

UPAC's ACE Program

Alliance for Community Empowerment (ACE) is a comprehensive community violence and gang prevention program. It offers response services to incidences of violence and trauma throughout San Diego County and includes: homicides, stabbings, beatings, suicides and suicide attempts, fear of community violence, and otherwise any episode where individuals or families are impacted by various forms of trauma. This also involves after-care components including court visits, counseling, and providing financial support when appropriate. ACE also works with youth in various Teen Empowerment programs through Central Region of San Diego and have many youth groups designed to do several things including: reduce gang involvement, reduce recidivism, reduce delinquent behavior, promote academics and employment, and otherwise offer a safe and positive environment for youth.

Neighborhood Enterprise Center (NEC) is a community center that highlights and advances the diversity of City Heights. Moreover, the center trains local youth in the culinary and print business and hires directly from this pool to operate NEC's café, catering business, and print business. Youth are also instructed on how to open up their own business.

ACE Partners is a program that provides meaningful mentorship with various mentors and builds relationships with two specific populations of youth – high risk and active gang.

Mother's with a Message – Led by Bevelynn Bravo – Mothers whose children have been murdered come together to help other parents and families suffering similar loss. Because of the Mother's lived experience and compassion, they use this experience to provide comfort, care, and support.

During Tour Timeslot

During our time with the tour, we present on the programs expressed above but with additional detail based on officer questions. Presentations are provided directly from the managers of each program with the focus on how this can help support SDPD and officers. In addition, ACE provides insight, character profiles, and cultural background on the various regions of San Diego, but with an emphasis on City Heights and Southeast San Diego to help enhance officer learning of the neighborhoods.