By Jaxon Van Derbeek
Daily News Staff Writer

It's a hard sell, but Maria Martinez keeps telling her leery fellow LAPD officers that teaching parenting skills to the moms and dads of wayward teens will pay off in the fight against crime.

Martinez, a nine-year veteran who has been teaching classes for the past two years at Hollenbeck Division for parents of curfew violators, said many rank-and-file officers are skeptical of the Police Department's new curfew crackdown program.

"I get the question, 'Why should you guys do this? You're police officers,'" said Martinez. "I say, because our kids have one foot in the grave and one foot in the jail."

The plan adopted by the City Council last week authorizes a citywide program of semi-monthly sweeps aimed at children under 18 who are out after 10 p.m. with no good excuse.

Youths caught in the sweeps will be given a citation, much like a traffic ticket, and taken to the police station — where they will wait to be picked up by their parents.

Plans also call for police to conduct parent counseling sessions and possibly find ways to redirect wayward youths to more productive activities.

For hardened officers who have spent most of their careers on the street, the idea of getting into the parenting game is unsettling.

"What are we doing? We're getting further and further removed from police work. This is not what we are supposed to be doing," said

one veteran officer.

Until now, police have not been routinely involved in curfew cases after a youth is given a citation and ordered to appear in traffic court with a parent.

The law allows judges to fine youths or order them to perform community service. Fines range from \$135 for the standard curfew violation up to \$675, but judges typically order 27 hours or more of community service in lieu of the fine.

Stating that a parent must be a proper guardian and provide "proper care" for their children, the law also permits judges to order a parent to go to counseling. If a youth fails to perform the community service, a judge can not only impose a fine but also delay the offender's driver's license.

For Police Commissioner Edith Perez, who was charged last fall by Mayor Richard Riordan with the job of launching a citywide curfew program, the hope is that police will go beyond writing citations to haul teens and parents before a juvenile court judge.

"This is part of community-based policing," she said. "We need to have a broader definition of police work. You can't simply work on the symptoms. We have to get to the root of the problem."

David Searcy, a former police officer who now oversees the county court charged with handling curfew violators, said the combined intervention of police and courts with families of wayward teens is on the cutting edge of modern law enforcement.

"People are now just catching on to the idea of early prevention and detection," he said, citing trends

"This is part of community-based policing. We need to have a broader definition of police work. You can't simply work on the symptoms. We have to get to the root of the problem."

— Edith Perez
Police commissioner

showing that by 2000, the problems associated with juveniles are expected to triple as the population of 14- to 17-year-olds expands.

"If they don't start preventing it now, we're in for trouble," he said. "Kids are getting meaner and meaner — I don't know what causes it, but if they don't put a stop to it, you are going to have more and more kids with less and less moral conscience."

The system in the Valley now amounts to community service for youths with little involvement by the police in the system, said Leora Krygier, the referee in charge of Van Nuys Juvenile Traffic Court, where curfew cases are sent.

She said she now gives youths and their parents a speech about the risks of becoming a target of crime by being out late and then sends them to community service. Most get the message, she said.

"I don't like to instill fear," she said. "I'm just trying to save lives, basically."

She said she is puzzled by the lack of responsibility shown by parents who come to her court.

"I'm a parent myself. I wonder about the control factor in other people and how they just kind of let go, allow their kids to be out and about."

"They do not know where their kids are. I personally don't understand it, but it seems more and more people just do that."

So far this year, more than 1,700 youths have been cited for curfew violation in the Valley, according to juvenile court statistics. Countywide, the number of curfew violators exceeded 16,000 last year, and nearly 7,900 more so far this year.

Yet in only two city police divisions, Hollenbeck and Central, have curfew programs been expanded to actual police intervention with families. Backers of the new crackdown hold up both programs as models.

At Central Division, Officer Frank Di Paola runs a program that requires youths to put in 100 hours of community service, including painting out graffiti and working in neighborhoods.

It is sort of a boot camp, in which participants as young as 11 get hard

lessons from Di Paola about learning responsibility. As they progress, youths get a chance to take acting classes and supervise other youths who come into the program, Di Paola said.

Di Paola, who is working to expand his "Impact" program statewide, said he is often asked why police should be involved in counseling youths or teaching their parents.

"We are the ones who pick them up when they get killed or shot," he said. "We are the ones who are going to call their parents and tell them their kid has been killed. Why not the police? If we don't do it, who will?"

Di Paola said his program has handled 1,500 youths since its inception five years ago. An analysis of 150 kids who took part in the program after two years showed that 70 percent reported that the program had "some positive" result for them, while 30 percent said the program had done nothing for them, he said.

Under the Hollenbeck program, parents of curfew scofflaws are ordered to attend parenting sessions like the one Martinez teaches. There they learn everything from the importance of sitting down to dinner with their children to being able to spot the signs of drug abuse or gang involvement.

The six-week "tough love" parenting course, run by Martinez as well as local community workers, deals with basic issues.

Over six weeks, Martinez and her partner teach two-hour classes on love and affection, improving communication, setting limits and spotting the warning signs of d

At the end, parents get a completion certificate to show to the court.

"What we try to do is, even if you have 10 kids and you're busy as heck, we say, pay attention, you are responsible for each one, unless you don't mind burying them at 13," she said. "We call it back to basics."

Marina Martinez, a civilian who hosts the parenting programs at El Sereno Middle School, said the classes have a waiting list and are getting rave reviews.

"When they asked me if I wanted it, I was kind of leery about the police and this and that," she said. "When I saw it, I was really surprised."

She said the officers got the message across. "We didn't look at them as police officers or anything --- they are real honest, tell you the truth, didn't hide anything."

"They talk about drugs, gangs, how to help your child, almost everything," she said. "I really like this, and I've never had a parent who said, we don't want the police."

LAPD Cmdr. Richard LeGarra, who is overseeing the new citywide program, says the five pilot project divisions, which include Foothill and Devonshire in the Valley, could have their programs up and running within a month. The department's other 13 police divisions will follow as soon as possible.

He said the plan, as envisioned, will not be funded by overtime.

He points to the Hollenbeck and Central programs — paid for only with the salaries of the officers staffing them — as examples of the kind of programs that can be implemented.

DAILY NEWS
LOS ANGELES, CA
SUNDAY 220,000
JUNE 30, 1996

Citation	Rank(R)	Database	Mode
7/27/96 LATIMES B2	R 3 OF 9	LAT	Page
7/27/96 L.A. Times B2			
1996 WL 11252718			

Los Angeles Times
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Saturday, July 27, 1996

Metro; No Desk

Valley Focus

Reseda LAPD Youth Center Offers Free Classes
DAVID E. BRADY

In a celebration attended by more than 200 guests, the Los Angeles Police Department's West Valley Division unveiled on Friday the showcase of its COMMUNITY POLICING effort, a substation and youth center in Reseda created as a haven from the temptations of gangs and drugs.

The ceremony began with a ribbon-cutting ceremony under a bright blue awning at 7033 Reseda Blvd., a site that was little more than four quake-damaged storefronts just a couple of years ago.

Today, thanks to the efforts of LAPD Sgt. Joel Price, Police Activity League Supporters and many donors, the spacious, modern facility is home to several offices, a kitchen, restrooms, a computer laboratory funded by City Councilwoman Laura Chick and a multipurpose recreation room.

"This facility exemplifies our COMMUNITY POLICING spirit," Mayor Richard Riordan told the assembled guests.

"I see the faces of people who care about their community and are doing something about it."

Citing the recreational and educational programs for children as a "front-end intervention" against the lure of crime, LAPD Chief Willie L. Williams said the site is further proof of the department's willingness to extend itself into the lives of the city's residents.

Richard Friedkin, president of PALS, said the center plans to offer field trips and programs such as weightlifting, karate, boxing, fencing, wrestling, arts and crafts, cosmetology and self-defense for children 10 to 17.

Services are free, but children must register first with staff members, he added.

Approximately 70 children have signed up in the three weeks the center has been unofficially open, a figure that Friedkin expects to grow dramatically as word spreads.

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7/27/96 LATIMES B2

PAGE 8

"This is the kids' facility," he said as children swarmed through the recreation room sampling the pinball machines, air hockey tables and exercise bicycles. "It doesn't belong to us."

For more information, call (818) 342-5725.

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PHOTO: Francesca Graziano, left, and Jennifer Capper, both of Tarzana, play Ping-Pong at the LAPD youth center in Reseda.; PHOTO: Mayor Richard Riordan, Supervisor Zev Yaroslavsky clasp hands; Chief Willie Williams, Councilwoman Laura Chick look on.; PHOTOGRAPHER: RICARDO DeARATANHA / Los Angeles Times; PHOTO: (B1) Giving LAPD youth center a lift.

----- INDEX REFERENCES -----

KEY WORDS: CRIME PREVENTION; YOUTH; POLICE STATIONS

NEWS SUBJECT: Law Enforcement (LEN)

NEWS CATEGORY: COLUMN; BRIEF; FULL RUN

EDITION: VALLEY EDITION

Word Count: 301

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END OF DOCUMENT

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PAGE 7

Citation
7/28/96 LADLYNWS N11
7/28/96 L.A. Daily News N11
1996 WL 6567629

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Database
LADLYNWS

Mode
Page

LOS ANGELES Daily News
Copyright 1996

Sunday, July 28, 1996

NEWS

NORTH HOLLYWOOD DIVISION PRIEST STEPS INTO A VISIBLE ROLE TO FOSTER TRUST IN N. HOLLYWOOD

Beth Barrett Daily News Staff Writer

LAPD REACHES OUT

For the first time in 20 years, Al Sanchez gave the police his phone number when he called a few months ago to report problems in his sometimes gang-ridden neighborhood.

Before that, he said, he didn't know whether he should trust them with such personal information.

It has been a long road for the 47-year-old cook and for others who live in apartments and small homes surrounding the LAPD's station on Tiara Street to embrace COMMUNITY POLICING and start working with officers.

"Before, I didn't think they'd do anything," he said. "It helped as I began to see them more in the neighborhood."

It also helped that Sanchez and hundreds of others have a direct link to the LAPD through the Rev. Rafael Marin-Leon, pastor at St. Patrick's Church, who does triple duty with additional roles as a police chaplain and member of the area's Community Police Advisory Board.

Marin-Leon is an integral part of the 23-member North Hollywood CPAB, according to the board's co-chairmen, LAPD Capt. Richard D. Wahler and local businessman Eric Reuveni.

The board - which has run several programs recently, including registering business owners so they can be easily contacted, and cleaning up stretches of Magnolia Boulevard - has enlisted Marin-Leon in a number of its efforts.

In particular, he regularly walks with police through local parks and trouble spots to encourage people who are apprehensive about the police - including new immigrants who are conditioned from experiences in their home countries to mistrust law-enforcement officers - to rely on the police in times of crisis.

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7/28/96 LADLYNWS N11

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"Things change for some people, and they get more peace to see the priest (with the LAPD), because many people think the police are the enemies," said Marin-Leon, a priest with the Missionaries of Africa order who was assigned to LOS ANGELES after fracturing his neck in Africa.

Sanchez's experiences with Marin-Leon illustrate both the inroads the CPAB is making in the community, and how far it still needs to go.

On the one hand, Sanchez said, Marin-Leon's messages on community responsibility helped inspire him to go to the police - as well as to start organizing residents in his apartment complex to be more vigilant in reporting local crimes.

But Sanchez said LAPD officers themselves still are largely nameless presences on the street. He said he knows only one by name, though he lives just a block or so from the station. Nor does he know much about the CPAB or who the station's commanding officer is.

Wahler said he knows the station has a way to go in reaching beyond the advisory board and into the community.

"As far as the tentacles go, we're trying to improve, but I don't know how well we're going into the neighborhoods," said Wahler, who is trying to gauge the station's penetration by attending neighborhood association and other meetings.

He also acknowledged criticism around the city that CPABs generally involve a small circle of community activists.

But he defended the way he picks representatives, saying people with "vested interests" in the area who can get along with one another are the place to start in enacting Chief Willie William's directive that COMMUNITY POLICING work.

"There's been a change in philosophy," Wahler said. "In the past, we used to meet with people, listen to them and then tell them what we'd do.

"Now, there's mutual involvement."

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Photo; Caption: Photo: Rafael Marin-Leon Priest serves as point man

---- INDEX REFERENCES ----

KEY WORDS: NORTH HOLLYWOOD DIVISION; LAPD; LOS ANGELES; POLICE;
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John Steinbeck:

John Steinbeck is, at heart, the novelist of the California experience. Born in Salinas in 1902, he grew up in the fertile Salinas Valley, the "Salad Bowl of the Nation". The sharply beautiful and expansive landscape, shaped Steinbeck's creative vision. At age 14 he decided to be a writer. To please his parents, he enrolled at Stanford Univ. in 1919; ~~to~~ to please himself he enrolled in classes he enjoyed. He left Stanford without taking a degree.

Many claim that the decade of the 1930s saw Steinbeck's greatest works, ~~from~~ such as his recognized masterpiece, *Tortilla Flat* (1935).

Of Mice and Men (1937), and
the Grapes of Wrath (1939).

Each work of fiction informed
the idea that people must be
seen in their environments.

He continued his California
fiction w/ To a God Unknown
and East of Eden (1952) which
show how the dreams + defeats of
common people are shaped by the
magnificent land they inhabit.

Quotations from John Steinbeck

Man, unlike any other thing
organic or inorganic in the
universe, grows beyond his
works, walks up the stairs of his
concepts, charges ahead of
his accomplishments.

Grapes of Wrath - 1989

An answer is invariably the
parent of a great family of
new questions.

This I believe: that the free,
exploring mind of the
individual human is the most
valuable thing in the world.
And this I would fight for:
the freedom of the mind to take
any direction it wishes,
undirected. And this I must
fight against: any idea, religion,
or govt. which limits or destroys
the individual. This is what
I am and what I am about.
I can understand

It is the nature of man
to rise to greatness if
greatness is expected of him.

Man, unlike any other thing
organic or inorganic in the
universe, grows beyond his
work, walks up the stairs of
his concepts, energed ahead
of his accomplishments.

We have only one story. All
novels, all poetry, are built
on the never-ending contest
in ourselves of good + evil.
And it occurs to me that evil
must constantly respawn, while
good, while virtue, is immortal.
Vice has always a new fresh face,
while virtue is venerable as
nothing else in the world is.

JUL-31 96 10:48 FROM: UPPER PRESS OFFICE 2024566423 10:57028 PAGE: 01

Salinas, CA (\$989,524)

The Salinas Police Department deploys its Violence Suppression Unit (VSU) 7 days a week, between the hours of 4:00 p.m. and 2:00 a.m. The 17 officers assigned to the VSU work in groups of 8 officers per 10-hour shift per day. The VSU targets only offenders with a propensity for weapons violence and uses a variety of tactics including probation/parole searches, surveillance techniques, warrant enforcement, and field suppression strategies, to confiscate weapons and apprehend offenders.

Criteria for determining offenders/suspects with a propensity for weapons violence include: 1) prior arrest for possession of weapons; 2) prior arrest for firearm assaults; and 3) reoccurring presence or suspected involvement with shooting incidents. Information used to target offenders and/or suspects is obtained through field interviews, existing gang and offender databases, and information gathered from patrol officers.

Specifically, probation/parole searches target offenders with court search warrants who have prior incidents for weapons or a propensity for weapon violence. For example, offenders who associate with gang members suspected of violent crimes are systematically targeted for probation/parole searches. The VSU officers conduct searches of residences, vehicles and persons at locations and times likely to produce firearms. From October 1995 to May 1996, 144 probation/parole searches have been conducted.

Under the suppression enforcement approach, VSU officers identify particular areas of the city where specific violent individuals frequent or handgun crimes occur. For example, the VSU officers conducted 1,158 traffic stops and 1,207 field interviews from October, 1995 to May, 1996.

Surveillance activities involve identifying and monitoring violent offenders, observing crimes or parole/probation violations and making arrests for those crimes before the individual commits another handgun crime. In addition, the VSU officers conduct surveillance of gun stores and firearms ranges, identifying violent individuals who are forbidden to possess firearms, attempting to purchase firearms, ammunition, or related materials. Finally, the VSU Officers target the locations of probable shooting incidents and attempt to make arrest of the principles prior to or during the commission of these crimes.

Arrest warrant approaches target and locate violent weapons offenders who have existing warrants. Under search warrants, VSU officers have developed probable cause for the issuance of 27 search warrants to recover illegal firearms, or those used in crimes.

* These tactics combined have resulted in 165 juvenile and 392 adult arrest by the 17-member VSU officers from October 1995 to May 1996. During the same period, the VSU has also seized 43 handguns, 15 shotguns/rifles, 14 replica firearms and 51 other types of weapons. These activities have contributed to a 47% decrease in drive by shootings since November, 1995 and no gang related or firearms-related homicides during the same period.

The Salinas Police Department also has made its Geographic Information Systems (GIS) operational within the last 30 days. The GIS system is used primarily by the VSU officers, though the entire department has access to it. Information in the database is updated every 24 hours and VSU officers access the system to look for trends regarding a specific type of crime or crimes that have happened near a specific suspect's residence. This GIS system further enhances the ability of the VSU officers to prevent or intervene in violent crimes.

Based upon feedback and information gleaned from the recent Anti-Gang Initiative Training and Technical Assistance Conference, Salinas is preparing to implement the St Louis "consent search" model and has undertaken limited "knock and talk" strategies. By using both of the strategies, Salinas is seeking to remove guns from juveniles.

SALINAS POLICE DEPARTMENT
Violence Suppression Unit
Memorandum

DATE: June 17, 1996

TO: Lt. Steve Hood

FROM: Sgt. Dan Perez *D.P.*

SUBJECT: VSU Statistics

The following are the Violence Suppression Unit statistics from October 1995 until the end of May 1996.

	10/95	11/95	12/95	1/96	2/96	3/96	4/96	5/96	Total
Arrests									
Adult/felony	8	12	18	22	12	17	32	17	138
Adult/misd.	29	21	20	33	29	53	42	27	254
Juvenile/felony	2	1	8	5	6	14	16	6	58
Juvenile/misd.	8	5	10	16	19	19	14	16	107
 Traffic Stops	 107	 148	 90	 146	 112	 147	 214	 194	 1158
Traffic Citations	43	18	19	35	13	55	53	35	271
Field Interviews	130	206	129	182	102	206	188	64	1207
Parole/Probation Searches	2	23	21	26	32	17	9	14	144
Search Warrants	1	2	5	5	6	0	7	1	27
 Firearms Seized									
Handguns	6	5	5	5	1	4	9	8	43
Shotgun/rifle	1	1	1	3	2	3	4	0	15
 Other Firearms	 3	 0	 1	 0	 4	 2	 2	 3	 14
Other Weapons	5	5	4	1	4	7	21	4	51

As of the end of May 1996 a total of 58 firearms, 14 replica firearms, and 51 other weapons. For information, June has started out very well. As of the date of this memorandum, we have seized a total of 7 more firearms thus far in the month of June.

TO: Anne Brooks
The White House
202-456-5603
FAX 202-456-7431

SUBJECT: Salinas anti-violence information

DATE: August 5, 1996

NUMBER OF PAGES (Including this Cover) THREE

Jorge J. Rifa
ASSISTANT CITY MANAGER

City of Salinas

OFFICE OF THE CITY MANAGER
200 Lincoln Avenue
Salinas, California 93901
(408) 758-7201
FAX (408) 758-7368

**FAX
TRANSMITTAL**TO: JENNIFER RIMIERIDATE: AUG. 5. 96FROM.: Jorge Rifa

DEPT: _____

FAX # (202) - 456-1121# OF PAGES 1 + 23 = 24

RETURN FAX # _____

GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS/REMARKS: _____

INFO. on the "VIPC"

The Violent Injury Prevention Coalition, 1996 Coalition Initiatives

(A plan for making Alisal (East Salinas) a safer and happier community.)

INTERVENTION

Project Title: 20 Block Project
(a.k.a. 10 Block Project)

Focus: To empower Salinas Residents to become involved in neighborhood solutions to neighborhood problems.

Methods:

+ Community Policing Program is established in order to build trust & confidence between neighbors and the Police Dept.

+ Block Representatives are selected by neighbors & supported by Community Policing Team in organizing Neighborhood Watch Programs. This fosters communication about community issues and empowers the community to "take back their streets."

+ Residents are encouraged to identify and speak up on things which detract from the quality, safety and peace of their neighborhood.

+ Priority enforcement of Housing Codes to eliminate unsafe and unsanitary conditions and to eliminate overcrowding.

Collaborative Partners:

City of Salinas, A.U.S.D., Housing Authority, Salinas P. D., J.D.P.P., Peace Builders™, Probation Dept., Healthy Start, etc..

Contact Person: Lupe Garcia,
Coordinator (408) 753-5748

PREVENTION

Project Title: The Juvenile Delinquency Prevention Project
(a.k.a. Title V)

Focus: To build resiliency in identified "at-risk" families in the Alisal Union School District. (Currently at 3 schools)

Methods:

+ "At-risk" youth are identified by teachers and school counselors.

+ School sites become Extended Day and evening community centers, where "at-risk" families are recruited to participate in a variety of pro-social activities and programs.

+ "At-risk" youth are recruited into Extended Day Programs which provide activities such as: Boy Scouts, Girls Scouts, Boys and Girls Club Programs, Park and Recreation sports and many other pro-social activities. Parents are recruited to help with the facilitation of program activities.

+ Free Services for parents include English and Parenting Classes, Counseling and other Social Services. All services always include free childcare.

Collaborative Partners:

City of Salinas, Alisal Union School District, 20 Block Project, Peace Builders™, Salinas Adult School, Healthy Start, Public Library, Probation Dept., Housing Authority, Healthy Start, etc...

Contact Person: Deborah Duncan, Coordinator
(408) 753-5296

REINVENTION

Project Title: Peace Builders™

Focus: To re-invent a sense of community through a common vocabulary and a common goal of peace.

Methods:

+ To teach the Peace Builders™ curriculum and concepts to children grades k-6th to Alisal Union School District youth.

+ To promote Peace Builders™ in the community (through businesses, hospitals, doctor offices, Juvenile Hall, Police departments, local t.v. stations, press etc..)

+ To re-link East Salinas (Alisal) to the wider community of Salinas through a common-bond of Peace Builders™ vocabulary and Peace Builders™ concepts and goals.

+ To create a version of Peace Builders™ that could be taught in the Middle Schools and High Schools.

Collaborative Partners:

City of Salinas, Alisal Union School District, 20 - Block Project, J.D.P.P., Salinas Police Dept., KSBW T.V., Salinas Memorial Hospital, Monterey County Dept. of Social Services, Healthy Start, etc..

Contact Person: Rev. Ken Feske, Peace Builders™ Chair
(408) 422-9872

CITY OF SALINAS POPULATION COMPARISON: 1980 vs. 1990

YEAR	WHITE	AFRICAN AMERICAN	ASIAN*	FILIPINO	HISPANIC	NATIVE AMERICAN	OTHER	TOTAL
1980	41,817 (52%)	1,370 (2%)	1,456 (2%)	3,735 (5%)	30,655 (38%)	1,029 (1%)	417	80,479
1990	42,152 (39%)	2,857 (3%)	2,569 (2%)	5,190 (5%)	55,084 (51%)	661	264	108,777

*Includes Pacific Islander

DIVERSITY OF POPULATION

	WHITE	MINORITIES
1980	41,817 (52%)	38,662 (48%)
1990	42,152 (39%)	66,625 (61%)

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ATTACHMENT A

August 1-7, 1996

Salinas

All Together Now

Grassroots efforts in Salinas help curb violence. By Sedona Callahan

The city of Salinas' report of fewer homicides in 1996 to date than in recent years may be attributed in part to the growth of community-based programs, say city officials and representatives of grassroots community organizations.

"The first six months of this year have been exceptionally quiet," says Sgt. Bob Eggers, Salinas Police Department Community Services Unit supervisor. "You can try and figure out why, but I can't help but feel it [community-based efforts] has had an effect."

"In 1994, there were 25 homicides in Salinas, and most of those were gang-related," says Jorge Rifa, Salinas assistant city manager. "So far this year there have been only three, and none are gang-related."

Among the programs taking credit for the reduction of violence is Second Chance for Youth, a non-traditional, community-based counseling agency that provides prevention education, intervention and information on all issues relating to gangs.

"Our program was designed to work on the streets, recruiting kids," says Brian Contreras, executive director. "We're more school-based now. Our target population is sixth to ninth graders, the age-group more prone to join gangs. We'll bring back older kids who say, 'I'm so-and-so (someone notorious), check it out. It ain't worth it.

Take it from me.'"

Contreras says Second Chance has brought together members of rival gangs, offering mediation and arbitration, and has encouraged kids to stay in school and keep gang-related activities out. "The kids were tired of watching their backs all the time," Contreras says. "We started three years ago at North Salinas High School. That school was tops in expulsions and large gang confrontations. We offered something unique at the school. At first they (the administrators) were hesitant, then they looked at another year like the one they had just had, and they gave us free rein."

An umbrella group that also takes credit for reducing Salinas violence is Neighborhood Services, a city-sponsored agency that links community resources with the so-called Twenty-block area that is bounded by Closter Park to the south, May Avenue to the north, Cortez to the west and New Deal and Burke streets to the east—it is also the section of the city that tends to report the highest incidence of violence.

"My job is to link city services to people who need them, allowing residents to take action," says Lupe Garcia, Neighborhood Services coordinator. "We deal with issues like home inspections, code violations, overcrowding—what it looks like and who to call." Garcia says that each block in the area served by Neighborhood Services sends a

representative to a monthly meeting, where they are updated on services, such as a lighting installation or HIV training.

"Results of our program have shown active participation by the residents," says Garcia. "Just recently there was a drive-by shooting and the residents pointed right to the person who did it and identified him. The streets are cleaner, women are walking at night, children are playing outside, there's less crowding of vehicles parked in the road. We've noticed the residents have developed trust in the police officers assigned to the area."

The officers Garcia refers to are Jerry Gwin and Henry Gomez, full-time police officers assigned to the Twenty-block area. "These officers deal with non-emergency issues," says Eggers. "They cooperate with Lupe Garcia's service to find out what the needs of the residents are. For example, child safety is a big issue. In the



Second Chance for Youth Executive Director Brian Contreras works to stop gang violence before it starts.

John Livingstone

past, if we saw a kid riding a bike without a helmet, we'd write a ticket. Everybody would be unhappy—the kid, the parents have to pay, and the behavior might not change. Now, we educate first, secure hel-

August 1-7, 1996

Feature

ments for those who can't afford them. We issue citations as a last resort.

"The officers elicit the help of necessary city services, like parks and recreation or community development," continues Eggers. "When gang activity flares up, the Violence Suppression Unit [VSU] is contacted."

The VSU—the city's gang task force—is made up of Salinas police, county sheriff deputies and representatives from the district attorney's office, and acts as a corps expressly dedicated to taking guns out of kids' hands.

According to Rifa, the VSU has doubled, and Salinas is now one of 17 cities working

"The streets are cleaner, women are walking at night, children are playing outside, there's less crowding of vehicles parked in the road."

—LUPE GARCIA, NEIGHBORHOOD SERVICES COORDINATOR

with the Federal Bureau of Alcohol Tobacco and Firearms (ATF) on its Youth Crime Gun Interdiction Initiative, a program designed to trace how guns get into kid's hands.

"The Salinas Police Department has a 17-officer unit, which was started under the Federal Youth Firearms Violence Initiative," says Lt. Steve Hood, VSU commander. "We have 10 to 12 programs that we utilize on any given day. We target youthful offenders by conducting surveillance, issuing search warrants, and checking parole probations. We work in areas where there is a high incidence of gang violence. In addition to the

reduction of homicides this year, we've seen a drop in the number of drive-by shootings and firearms assaults. Only one of this year's three homicides was firearm-related. Misdemeanor assaults among juvenile offenders is the only area we've seen an increase in."

Also working on the challenge of curbing Salinas violence is the Violent Injury Prevention Coalition (VIPC), a community collaborative operating in its third year that includes the Twenty-block Project, Peacebuilders and the Salinas Juvenile Delinquency Prevention Project (Title 5).

Peacebuilders targets elementary school children, teaches positive behavior skills that will extend beyond the classroom into the home and community. "Our referrals to the principal's office are down 80 to 90 percent," says Alisal Union School District Superintendent Oscar Loya. "If we are respecting other people's rights, that's when we have peace. But if we ignore them, that's when violence begins. Violence cannot be dealt with by schools themselves, we're all in it together."

The Juvenile Delinquency Prevention Project, which focuses on children's attitudes and behaviors and on building bonds between the family and school, is evaluating its first-year's progress. According to Deborah Duncan, project coordinator, the two-part project provides after-school programs for at-risk youth. It brings social services into the neighborhoods such as counseling, adult literacy assessment, information and referrals by offering them at the local schools.

"The classroom teachers are reporting improvement in all areas of attitude, behavior, social interaction, and self-esteem," reports Duncan. "The parents report changes in their children's social skills and when the children were asked to evaluate their own progress, more than 70 percent said the program had helped them."

"Preventing violence is reactive," says Rifa. "People have grown weary of violence, but if you talk about peace, they become vitalized."

"There are still plenty of issues," Rifa continues, "but every year we get smarter and learn more about how to get together for achieving results. We're improving our ability to reconcile our needs with the resources that we have. There's a realization that we've got to do a better job in reaching families and young children."

GW

The Californian
 Saturday, Aug. 3, 1996

PeaceBuilders laying a foundation in Salinas schools

Praise people.
 Give up put downs.
 Recognize hurts and right
 wrongs.

Seek wise people.

Those 14 words are changing our community. They are the four tenets of PeaceBuilders, the unique program going into its second year of use in the curriculum of Alisal Union School District in Salinas.



Michael A. Chihak

The program is one of the major focal points of Salinas' Violent Injury Prevention Coalition. Researchers designed PeaceBuilders after studies showed that, in violent surroundings, the brain chemistry of children actually changes, leading to depression, asocial and anti-social behavior.

Thus the way to reduce violence is to create family, school and community environments in which children learn how to act positively.

The goal of PeaceBuilders is to "foster resiliency and self-efficacy in children," says Dennis Embry, developer of the concept.

That's the dream of PeaceBuilders, which for the Salinas Valley needs to become a reality. The dream of reduced violence, especially for young people, hinges on this grand experiment, which has spread infectious through parts of our community.

For example, within a week of the start of school last fall, our 5-year-old neighbor raced over to announce proudly, "I'm a PeaceBuilder!" Then she raced back home to, I assume,

build peace with her older sister and older brother.

She was infected. Here's how else it's spreading:

■ Sacred Heart School in Salinas has adopted the program and has partnered up with schools in the Alisal district to expand on its concepts.

■ Gabilan School in Soledad will begin using PeaceBuilders as part of its curriculum in the coming school year.

■ Businesses are getting involved, being asked to support or participate in the program.

■ The media are on board. KSBW-TV led the way under previous owner Elisabeth Murdoch, and that work continues under General Manager Bob Rice. The Californian is involved, too. On Friday, we published the first installment of a monthly PeaceBuilders page featuring the children's own expressions about the program.

■ Salinas area service and fraternal organizations soon will be asked to pledge their support. A summit meeting in which the leaders of Rotary, Kiwanis and Lions clubs and Elks and Moose lodges and other organizations is being planned for this fall.

Many individuals and institutions in the community also are involved.

But without even broader community involvement, our children may not stand a chance.

Let's eliminate chance from the equation. Call the Alisal school district, 753-5700, or Salinas Mayor Alan Styles' office, 758-7201, for information.

□ **MICHAEL A. CHIHAK** is publisher of The Californian. His column appears twice monthly on Saturday. Write to him at The Californian, 123 W. Alisal St., Salinas, Calif. 93901 or phone him, 424-2221.

Friday, Aug 2, 1996

Peace Builders are groups of kids from different schools that are trying to get violence and gangs out of our community. Some aren't trying very hard, but if they just try a little bit harder, they or we might stop the violence.

Many school districts have this program. Kids might not pay attention to them. If kids would just stop and listen they might save the life of someone they love from a violent death.

If you don't help us give up violence, gangs, and drugs, our community will never be a safe place for kids and parents.

Judith Villareal,
Fremont School, Pre-6

PeaceBuilders®

The Dream Team

by
Cory Phipps Jr.
Frank Paul School, Pre-6



The best players are on the Dream Team. Scotty Pippen is from the Bulls. Shaquille O'Neal and Anthony Hardaway are from the Orlando Magic. Hakeem Olajuwon is from the Rockets. From the Suns there is Charles Barkley, and from the Pistons, Grant Hill.

The Dream Team has won all their games so far. I think the USA is going to win the gold medal because they have the best players.

Pre-6



Frank Paul School Showcases the Olympic Spirit on its Main Office Bulletin Board.

Some good things about the Olympics

Good things about the Olympics are peace, teamwork and good eating. Why? Because peace makes them friends. Without teamwork they would not do well, and also if you just sit just feel your body would hurt.

What would I be on the Olympics?

I would like to be a basketball player. Why? Because I like basketball. While I like some basketball, I like the running, the basketball, the fun, the shooting and the games. This year I'm planning to get on the basketball team at Frank Paul School in 5th grade.

Jose Saldaña, Frank Paul School, Pre-6

The men on the Olympic have to stay together. I think that they have to be happy so they don't fight with their opponents. I think the Olympic have to give out the gold, silver and bronze medals. I think they have to be respectful because then the person that you respect is going to be happy. The person can give you a prize for being good. You can be the best by praising people.

Juan Carlos Amezcua, Frank Paul School, Pre-6

Olympics and Peace

The Olympics are starting and everybody is getting ready for it. I think that the Olympics are great. I know it takes a lot of practice and it's hard. Everybody tries very hard to do the best they can do. I know you have to be in good shape and no matter what color your skin is—everybody participates. The world is trying to get rid of violence and drugs. I think the Olympics are a way to have this world find peace. I think that the Olympics are helpful because they help people stay healthy and out of drugs. I would like to play in the Olympics.

Mercedes Gutierrez, Fremont School, Pre-6

THE OLYMPICS

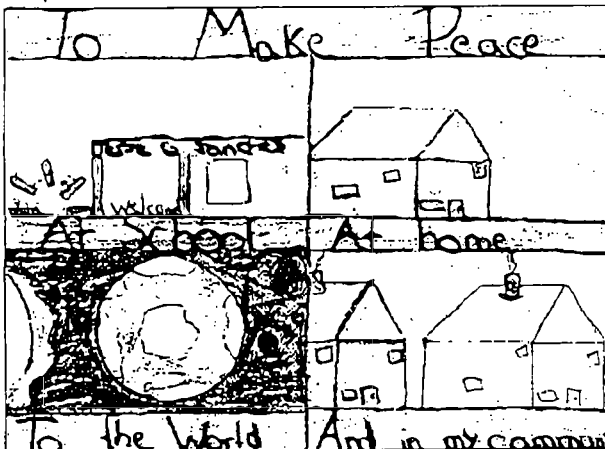
Renee Castano
Frank Paul School, Pre-6



The Olympics are cool because they are all about sports and all that stuff. I don't know if football is going to be in the Olympics this year, but if they're not, I'm going to like basketball best.

I like the Dream Team this year because they picked good players. The player I like most is Shaq O'Neal. He's cool. I like hiking, hurdling, and the high jump. I've been waiting for the Olympics for four years now and they are finally here.

In 1992, I missed the Olympics because my family and I went to Mexico. I really, after four long years of waiting, I'm going to watch the Olympics. I'm already watching the Olympic trials, and they are very cool. I can't wait till the year 2000 when they celebrate the Olympic games.



Jaime Orozco, Jesse G. Sanchez School, Pre-5

Proud To Be A PeaceBuilder

The Californian

Your Paper, Your Partner

Friday, August 2, 1996

6A

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Jim Albanese, news editor
Denine Duron, accounting clerk
Connie White, community member

OF**EDITORIAL**

East Salinas cleanup efforts a victory for the entire city

WHERE WE STAND:

Encourage the work of the Violent Injury Prevention Coalition as it spreads community pride across town.

Towt Street in Salinas has plenty to, well, tout these days. This east Salinas neighborhood is part of the area targeted by the Violence Injury Prevention Coalition for cleanup. Towt Street is the main artery in a 10-block residential area where cleanup, city code enforcement and police protection have been increasing for the last two years.

Residents there have been rescued from a past of gang violence, crowded dwellings and slow police response to emergencies.

Things changed. Towt Street residents became one, united behind VIPC leaders and law enforcement. Together they hauled away tons of trash, got property owners to improve their lots and have seen youth violence slowed. All this has been accomplished with a minimum of government input — or interference. In fact, the VIPC 10-block map has grown to 20 blocks. The key has been

instilling community pride in a neighborhood, giving residents the responsibility for maintaining it and helping it grow.

The idea is spreading.

Coalition organizers report that efforts to clean up other east Salinas neighborhoods is catching on.

Two local agencies are planning a neighborhood cleanup in a high-density area, North Sanborn Road and Garner Avenue.

Those interested in building community pride in that area need and deserve citywide encouragement. The Sanborn-Garner challenge may be greater than VIPC's current 20-block target area. There are more apartment dwellers on Sanborn which means high density living and the problems often associated with it. The area also has seen constant gang violence, crime and city building code violations.

The VIPC approach to community action is being employed in this neighborhood. Its goal is to bring together residents, property owners and agencies for a common cause.

Hats off to all of the volunteers who have made their neighborhoods cleaner and safer through VIPC. More volunteers are needed at Sanborn and Garner.

It happened on Towt Street. It can happen in other parts of town, too.

Building a peace plan for Salinas

Youngsters targeted in effort to cut crime

By Christy Nemetz

The Californian

A new community-wide program geared toward Salinas' youngest residents will try to slash the city's youth violence rate in half over the next 10 years.

PeaceBuilders is the next project for the city's Violent Injury Prevention Coalition, said the Rev. Ken Feske, pastor of First Baptist Church of Salinas and one of the program's organizers. The program will begin at Alisal Union School

District elementary schools when year-round classes resume in early July.

PeaceBuilders was created in Tucson, Ariz., by psychologist Dennis Embry. The program targets children in kindergarten through sixth grade, in hopes of shaping them in positive ways, Feske said this week.

"It's pro-active, with a positive emphasis, as opposed to reactive," he said. "It's not anti-violence, but positive community praise."

PeaceBuilders is based on four main principles:

- Praise people.
- Give up the put-downs.
- Notice hurts and right wrongs.
- Seek the counsel of wise people.

"You don't have to be a rocket scientist to figure it out," Feske said. "We can all embrace these things."

Students will receive booklets to take home and read with their parents or other adults on how to build peace in their homes, schools and communities, Feske said. Parents are encouraged to spend time with their children to reward them for good behavior, rather than just buying them new toys, video games or other objects.

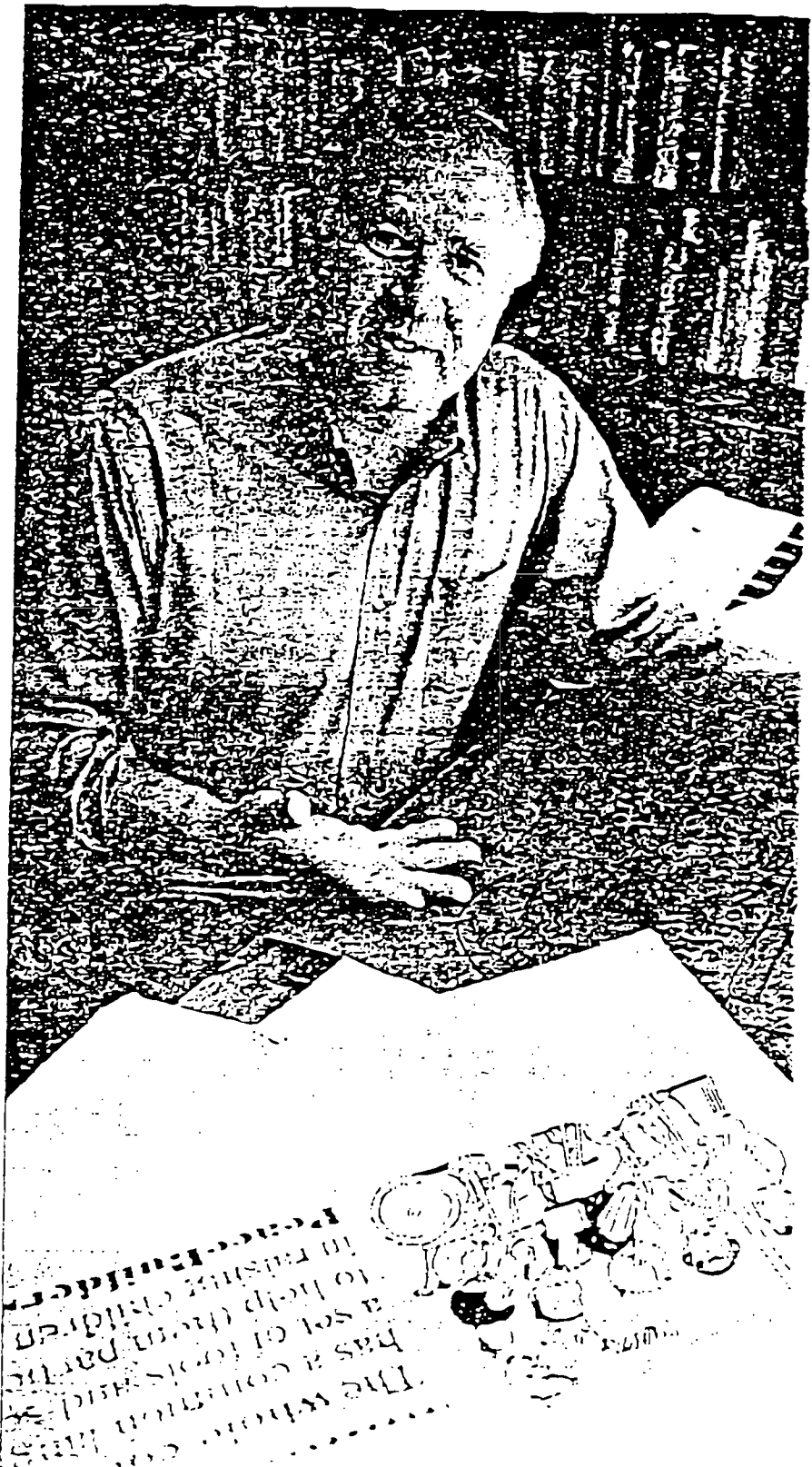
Every time a teacher sends a student to the principal for misbehaving, the teacher also will send two students to the principal for acknowledgement of good deeds, such as sharing or being helpful in the classroom.

"Kids won't do negative behavior and (they'll) begin modeling positive behavior," he said.

Feske said today's youngsters watch too many negative television programs. He cited MTV's "Beavis and Butt-head" and "The Simpsons" on Fox as examples.

"Often times, humor now is based on belittling someone else, or somebody is portrayed as a nerd or some kind of uncoordinated person to laugh at or make fun of," he said. "We've got to get back to finding more wholesome ways to laugh and joke."

Some of the local groups volunteering to help with PeaceBuilders include Big Brothers and Big Sisters, Boy Scouts and Girl Scouts, YMCA, Family Resource Services, Healthy Start, the Salinas Adult School, the Monterey County Sheriff's Department, the Salinas Police Department, and both the Monterey County and Salinas parks departments.



Richard Green/The Californian

PEACE BLUEPRINT: The Rev. Ken Feske, pastor at First Baptist Church of Salinas, looks over some of the materials to be used in PeaceBuilders, the next campaign for the Violent Injury Prevention Coalition.

"PEACEBUILDERS"™**In The City of Salinas**

The Board of Trustees of the Alisal Union School District together with the Violent Injury Prevention Coalition have selected the PeaceBuilders Program for implementation in the seven elementary schools of the Alisal Union Elementary School District. Overall in its first year, the program will impact 6,000 Salinas children and their families.

PeaceBuilders is a violence intervention method of instruction for elementary age school children (kindergarten through sixth grade). PeaceBuilders builds on peacemaking (hence the name) as positive reinforcement. It rewards constructive behavior in school so that the child has more of a personal investment and value in positive conduct as opposed to the attention gained in disruptive behavior.

PeaceBuilders is offered by Heartsprings, Inc., of Tucson, Arizona. Dr. Dennis Embry, Ph.D., a psychologist and researcher from the Tucson area, is the creator of this highly innovative program. The Centers for Disease Control have funded a three-year evaluation of PeaceBuilders with the Pima County (Arizona) Health Department to consider its viability as a national model for violence prevention at the elementary school level.

PeaceBuilders underscores the theme of the VIP Coalition, "Preventing Violence and Strengthening Families." If the program is effective in teaching and rewarding children for positive behavior, we will reduce the specter of violence (shoving matches on the playground set the stage for future serious acts of violence), and we will strengthen the family unit by introducing peace building skills among parents and siblings. Peace and stability at home and in the community provide the foundation for economic empowerment.

Through PeaceBuilders, children, teachers, and parents learn positive behavior and skills that will prove useful in other facets of life, present and future. The PeaceBuilders program extends beyond the classroom and the home to include the involvement of other community institutions such as churches, and business.

If a community can prevent the spread of violence and strengthen the family along the way, then those families will have the presence of mind to focus on the rest of their physical and human development. The program is based on the following four principles:

- A. Praise People
- B. Give Up Put-Downs
- C. Seek Wise People
- D. Notice Hurts and Right Wrongs

People who fear for their personal safety, who live in substandard housing, and who suffer the strains of a dysfunctional family unit are totally consumed by the daily struggle for survival. They have no energy left to invest in other aspects of community life. This is why violence prevention and the strengthening of families are so essential to the future of the Salinas community.

The City of Salinas and Salinas Valley Memorial Hospital are underwriting the school district's first year costs to implement PeaceBuilders.

The Violent Injury Prevention Coalition of Salinas

PEACEBUILDERS

A Community Implementation Plan

PREPARED BY THE COMMUNITY AWARENESS AND EDUCATION COMMITTEE, SALINAS, CA
FEBRUARY, 1996



PeaceBuilders

THE VIOLENT INJURY PREVENTION COALITION

PeaceBuilders Community Implementation Plan

Executive Summary

Recently organized as its own non-profit organization, the Violent Injury Prevention Coalition of Salinas establishes as our mission, ***"to reduce acts of violence in Salinas through community unification, education, and the dissemination of resources and information"***. The Community Awareness and Education Committee of the VIPC is responsible for developing and implementing the *PeaceBuilders Community Implementation Plan*.

VIPC selected *PeaceBuilders* as the tool to draw our residents in Salinas together in making a safer, saner, and more civil community. It is a research-based proactive strategy for building a community attitude of non-violence. Its major strength lies in its simplicity and ability to create a common language. Based upon the four tenets of ***praising people, giving up put downs, recognizing hurts and righting wrongs, and seeking wise people***. *PeaceBuilders* underscores the mission of VIPC and teaches our children, teachers and other adults positive behavioral skills which are applicable to many aspects of our lives.

While originally designed as curriculum for grades Kindergarten through Grade 5, the groundswell response to *PeaceBuilders* mandated we develop a strategy for implementing the program on a community-wide basis. This resulted in the annual VIPC Summit where our entire community was asked to participate in the development of a community implementation plan for *PeaceBuilders*.

Approximately one hundred fifty people attended the VIPC Summit held November 15, 1995 and focus groups were held for representatives of each of the following categories:

Business Community
Law Enforcement Community
Education Community
Children's Services Community
Faith Community
Service Clubs Community
Recreation Community
Health and Medical Community
Parents and Community
Youth Community

Participants were asked to participate in focus group discussions addressing the following questions:

- 1) Name two or three activities which can be accomplished in 1996 which will help implement *PeaceBuilders* throughout our community.
- 2) How can these activities support, or be supported by, the *PeaceBuilders* program at the Alisal School District?

From these focus groups, action plans were developed to launch wide-scale community implementation of *PeaceBuilders* for 1996. The fundamental roles for the Community Awareness and Education Committee in the *PeaceBuilders* Community Implementation Plan are:

- communicating the *PeaceBuilders* message;
- establishing mechanisms and linkages among the different elements of the community in implementing *PeaceBuilders*;
- providing and/or facilitating the provision of necessary materials and supplies for implementing *PeaceBuilders*.

The activities initiated through the *PeaceBuilders* Community Implementation Plan are coordinated within the greater context of all the activities being conducted by VIPC. Many of the *PeaceBuilders* activities complement the other initiatives of VIPC, and the Community Awareness and Education Committee serves as the main conduit between the larger scope of VIPC and implementing *PeaceBuilders* throughout the community.

The *PeaceBuilders* Community Implementation will report its progress at the annual VIPC Summit scheduled for November, 1996. In addition, the Community Implementation Plan will be coordinated with the formal evaluation of the *PeaceBuilders* program being conducted at the Alisal School District.

Wednesday, July 31, 1996

SALINAS CALIFORNIAN

City cleanup effort to expand by 10 blocks

New Salinas project expected to begin in fall

By Lynn Christiansen
The Californian

It's quiet these days on the 20 blocks of Salinas in which city, county and community leaders have undertaken a pioneering cleanup effort.

But harbor no worries about the 2-year-old Violent Injury Prevention Coalition project's progress, Del Monte Avenue resident Mike Nichols said this week. Organizers may be quiet about it, but they're forging ahead.

"The first thing was to quiet it down out here, get rid of the crime and problems," Nichols said Monday. "Now it's time to rebuild the neighborhood."

Community leaders now face a double challenge: to keep the momentum going in the project's original 10 blocks, while beginning the effort in a new 10-block target area.

The coalition on Sept. 1, 1994, launched a multipronged, concentrated approach to reducing crime, blight and other problems in the area near Closter Park.

The cooperative effort includes city, school and Monterey County officials, residents, representatives of churches, nonprofit organizations and social service programs, police representatives and others.

The program has included code enforcement, stepped-up police patrols, neighborhood cleanups, city improvements and referrals to social services.

The program was so successful in cleaning up the area in its first 18 months that coalition leaders decided in February to double the target area by including 10 adjacent blocks.

The effort in the additional 10 blocks still is in the planning stages, although the cleanup should begin in earnest some time this fall. Neighborhood Coordinator Lupe Garcia said Monday.

Organizers are studying the expansion area's needs and recruiting neighborhood block captains, she said.

"We're moving a little slower this



Richard Green/The Californian

NEIGHBORHOOD MAKEOVER: Daniel Martinez, 8, on Tuesday gives Lupe Garcia a hand during a cleanup of New Deal Street in Salinas. The Violent Injury Prevention Coalition has expanded its effort, taking in an additional 10 blocks of Salinas near Closter Park.

■ 'We're just trying to keep up with the positive changes.'

Lupe Garcia,
neighborhood coordinator

time and being more deliberate about how we go about this, based on what we learned from what we did on the first 10 blocks," Garcia said. "We

want to make sure everything's in place before we go ahead."

Organizers meanwhile are trying to make sure gains made in the original area aren't lost, said Marilyn Ramirez, a Towl Street resident who's also president of the committee of target-area residents.

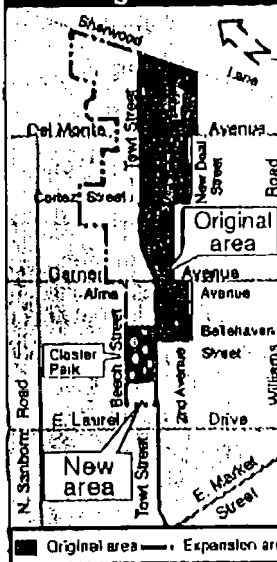
One measure taken: monthly cleanups targeting each of the target area's streets, including a cleanup effort Tuesday on New Deal Street.

"We're just trying to keep up with the positive changes," Garcia said.

Coalition seeking new block captains

The Violent Injury Prevention Coalition is seeking volunteers to be block captains in the coalition's new 10-block project area. For more information or to volunteer, call Neighborhood Coordinator Lupe Garcia at 757-3571.

Violent Injury Prevention Coalition 20-block target area



Rachel Zentz/The Californian

VIPC program sets standard, receives help

By Lynn Christiansen
The Californian

The residents of the Violent Injury Prevention Coalition's 20-block target area don't have a corner on the concept of neighborhood improvement through empowerment.

Several other organizations around Salinas are following the coalition's example of resident-driven cleanups. And at least two agencies in Monterey County are launching programs to help those groups: the Housing Authority of the County of Monterey and the Community Foundation for Monterey County.

"It's an idea that's catching on," See CLEANUP/Back Page

Wednesday, July 31, 1996

CLEANUP: County housing authority, foundation offer aid

Continued from Page 1A

said Maria Holguin-Guerrero, a project coordinator for the foundation. "People are finding that they have to change their own neighborhoods."

The private charitable foundation is developing the Communities 2000 Neighborhoods Grant Program, meant to help neighborhoods countywide solve crime, blight and other problems — or merely help residents improve their areas.

The foundation plans to submit its proposal and a request for money in September to the David and Lucile Packard Foundation.

If the program is approved, \$150,000 per year for five years could be available for those neighborhoods that want to help themselves, Holguin-Guerrero said. The money could become available to neighborhood groups by January 1997, she said.

"After five years, neighborhoods should be able to stand on their own two feet," Holguin-Guerrero said.

The program would offer grants of between \$1,000 and \$5,000 to neighborhoods that approach the foundation

Sanborn cleanup planned

The North Sanborn Road Cleanup and Festival will be Aug. 24 on Sanborn Road between Garner and Del Monte avenues in Salinas.

Volunteers will meet at 7 a.m. The cleanup is scheduled for 8 a.m. to noon, a community potluck begins at noon and the street festival begins at 2 p.m.

For more information, call Maria

Airada at the Housing Authority of the County of Monterey at 424-2892, ext. 544.

Call for information

For information about the Community Foundation for Monterey County's Communities 2000 Neighborhoods Grant Program, call Project Coordinator Maria Holguin-Guerrero at 375-9712.

with self-help proposals. The foundation also plans to provide leadership training and technical help to neighborhood volunteers as part of the project.

"We have a lot of capable people out there who are motivated to try to change their neighborhoods, but maybe aren't sure how to do it," Holguin-Guerrero said. "This will help. We're putting trust back into the people."

Similar grant programs are in place in Santa Clara County and elsewhere in the country, Holguin-Guerrero

said. The Packard Foundation pays for the Santa Clara County program, she said.

"We don't want to duplicate what's going on (in the coalition's 20-block area) already. We just want to fill in the holes," she said.

The housing authority is sponsoring a coalition offshoot: a one-time neighborhood cleanup day and street fair in August.

The all-day cleanup Aug. 24 will focus on one block of Sanborn Road between Garner and Del Monte ave-

nues. Volunteers will hold the street cleanup in the morning, then enjoy a neighborhood potluck-barbecue in the afternoon.

The street fair will include refreshments, entertainment, rides, games and booths offering information on resources community members can turn to for help in rehabilitating neighborhoods.

"Sanborn Road is a high-crime area with a lot of gang activity," said Maria Airada, housing authority program services coordinator. "We want to get the residents together out there to start solving the problem."

A similar cleanup and fair last fall on Elkington Avenue in Salinas was so successful that the troubled street has experienced few crime and gang problems since, said Mike Nichols, a housing authority commissioner and chairman of its Residents Advisory Council.

"The Elkington cleanup really made a dent out there," Nichols said. "The residents have been keeping the street clean and there hasn't been any more trouble out there."

Communities & The Voting Rights Act

A Guide To Compliance In These Changing Times



Gloria Rubio-Cortes
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National Civic League
1996

To date, however, no lawsuit has been filed against the city and, according to Charles Wornom, Hampton's only black city council member, none is likely, because of the "[small] size of Hampton and its relaxed atmosphere." While local ACLU spokespeople claim the city is "ripe" for a voting rights challenge, Wornom places his faith on the more conciliatory approach. "Wards are inevitable," he says. "In all fairness, it's the right thing to do, and it's right on the horizon, whether [other] council members like it or not."

SALINAS, CALIFORNIA

The equitable city council representation currently enjoyed by Latinos in Salinas is the result of a campaign mounted by organized citizens and assisted by external legal aid. In response to legal action initiated by local activists, the Salinas City Council voted in October of 1988 to replace its five-member, at-large electoral system with a system of six single-member districts. The mayor previously had been selected by the council from among its membership. Under the settlement, mayoral candidates run at-large for that office. As required by the Salinas City Charter, the reform was submitted to the electorate of the city as a ballot referendum and was passed by 123 votes in December of 1988. Since adoption of the plan, four Latinos have been elected to the Salinas City Council. Encouraged by their success at the city level, local activists sought and secured similar reforms in the composition of the county commission and school district governing boards.

Community Profile

Chartered in 1872, Salinas is the seat of Monterey County, California. Located six miles inland, the city lies amid some of the most productive agricultural lands in the nation. According to the U.S. Department of Commerce, Monterey County is one of the top five agricultural counties in the United States, with the total value of its output estimated at \$1.85 billion in 1993. The county accounts for over 70 percent of the nation's leaf lettuce production and over 50 percent of its head lettuce.

Salinas is also the county's commercial hub, thanks to the establishment of a Southern Pacific railroad head in 1872. With the advent of refrigeration, the city's fate was sealed as a major distribution point for perishable leaf greens. Today, 24 percent of the city's work force is engaged in agriculture-related industry, by comparison to 8.4 percent of the California work force.

As of 1990, the population of Salinas was 108,777. Of this number, 51 percent were Hispanic, 39 percent were Caucasian, five percent Filipino, three percent African-American, and two percent Asian. Due perhaps to the underprivileged migrant farm-worker background of much of the city's Hispanic population, over 37 percent of Salinas residents do not speak English. Moreover, due to the seasonal nature of farm work, the city's unemployment rate typically fluctuates

Section 2 of the Voting Rights Act

around the 15 percent mark.

The vast majority of the community's least advantaged residents are concentrated in the east-side "Alisal" neighborhood, which is 60 percent Hispanic. In Alisal, which is served by its own school district, Hispanics constitute 91.7 percent of the student population. By contrast, Hispanics constitute 64 percent of the student population in the Salinas City Elementary School District. The lowest percentage of Hispanics is found in the Santa Rita School District, where they make up 50 percent of the student body. In the Salinas Union High School District — the largest school district serving the city, and the only one containing secondary facilities — Hispanics constitute 65 percent of the high school students and 74 percent of middle school students. On average, Hispanics account for about 69 percent of Salinas's school population of 21,948.

Past Patterns of Minority Representation

By the late 1980s, while it was widely conceded that past patterns of ethnic segregation had relaxed in severity, the fact that most Hispanics in Salinas, particularly the poorest of them, were concentrated in "the Alisal" meant that they were severely disadvantaged by the system of at-large elections employed to select city council members. In fact, prior to the city's June 1989 elections (the first held under the new charter provisions passed in December, 1988), no Hispanic or Filipino had ever served on the Salinas City Council. In organizing their reform campaign, local Hispanic activists linked the persistent poverty of the Alisal to the unresponsiveness of a policy-making body that did not reflect the full range of socio-economic interests in Salinas.

Electoral Reform Process

The unanimous decision of the Salinas City Council to refer the question of district elections to city voters in October of 1988 was among the final stages of a longer struggle for electoral reform. Previous applications of political pressure by local activists had failed to sway the all-Anglo city council. When the 9th Circuit Court of Appeals ruled in July of 1988 that neighboring Watsonville's at-large system of elections diluted the voting power of that community's Hispanic electorate, Salinas activists were prompted to file their own lawsuit, charging identical conditions of discrimination in their community under Section 2 of the Voting Rights Act. In fact, they retained the same voting rights lawyer, Joaquin Avila, who had successfully litigated the Watsonville case.

While the Watsonville City Council defiantly opted to pursue its case in the U.S. Supreme Court, the Salinas City Council — weighing the prospects of its legal options and wishing to avoid the divisive, lengthy and expensive implications of protracted court process — soon acquiesced, voting two months later to place a district-elections charter amendment on the local ballot in a special referendum.

Governance Consequences of the Reform

According to Jessie Sanchez, an attorney and local Chicano activist, "the City of Salinas has increased its sensitivity and awareness to minority issues." Exemplifying the "curbs and gutters" approach — public works targeted to benefit specific interests — several recent city initiatives reflect a changed attitude toward the Salinas Latino community.

Due to past patterns of both electoral and socio-economic discrimination, the Alisal, since the advent of district elections, has gradually become the focal point for key capital improvements and targeted social policies. Among the most significant policies benefitting the Hispanic community in Salinas is the city's violence-prevention program. Attempting to minimize the threat of gang violence and increase family and neighborhood security, city officials have developed an Enterprise Community Strategic Plan consistent with the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development's Enterprise Community designation. The plan has three goals: reducing violent acts by youths under 19 years of age; increasing community involvement in violence prevention; and enhancing the capacity of neighborhood organizers. To achieve these ends, the City of Salinas targeted the Alisal for both public and private investment.

In the spirit of community safety and economic revitalization, the first part of the Enterprise Community Strategic Plan calls for community-oriented policing, including the assignment of two senior police officers in the Alisal. The target area accounted for over 40 percent of all homicides committed in Salinas in both 1992 and 1993. To reverse these trends, city officials made a ten-year commitment of Enterprise Community Social Service Block Grant funds in the amount of \$142,000 annually.

Another city policy initiative, the Peace Builders Program, targets elementary school students by rewarding positive, dispute-resolution behavior that prevents violence before the habit is irretrievably developed among youth. Funded by the city and the Violent Injury Prevention Coalition at \$30,000 annually, the program underscores the theme of strengthening families through community-based partnerships by emphasizing praise and individual responsibility. The program seeks to develop the self-directive skills of each student to increase opportunities to learn without disruption or distraction, thereby increasing the cognitive and emotional skills that improve learning and enhance quality of life.

To advance the goal of personal empowerment and decrease the social isolation of Spanish-speaking residents, Salinas has allocated \$32,000 per year to an English-as-a-Second-Language (ESL) program, administered through the Salinas Adult School, a local agency that has served non-English-speaking Salinas residents for over 75 years. Complementing this effort, Salinas has initiated a program of strict housing-code enforcement in the Alisal, where one-third of the city's housing violations occur. The effort aims to enhance quality of life in the Alisal by improving the visual appearance of the neighborhood and raising commitment to the community of Hispanic residents. The annual allocation of

Section 2 of the Voting Rights Act

\$72,000 is premised on the notion that housing-code enforcement works in synergy with other strategic initiatives to stabilize and improve neighborhoods.

Another new initiative, designed to facilitate employment training among youth in the Alisal, involves the provision of child-care services through a contractual arrangement with Children's Services International (CSI), a licensed day-care provider. Permitting young parents to leave their children in a safe, nurturing environment while they pursue counseling or instruction that strengthens the economic viability of the family unit, the program is funded by the city at \$42,000 annually.

A final example of policy innovation by the City of Salinas directed toward the community's Hispanic population involves after-school recreation. Serving K-12 students, this \$40,000 package of academic and athletic opportunities includes boxing, weight lifting, martial arts, crafts, library exercises, and computer training.

While many of these programs were proposed prior to the introduction of district elections in Salinas, they were not considered seriously for funding until Chicano leadership emerged in the city. That the empowerment of a Latino voice in local politics facilitated the adoption and development of these initiatives is verified in the Salinas Strategic Plan itself: "...political representation brought the issue of gang violence community-wide legitimacy at the same time that gang-related bloodshed escalated to new heights."

Thus, once Latinos captured their fair share of representation in city government, many issues once viewed as "Chicano problems" or "Alisal problems" attained the status of "city problems." Indeed, according to Salinas Assistant City Manager Jorge Rifa, "the electoral change has increased the sensitivity of the city to meeting every citizen's needs. ...and fostered an informal, trusting political atmosphere."

Other Related Developments Prompted by Electoral Reform

At the school district level, new leadership led to the development of a \$15 million bond measure to upgrade and modify educational facilities. Requiring the approval of two-thirds of Salinas voters but receiving 76 percent, the bond measure garnered a 100 percent match from the State of California, permitting the community to invest \$30 million in school improvements. Prior to this action, several school buildings in Salinas did not even have a cafeteria, forcing students to eat box lunches wherever they could find a place.

Greater inclusion in school district policy making resulted in additional benefits for the largely Latino student body. With 70 percent of Salinas's students speaking limited English, the district instituted a preference for hiring bilingual teachers. When the policy began, applicants for teaching positions lacking the special credential could be hired provided they pledged to enroll in a bilingual educational program. This administrative waiver resulted in little progress toward building the bilingual skills of the faculty and led to the adoption of a mandate

that teachers demonstrate proof of enrollment in a bilingual program or risk termination. When several teachers were terminated under the new policy, they sued the school district for relief. Eventually upholding the district's policy, the California Supreme Court stated that "preferential hiring in favor of bilingual employees is legitimate where bilingualism is necessary."

Salinas Youth Firearms Violence Initiative

The Salinas Police Department began its Salinas Youth Firearms Violence Initiative on October 1, 1995. The initiative is funded by a \$989,524, one-year grant, from the U.S. D.O.J., Office of Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS). Salinas was one of ten cities nationwide selected for the initiative. Our COPS Office grant advisor, Diana Kimes, (202) 616-2892, has been extremely helpful in developing our strategy and supportive of our efforts.

The Salinas Police Department is combating youth firearms violence by increased directed enforcement that targets criminal street gangs. To achieve this, seven additional officers were assigned to the eight officer, Gang Task Force. These officers were reassigned from various positions that already existed in the Department. Overtime, paid for with grant funds, is used to fill the positions made vacant by the transfers. With the additional officers the task force became the Violence Suppression Unit (VSU).

In support of the VSU, a Geographic Information System (GIS) has been implemented to conduct tracking and analysis of criminal activity. Other areas covered under this grant include; 1) training for the entire police department in gang and handgun violence interdiction, 2) specialized training for the VSU in specific gang and firearm enforcement techniques, and 3) laptop computers so we can access to our current video mug system in the field for speedier identifications and apprehensions.

The GIS System, developed by the City's Information Systems Department in conjunction with a nationally known GIS company (ESRI), gives us the ability track all crime reports, gang members, gang territories, and firearms crimes. Using the analytical abilities of the software, we are able to track crimes in specific areas and identify gang territories.

The Violence Suppression Unit is now working seven days a week to combat gangs and firearms violence. They meet with members of the community to share information on gang activity. They use this information along with information developed through GIS to identify areas that should receive directed enforcement. The mission of the VSU is to remove firearms from the hands of youth and gang members. They use a variety of techniques to accomplish this. They include, pulling cars over that contain known gang members, conducting probation and parole searches of gang residences, to authoring search warrants based on information received through their investigations or through resident contacts.

Salinas has experienced a definite drop in violent crimes since the beginning of the grant. We have seen a 40% decrease in homicides, a 21% decrease in gang related assaults and a 63% decrease in gang related drive-by shootings.

Salinas Police Department - Community Oriented Policing (COPS) - Salinas, California

Salinas is located on the central coast of California and is the largest city in Monterey County. Salinas, the county seat, serves a total population of 122,000. The police department comprises 151 sworn officers and 47 civilian employees. The Salinas Police Department is a Community Policing Agency which provides full law enforcement services including uniformed patrol, investigations, gang task force, narcotics and vice investigations, traffic enforcement, special operations, DARE education, School Resource Officers, Community Response Officers, Violent Injury Prevention Program, and Police Athletics League.

The following is a list of COPS programs undertaken by the Salinas Police Department and City of Salinas:

- January 1991 - Implementation of the International City Management Association (ICMA) model Community Oriented Public Service for all City departments
- January 1991 - Formation of a Police Activities League (PAL) in the City. Conversion of a vacant bakery warehouse into a gym (The Bread Box) using community donations and volunteer labor. The gym is gang-neutral and provides counseling and athletic activities while also housing the PAL office.
- January 1991 - Participation in the Violent Injury Prevention Program (VIPP) to prevent and reduce violent acts and injuries in Salinas. VIPP is based on a cooperative effort from all segments of the community and municipal government. In January 1994, VIPP targeted a low income, high crime area to use a wide variety of government services and community involvement to improve all aspects of life in the area. Two city-funded police officers are assigned to the ten block VIPP area.
- June 1992 - Publication of a General Order to all department personnel, entitled Community Oriented Policing - Model Guidelines. The purpose of this order was to outline the overall process the Chief of Police wished to utilize to implement the Community Oriented Policing (COPS) model within the Department. Training of all personnel in the COPS philosophy began.
- November 1993 A county-wide Gang Task Force, largely comprised of Salinas police officers, was formed focusing on handgun violence that was specifically related to juveniles.
- January 1994 - Creation of Police/Community Advisory Committee (PCAC). The PCAC is comprised of fourteen residents appointed by the City Council and police staff. The PCAC meets monthly to identify problems and discuss solutions. The PCAC also developed a community survey with which to assess community needs.
- March 1994 - The City Council adopted a Zero-Tolerance Gun Violence Policy. The policy is intended to publicly declare that the City will vigorously continue to develop and implement policies, guidelines and procedures to prevent violent crime in the City of Salinas. The policy statement was sent to the courts in order to ask the judiciary of the county to consider the dire impact that illegal gun use has on the City and its residents when exercising its sentencing discretion.
- July 1994 - The department opened two "service centers" to provide an alternate location to members of the public and officers instead of the main police station. Both are leased to the City for \$1.00 per year. The East Side Service Center (ESSC) in the highest crime area of the is part of the federally-funded Neighborhood Mobilization Program. The department also opened a service center at a covered mall.
- July 1995 - Implementation of the Community Coordinator program with personnel hired under COPS AHEAD. The program consists of three uniformed officers selected to act a liaisons between the police department, community based organizations, and members of the public at large.
- October 1995 - Implementation of the Salinas Youth Firearms Violence Initiative and formation of the Violence Suppression Unit to combat youth firearms violence. Directed enforcement of youth gangs and development of a GIS based gang tracking system was started.
- March 1996 - Community Service Officer Program was instituted to place four non-sworn civilians in positions that had been filled by sworn officers. This allowed us to place four additional officers into true community policing roles.

City of Salinas

Salinas Police Department Community Policing

In 1991, the City of Salinas undertook a strategy to change it's public service philosophy to one of community based problem solving and public service. This venture has taken many forms and continues to grow. A common thread throughout this half decade is the emphasis placed on youth and youth related crimes. Youth related projects range from a Title V extended day program targeting primary grade students in the most blighted portion of the city to the Salinas Youth Firearms Violence Initiative which provides community based enforcement targeting young gang members and firearms related crimes.

The Salinas Police Department provides full law enforcement services including uniformed patrol, investigations, Violence Suppression Unit, narcotics and vice investigations, traffic enforcement, special operations, DARE education, School Resource Officers, Community Response Officers, Violent Injury Prevention Program, and a Police Activities League.

Considered the most significant crimes to impact, homicides, aggravated assaults and robberies involving the youth of our community, both as suspects and victims, are a direct result of criminal street gang activity. Salinas has over fourteen criminal street gangs operating within the city limits, that directly involve over 400 serious members. The number of youth "at risk" for joining a gang is the excess of 750.

The community identified gang violence and the fear associated it as being the number one problem facing our community now and in the foreseeable future. Our strategy directed toward providing service to the public and working in partnership with members of the community can be shown to be effective and the long term affects innumerable.

To: Christa Robinson / WH

Fax #: 456-7028

Re: Salinas, CA

Date: 8-5-96

Pages: 7 (including this cover sheet)

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Christa -

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U.S. Department of Justice
Office of Community Oriented Policing Services



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Preliminary Report

Salinas, CA

Community Policing and the COPS Youth Firearms Violence Initiative

Presented to
President William J. Clinton

U.S. Department of Justice
Office of Community Oriented Policing Services

Director Joseph E. Brann

Salinas, CA

Print
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Community Policing

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Youth Firearms Violence Initiative

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Salinas, CA

Background

Located on the central coast of California, Salinas is the largest city in and the county seat of Monterey County with a population of 122,000 within a 15 square mile area.

Until recently, Salinas, while surrounded by rural and farming areas, suffered from the crime and gang problems that have plagued larger urban areas. From 1984 to 1994, homicides jumped some 200 percent, from eight to 24. Other crimes, such as assault and robbery, also increased over the same period; an increase the police attributed to gangs. In fact, the people of Salinas identified gang violence and fear of gangs as the number one problem facing their community. The Salinas Police Department has identified between 20 and 25 local gangs, with approximately 1,500 members, and estimates that 80 percent of all arrests are gang related.

Community Policing in Salinas

The Salinas Police Department, comprised of 151 sworn officers and 47 civilian employees, is a community policing agency which provides full law enforcement services, including uniformed patrol, investigations, a gang task force, narcotics and vice investigations, traffic enforcement, special operations, DARE education, School Resource Officers, Community Response Officers, a Violent Injury Prevention Program, and the Police Athletics League.

In January 1991, the City of Salinas implemented Community Oriented Public Service (COPS), using the International City Managers Association model, in all city departments. This public service philosophy is based on problem solving and community involvement, with a focus on youth and youth-related crimes.

In June 1992, Police Chief Dan Nelson issued COPS guidelines to outline the implementation of COPS and officer training in the community policing philosophy. This was followed by the publication of a strategic plan, addressing short- and long-term action plans to address specific community problems, in September 1993. To further involve the community in crime reduction strategies, the Police/Community Advisory Committee (PCAC) was created in January 1994. Comprised of citizens appointed by the city council and police staff, the 14-member committee meets monthly to identify community problems and discuss solutions. The PCAC also developed and conducted a survey to assess residents' needs and perceptions.

To make policing services more accessible to the public, the department opened two community service centers in July 1994. The East Side Service Center (ESSC) is located in an area of the city with the highest population density and one of the highest crime rates. As part of the federally-funded Neighborhood Mobilization Program, four Community Service Aides provide police services in the center. A sworn Community Response Officer is assigned to the ESSC to work with community groups and residents. The other service center is located in a shopping

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mall and provides similar community oriented services.

With personnel hired under the COPS AHEAD grant program, the Community Coordinator program was implemented in July 1995. Under this program, three community policing officers act as liaisons between the police department, community-based organizations and residents in each of the three city sectors. In October 1995, the department hired four additional non-sworn police assistants through a COPS MORE grant, allowing the redeployment of four sworn officers from administrative and clerical functions to community policing roles.

Other community policing efforts of the department include the Preventing Alcohol-Related Trauma in Salinas (PARTS) program to reduce alcohol-related crime through education and enforcement, and the Salinas Police Community Citizens' Academy.

Combating Gang-Related Crime

Using community oriented policing strategies, Salinas is now fighting gang violence on every front.

As part of the city-wide implementation of COPS in 1991, volunteers, utilizing donated materials, converted a vacant bakery warehouse into a gym. This popular gang-neutral center houses a Police Activities League (PAL) office, recreation center, and the Second Chance Youth Program that provides counseling for at-risk youth. At the same time, all segments of the Salinas community and municipal government began the Violent Injury Prevention Program (VIPP), a cooperative effort to prevent and reduce violent acts and its effects in Salinas. Since January 1994, two police officers have been assigned to a low-income, high-crime area targeted by VIPP. At that time, VIPP began functioning under the Violent Injury Prevention Coalition (VIPC), chaired by the Mayor of Salinas.

As part of its enforcement campaign targeting criminal street gang activity, the Salinas Police Department has instituted a number of programs, including a Zero-Tolerance Gun Violence Policy. Adopted by the city council in March 1994, the policy publicly declared that the city would vigorously pursue policies and procedures to prevent violent crime. In addition, they asked the county courts to consider the dire impact that illegal gun use has on the city and its residents when exercising sentencing discretion.

In another effort to reduce gang activity, the Salinas Acosta Plaza Neighborhood Crime Resistant Program now assigns a uniformed officer to a previously under-served townhouse complex with a history of gang-related violent crime. The program includes residential walking patrols and Neighborhood Watch.

The city, the police department and the Violent Injury Prevention Coalition have joined force with the Alisal School District to launch two violence prevention initiatives directed toward elementary-aged children. The PeaceBuilders Project, which has been implemented in seven

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area schools, is a violence intervention method of instruction that rewards constructive behavior in school. The Title V Delinquency Prevention program targets students in a high-crime area of the city to develop healthy community relationships and familiar bonds and reduce exposure to and identification with gangs.

Youth Firearms Violence Initiative

In October 1995, the COPS Office awarded nearly \$1 million under the Youth Firearms Violence Initiative to the Salinas Police Department to combat youth firearms violence.

As part of the \$989,524 grant, the Violence Suppression Unit (VSU) was created. Its mission is to remove firearms from the hands of youth and gang members. With 17 officers, working seven days a week, the VSU targets specific gang territories, conducts probation searches and surveillance of homes or businesses where youth are known or suspected of obtaining firearms.

The VSU works closely with the District Attorney to track "certified" gangs and gang members. Under state law, the District Attorney can certify a gang after a certain level of violent crime has been committed. After certification, the gang or gang member is notified of the criminal classification. From that point on, any arrests for gang-related crime can be enforced through tougher sentencing. By keeping detailed files on gang activity, the VSU has assisted the DA in certifying six local gangs and thus provided the weapon of tougher sentences.

In operation since July 1996 and in support of the VSU, the Geographic Information System (GIS) tracks and analyzes criminal activity. This system gives the department the ability to track firearms crimes and identify gang territories. Recognizing the important potential of this system, the entire department has received training on the GIS. A two-officer intelligence unit specifically uses the system, supplemented by information from residents, informants and a variety of other sources. The unit then targets gang hotspots and provides information to the VSU.

The grant also funds training for the entire department in gang and handgun violence interdiction, night vision scopes for the surveillance of known gang locations, and local evaluation of the program, including the examination of gang movement into outlying areas.

In the future, the department would like to upgrade the GIS interface to be accessible to any other police department in the nation. Additional tools would allow the department to tie the GIS into their mobile terminal computers, making video mug shots available to cars in the field.

Community Oriented Strategies Paying Off -- Crime Rate Drops

Salinas has experienced a dramatic drop in violent crime since the beginning of the grant, including a 40 percent decrease in homicides, a 21 percent decrease in gang-related assaults, and

Salinas to greet Clinton

City's violence effort recognized

BY LAURA COUNTS

Herald Staff Writer

The quiet in Salinas these days has been heard all the way in Washington.

President Clinton, accompanied by White House Chief of Staff Leon Panetta, will make a quick stop in the city Thursday morning to recognize its multipronged effort at fighting violence, city officials have been told.

"We're thrilled, because it really is an acknowledgment that the programs we have are working," said City Councilwoman Anna Caballero yesterday. "It's really been a joint effort."

The president will visit between campaign stops in San Jose and Los Angeles, and a White House spokeswoman said yesterday more details on his itinerary would be available tomorrow.

Salinas Mayor Alan Styles said he was told the president would arrive about 11 a.m. and stay for an hour to 90 minutes. Styles said he has met with members of the president's advance team, who are already in town, and he will meet with them again tomorrow.

"They are just getting it together now," he said. "They are scouting out locations, and I don't think anything has been finalized."

Although nothing has been confirmed, Styles said the president was interested in visiting the Police Department to recognize the Violence Suppression Unit.

The unit of 16 officers was created last October by a \$1 million grant from the National Institute of Justice. It has focused on reducing juvenile and gang-related crime. Caballero said that Salinas is way ahead of the nine other cities that received the grants in implementing new technology and

8A The Sunday Herald, Sunday, August 4, 1996

Clinton to recognize Salinas for anti-violence drive

CLINTON FROM PAGE 1A

getting officers on the street.

"They've had a significant impact because they've been taking the guns out of the hands of kids," Police Chief Dan Nelson said in a recent interview. "They've also freed up the rest of the department to spend more time patrolling."

What kind of an effect the unit has had is not clear, Nelson said, since it has not been evaluated. But at least some categories of crime seem to have dropped dramatically this year.

According to police statistics compiled through the end of June, there have been three homicides this year, compared to six at that point in 1995 and eight at that point in 1994. Drops in other violent crimes have been less dramatic, according to police statistician Wayne Schapper. Aggravated assaults this year were up from 386 through June of 1994 to 420 this year.

The increased police presence has been felt, one youth advocate said recently.

"I'm not a pro-law enforcement person, but I really think the VSU has had a big impact," said Brian Contreras, director of Second Chance Youth program which

works to keep young people out of gangs. "The kids are telling us they (the VSU) are everywhere."

Contreras said he also thought the message of a number of different programs was getting out. Nelson agreed.

"I would like to think a number of things have come to fruition," Nelson

said. "DARE, PeaceBuilders, the 10-Block Area, the Violent Injury Prevention Coalition."

The coalition helped create the 10-Block Area — recently expanded to 20 blocks — and has formed active neighborhood watch groups to clean up an East

Salinas neighborhood.

A coalition member also was the one to introduce PeaceBuilders, a program implemented by the Alisal Union School District last fall that has met with tremendous community interest. It aims to reduce violence by teaching children to give up put-downs, praise people, right wrongs and seek out wise people for guidance. Schools using it have already reported that children's behavior has improved and attendance has improved.

Other programs at work in town include Healthy Start, which centralizes services for children and families, and federally-

funded after-school programs, Caballero said.

"Salinas has been really successful in its pursuit of federal funds," she said. "We told Washington that Salinas is the prototype for cities of the future, with minorities as the majority and some serious social problems."

Clinton made a visit to the area last September to dedicate the new campus of California State University at Monterey Bay. The last presidential visit before that was in September 1975, when Gerald Ford visited the Monterey Peninsula.

President ^{8/3/96} ~~Clinton~~ CALIFORNIA (SALINAS)

to pay call on Salinas

Clinton will salute city's efforts to stem violence

By Marty Burleson

The Californian

A campaigning President Clinton is scheduled to visit Salinas next week in what federal and city officials said is a salute to the city's anti-violence efforts.

White House officials confirmed that Clinton will arrive Thursday morning. His itinerary was unavailable Friday, but a spokeswoman for U.S. Rep. Sam Farr, D-Carmel, said the president will arrive by helicopter at 11 a.m. and proceed to the Salinas Police Department.

The visit is expected to last no more than 90 minutes and could include other stops in the city, said Rochelle Dornatt, Farr's chief of staff.

"We're sure excited," said Salinas Mayor Alan Styles, informed of the visit Thursday. "We're going to be on the map."

The Salinas visit will be sandwiched between campaign stops in San Jose and Los Angeles, Dornatt said. It was unknown Friday whether first lady Hillary Clinton or Vice President Al Gore will accompany the president.

Styles said he was told the president is particularly interested in the police department's Violence Suppression Unit, created last year through a \$1 million federal grant. Ten cities received such grants, Styles said, but Salinas has been most successful in tracking gang activity and reducing handgun violence.

"We're far ahead of everybody else," said Styles, who praised a crime-tracking computer system that eventually may be linked to each patrol car. "They're real excited about what we're doing."

Presidential recognition won't be limited to the police department, Styles said. Clinton also is expected to focus on such grass-roots community efforts as PeaceBuilders — an Alisal Union School District program to promote non-violence — and the 20-block cleanup program sponsored by the Violent Injury Prevention Coalition.

Program participants Friday began



WILL VISIT: President Clinton, speaking at the White House Rose Garden Friday, will make a brief appearance in Salinas next week.

and other community members to reduce crime, street by street.

"It would be wonderful if he could hear all the wonderful things we're doing," Garcia said. "Not from the coordinators, but from the residents."

That the program is being acknowledged at all comes as a surprise, she said.

"I certainly didn't expect that any of our efforts were being noticed by the White House," Garcia said. "We're not doing this for the recognition. We're doing it because we live here and we want it to be a better place for everyone."

Itinerary expected Monday

The itinerary for President Clinton's Thursday visit to Salinas, including possible opportunities for the public to see the president, is expected to be released Monday.

It is better, according to Salinas Police Department statistics. Chief Dan Nelson, comparing 1995 statistics with current figures, said Friday that as of June: Homicides are down 40 percent; gang-related assaults are down 21 percent; and drive-by shootings are down 63 percent.

The total of three 1996 homicides represents a remarkable turnaround since 1994 when a record 24 homi-

lobbying for a place on Clinton's schedule.

"I hope he can come visit a Peace-Builders school," said Roberta Emerson, Alisal Union School District director of curriculum. "I think that we should be a role model for schools across the whole nation. We've seen a real decrease in suspensions and vandalism and aggressive behavior."

Lupe Garcia, neighborhood coordinator for the 20-block cleanup area near Closter Park, wondered aloud about the possibility of a town hall meeting. The project, until last month a 10-block endeavor, calls on residents

cides occurred in the city.

"We'd like to believe that violent crime is down," Nelson said.

The drop in crime largely is attributable to the 20-block project, said Crescencio Padilla, a Monterey County Public Defender's Office investigator who served on the city committee that created it. Padilla represented the League of United Latin American Citizens on the panel.

"I'm seeing a lot of results," he said. "Before, people were not helping the police. They were afraid. They would not testify. Now they're giving information to the police."



Salinas Police Department

222 Lincoln Avenue

Salinas, CA 93901

Fax Cover Sheet

DATE: 8-2-96

TIME: _____

TO: Ann Brooks

PHONE: 202-456-5623

FAX: 202-456-7028

FROM: Candy Perryman

PHONE: (408) 758-7324

FAX: (408) 770-0501

RE: Part I crimes

Number of pages including cover sheet: 2

Message:

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NEWS

VIOLENT CRIME DECLINES IN LOS ANGELES
Patrick McGreevy Daily News Staff Writer

Violent crime in LOS ANGELES dropped 4.9 percent in the first half of the year compared with the same period in 1995, continuing a two-year downward trend.

Except in the West Valley, violent crime also decreased in every part of the San Fernando Valley, according to official figures released Friday.

Another LAPD report released this week indicates that despite the current major buildup of the police force, the number of arrests had been going down until 1995, when arrests began to rebound.

The report suggests that the decrease in arrests from 1991 to 1994 may be linked to the department's move toward community-based policing.

"Overall, it must be emphasized that the focus of the LOS ANGELES Police Department has significantly changed from an aggressive, proactive, quasi-military style of policing to a more directed focus on COMMUNITY POLICING, problem solving and education," says the report by the LAPD's Office of Operations.

Despite the decrease in arrests, the statistical report shows that property crimes, including burglary and auto theft, dropped 9.5 percent citywide and decreased in each of the five Valley divisions.

"There is a very definite downward trend," said LAPD Capt. Robert Ruchhoft, a department spokesman.

The combined rate of violent and property crimes dropped 10.4 percent in the Devonshire Division, 4.7 percent in the Foothill Division, 5.3 percent in the North Hollywood Division, 5.4 percent in the Van Nuys Division and 12.2 percent in the West Valley Division.

All of the Valley divisions except West Valley also experienced lessening of violent crime, including a drop of 12.9 percent in Devonshire.

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