

CITY OF SAN DIEGO

Commission on Gang Prevention and Intervention

November 15, 2012

To: Commission Members

From: Lynn Sharpe Underwood, Executive Director

Priority Focus #2: Support integration of services

Goal 1 – Establish an effective, coordinated, collaboration process to impact gang activity citywide.

Action Item C:

Recommended Action

Recommend that the Mayor accept the invitation, so that the Commission can participate in a manner consistent with its mission under the Municipal Code.

Background

Shannon Flasch, Associate Director, Children's Research Center, has invited the Commission to participate and help plan the National Council on Crime and Delinquency (NCCD) Conference on Children, Youth, and Families in 2014. She explained that the NCCD Conference on Children, Youth, and Families has evolved out of NCCD's Structured Decision Making Conference. In this conference, they are seeking to create a platform for professionals working in youth-serving social service agencies to share their experiences creating programs and conducting actionable research that advance NCCD's mission of promoting just and equitable social systems.

Who they are:

From the National Council on Crime and Delinquency website: *NCCD develops research, programs, and policies that promote fair, effective, and age-appropriate treatment of youth. NCCD works to improve young people's chances to become successful. For those incarcerated, NCCD wants every youth in the juvenile justice system to be safe and healthy, to have the opportunity for academic success, to develop an understanding of his or her behavior, and to gain hope for a better future.*

NCCD works to reform the juvenile justice system through comprehensive community planning and by interrupting the cycle of violence experienced by families and communities. Beyond examining the contextual factors surrounding youth violence and the juvenile system, NCCD develops assessment and intervention-planning tools designed to improve outcomes for juvenile offenders in both institutional and community programs. Hence, NCCD engages with and provides solutions for caseworkers, probation officers, families, law enforcement agencies, schools, and community-based organizations.

NCCD focuses on the elements of the juvenile system that are most effective in reducing unnecessary detention and in reducing disparities based on racial, ethnic, gender, and sexual identity among detained youth. In an ongoing effort to improve the entire juvenile system, NCCD examines the conditions of confinement of youth in custody with the intent to increase access to services—such as medical and

mental health—for those in detention, local correctional programs, or reentry status. Intended system changes will result from using evidence-based screening tools to match youth with services, providing appropriate and culturally sensitive services to youth in custody, and linking youth to post-release services in their home communities.

What the Conference will focus on:

The NCCD Conference on Children, Youth, and Families (CCYF) will feature workshops and presentations by jurisdictions that have adopted evidence-based practices, conducted innovative research to develop and improve programs, and applied implementation science to effectively and sustainably introduce change. They are interested in all of the many systems that engage children and their families, and they expect that the child welfare, juvenile justice, and educational systems will all be represented at the conference. The conference will be held in San Diego in early 2014. The conference location and dates will be selected in December of this year.

Recommended Action: *Recommend that the Mayor accept the invitation, so that the Commission can participate in a manner consistent with its mission under the Municipal Code.*