This report provides summary information and Final Local Evaluation Reports for the California Gang Reduction Intervention and Prevention (CalGRIP) 2015-2017 grant cycle. Each participating city evaluation may be found on the Board of State and Community Corrections' website located here.

The purpose of the Final Local Evaluation Report is to document the programs and activities funded by the project. The evaluation reports describe the research design and the final outcomes of the programs, including a determination of the degree of program success. For instance, Los Angeles was able to document that 98 percent of its participants remained in school, while Pico Rivera recorded a 34 percent reduction in suspensions. Fresno’s outcomes were mixed, with arrests down but gang-related homicides up.

This round of CalGRIP Request for Proposals required both a Local Evaluation Plan at time of application and a Final Local Evaluation Report at the end of the grant cycle. Applicants were required to set aside up to 10 percent of their grant funds for data collection and the development of the Local Evaluation Report.

The following is a summary of the projects carried out by each grantee and the outcomes achieved:

**CITY OF DUARTE**

The City of Duarte used the CalGRIP funds to develop the North San Gabriel Valley Prevention, Intervention and Reintegration Program (PIRP). The PIRP expanded the use of best practices implemented in past programs, while minimizing suppression strategies. The program added youth prevention and intervention services and augmented reintegration services. PIRP identified six goals which included: (1) A reduction in gang membership, related crimes and juvenile arrests by 25 percent; (2) A reduction of gang activity and recidivism in young adults 17 to 25 years of age; (3) An increase in positive youth development indicators by 30 percent; (4) Improvement of API scores at Mt. Olive Alternative High School by 6 to 8 percent; (5) An increase cross cultural competency of 23 percent; and (6) The development of a sustainable comprehensive regional approach to gang prevention, intervention and reintegration. With the PIRP program, gang membership and juvenile arrests decreased. The youth who participated in the programs showed growth in positive development indicators and 24 high-risk young adults received supported employment.
opportunities and case management through the WIN program, with 25 percent of them retaining employment beyond the project period. The successes of PIRP reinforced what the City of Duarte has done for many years—investing in youth prevention through programming and opportunities that bring youth together.

**CITY OF ESCONDIDO**

**3-YEAR GRANT AMOUNT: $1,500,000**

The Escondido Gang Reduction Intervention and Prevention (EGRIP) initiative is a collaborative and comprehensive strategy that addresses the risk and protective factors of at-risk minority youths with the overall goal of decreasing gang membership and activity in the community. During the 2015-2017 grant cycle, the following programs and strategies were implemented: (1) Guiding Good Choices, an evidence-based program; (2) Community Meetings/Events; (3) Juvenile Diversion Cannabis Abuse Prevention, an evidence-based strategy; (4) Family Intervention Team Expansion, a gender-specific, evidence-based strategy; (6) Girls Rock, an evidence-based gender specific program; (7) School-to-Career Services, an evidence-based strategy; (8) Workforce Development an evidence-based strategy; (9) Regional and local gang suppression operations; and lastly, (10) Tattoo Removal. Some of the key findings included: (a) Post-surveys showed that the Guiding Good Choices program had a positive impact on parents’ beliefs and perceptions towards family communication and bonding; (b) The Implementing One Circle Foundation’s “The Council for Boys” and “The Girls Circle” curricula improved the structure and accountability of the Family Intervention Team and Girls Rock strategies; (c) The skills set of facilitators and mentors must be compatible with the clientele in order to be effective; (d) A comprehensive mentoring program that works is key to overall effectiveness and (e) Reduce the program length from 24 to 10 weeks for Family Intervention Team and Girls Rock and matching the most at-risk youth with a mentor after the 10-week small group.

**CITY OF FRESNO**

**3-YEAR GRANT AMOUNT: $1,500,000**

The City of Fresno looked at eight different intervention programs that were created out of the city’s Gang Prevention Initiative. To reduce the amount of gang-related crime throughout the City of Fresno, the Initiative incorporates the violence reduction strategies and core components which included Prevention, Intervention, Enforcement, and Community Engagement. Program measures and program outcomes were monitored throughout the three-year grant period from 2015-2017. Crime data were collected from the Fresno Police Department as well as the California Attorney General’s Office. Feedback from participants and community members were also collected.
Overall, the programs are operating successfully and achieving desired goals and outcomes. Violent crime in the intervened areas is on the decline, although gang-related homicide continues to rise. Throughout the last decade of these programs, violent crime in the city of Fresno has fallen, but in recent years continues to increase again. Some statistics include a decrease of 27 percent in violent crime incidents in the outreach areas; a decrease of 30 percent in calls for service in outreach areas between 2015-2017; an increase of 37 percent in gang-related homicide in the city of Fresno from 2015-2017; and a decrease of 41 percent in felony arrests in the intervened communities. The City of Fresno focused on getting youth on to a positive path before they become truly involved with a gang, with the goal of limiting the number of youths that become gang members.

**CITY OF GILROY**

The City of Gilroy used the CalGRIP funds to develop the South County Youth Task Force One Neighborhood Empowered (ONE) Project. It is a regional collaboration that builds on the foundation its Resilient, Empowered, Aware, Connected, Healthy (REACH) Project Continuum of Care. REACH strived to establish a school-based collaboration, local law enforcement and Community Based (CBO) agencies that connects, coordinates and leverages resources to meet the needs of specifically targeted youth and their families. ONE funded and advanced a greater local depth of services and increased CBO partners to address core underlying factors identified by the community. This contributed towards gang recruitment and criminal activities. Most of the youth served by ONE were between the ages of 14-19 years of age comprising 54% of the total population served, followed by children ages 10 and under. The ONE Project also serve adults ages 20 and older comprising 6% of the participants served. The City of Gilroy developed the following six goals: (1) Youth participants would measurably improve their school conduct, (2) Youth would demonstrate new goals and have better and positive relationships with family and community, (3) youth would understand how to use mindfulness to reduce stress, (4) decrease the number of violent incidents on school campus, (5) participate in pro-social activities and increase positive adult engagement, (6) create a notable reduction in gang-
related criminal activity. Due to the ONE project and the REACH project the City of Gilroy was able to achieve all their set goals through the CalGRIP grant program.

The ONE Project has increased and improved Service Coordination in South County by growing its SCYTF Continuum of Care Model to include greater prevention, early intervention and high-risk intervention support services. With the ONE Project, South County Youth Task Force has changed systems and improved the capacity and expertise of not only grass-roots and community-based organizations, but faith-based agencies, governmental City and County agencies. The effect of the CalGRIP ONE Project shifted the cultural perspective of all stakeholders serving the South County region.

**CITY OF INGLEWOOD**

**3-YEAR GRANT AMOUNT: $1,500,000**

The City of Inglewood established the I-CARE Project. The overall goal of the project was to reduce the risk-factors that contributed to gang-related crime and violence through a regional approach that coordinates multi-jurisdictional law-enforcement efforts with the services of city, school and community partners to a target population of at-risk and high-risk youth. In the I-CARE Project, specific evidenced-based strategies were delivered through two tiers of service. Tier 1 provided prevention services to 180 at-risk youth per year, underage drinking, truancy, curfew violations, defiance, and other risk-associated behaviors. Tier 2 consisted of diversion.

The I-CARE project consisted of six objectives for the 600 youth in the program ranging from 11 to 17 years of age. The objectives included: (a) at least 65 percent of youth will complete the assigned services; (b) 70 percent will reduce at least one risk factor that contributes to gang-related crime and violence; (c) 65 percent of youth would not be cited within one year after their initial juvenile offense; (d) 60 percent will participate in Job Club and will attain industry-recognized work readiness certification; (e) 75 percent
of parent-child relations will improve through family mediation; and finally (f) establishment of an Inglewood Youth Commission by the first year and adoption of a Youth Action Plan by the second year. Interventions that address specific behaviors and attitudes of 20 high-risk youth per year attached to the juvenile justice system.

**CITY OF LONG BEACH**

**3-YEAR GRANT AMOUNT: $1,500,000**

The City of Long Beach used a multi-prong approach to stop human trafficking and address gang violence and gang victimization. The CalGRIP 7 Project was designed to reduce and prevent membership, and starve the over 60 gangs in Long Beach of their critical source of income from human trafficking. CalGRIP 7, or My Sister’s Keeper, was a three-year project that aimed to: (1) Prevent human trafficking and decrease the number of trafficked girls and young women through prevention and intervention activities, and (2) Decrease human trafficking cases in Long Beach through the arrest and prosecution of gang members involved in human trafficking. The project goal was to reduce gang membership and gang victimization among at-risk female youth ages 12 to 24 years within the City of Long Beach. My Sister’s Keeper utilized evidence-based practices and strategies to implement the activities which includes citywide prevention by bringing awareness to the city with campaigns, training, safety symposium for female youth and parents. Focused prevention allowed 40 female youth to participate in a female leadership academy. Interventions included mentoring and counseling for female youth who have left gang lifestyles. Suppression strategies included prosecuting those individuals involved in human trafficking. By the end of the second year, the CalGRIP 7 project was identified as one of few projects that provided wraparound services to human trafficking victims by addressing multiple needs simultaneously.
The City of Los Angeles Mayor’s Office of Gang Reduction and Youth Development (GRYD) was the lead agency on the CalGRIP grant. GRYD implemented several significant changes during the first year of the grant period including an updated mission statement which reflects the intention that individual, family, and community level change will over time impact gang membership and violence. In addition, service areas were expanded and shifted to provide more substantial coverage based on community needs. GRYD Prevention Services serve youth (ages 10-15) at high risk of gang joining and their families.

The primary goal for GRYD Prevention Services is to increase protective factors against gang joining among youth at high risk for gang membership by reducing risk factors related to gang membership, modifying behaviors such as those related to school performance and behavior at school or those that lead to arrests. Four comprehensive goals were developed for GRYD which included: (1) Increase the community’s knowledge and capacity to effectively address gang involvement and violence; (2) Increase protective factors and reduce gang joining among at-risk youth; (3) Increase prosocial connections and other protective factors for gang-involved young adults between the ages of 14 and 25; and lastly, (4) Facilitate effective communication and coordinated responses to address gang violence.

GRYD Service Providers were successful in identifying and enrolling youth into the Youth Service Eligibility Tool (YSET). Eighty-two percent of those found eligible from 2015 to 2017 were placed in Secondary Prevention programming. City of Los Angeles found that 98 percent of youth in the program remained enrolled in school. Additionally, fewer youths received disciplinary actions and/or arrests while receiving services. After six months, a little over half of the clients saw risk levels reduced and graduated from YSET. GRYD is committed to evaluating these programs and currently contracts with California State University, Los Angeles to oversee all research and evaluation activities related to GRYD.
CITY OF OAKLAND  3-YEAR GRANT AMOUNT: $1,500,000

The City of Oakland has allocated its CalGRIP funds to support implementation and operations of the Oakland Ceasefire (Ceasefire) strategy within the Oakland Unite (OU) network of violence prevention programs and services. Ceasefire is a data-driven violence-reduction strategy grounded in a coordinated partnership between law enforcement, social services, and community partners. The overarching vision of Ceasefire is to sustain a significant, citywide reduction in gun-related violence, and Ceasefire partners articulated three goals to achieve this vision. The three goals included: (1) Build a tightly coordinated regional network of law enforcement partners focused on gangs and individuals actively engaging in gun violence; (2) Improve outcomes for young men at highest risk of violence; and (3) Increase community engagement in Ceasefire within communities most affected by violence. CalGRIP funding supports Oakland Unite’s life coaching services, in which highest-risk clients receive mentoring, support, and linkages to services including problem solving, opportunities for employment, housing assistance, mental health services, case management, document retrieval, legal assistance, financial incentives, and other life supports as needed. Life coaching, together with street outreach, comprise a major part of OU’s theory of change to improve outcomes for young men at highest-risk of gun violence. Like Ceasefire, OU’s programs target the City’s highest-risk community members and neighborhoods, focusing on interrupting violence as it occurs and preventing future violence.

CITY OF OXNARD  3-YEAR GRANT AMOUNT: $1,319,700

The Triple R (Recover, Repair, Restore) Project is a community-based gang prevention and intervention program that dedicates collective community resources to services that embrace the City of Oxnard’s gang-involved, gang-exposed, and gang-affiliated youth ages 15-24 and their families. The grant was managed by the City of Oxnard’s Office of Youth Safety (OYS) in partnership with a contracted community-based partner, Interface Children and Family Services.

Rather than try to reach young people who are perceived to be “at-risk,” the Triple R Project casts a wide net among partner agencies, schools, and other programs to identify individuals who are “at-promise”—in other words, those who are motivated to make positive changes in their lives, and who express a commitment to embark upon a journey of transformation. The Triple R Project achieved its intended goals of enhancing resilience factors such as a positive self-regard, high self-esteem, optimism, motivation, and an internal locus
of control and increasing protective factors such as pro-social relationships with family and peers and connection to educational and employment opportunities.

**CITY OF PICO RIVERA**

The City of Pico Rivera used CalGRIP grant funds to implement a collaborative effort to reduce gang membership through evidence-based prevention and intervention activities in coordination with the El Rancho Unified School Police and Los Angeles County Sheriff Department’s ongoing suppression activities. The city developed two goals: (1) Provide evidence-based programs, practices, and strategies for intervention and prevention for at-risk youth to reduce gang activity in the community; and (2) Increase systems capacity and infrastructure to address gang related activity. The city implemented two evidence-based programs (Gang Resistance and Education Training and Aggression Replacement Training), as well as cognitive behavioral counseling and case management strategies; afterschool mentoring and enrichment programs; and expanded El Rancho Unified School District’s Teen Court.

Because of the CalGRIP program, the city decreased juvenile recidivism rates by 48 percent; the number of guns on school property by 72 percent; number of weapons on school property by 52 percent; suspensions and expulsions related to violent and aggressive behavior by 34 percent and 27 percent, respectively; juvenile crime by 49 percent; graffiti and tagging incidents by 36 percent; and gang shootings by 52 percent.
CITY OF RIALTO

3-YEAR GRANT AMOUNT $1,404,000

With the CalGRIP grant funding, the Rialto Police Department, in collaboration with the Rialto Unified School District, provided on-site education services and summer programs to elementary and middle school students and their families. The city planned to provide Gang Resistance Education and Training (G.R.E.A.T.) to a total of 1,106 students, ages 7-14, in its school-based program and a total of 112 participants in its Summer Bridge to Success Program. It is worth noting that Rialto exceeded its goal, with over 2,000 students receiving G.R.E.A.T. instruction over the course of the grant cycle.

Direct summer program services were provided to youth, ages 7-14, at risk of exhibiting delinquent or deviant behaviors, by the Rialto Police Department and the following community-based organizations: SARGES Community Base, Hardy Brown Foundation, Youth Action Project, and Young Visionaries. In addition, Big Brothers Big Sisters of the Inland Empire provided mentoring services; the National Council of Negro Women (Bethune Center) provided parenting services to families. At the end of Year 3, 135 youth and parents attended the program’s community-wide reinforcement symposium.

CITY OF RICHMOND

3-YEAR GRANT AMOUNT $1,500,000

In Richmond, CalGRIP funded the Beloved Community: West Contra Costa Partnership for Youth (“Beloved Community project”). The City of Richmond’s Office of Neighborhood Safety (ONS) was the lead agency for Beloved Community and worked in partnership with the RYSE Center (RYSE) and Richmond Police Activities League (RPAL) to implement the project. Beloved Community’s purpose was to provide evidence-based prevention and intervention activities to young people ages 15-21 in the Richmond community who were involved in a gang or at risk of gang involvement. Primary activities included street outreach, cognitive behavioral therapy, mentoring, life skills training, case management, and subsidized employment.

During the grant period, project partners intended to serve the following numbers of youth through their organization’s interventions: ONS, 180 youth; RYSE, 135 youth; RPAL, 218 youth. The project sought to decrease youth involvement in gun violence and gang-related activity while helping young people to develop positive relationships with empathetic adults, begin to address the underlying trauma that may contribute to engagement in gun violence, understand the negative consequences of gun violence, and develop future education/employment plans.
At the individual level, each project partner exceeded the number of youth they intended to serve through their organization’s Beloved Community interventions. ONS served 212 youth; RPAL, 421 youth; and RYSE, 200 youth. Moreover, these participation data, combined with survey and interview findings, indicate that project participants met the stated objectives of developing positive relationships with empathetic adults through ongoing mentoring experiences provided by project partners; engaging in activities that support them in understanding and coping with their mental health needs; and gaining skills and experience for education and employment, thus proactively laying the groundwork for their futures. The project partners collaborated closely to provide developmentally appropriate, culturally responsive, and healing-centered services to young people in West Contra Costa who are impacted by violence and trauma and who are not traditionally served or welcomed by other service providers.

CITY OF SALINAS

3-YEAR GRANT AMOUNT: $1,500,000

The City of Salinas implemented five prevention and intervention projects for at-risk and drug- or crime-involved youth and young adults under its CalGRIP program from 2015 through 2017. They range from a Saturday Teen Night Program held at local recreation centers to provide a safe and nurturing space for at-risk teens to a peer intervention program based in a hospital trauma center to serve the victims of violent crime. This program included a multi-agency Cross-Functional Team (CFT) which provided wrap-around services to families in need and a full-time police officer dedicated to the neighborhood. The rest of the CalGRIP funds were allocated to prevention and intervention activities, including the Saturday Teen Nite program, parenting classes and parent support groups, a program for alcohol and drug using youth, and a hospital emergency room-based violence intervention program.

The City of Salinas developed four goals for CalGRIP: (1) Decrease the number of gang-related fatal and non-fatal shootings; (2) Increase parenting skills and parent confidence of 20 Parent Project facilitators and 120 parents annually; (3) Reduce gang and crime involvement and victimization of at-risk older youth; and (4) Increase community engagement, improve trust between the community, and police, and reduce fear of
As the result of the CalGRIP projects, at-risk youth, their parents, and young adults have enhanced skills and self-efficacy and fewer have ongoing delinquency and problems at school. The CalGRIP grant brought much needed services to the citizens of Salinas, with primarily positive short-term results. The hospital-based peer intervention program is a first for the city and one of the few in the country. The City is making inroads in its violent crime problems, and the CalGRIP program, with more police officers and other prevention and intervention efforts are contributing to this path.

**CITY OF SAN JOSE**

The City of San Jose Mayor's Gang Prevention Task Force (MGPTF) used the CalGRIP funding to transition the Pilot Hospital-Based Intervention known as Trauma to Triumph Program, in partnership with Santa Clara Valley Medical Center (SCVMC) Trauma Center to a fully staffed and fully operated Evidenced-Based Hospital-Linked Intervention Program. For this program City of San Jose developed two goals which included: (1) approach and enroll more eligible patients while in the hospital Trauma Center with expanded hours and (2) provide for more intensive and comprehensive evidenced-informed follow-up case management intervention services upon discharge from the hospital. The Trauma to Triumph Program was successful in expanding the hours and number of clients serviced from the Pilot Program phase and expanded to provide weekly five-day coverage, and night and weekend coverage, on an as needed basis. CalGRIP funding also allowed SCVMC to request and leverage new funding from the Santa Clara County Supervisors to expand hospital staff.

During the grant cycle, the Trauma to Triumph Program was also able to expand the number of unduplicated youth/young adults that received services (who were injured through individual, group assault and/or gang-related violence) from 32 to 178. The City of San Jose Mayor’s Gang Prevention Task Force has also been successful in assuring the continuation of the Trauma to Triumph Program at near the same capacity as funded by: (1) allocating funding for the Trauma to Triumph Program to continue the program beyond the CalGRIP funding cycle, and (2) securing additional funding for two years from
the California Office of Emergency Services for the program. Participants and staff survey responses indicated their attitudes had changed significantly due to the services and care received from the program: A high percentage – an average of 84 percent over two years – felt that their lives had improved due to the services received; 76 percent valued their lives more; 75 percent indicated that disturbing memories of their trauma had decreased; 75 percent felt that they were doing the best possible or really well in their lives; and 89 percent felt more hopeful about their future with new possibilities.

CITY OF SANTA BARBARA

3-YEAR GRANT AMOUNT: $740,556

The Santa Barbara South Coast California Gang Reduction, Intervention and Prevention Project (CalGRIP) was designed to address unmet needs of youths identified by the work of the South Coast Task Force on Youth Safety (SCTFYS) and to help ameliorate the effects of increasing levels of poverty and gang culture influence in the South Coast community.

The goal of CalGRIP was to facilitate an improvement in juvenile justice outcomes for youth on probation and youth at risk of gang affiliation. Youths were eligible for services if they: 1) were on probation with gang terms and conditions; 2) were identified as reentering the community after completion of justice commitment; 3) had a family history of violence and incarceration; 4) had poor academic performance and attendance; or 5) were exposed to violence and poverty. The City of Santa Barbara provided three main services to youth participants which included: (a) Intensive Case Management, (b) Youth Employment Training and (c) Educational classes and evidence-based curricula. CalGRIP provided intensive case management for 114 participants, employment classes to 169 participants, and a Youth Employment Internship to 59 participants.
The City of Santa Rosa, Violence Prevention Partnership developed the Guiding People Successfully (GPS) Program. The GPS Program combines the Positive Youth Justice framework and evidence-based programming focusing on prevention and early intervention with youth at risk for gang involvement. City of Santa Rosa’s Office of Community Engagement, where direct services were provided by three community based organizations: (1) Social Advocates for Youth (SAY); (2) LifeWorks of Sonoma County (LW); and (3) California Youth Outreach (CYO). This innovative strategy represents a collaborative wraparound approach to mitigate factors that put youth at risk for violence and gang involvement, as well as enhance protective factors that mitigate gang violence, emphasizing the importance of education, work readiness, communication, relationships, community, health, and creativity.

Overall, an evaluation of program participant outcomes supports the underlying theory that services provided by GPS can help reduce risk factors and increase protective factors, improve youth capacity in Positive Youth Justice (PYJ) domains, and reduce recidivism in the juvenile justice system. GPS youth showed statistically significant improvement in all six PYJ domains while part of GPS, on both self- and staff assessments. From a total of 459 referrals received, 320 youth were enrolled, and 258 youth received case management and/or supportive services, attended classes and workshops, and/or participated in pro-social activities. GPS services resulted in a reduction of risk factors for gang involvement and violence, an increase in protective factors, an improved capacity in six Positive Youth Justice domains, and a low level of recidivism in the juvenile justice system.
The City of Seaside developed four specific goals for their CalGRIP award. They included: (1) Provide a wide range of services to at-risk, on probation, and gang-involved youth and their families to reduce risk factors for violence and increase protective factors; (2) Increase the immediate outcomes of the prevention and intervention services; (3) Reduce school behavioral and delinquent problems among youth involved in Seaside Youth Resource Center (SYRC) services; and (4) Decrease gang violence in the City of Seaside.

The centerpiece of the CalGRIP program was the establishment of the SYRC, a one-stop resource center for at-risk youth and their families which connects them to prevention and intervention services to reduce risk factors for violence and increase protective factors. The CalGRIP funds were also used to support prevention/intervention services for the same at-risk population, provided by community-based organizations and county agencies. The county’s Behavioral Health Bureau offered much needed individual and family therapy, and the county Probation Department provided local services for juvenile probationers and participated in the multi-disciplinary team which helped match at-risk youth to appropriate services. The SYRC and prevention/intervention service providers supported by CalGRIP have made a positive difference in the community and will continue to do so.
The City of Stanton’s Gang Reduction Intervention Partnership (GRIP) Truancy Reduction Services (TRS) Program worked as intended in a supportive collaborative structure that was engaged in the delivery of dynamic services. The goals of the program were to: (1) Strengthen family and school relationships; (2) Reduce the incidence of behaviors that impede academic performance; and (3) Improve academic engagement. The Stanton GRIP TRS collaborative partnership responded to the needs of 2,246 total enrolled students in four elementary schools in the Savanna School District. Of those 2,246 students, services were provided to approximately 1,123 students (50 percent). Upon implementation of the comprehensive collaborative GRIP TRS Program, a logic model was used as a guide providing direction and the opportunity for strategic planning to meet the goals for the students, families and communities. Stanton recommends that their focus will be on the harder-to-serve families to engage a smaller cohort of participants. Families should be recruited and engaged before the school year, with an understanding of their commitment to a comprehensive, intensive service model. Grant cycles need to align with the school year to improve the outreach, implementation and engagement of families recruited with school-aged children.

The impact of family support services was realized in the school environment through housing stability which allowed for the students to be successful in their attendance and academic performance. Counseling services for both the student and the family had a positive impact on the emotional well-being of the students allowing them to focus on their academic achievement. Weekend family camps and Saturday Academy have helped provided the families with the skills they need to build healthy relationships within the families. Enrichment programs such as soccer camp, art classes, and after-school programs have provided students who would otherwise be home alone a safe place to be when school is not in session. Home visiting with the most at-risk families had a significant impact on getting students to school and keeping them in school.
The City of Vista (Vista) teamed with stakeholders serving Vista’s Townsite neighborhood to partner on a three-year (CalGRIP) grant. Vista implemented the City of Vista Gang Reduction Intervention, and Prevention program (VGRIP) from January 2015 to December 2017, along with its partners: the Vista Sheriff’s station, San Diego County Probation, Vista Unified School District, two community-based agencies that serve the neighborhood (North County Lifeline and Vista Community Center), and the Criminal Justice Research Division of San Diego Association of Governments (SANDAG).

The VGRIP program design was influenced by the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Gang Prevention Model and employed a multi-level approach of prevention, intervention, and suppression activities to reduce gang involvement and gang crime in the Townsite neighborhood of Vista. The goal of VGRIP was to reduce gang involvement through targeted prevention, intervention, and suppression efforts.

VGRIP did achieve its intended objectives, progress positive toward its primary goal of reducing gang involvement and activity in the Townsite area. The larger decrease in violent crimes in the target area compared to Vista is the outcome that VGRIP was striving for. Vista developed several programs within the VGRIP, those included Guiding Good Choices, the Gang Resistance Education and Training Program, Step-Up Mentoring, Capturing Kids’ Hearts, Community Engagement, and Recreational Activities. VGRIP also allowed the Vista Sheriff’s station to hire a retired deputy to address the backlog of intelligence and information on gangs. VGRIP either exceeded, or came very close to achieving all its objectives.