Multnomah County Comprehensive Gang Assessment:

Chapter 5. Community Resources



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Chapter 5: Community Resources

Question 14: How has the community responded to gang activity?

- ⇒ What services are being provided (or could be provided) to gang members?
- ⇒ What strategies are in place to prevent, intervene, and suppress gang activity?
- ⇒ Do service providers conduct risk assessments that include gang membership?

Observations on Community Resources Data

Multnomah County has a rich array of services available to youth and their families. Using several local resource inventories, we identified 469 programs in the Multnomah County area that provide services to youth and family; these programs area administered by 151 different nonprofit or governmental organizations.¹ Survey emails were sent to all of these programs requesting additional information about their services. Of those surveyed, 260 (55%) responded with detailed information. The analysis that follows is based on information self-reported by agencies and includes data only from the 260 agencies that responded to our request for detailed information about their programs. Although Multnomah County offers many services for youth and their families, only 22 programs (5%) specifically focus on serving gang members (Figure 63). These programs will be referred to as gang-specific programs.

Data Sources

Data Display	Source
Community Resources: Gang-	Community Resource List compiled by
responsive Programs	Multnomah County Department of
(Appendix 14)	Community Justice staff.
Community Resources for DCJ	Community Resource List compiled by
Comprehensive Gang	Multnomah County Department of
Assessment (Figure 73)	Community Justice staff. Map created by
	Multnomah County GIS Team,
	Information Technology Department
Concentrations of Youth	Multnomah County Local High Risk
Involved in Criminal Acts:	Juvenile Crime Prevention Plan 2009-
2009: Distribution of	2010:
Community and Multnomah	http://www2.co.multnomah.or.us/Childr
County Youth Resources	enFamily/pdf/FINAL.JCPPlan6-18-10.pdf
(Figure 74)	

¹ District 2 / Gang Violence Task Force – Services Inventory, Service Programs for Youth & Gang Violence in Multnomah County – Youth & Gang Violence Steering Committee, Street Roots Rose City Resource Guide – Youth Services, Gresham's 5 Core Strategies List, Oregon Mentors.

There also are programs that do not focus solely on serving gang members, but whose staff have experience working with ganginvolved youth. This is the case for 56% of the programs that provided information about their staff (Figure 62). Approximately one-third of all of the programs that responded conduct a risk assessment that includes information about gang involvement.

Data	Total/Percentage
Total number of programs identified	469
Programs that responded	260 (55%)

Figure 63: Gang-Specific Programs

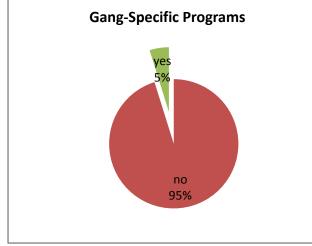
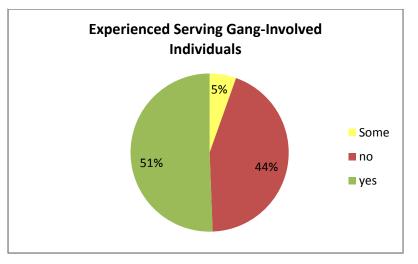


Figure 62: Programs Experienced Serving Gang-Involved Individuals



The language used to describe the services provided by all the programs was somewhat different in emphasis than the language used by gang-specific programs. The following words were used to describe all the youth and family services. The larger the word, the more frequently it was used.

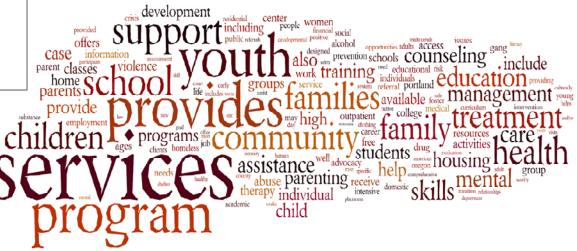


Figure 64: Gang-Specific Program Strategies

The subset of gang-specific programs used the words grouped below to describe their programs. These programs were less likely to use words like "children," "school," and "health" and more likely to use words such as "violence," "probation," and "prevention." Addressing root causes of violence and the intersection of other systems of support for youth and families may be an issue for incorporation into implementation planning and/or future assessments.

Programs that identify themselves as being "focused on gang members," have staff who were "experienced serving gang members," or "conduct risk assessments including gang involvement" are identified in this report as gang-responsive programs. The gang-responsive programs implement a range of strategies, from primary prevention to re-entry, with secondary prevention and intervention being the most common types of strategies (Figure 65). Among gang specific programs, there was more focus on suppression and re-entry (Figure 64).



Types of Strategies Implemented by Gang-Specific Programs

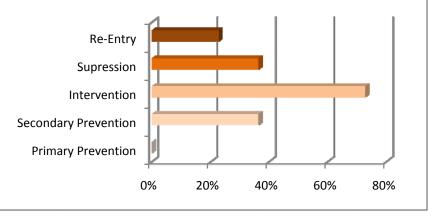


Figure 65: Gang-Responsive Program Strategies

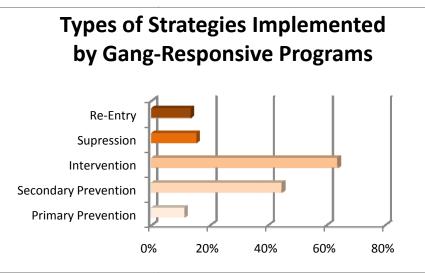
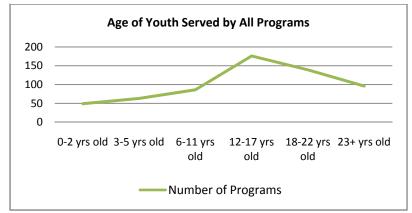
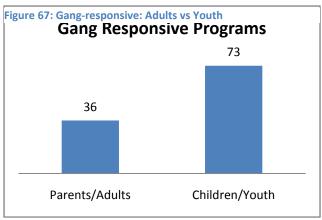
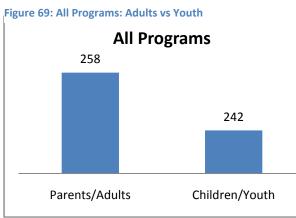


Figure 66: Age of Youth Served







The programs included in the inventory provide services to young people of a variety of ages, from birth into adulthood. However, the highest number of programs target middle and high school-aged youth (Figure 66). Gang-responsive programs are much more likely to focus on children and youth than other programs are (Figures 67 and68).

Nearly 75% of all the programs that responded indicated that they are not currently "full" (Figure 69). Another 13% explained that the fullness of the program varies based on such factors as the time of year, number of staff, and funding sources. Among gang-specific programs, even fewer programs indicated that they are "full" (Figure 70). However, it is important to note that many services provided by law enforcement and criminal justice agencies are unable to cap the number of people who they serve. Therefore, such programs would never be considered "full."

Figure 68: All Programs: Full?

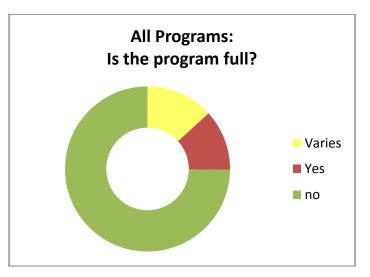
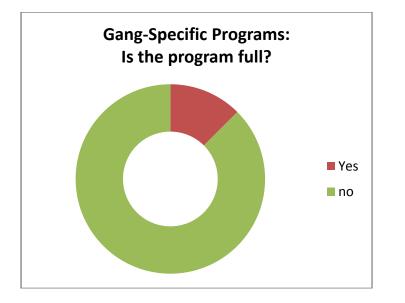


Figure 70: Gang-Specific Programs: Full?



Programs generally rely on diverse funding sources (Figure 71):

- 37% receive private funding (such as donations, local family/private foundations, national private foundations)
- 56% receive local funding (such as school districts, cities, county general funds)
- 38% receive state funding (such as State General fund, Oregon Health Plan)
- 33% receive federal funding (such as grants, Medicaid)

However, gang-specific programs rely primarily on local and state funding (Figure 72). Only one gang-specific program indicated that it receives funding from private sources, and only one program indicated that it receives federal funding to support it program. Multnomah County and the City of Portland are the largest funders of gang-specific services.

Figure 71: All Programs: Funding Sources

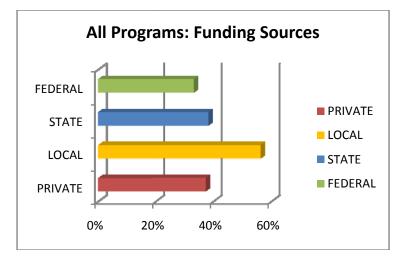
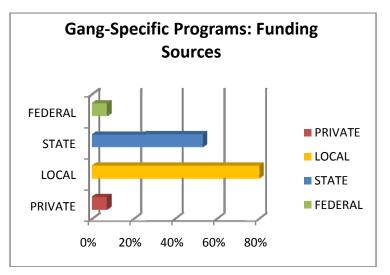
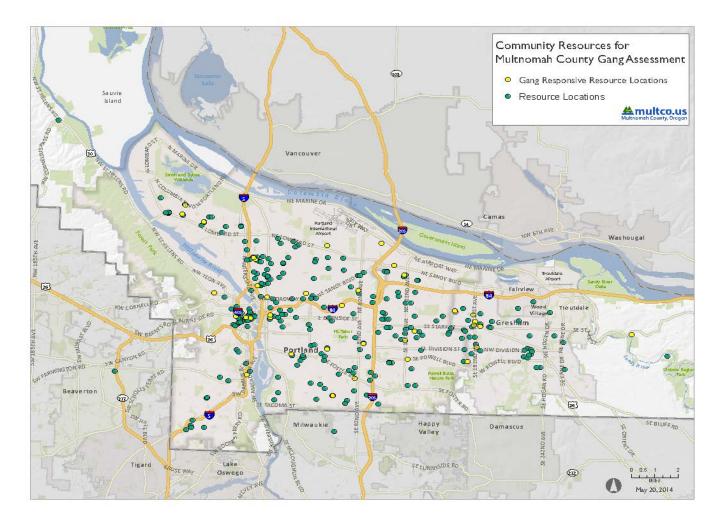


Figure 72: Gang-Specific Programs: Funding Sources



Geographically, the community programs are distributed throughout Multnomah County (Figure 73). The following map identifies all programs (green dots) and highlights gang-responsive programs in yellow. (Again, "gang-responsive" refers to programs that describe themselves as being focused on gang members, have staff who are experienced at serving gang members, or conduct risk assessments that include gang involvement.)

Figure 73: Community Resources Map



Comparing data from 2014 and 2009 indicates that the distribution of services has shifted slightly in recent years. For example, the 2009 map of service distribution, which was developed during a Multnomah County Juvenile Crime Prevention planning process, shows services in East Portland and the Gresham area as being much less prevalent than they are now (Figure 74). It is important to note that these maps were developed using differing methodologies. The 2009 map used data that were specific to services for school-aged youth, isolating layers for County investments (SBHC, SUN, Homeless and Gang Services). However, the map does not reflect a comprehensive listing of all services that may have identified as serving "gang" populations.

Concentrations of Youth Involved in Criminal Acts - 2009 Distribution of Community and Multnomah County Youth Resources ** Locations represent the youth's reported addresses, not place of criminal activity. Youth Offenders Gang Prevention Per Neighborhood 211 Youth Resources 0 41-50 Homeless Youth Services 1-10 51-70 School Based Health Clinic 11-20 71-120 SUN Schools 09 21-30 121-170 School Disrict Boundaries 31-40 171-244 PARKRO PORTLAN REYNOLDS CENTENNIAL GRESHAM-BARLOW MULTNOMAH CLACKAMAS Sources *Multhomah County Department of Community Justice *Multhomah County Department of County Human Service REVERDALE *Youth Locations Aggregated to Metro RLIS Neighborhood March 4, 2010

Figure 74: Distribution of Youth Resources 2009