



South County Gang Intervention Project

("Back to School and Employment Training Program")

King County Employment and Education Resources partnered with King County Superior Court and kicked off the South County Gang Intervention Project on November 1, 2011. Our partnership coordinates a variety of education and employment services targeting gang-involved youth in South King County.

- Builds on our existing partnership of dropout reengagement, seeking to improve education access and employment opportunities that reduce participants risk to reoffend and future gang involvement.
- Referrals from Juvenile Probation Counselors at Federal Way and Renton.
- Connects youth to intensive case management for career pathway support.
- Goal: serve 80 youth, 14-21 y/o on probation, moderate – high risk, with gang affiliations or at-risk of involvement, and keep them in school and out of the criminal justice system.

Key Demographics

Enrolled: 47 youth to date

• Youth of Color	95 percent	• Avg. Age	16.5
• High School Dropout	48 percent	• Low Income	79 percent

Key Prevention and Interventions Strategies:

Opportunity Provision - YouthSource Renton has been a One-Stop Resource Center for information and case management entry point to prevention and intervention services.

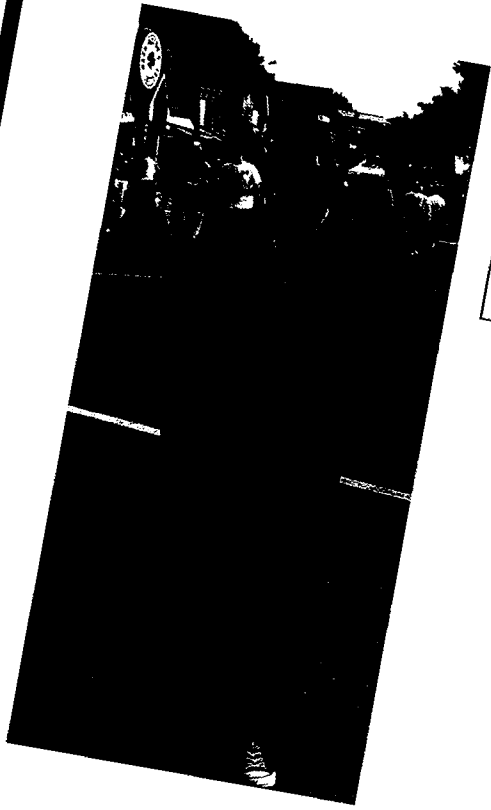
• Intensive Case Management	• Subsidized Employment
• Strength-based Assessment	• Dropout Reengagement

Key Outcomes and Progress Achieved

• Strength-based Assessments: 47 youth	• In Education Activity: 80 percent
• Dropout Reengagement: 20 youth	• Mentoring and Tutoring: 12 youth

Key Partnerships, Resources and Collaboration

• Youth and Family Service Agencies	• King County Superior Court - EET
• Community and Technical Colleges	• Local School Districts



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“Back to School and Employment Training Program”
Success Story - Student: Victor

Victor is a 17-year-old Latino male. He lives with his father in low-income housing in Auburn. He was referred by his juvenile probation counselor after having an Obstruction of a Public Servant conviction and a VUFA 2 Firearm deferred disposition. Victor is currently gang affiliated but is trying to distance himself after being shot in the foot last fall. He has been in regular attendance in GED classes at YouthSource where he recently earned his GED.

Victor wanted to join the workforce and developed an employment plan with his Back to School and Employment Training counselor. Victor recently landed a job at a car stereo installation garage in Federal Way. He is also exploring college options with his counselor and applied to Green River Community College. Victor will be starting auto mechanic classes in the Spring Quarter. We are currently working on financial aid to cover the costs of tuition, books and supplies.

Victor continues to attend classes at YouthSource to improve his reading and math skills to be more prepared when he starts his classes at Green River. Victor’s teacher states that Victor displays great leadership skills by helping other students in class with their work and setting an example of excellent student behavior. He also commutes 2 hours one-way by bus every day to get to class and has exceptional attendance (even when he was on crutches after his injury).

Victor has been a pleasure to work with and displays a positive attitude and constant drive to pursue his personal and academic goals. His father plans to move back to El Salvador once Victor turns 18, so Victor’s main goals are to maintain stable employment and housing, and to be on track academically in his vocational program.



**King County
Employment and Education Resources (EER)**

South County Gang Prevention Project

Date: 03.21.2012

("Avanza")

Avanza is an early intervention program to address the high rate of Latino/Latina youth dropping out of school. County funding began in October 2011 to replace private funding that ended after three years of services.

Avanza is a partnership between King County Superior Court, King County Employment and Education Resources and Highline School District located at New Start High School in Burien. Referrals are received from New Start High School counselors, and the at-risk students are connected to intensive case management for support to improve school performance and career options.

Goal: Our partnership will serve 30 Latino/ Latina youth who are at-risk of dropping out of school and/or juvenile justice involvement, in order to keep them in school and avoid criminal justice involvement.

Key Demographics:

Enrolled: 25 youth to date

Youth of Color:	96 percent
Young Men:	64 percent
Average Age at Enrollment:	15.8
Educationally at Risk at Enrollment ¹ :	100 percent

Key Prevention and Intervention Services

Intensive Case Management	Subsidized Employment (Summer)
Strength-based Assessment	Student-driven Academic Plan

Key Outcomes and Progress Achieved:

(completing one year of services,

supported by other funding prior to October 2011)

	Pre-Avanza (N=35)	At Program Exit (N=35)
GPA	1.5	2.2
Credits Earned	3.6	5.4
Classes Passed	7.5	12
Classes Failed	5.2	3.5

Key Partnerships, Resources and Collaboration:

King County Employment and Education Resources	Highline School District
King County Superior Court	Center for Children and Youth Justice



King County

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