



CENTER FOR  
CRIMINAL JUSTICE RESEARCH

PART OF THE INDIANA UNIVERSITY PUBLIC POLICY INSTITUTE

**Evaluation of  
Indianapolis  
Comprehensive  
Anti-Gang  
Initiative  
Prevention/  
Intervention  
Programming,  
2009-2010**



# **Evaluation of Indianapolis Comprehensive Anti-Gang Initiative Prevention/Intervention Programming, 2009-2010**

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## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

In 2006, the U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ) initiated the Comprehensive Anti-Gang Initiative (CAGI) to support law enforcement in combating violent gang crime and promoting prevention efforts that discouraged gang involvement. The initiative grew out of Project Safe Neighborhoods (PSN), a nationwide program aimed at reducing gun and gang crime through support of existing local programs. DOJ dedicated \$30 million in grant funding to support new and expanded anti-gang prevention and enforcement efforts through CAGI. DOJ initially provided anti-gang resources to six cities. In April 2007, CAGI was expanded to include four additional sites, including Indianapolis, Indiana. CAGI provided \$2.5 million in targeted grant funding for a three-year period to each selected city to implement a three-pronged strategy to reduce gang involvement and crime, which included initiatives in prevention/intervention, law enforcement, and reentry. Approximately \$1 million was dedicated to support comprehensive gang prevention and intervention efforts with youth. An additional \$1 million was targeted to law enforcement and \$500,000 to support reentry initiatives. In July 2008, the Center for Criminal Justice Research (CCJR), part of the Indiana University Public Policy Institute, was engaged to serve as the research partner for CAGI. This report focuses on an assessment of the prevention/ intervention initiatives for the CAGI grant to the city of Indianapolis through 2010.

CAGI prevention/intervention programming in Indianapolis was to provide services to gang-involved or at-risk youth in five target zip codes that were designated as high crime areas in the CAGI proposal to DOJ. Prevention activities targeted children ages 7 to 13 years, and intervention approaches focused on youth ages 14 to 18 years, including both in-school and after-school programs. Five local organizations were initially selected to provide CAGI prevention/intervention programming services. A sixth was promoted from a subcontractor to an independent sub-grantee in the second year of funding. Three of these programs were community-based providers, two were evening-reporting programs for court-ordered youth, and one was a school-based program. These programs varied dramatically in goals, characteristics, and definitions of success. Program youth were initially expected to be referred to these programs by the Marion County Juvenile Court. This referral process proved to be unsuccessful and resulted in only a small number of referrals to three of the programs in the first few months of CAGI programming. To

boost program participation, program providers were allowed to self-refer youth they deemed to be at risk to their programs.

To evaluate the effect of the programs on these youth participants, CCJR researchers proposed a two-pronged approach. Pre- and post-program surveys would directly assess changes in attitudes and behaviors among program youth, and intake and exit forms would supply independent information from the providers working with these youth. Survey administration and provider documentation was completed by providers. This procedure proved to be problematic and led to some concerns over data quality. The overall rate of completion for intake forms was 69 percent and just over three-quarters of participant pre-program surveys were administered and completed. The completion rate for post-program surveys was substantially lower than pre-surveys. The rate of completion by providers of exit forms was similar to intake forms, with two-thirds submitting required materials. Overall, only 23 percent of cases included a matching pre- and post-survey. Sixty-three percent of intake and exit forms were matched. Only 22 percent of all cases included complete matching sets with a pre-survey, post-survey, intake form, and exit form for an individual participant. In addition to participant and provider data, to evaluate whether program participation reduced contact with the juvenile court, CCJR researchers obtained access to the Quest system (which contains juvenile criminal history information).

Based on submission of intake and participant pre-program surveys, the six CAGI providers served approximately 555 youth over the course of the program. Provider criteria for "successful" program completion varied. For two providers, participants that had fulfilled their court-ordered requirements were viewed as having successfully completed programs. Community-based providers measured success in terms of continued youth attendance and program participation. The school-based program also defined successful completion as continued participation in programming through the end of the school year. Using these broad criteria, at the time exit forms were completed, providers indicated that 20 percent of participants were still enrolled in their programs. Overall, providers reported that one-half of participants successfully completed their programs and roughly 30 percent did not successfully complete their programs. The majority of court-ordered participants were referred to two providers. Reported fulfillment of court-ordered



requirements by participants with the two providers was 56 percent. Providers indicated that participants who did not meet court requirements had often been re-arrested or detained.

Confidence in findings reported here should be tempered by the low completion rates for both provider and participant data. As detailed more fully in the report, there were substantial program implementation and data collection issues that limit the ability to make strong inferences about the impact of CAGI prevention/intervention programming. The available evidence of program effectiveness is mixed, with positive results highlighted below:

- Matched provider data suggests consistent reductions in problematic behaviors and attitudes (at least that the providers were aware of). The percentage of participants that exhibited gang risk behaviors fell across several indicators. Reported gang-risk indicators with the sharpest declines following CAGI programming included *skips school* (31 percent reduction), *having been in physical fights* (26 percent decline), *associating with or being friends with gang members* (21 percent decrease), and *referring to known neighborhood gangs* (17 percent drop).
- There were some indications of increased school participation and greater concern with obeying the law when comparing matched pre- and post-program participant surveys. Over three-quarters of participant respondents conveyed that since they began CAGI, they were more concerned with obeying the law. Over one-half also reported that they have been *somewhat or a lot less* involved in activities that could get them in trouble. The percentage of respondents reporting that one or more of their best friends had been arrested dropped from 46 to 37 percent.
- For the 129 youth who responded to both the pre- and post-survey, there were statistically significant reductions in the percentage of youth reporting that one or more of their friends had been arrested, suspended or expelled, or dropped out of school.
- Overall 323 youth (58.2 percent) were never arrested at any point prior to or subsequent to their involvement with the CAGI program. It seems reasonable to conclude that some number of these youth might have been arrested but for their involvement with CAGI programming.

Unfortunately, it is impossible to quantify the number of youth for whom this might be true given the current data.

Results that present some concern with respect to program impact include the following:

- The share of participants that indicated that at least one of their best friends was currently or had been a member of a gang rose from 34 percent at the beginning of the program to 39 percent by the end of CAGI programming.
- Fifty-four percent of participants on pre-surveys indicated that allegiance to friends was more important than obeying the law, compared with 61 percent of participant respondents on post-program surveys.
- Many youth reported little or no change in their attitudes about gangs. In response to a question about attitudes toward gangs since beginning the CAGI program, less than half (45 percent) of participants said that they viewed gangs more negatively and one-half indicated that their attitudes remained constant. Only a minority of respondents reported worrying *somewhat or a lot less* about their friends getting them into trouble.
- When comparing arrest outcomes, there was a statistically significant 7.0 percent increase in the overall number of youth arrested following the start of CAGI, compared with the two years pre-CAGI. Three of the six providers also had statistically significant increases in the number of participants arrested subsequent to the start of CAGI programming, compared to the immediate prior two years. Only PLC had a statistically significant 1.7 percent reduction in the number of youth participants arrested.
- When comparing the percentage of crimes that were felonies, overall there was a statistically significant 1.7 percent increase in the number of felonies subsequent to the start of CAGI programming as compared with the immediate two years prior to the start of CAGI programming.

The report also documents several important lessons learned, which lead to the following recommendations:

1. Ensure at the outset of programming that parameters are defined in such a way that enough youth will meet eligibility require-



ments to populate programs. The initial plan was to rely on juvenile court referrals. The failure of this approach to adequately direct youth to the three community-based programs dramatically altered the nature of these programs and led to the referral of program youth by the providers themselves.

2. Engage the research partner as early as possible in the research process, preferably as the grant proposal is being developed so that data collection strategies can be worked out in advance of program implementation.
3. Try to ensure as much continuity in program provider staff as possible. Staff transitions are in some ways inevitable but they posed a serious challenge to the data collection efforts described here.
4. For data collection efforts that rely on providers to administer surveys and complete intake and exit forms, methods need to be devised to hold programs accountable. For instance, quarterly payments could be disbursed only following thorough reporting and data submission by the provider. This suggestion was implemented toward the end of CAGI data collection efforts and resulted in a higher number of surveys/forms being submitted than persuasive efforts involving repeated follow up by CCJR researchers and CAGI staff. This suggestion refers to both the submission and completeness of required data instruments.
5. Ensure that data collection procedures for proposed metrics in subgrantee applications are described fully and that proposed performance metrics are accurately reported in semi-annual and final subgrantee reports. Nearly all providers proposed to submit performance metrics that would have aided in program evaluation. Several of them also reported these metrics in semi-annual or final progress reports. Given the limited confidence CCJR researchers had in data submitted by providers, the accuracy of the metrics submitted are questionable. Future programs that involve subgrantees would be well-served by requiring that any metrics proposed by subgrantees should include a data collection plan. Additionally, any metrics reported in semi-annual progress or final subgrantee reports should be accompanied by a description of how the data were collected.
6. Begin procurement of necessary juvenile justice data early. The procurement of juvenile justice data from the State Court Administrators took an inordinately long time. Preparing the request was time-consuming, and approval took nearly a year. This dramatically delayed efforts to determine whether program youth had additional contact with the juvenile court following CAGI participation.





## COMPREHENSIVE ANTI-GANG INITIATIVE (CAGI) BACKGROUND

In many areas across the United States, gangs and gang-related activity remain a primary concern for law enforcement agencies and the public in general. According to results from the 2009 National Youth Gang Survey (NYGS) of law enforcement agencies, the number of jurisdictions with gang problems and the number of gangs rose over 20 percent between 2002 and 2009. Gang-related crime, in particular homicides, remains highly concentrated in most populated jurisdictions. The 2009 NYGS results show that 96 percent of all gang-related homicides recorded in 2009 occurred in larger cities and suburban counties (Egley & Howell, 2011). Over the last several years in Indianapolis, law enforcement officials report that gang-related incidents are on the rise (Ryckaert, 2006). In late 2009, Indianapolis Metropolitan Police Department (IMPD) officials indicated that 150 gang-related arrests had been made that year, compared with only seven in 2006. At that time, IMPD reported that over 300 different gangs were operating in Marion County (Ryckaert & Murray, 2009).

In early 2006, the U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ) initiated the Comprehensive Anti-Gang Initiative (CAGI). The program was designed to support law enforcement in combating violent gang crime, as well as promote prevention efforts that discouraged gang involvement. The initiative grew out of Project Safe Neighborhoods (PSN). Begun in 2001, PSN is a nationwide program aimed at reducing gun and gang crime through support of existing local programs. PSN resources have been directed to a variety of uses; for instance, to hire new federal and state prosecutors, deter juvenile gun crime, develop and promote community outreach efforts, provide training, and support gang violence reduction strategies. With announcement of the CAGI program, DOJ dedicated \$30 million in grant funding to support new and expanded anti-gang prevention and enforcement efforts. The new funds were intended to allow local PSN task forces to combat gangs by building on the effective strategies and partnerships developed under PSN. In May 2006, DOJ provided anti-gang resources for prevention, enforcement, and offender reentry efforts to six sites across the nation. In April 2007, CAGI was expanded to include four additional sites, one of which was Indianapolis.<sup>1</sup> CAGI provided \$2.5 million in targeted grant funding for a three-year period to each of the ten sites to implement a three-pronged strategy in response to gangs, as summarized below (U.S. Department of Justice, 2006; 2008):

- *Prevention* – Approximately \$1 million in grants was made available per community to support comprehensive prevention efforts focused on reducing youth-gang crime and violence by addressing the range of personal, family, and community factors that contribute to juvenile delinquency and gang activity.
- *Law Enforcement* – The program made available approximately \$1 million in grants per community to help support enforcement programs that focused law enforcement efforts on the most significant violent gang offenders.
- *Prisoner Reentry* – Approximately \$500,000 was made available per community to create reentry assistance programs with faith-based and other community organizations that provided transitional housing, job readiness and placement assistance, and substance abuse and mental health treatment to prisoners re-entering society.

Through collaboration between the U.S. Attorney's Office for the Southern District of Indiana, the City of Indianapolis/Marion County, and the Indiana Criminal Justice Institute, a steering committee was formed to plan and execute activities for the three-pronged approach focusing on prevention, law enforcement, and reentry programs to diminish gang activity in Indianapolis. The CAGI Steering Committee was comprised of representatives from the Indianapolis Mayor's Office, the Indianapolis Metropolitan Police Department (IMPD), the Marion County Prosecutor's Office, community leaders, and members of the faith community. Three subcommittees also were created to oversee the three initiatives (prevention/intervention, law enforcement, and reentry).

In July 2008, the Center for Criminal Justice Research (CCJR), part of the Indiana University Public Policy Institute, was engaged to serve as the research partner for CAGI. From the outset of the partnership, CCJR researchers actively participated with the CAGI Steering Committee and CAGI program staff in program implementation and, specifically, in providing input on how to handle challenges regarding implementation and data needs across the three areas of the initiative. CCJR made sustained efforts in all three areas to assist CAGI staff and providers in identifying and gathering necessary data for evaluation of the program.

<sup>1</sup>The 10 sites include Los Angeles, California; Tampa, Florida; Cleveland, Ohio; Dallas/Ft. Worth, Texas; Milwaukee, Wisconsin; Eastern District of Pennsylvania's 222 Corridor; Rochester, New York; Oklahoma City, Oklahoma; Indianapolis, Indiana; and Raleigh-Durham, North Carolina.



# INDIANAPOLIS CAGI PREVENTION/ INTERVENTION PROGRAM IMPLEMENTATION

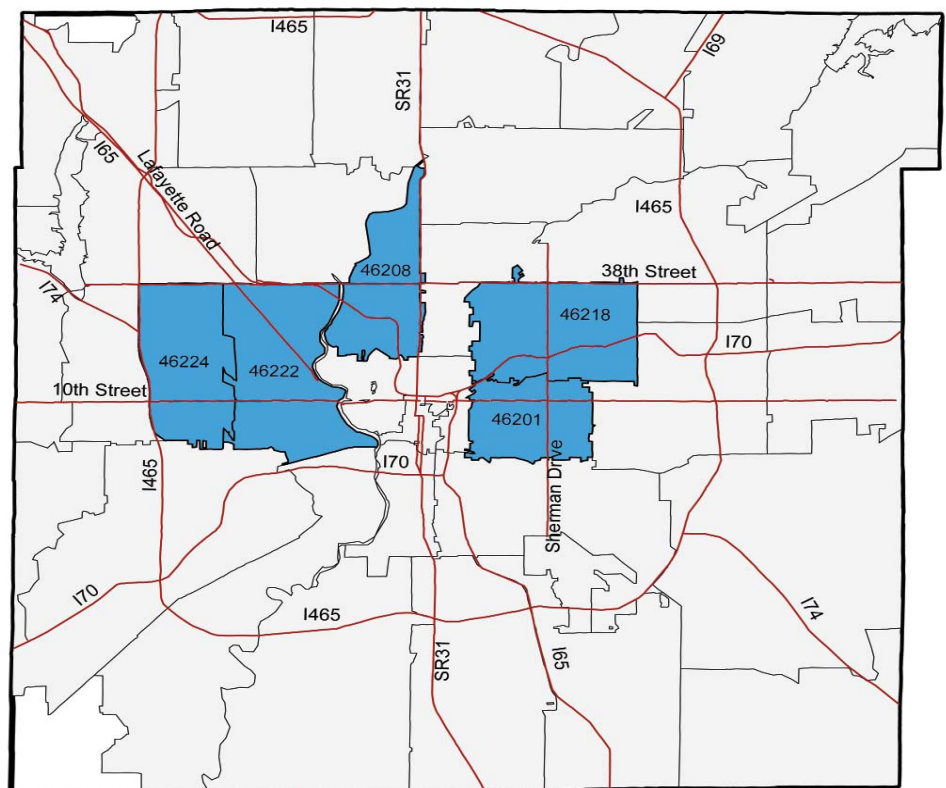
The primary goal of the CAGI prevention/intervention program was the reduction of youth gang activity by providing services to gang-involved or at-risk youth in targeted zip codes. As stated in the CAGI proposal (*Indianapolis, Indiana Comprehensive Anti-Gang Initiative Proposal*, submitted to DOJ, April 2007), funding was to “support comprehensive prevention efforts that focus on addressing the full range of personal, family, and community factors that contribute to juvenile delinquency and gang activity.” One of the stated goals of the prevention component was “the reduction in the occurrence of youth gang crime and precursor gang crime incidents, and to increase positive outcomes for youth at high risk for gang involvement through targeted, evidence-based gang prevention.”

The crime prevention component of the CAGI proposal spelled out both prevention and intervention approaches. Gang prevention activities were to target children ages 7 to 13 years. Under this portion of the program, both in- and after-school programs were to be funded. Intervention activities were to focus on youth ages 14 to 18 years. Participating individuals were to be identified by the Marion County Juvenile Court (Juvenile Court), including pre-adjudicated youth and youth with repeat truancy violations. Intervention programming was to focus on developing mentor relationships and sponsoring

structured activities including education, recreation, and life skills. Emphasis also was to be placed on employment skills and opportunities as juvenile probation officials had identified employment as an important aspect to curbing criminal behavior.

The Steering Committee concentrated initiative resources on areas defined as high crime areas in Marion County with elevated predispositions for gang activity, based upon the type of crimes committed (drug crimes, crimes involving guns or other weapons, and other crimes of violence) and investigations that documented gang activity. To begin identifying specific targets area, for the proposal to DOJ, the Prevention and Reentry subcommittees identified faith-based and community organizations and schools with which they could potentially partner. Juvenile Court and the Indiana Department of Correction provided assistance by identifying youth probationers or offenders who would benefit from grant-funded programs. The subcommittees also considered the existence of Weed & Seed programs to identify their target area. Both subcommittees decided to set their boundaries, at the time of the CAGI proposal submission to DOJ, based on Indianapolis area zip codes 46201, 46208, 46218, 46222, and 46224, located on the east and west sides of the city (see Map 1).

**Map 1: CAGI Indianapolis prevention/intervention initiative target zip codes**





With regard to CAGI program staff, a Grant Coordinator (Andrew Fogle) was hired in August 2008, and worked with CCJR throughout the course of the project. Another staff member was brought on several months later to support the reentry initiative. This individual also assisted with data collection efforts for the prevention/intervention initiative.

### **CAGI prevention/intervention providers**

The Prevention/Intervention Subcommittee was charged with identifying programs that would work to either prevent at-risk youth (18 years and younger) from becoming involved with gang activity and/or intervening with youth that appeared to already be gang involved. On June 17, 2008, a call for proposals was issued for programs to address crime prevention efforts focused on juvenile delinquency and gang activity. The CAGI prevention/intervention initiative received eight proposals from Indianapolis-area providers and recommended five providers that were approved by the CAGI Steering Committee. Grants were awarded for the two one-year cycles: September 30, 2008 through October 1, 2009, and September 30, 2009 through October 1, 2010.

The CAGI program contracted with six providers (one of which was a subcontractor in the first year) to provide an array of services to at-risk and gang-involved youth.

The six providers fell into three broad categories—community-, court-referral-, and school-based. The types of services offered by the providers varied greatly and are summarized

in program descriptions below. The brief summaries of each program are based on content from provider proposals and CAGI staff knowledge of each program. It should be noted that the CCJR evaluation strategy did not directly address whether program specific goals and objectives as outlined in the providers' grant proposals were achieved. Each provider's proposed metrics are included in Appendix A.

### **Community-based programs**

#### *Christamore House (Christamore)*

Christamore's proposal included a description of its history of crime, violence, and gang prevention and intervention activities in the Westside community of Indianapolis where the organization is located—an area with a history of drug- and gang-related issues. With the CAGI funds, the organization proposed to establish *Start Smart*, a program designed for gang intervention for youth ages 14 to 18 to operate in two locations—at Christamore and at Hawthorne Community Center (Hawthorne). Hawthorne was asked to partner with Christamore House due to a high concentration of Latino youth in Hawthorne's program, and a need to serve this population in that area of the community. Christamore proposed to serve 25 youth and Hawthorne would offer services to 15 participants.

The proposed *Start Smart* program was designed to help youth avoid gang activity by learning life skills; furthering education and employment goals; developing positive social networks; participating in community service;

**Table 1: Grants awarded to CAGI prevention/intervention providers and funds spent, 2008-2009 and 2009-2010**

CAGI providers	2008-2009		2009-2010	
	Awarded	Spent	Awarded	Spent
Christamore	\$69,500	\$49,152	\$60,000	\$58,352
Hawthorne			\$30,000	\$30,000
Forest Manor	\$50,000	\$49,999	\$60,000	\$59,788
IJJTF	\$98,618	\$79,812	\$80,000	\$71,082
NOAH	\$50,000	\$48,208	\$80,000	\$79,812
PLC	\$100,000	\$100,000	\$80,000	\$80,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$368,118</b>	<b>\$327,171</b>	<b>\$390,000</b>	<b>\$379,034</b>

Source: Indiana Criminal Justice Institute fiscal grant reporting

Note: Hawthorne initially partnered as a subcontractor with Christamore House during the 2008-2009 contract period, and was subsequently awarded its own CAGI contract.



and reducing the risk of recidivism. As part of the *Start Smart* overarching approach, Christamore proposed a 12-week course that would blend the *Community Works and Survival Skills for Youth* curricula two evenings a week. The *Community Works* sessions are activity-based and focus on real-life issues that youth face daily. The *Survival Skills for Youth* curriculum teaches teens and young adults critical life skills and opportunities to learn about problem solving, self-management, parenting skills, social skills, resisting peer pressure, and dealing with conflict, among other relevant issues. Christamore also proposed to host 24 Friday positive evening outings for participants. In addition, participants would be offered 20 hours of education and employment coaching. The provider also outlined other services that would be available to CAGI youth, including a family support group for youth and their families, mentoring by two site facilitators, and the use of CAGI-funded Barrier Buster vouchers for transportation, emergency food and housing, and drug and alcohol counseling.

Christamore outlined the following outcomes for CAGI/*Start Smart* participants:

- Reduced crime and gang recidivism rates, failed drug tests, and parole violations for participating youth (as compared to a control group of youth not receiving CAGI intervention services)
- Positive changes in school/educational program attendance and/or employment status
- Increased ability to make good decisions and resolve conflict in a peaceful manner
- In addition to the programmatic elements, this provider was selected due to its location in an area of the community with a history of drug- and gang-related issues.

The provider also proposed to evaluate the *Start Smart* approach by measuring participant outcomes, program efficacy, and collecting data for grant reporting to the Indiana Criminal Justice Institute (ICJI). The proposed method to accomplish this was through pre- and post-interviews with participants and pre- and post-direct observation surveys.

The first-year award of \$69,500 was made to Christamore with a subcontracted amount of \$19,500 for the Hawthorne Community Center (Hawthorne). Of the initial grant, approximately \$50,000 was drawn down. In the second year, as shown in Table 1, Christamore was awarded

\$60,000 of which nearly all was spent. Christamore mainly served youth identified by program staff as being gang-involved or at risk for gang involvement. The provider did not have definitive start and end dates for the anti-gang services described above. Success was defined in part by continued youth participation in Christamore House activities.

#### ***Hawthorne Community Center (Hawthorne)***

Hawthorne initially partnered as a subcontractor with Christamore. The provider serves a youth population on the west side of Indianapolis that includes a growing Latino population. It was recruited as a partner by Christamore in an effort to include two distinct populations that also represented different segments of the Westside community. Initial capacity for both programs was 40 youth (25 at Christamore House and 15 at Hawthorne Community Center). Hawthorne's program was populated primarily by at-risk youth referred by staff and, like Christamore, program services did not have defined start and end dates. Thus, success for participants was partly defined by continued program participation.

Hawthorne's proposal for the second year of funding included a description of services offered. The provider would continue to provide weekday evening programming to youth in middle and high school by establishing the *Hub Club After Dark*—a program specifically designed as a gang intervention program for teens. The stated goals of the program, as outlined in the proposal, were to help youth avoid gang activity by:

- Learning important life skills;
- Furthering education and employment goals;
- Developing positive social networks;
- Connecting to their community through community service; and
- Reducing risk of recidivism.

The provider also implemented the 12-week *Community Works and Survival Skills for Youth* similar to Christamore's program described above. Anticipated outcomes included the following:

- Reduced crime and gang recidivism rates, failed drug tests, and parole violations for participating youth
- Positive changes in school attendance and/or employment status



- Increased ability to make good decisions and resolve conflict in a peaceful manner.

In the second year, the organization was awarded a formal CAGI contract, for \$30,000 during the 2009-2010 grant cycle, all of which was expended.

#### ***Forest Manor Multi-Service Center (Forest Manor)***

Forest Manor's proposal included the description of a program through which CAGI youth would receive services. *Not in Our Hood* was described in the proposal as an "intervention problem-solving program designed to address juvenile gang involvement, gun violence, escalating number of juvenile homicides, community activism and pride, life skills, college preparation, and teaching employable skills for teens in the northeast community." Similar to Christamore, Forest Manor is located in the heart of a community with multiple juvenile-related challenges. The proposed program would "target youth ages 7 to 18 from the area surrounding the provider." The proposal specified that gang prevention and intervention groups would utilize the Phoenix curriculum that guides students to develop self-efficacy in identifying and addressing the highest risk factors for substance abuse, violence, bullying, gang involvement, and other crime.

This program served youth identified by program staff via the intake screening for gang risk/involvement indicators. A few youth were also referred from the Juvenile Court. As with the other community-based programs, Forest Manor programming for CAGI youth did not have defined start and end dates.

As shown in Table 1, Forest Manor expended all funds awarded (\$50,000) in the first year. The provider received an award of \$60,000 for the second year and drew down nearly all awarded funds for the grant cycle.

#### **Court-referred programs**

##### ***Indiana Juvenile Justice Taskforce (IJJTF)***

The IJJTF proposal included an extensive description of the organization's history of direct services to high-risk offenders and their families. IJJTF provides multi-systems therapy, mentoring, and case management services to youth referred by the juvenile courts in many Indiana counties. The overall goal of the IJJTF gang program was stated as to "promote pro-social behavior and provide positive alternatives to gang involvement for youth thereby reducing the likelihood of gang

involvement and gang violence," and would include the following:

- Expansion of services by IJJTF's Aftercare for Indiana through Mentoring program to include an evening reporting center for operation during 4:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.
- Therapeutic case management services for youth and families, as well as tutoring, work and life skills training, GED prep, and help with finding employment for youth
- One-on-one mentoring meetings between youths and a positive, adult role model for at least two hours per week
- Intensive home-based therapy

Program objectives included:

- To decrease the likelihood that youth become involved with or continue with gang activities, IJJTF would provide intervention services to youth and family to address risk factors and needs. This will be accomplished by:
  - Preparing an individualized service and intervention plan based on an assessment for all youth participating in the program and provide direct service to the youth and family at least two to three times per week for two to four months depending upon needs of the youth and family.
- To assist youth in developing pro-social values and behavior by providing positive alternatives to participating in gang activity and juvenile crime by:
  - Matching each youth in the program with a caring, positive adult role model to provide at least two hours a week, one-on-one mentoring;
  - Provide academic tutoring, GED preparation, and where needed, assist youth with enrolling in an educational program;
  - Facilitate work-life readiness to provide training in job readiness, financial literacy, character education, problem-solving and decision-making, conflict resolution, violence prevention; and
  - Ensure that youth have state-issued ID or driver's license and assist with job placement.



One reason that IJJTF was selected was that the agency proposed to couple an evening reporting center with mentoring and family therapy. The program was intensive and limited to 8 to 12 youths at a time. The program was also shorter than most of the other CAGI programs and typically lasted 4 to 8 weeks, with specific start and end dates. This program was populated mainly by court-ordered referrals made by the Juvenile Court, although it appears from provider surveys that seven participants were not court-referred.

As shown in Table 1, IJJTF was awarded \$98,618 for the first year, 81 percent of which was expended by the end of the first contract period. In October 2009, the Steering Committee renewed IJJTF's grant for a lower amount of \$80,000 to account for the program dropping its family therapist service.

### ***Neighbors Organized to Assist Humanity (NOAH)***

NOAH's proposal included a detailed description of its *BUILD UP* (Better Understanding and Independent Living Development Urban) program. It was described as a self-discovery, intervention, and life skills development plan for youth ages 14 to 18 that would result in the construction of individualized life plans leading to economic independence and courage to avoid gang-related activities and negative peer pressure. The proposal outlined the following program goals:

- Assist youth in understanding influences which cause them to be at risk and build avoidance skills
- Assist youth in creating a life plan and strategy for economic and future success
- Initiate life plan strategies
- Increase positive support systems
- Eliminate risk factors and improve social skills resulting in decreased gang involvement
- Restore individual and family support systems.

These goals were accompanied by the following objectives:

- Assess youth to determine strengths and risks and unveil risk-related influences via individual and group sessions
- Conduct individual and family needs and strength assessment, complete independent living assessment, and establish 1-3-5 year and future economic development plans

- Identify and coordinate local resources to support plan implementation
- Provide individual/group counseling and/or mentoring once a week to address social, tutorial, recreational and community service needs to 95 percent of participants
- Provide individual and family counseling to address risk factors for participants identifying need
- Assist youth in facing family/other victims to restore positive family/community supports.

This program was populated exclusively by referrals made by the Juvenile Court. However, the provider reported that a number of youth continued to participate and receive services beyond the fulfillment of court-ordered requirements.

The program's anti-gang message emphasized the risks associated with gang life. NOAH participants also visited state correctional institutions, during which select offenders participated in discussions with the youth regarding gangs and the dangers of gang life style. Each youth participant also was assigned a life coach mentor to engage them regarding the choices and consequences of gang involvement.

The initial NOAH award was for \$50,000 of which the provider expended nearly all funds (Table 1). The CAGI Steering Committee renewed the provider's grant for \$80,000 (an increase of \$30,000) to support increasing the capacity of the program from 10 to 15 youth to a maximum of 25, based on a request from the Marion County Juvenile Probation Department to increase the number of youth served.

### **School-based program**

#### ***Peace Learning Center (PLC)***

PLC's proposal highlighted its *Peace Schools* prevention program for elementary aged youth and an intensive gang intervention effort—the *Peace Learning Program* for 14 to 18 year olds. The PLC prevention program operated in three Indianapolis Public Schools (IPS) (43, 54, and 107). The intervention program was designed for middle school and high school students that had contact with gangs either directly or by association. This program was offered at one IPS middle school (PS 108) and two high schools (Northwest and Arsenal Technical). The schools served are located in the CAGI zip codes. In addition, the organization offered an afterschool program for youth considered to be gang-involved or at high risk for gang activity. The pre-



vention program with grade school youth could serve several hundred youth during the course of the school year. The intervention program had a capacity of 160 youth per semester.

With support from CAGI, Peace Schools would offer the following:

- Youth education and prevention including basic concepts of friendship, feelings and simple non-violent responses are introduced. In upper grades, gang awareness and prevention including more advanced communication skills are presented and practiced.
- School staff and parent outreach through which PLC proposed to offer a wide variety of workshop and retreat opportunities that include gang awareness, classroom management, and parent educational outreach.
- ACT Out Ensemble is a professional interactive theater troupe that uses improvisation and knowledge of PLC peace skills to teach and reinforce those skills.

The goal of the Peace Learning Program was to instill protective factors to help youth resist gang participation and improve their behavior and academic success. Objectives for this program included:

- Students will know ways for dealing with conflicts and differences,
- Students will understand the negative consequences of gang participation and violence,
- Protective factors will be strengthened in participating youth, and
- School staff will witness better behavior in their students.

PLC was awarded a grant of \$100,000 during the first year to conduct prevention programming for elementary students and an intervention program for middle school and high school students. All of these funds were expended. In the second year, PLC's grant was renewed, but for \$80,000 as a result of the elimination of one school from programming.

The main goal of the CCJR prevention/intervention evaluation was to assess the impact of CAGI programming aimed at reducing youth gang activity among gang-involved or at-risk youth in target zip codes.

The strongest research design to evaluate the impact of a program is random assignment of participants to a treatment and control group. Therefore, initially, CCJR researchers advocated the use of random assignment to evaluate the programs, but this was not pursued. The lack of random assignment precluded the identification of a relevant comparison group of youth not receiving program services with which to compare outcomes. Therefore, CCJR researchers proposed to examine the impact of CAGI prevention/intervention programming by examining change over time within individual CAGI prevention/intervention participants across a range of factors, including the following:

- gang risk/activity level
- crime/delinquency
- school attendance, performance, and disciplinary actions
- quality of social peer contacts
- attitudes toward crime and gangs

Given the resources available for the overall CAGI evaluation (including assessments of the reentry and law enforcement initiatives) it was not possible to conduct formal process evaluations of each CAGI prevention/intervention provider, which would involve assessing whether each program model was implemented as planned, whether the target population was reached, and the major challenges and successful strategies associated with each program implemented. CCJR researchers did accompany CAGI staff to meetings with providers many times throughout the course of the project, primarily regarding participant survey and provider form administration and completion. At those times, providers gave updates regarding program activities, highlights, and anecdotal accounts of program challenges and successes.

A major challenge to the CAGI prevention/intervention initiative and to CCJR evaluation efforts was the issue of programs being sparsely populated for several providers during the first few months at the start of CAGI programming. The prevention/intervention program was originally designed to exclusively serve participants referred from the Marion County Juvenile Court. According to Juvenile Court staff, a recent study of the Annie E.

Casey Foundation had found that there were too many juveniles in the Juvenile Detention Center awaiting case disposition and strongly recommended development of alternatives to juvenile incarceration. Under the original CAGI plan, pre-adjudicated youth (youth awaiting disposition of their cases in Juvenile Court) and those that had been determined by the Juvenile Court, through detention risk guidelines, to qualify for conditional pre-release would be referred for participation in the CAGI program. This referral would establish that juveniles were eligible for participation, under the assumption that youth referred by Juvenile Court probation would be at risk for gang involvement based on contact with the juvenile justice system and residence in defined target CAGI zip codes.

However, in the first few months following implementation, with the exception of two programs designed specifically for court-ordered participation (IJTF and NOAH), very few referrals had been made to the community-based CAGI providers (Christamore, Hawthorne, and Forest Manor). According to CAGI staff, the Marion County Juvenile Probation Department indicated that the reason for the extremely low number of referrals was that very few youth were actually deemed eligible within the geographic/zip code areas defined by the CAGI parameters. When the geographic criteria (five zip codes) identified in the CAGI grant proposal to DOJ were combined with court requirements for pre-release, the number of eligible youth was too small to populate the programs.

To increase program participation by at-risk youth, it was determined that providers from the community- or school-based programs would assist with identifying youth who were at risk for gang involvement and therefore eligible for potential participation in the program. The expansion of program eligibility involved three of the six providers identifying potential participants based on provider assessments of individual youth gang risk or involvement. Following the expansion in program eligibility to include provider-based referrals, all six providers reported operating at or near full capacity.

This report provides analyses of data from three sources: youth participants (pre- and post-surveys), providers (intake and exit forms), and juvenile justice data from the Quest database. The youth pre-program and post-program instruments were designed to measure changes in youth attitudes and behaviors following CAGI programming. The provider intake and exit forms that were completed





by program staff addressed observations of youth participants' gang risk or involvement. Data extracts from the Quest Case Management System Database provided CCJR with participant-level information on criminal/delinquency history that included prior and recent arrests as well as offense type and severity.

Data analysis and results addressed in this report include participants' attitudes and behaviors as reported at the beginning of CAGI programming and change in particular attitudes at the conclusion/after several months of programming, regarding the following information:

***Participant data:***

1. Participant attitudes towards crime/gangs and self-reported knowledge of school/neighborhood gang presence and affiliation
2. Participant responses regarding school attendance, performance, and discipline
3. Participant responses regarding living situation, family relationships, self-reported family history of incarceration, and whether family members have been victims and/or perpetrators of violent crime
4. Participant responses regarding pro-/anti-social peer contacts

***Provider data:***

5. Gang risk attitudes and behaviors that CAGI providers have observed among participants

***Juvenile justice data:***

6. CAGI participants' criminal/delinquency history, including prior offenses, current (since CAGI services were received) offenses, and offense severity

**Participant data**

To evaluate the programs, CCJR employed a pre/post survey approach to measure changes in participants' and providers' perceptions following CAGI programming. CCJR initially developed an extensive participant survey instrument to measure gang involvement and/or the risk of gang involvement and gather data for required performance reporting to DOJ. The original survey questions covered a range of topics, and specifically addressed self-reported gang activity, criminal delinquent behavior, substance abuse, school performance, and peer relationships—all indicators of, or risk factors for gang involvement. However, prior to survey administration, concerns were

expressed by Steering Committee representatives and program providers that the questions were overly invasive. To accommodate these concerns, CCJR worked with CAGI staff and providers to draft participant surveys and providers forms that were considered acceptable. The resulting surveys, however, contained no direct self-reported indicators of gang involvement by youth.

The participant pre-program survey consisted of 22 questions and addressed school experience, perceptions of gangs, living situation, family history of incarceration, and peer relationships. The questions were designed to obtain an overview of the level of risk of gang involvement. The participant post-program survey consisted of 25 questions, dealing with the same topics covered in the pre-surveys. (See CAGI Participant Pre-Program and Post-Program Surveys in Appendix B) The pre- and post-surveys were completed by program participants.

**Provider data**

The provider intake and exit forms included more direct indicators of participating youths' gang risk or involvement. However, these indicators relied on the observations of the providers and therefore only include information known to the person filling out the intake (and exit) form. The form contained 13 indicators covering gang behaviors, school problems, and criminal delinquency that providers could identify:

- Self identifies as a gang member
- Associates with or is friends with gang members
- Always "hangs" with the same group
- Has "tagged" or marked something with graffiti
- Uses overt gang handshakes, gestures, or body language
- Refers to known gangs in the neighborhood
- Has tattoos that indicate gang affiliation
- Has family members who are gang members
- Has been in physical fights
- Skips school
- Has been arrested
- Has carried a weapon
- Has used a weapon to threaten/bully someone



In addition to the 13 indicators noted above, the intake form also had an open-ended narrative section for additional comments regarding gang risk or involvement. The provider exit form consisted of 17 questions, and was designed to mirror topics covered in the participant surveys, including provider perceptions of participants' school attendance, performance, and disciplinary actions, family relationships, pro/anti-social peer contacts, and attitudes towards crime and gangs. The intake and exit forms were completed by program staff (see CAGI Provider Intake and Exit Forms in Appendix C).

As noted, two of the providers—NOAH and IJJTF—were alternatives to detention for the Juvenile Court and populated programs primarily through court referrals for the duration of the CAGI program. To allow for data comparison, these two providers also completed intake and exit forms, including any gang-risk indicators of which they were aware.

### **Juvenile delinquency/criminal justice system data**

The Quest Case Management System Database was identified as the best source of data on juvenile court involvement among participants, specifically criminal/delinquency history, including prior offenses, recent arrests (since CAGI services were received) and offense type and severity. Developed by Gottlieb & Wertz, Inc. (G&W), and implemented with Crowe Horwath LLP, Quest is a case management and data sharing system designed specifically for the juvenile justice community, with data provided and accessed by numerous entities, such as courts, probation officers, detention officials, clerks, prosecutors, public defenders, police, intake processing, diversion programs, and schools. Beginning in late 2009, CCJR researchers worked closely with CAGI staff to draft a formal request for the relevant juvenile court data for CAGI youth to the Division of the State Court Administrator that was submitted in March 2010. However, the request was not approved until February 2011. At that point, Quest data were used to compile arrest and offense information for any CAGI participants with a history of arrest. The data cover arrests for youth from early 2002 through May 31, 2011.

### **Data collection**

Beginning in January 2009, pre-program surveys were administered and provider intake forms completed for participants by program providers. It was determined that the providers should administer the surveys and complete intake forms for two rea-

sons. First, it was thought at-risk youth entering a program would be reluctant to cooperate with CCJR researchers who were strangers to them. Second, such a data collection procedure would have been very labor intensive and was simply beyond the scope of the resources available in the research partnership contract.

Shortly after entering the program, each youth was asked to complete the pre-program survey. Providers were expected to complete intake forms and submit both surveys and forms to CAGI staff. Participant completion of both pre- and post-surveys was voluntary. Completed pre- and post-surveys, intake and exit forms were de-identified for data entry and analysis. To match pre- and post-survey instruments and to ensure respondents' anonymity, CAGI program staff devised a unique identifier (by provider and participant number) that was applied during the de-identification process to each survey and form.

Table 2 shows the number of participant surveys and provider forms required and completed by provider. The total number of program participants examined is based on whether a participant pre- or post-survey or form was submitted for a single participant. Throughout the course of the project—from 2009 through September 2010, CCJR and CAGI staff engaged in repeated and sustained follow up efforts with providers, including individual conference calls and meetings with providers regarding the status of all participants in their programs. Extensive efforts were undertaken to try to compile as many complete data packages (i.e., pre/post participant surveys, and intake/exit provider forms) as possible for each participant. In addition to a large amount of missing provider data, some intake and exit forms from some program providers were only partially completed. As part of efforts to gather comprehensive data, CCJR and CAGI staff followed up with providers to ensure that all forms were as complete as possible for final data entry and analysis.

As shown in Table 2, the rate of completion of intake forms for each participant was close to 100 percent for nearly all providers, with the exception of Forest Manor and PLC. Forest Manor submitted just over three-quarters of participant intake forms and PLC slightly less than one-half of intake forms. The overall rate of completion for intake forms was 69 percent. The rate of participant pre-program survey administration and completion was nearly 77 percent overall. Hawthorne had the highest rate of pre-survey administration (100 percent) and PLC the lowest (67 percent). During the



first year of CAGI programming, PLC was unable to track individual participation and therefore unable to administer post-surveys and exit forms. As a result, surveys and forms exclude any from PLC during that time. In the second year, CCJR and CAGI had to follow up extensively with PLC to collect participant surveys and forms, and despite these efforts, the rate of completion was the lowest among the providers.

The completion rate for post-program surveys was substantially lower than pre-surveys. Often providers were unable to administer post-surveys as participants had ceased to participate in programming (which for the community-based providers could be taken as an indicator of failure). In the case of the court-ordered programs, youth participants were often re-arrested or detained prior to program completion and survey administration. Approximately one-third of required post-surveys were administered, and IJJTF completed just eight percent of post-surveys. The rate of completion by providers of exit forms was similar to intake forms, with two-thirds submitting required materials. Overall, only 23 percent of cases included a matching pre- and post-survey. Sixty-three percent of intake and exit forms were matched. Only 22 percent of all cases included complete

matching sets with a pre-survey, post-survey, intake form, and exit form for an individual participant.

In addition to the relatively low rate of completion of intake and exit forms by providers, as the results from the exit forms in particular will demonstrate, a number of providers did not answer all questions on the exit forms (despite repeated prompting to do so). At the outset of CCJR evaluation and data collection activities, having both participants and providers fill out information at both intake and following program participation was thought to enhance reliability given that participants might not be expected to be especially forthcoming regarding gang risk or involvement. However, based on results from questions on the provider exit forms that address changes in youth behavior, risk of gang involvement, attitudes regarding crime, academic performance, and peer and family relationships, a large share of providers indicated they were unaware of changes among youth at risk or did not have the necessary information to make such assessments. Furthermore, when perceived changes in a youth were reported by the providers, results appeared disproportionately skewed to positively reflect on the impact of services offered.

**Table 2: Provider form and participant survey completion**

Surveys/forms submitted	Christamore		Forest Manor		Hawthorne		IJJTF		NOAH		PLC		Total	
	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%
<b>Participant pre-program surveys and provider intake forms</b>														
Pre-program participant surveys	38	88.4	50	79.4	59	100.0	50	79.4	37	92.5	191	66.6	425	76.6
Provider intake forms	43	100.0	49	77.8	55	93.2	61	96.8	40	100.0	136	47.4	384	69.2
<b>Participant post-program surveys and provider exit forms</b>														
Post-program participant surveys	13	30.2	16	25.4	23	39.0	5	7.9	13	32.5	112	39.0	182	32.8
Provider exit forms	42	97.7	54	85.7	56	94.9	55	87.3	39	97.5	127	44.3	373	67.2
<b>Matching participant surveys and provider forms</b>														
Matching pre- and post-program participant surveys	13	30.2	14	22.2	23	39.0	2	3.2	12	30.0	65	22.6	129	23.2
Matching provider intake and exit forms	42	97.7	46	73.0	55	93.2	53	84.1	39	97.5	115	40.1	350	63.1
Complete matching sets (pre, post, intake, exit)	13	30.2	14	22.2	22	37.3	2	3.2	12	30.0	61	21.3	124	22.3
<b>Total number of participants</b>	<b>43</b>		<b>63</b>		<b>59</b>		<b>63</b>		<b>40</b>		<b>287</b>		<b>555</b>	

Source: CAGI prevention/intervention participant surveys and provider forms

Notes: The total number of program participants is based on whether a survey/form was submitted for a single participant.

PLC totals exclude any surveys and forms completed in the first year of the CAGI program. During that time PLC was unable to track individual participant participation, administer post surveys and exit forms, and therefore unable to provide complete sets of forms and surveys for any participants. In addition, slightly less than one-half of required PLC provider intake forms were completed.

### **Participant program completion**

Provider exit forms asked for participant program status and successful completion, but these forms were not consistently completed. Exit provider forms were only completed for 67.2 percent (373 of 555) program participants. As part of ongoing efforts to secure complete surveys and forms, CCJR researchers developed a spreadsheet for tracking participant program status, survey/form completion, and dates of final attendance.

Although CCJR and CAGI staff attempted to assist providers with identifying missing surveys and intake and exit forms, the tracking spreadsheets were inconsistently completed by providers, including fields for program status and dates of final participation. For some providers, such as NOAH and Forest Manor, this was particularly challenging given numerous personnel transitions and new staff lacking knowledge of individual participants' attitudes, behavior and, in some cases, final program status.

Criteria for "successful" program completion varied by provider. For NOAH and IJJTF, participants that had fulfilled their court-ordered requirements were viewed as having successfully completed the program. Christamore, Hawthorne, and Forest Manor measured success in terms of continued youth attendance and program participation. PLC also defined successful completion as continued participation in school-based programming through the end of the school year. Using these broad criteria, the providers reported varying rates of enrollment and successful completion for their programs. At the time exit forms were completed, providers reported that 20 percent of participants were still enrolled in their programs. Christamore indicated that two-thirds of participants remained active and Forest Manor and NOAH both reported ongoing participation among close to 40 percent of CAGI youth.

As shown in Table 3, overall, providers reported that one-half of participants successfully completed their programs; roughly 30 percent did not successfully complete. Providers did not respond to the question about successful program completion for 20 percent of participants. Success rates varied by program from a low of 13 percent for NOAH to a high of 78 percent for PLC. Because this information was only available for two-thirds of participants, it is impossible to conclusively determine the overall success rate of the programs.

Of the six CAGI prevention/intervention providers, two received nearly all of their participants via court-ordered referrals from the Juvenile Court. IJJTF indicated that 7 of the 63 participants were not court referred. The Juvenile Court had the ability to refer to the other CAGI providers. However, as noted above, due to problems in populating the programs through court referrals, the vast majority of participants in the remaining programs were referred by program providers. Table 3 shows that the majority of court-ordered participants were referred to IJJTF and NOAH. However, Forest Manor reported that 20 percent (11) of participants were court-ordered to participate in their program and among those, 8 fulfilled court-ordered requirements. Fulfillment of court-ordered requirements by IJJTF and NOAH participants was reported as 71 percent and 37 percent, respectively. NOAH indicated that 45 percent of participants did not meet court-ordered requirements, and 29 percent of IJJTF participants did not fulfill court requirements. This may have been due to participants being re-arrested or detained and/or new personnel lack of knowledge regarding individual participant circumstances.

Given that some providers did not define program duration, in an effort to ensure that providers administered surveys and forms, CCJR and CAGI staff asked providers to administer post-surveys and/or complete exit forms for any participants that remained active after six months in the program. This mainly applied to the community-based providers and NOAH that continued to serve participants on a longer term basis and beyond conclusion of particular curricula or fulfillment of court-ordered requirements. The six-month timeframe was chosen to ensure that data were collected from as many participants as possible, in the event that some dropped out of the programs unexpectedly. While CCJR and CAGI staff engaged in numerous follow up efforts to ascertain the status of participants, in particular among the community-based providers, only two (Christamore and Hawthorne) were able to submit some of this information on their participants. Most providers indicated that most participants had become inactive following the first several months of programming, and providers were not able to indicate last dates of services.



**Table 3: Participant program status**

Is this participant still enrolled in your program?							
CAGI providers	Yes		No		No response		Total exit forms completed
	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%	
Christamore	28	66.7	11	26.2	3	7.1	42
Forest Manor	21	38.9	33	61.1	0	0.0	54
Hawthorne	5	8.9	51	91.1	0	0.0	56
IJJTF	6	10.9	49	89.1	0	0.0	55
NOAH	16	41.0	23	59.0	0	0.0	39
PLC	1	0.8	124	97.6	2	1.6	127
<b>Total</b>	<b>77</b>	<b>20.6</b>	<b>291</b>	<b>78.0</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>1.3</b>	<b>373</b>
Did he/she successfully complete your program?							
CAGI providers	Yes		No		No response		Total exit forms completed
	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%	
Christamore	6	14.3	19	45.2	17	40.5	42
Forest Manor	28	51.9	12	22.2	14	25.9	54
Hawthorne	15	26.8	26	46.4	15	26.8	56
IJJTF	38	69.1	13	23.6	4	7.3	55
NOAH	5	12.8	20	51.3	14	35.9	39
PLC	99	78.0	17	13.4	11	8.7	127
<b>Total</b>	<b>191</b>	<b>51.2</b>	<b>107</b>	<b>28.7</b>	<b>75</b>	<b>20.1</b>	<b>373</b>
Was this individual court-ordered to participate in your program?							
CAGI providers	Yes		No		No response		Total exit forms completed
	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%	
Christamore	1	2.4	38	90.5	3	7.1	42
Forest Manor	11	20.4	39	72.2	4	7.4	54
Hawthorne	0	0.0	42	75.0	14	25.0	56
IJJTF	48	87.3	7	12.7	0	0.0	55
NOAH	38	97.4	0	0.0	1	2.6	39
PLC	1	0.8	117	92.1	9	7.1	127
<b>Total</b>	<b>99</b>	<b>26.5</b>	<b>243</b>	<b>65.1</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>8.3</b>	<b>373</b>
If YES, has this participant fulfilled the court order requirement?							
CAGI providers	Yes		No		Total number of court-ordered participants		
	Count	%	Count	%			
Christamore	0	0.0	1	100.0	1		
Forest Manor	8	72.7	2	18.2	11		
Hawthorne	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA		
IJJTF	34	70.8	14	29.2	48		
NOAH	14	36.8	17	44.7	38		
PLC	0	0.0	1	100.0	1		
<b>Total</b>	<b>56</b>	<b>56.6</b>	<b>36</b>	<b>36.4</b>	<b>99</b>		

Source: CAGI prevention/intervention provider exit forms

Note: The total number of participants court-ordered to participate in part d above is based on the number that responded "yes" to the question.

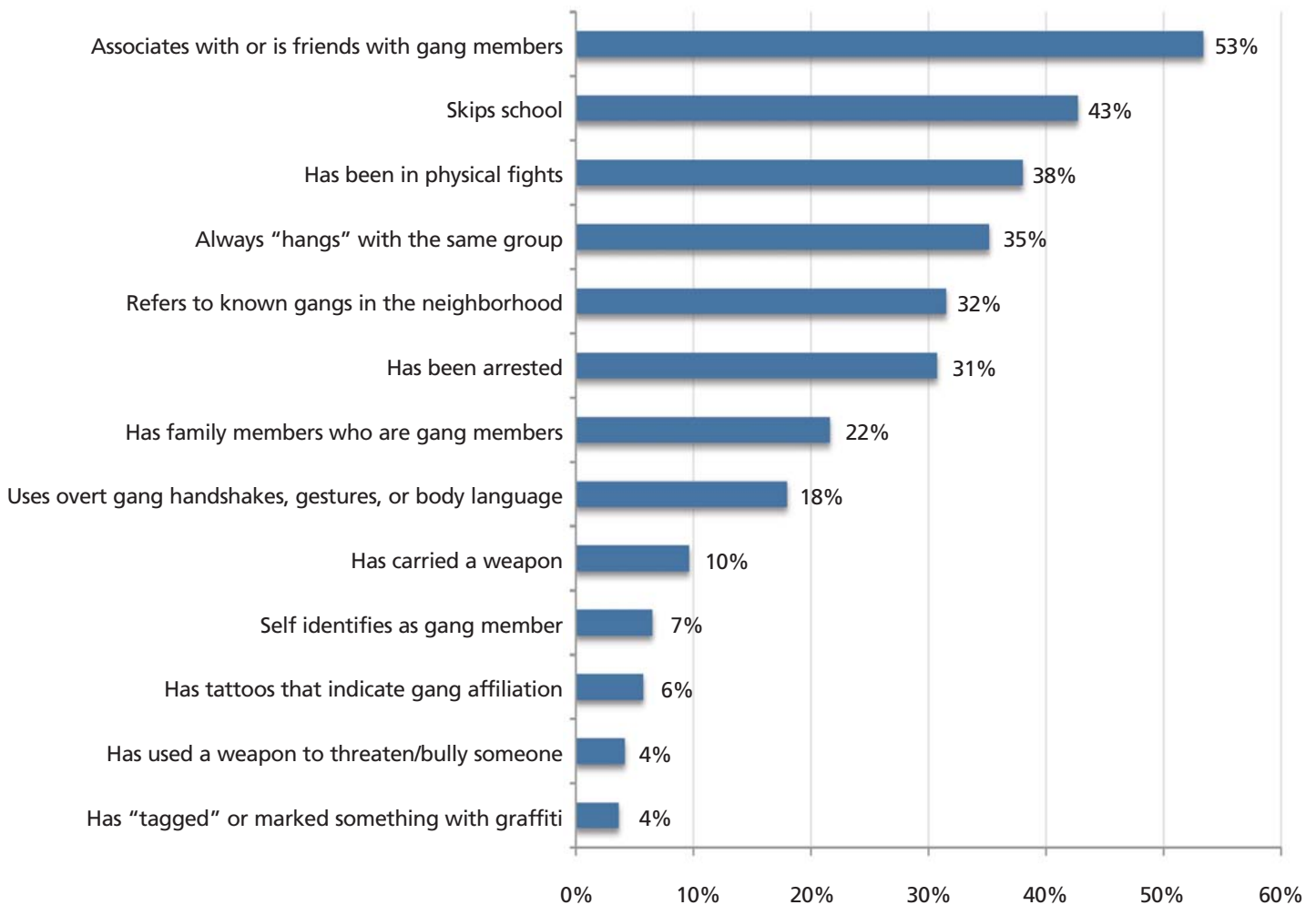


### Provider information on youth gang risk, attitudes, and behaviors at intake

CAGI providers completed an intake form for each participant that included 13 possible indicators of gang risk/involvement. Figure 1 presents results from provider intake forms regarding gang risk behaviors. Overall, the most commonly reported indicators of gang risk or involvement were *associating with or having friends that are known gang members* (53 percent), *skipping school* (43 percent), *having been in physical fights* (38 percent), *always hanging with the same group* (35 percent), or *referring to known*

*gangs in the neighborhood* (32 percent). Less frequently noted indicators included *having been arrested* (31 percent), *having family members who are gang members* (22 percent), or *using gang-related gestures or body language* (18 percent). Few providers indicated knowledge that participants had *carried a weapon* (10 percent), *disclosed gang membership* (7 percent), possessed visible *tattoos reflecting gang affiliation* (6 percent), *used a weapon to threaten/bully someone* (4 percent), or *tagged or marked something with graffiti* (4 percent).

Figure 1: Overall gang risk behaviors that providers were aware of or have observed among participants at Intake



Source: CAGI prevention/intervention provider intake forms

Note: Providers were asked to "mark all that apply" in identifying indicators of gang risk or involvement.



Gang risk behaviors as reported by specific providers are presented in Table 4. While the percentage of participants with particular indicators was somewhat similar across providers, certain risk behaviors were reported more frequently by some providers. For instance, community-based providers (Christamore, Forest Manor) reported higher percentages of gang risk among participants than programs based on court-ordered participation. This is noteworthy given that the court-ordered participants were assumed to be more at risk.

### Pre-program survey data on youth gang risk, attitudes, and behaviors

The self-reported responses from CAGI youth entering these programs indicate that many were at risk of gang activity. The risk factors for gang involvement that were addressed in the participant surveys—the results of which are discussed here—cover school experience, perceptions of gangs, living situation, family history of incarceration, and peer relationships.

**Table 4:** Gang risk behaviors that CAGI providers were aware of or have observed among participants at Intake

Gang risk behaviors	Christamore		Forest Manor		Hawthorne		IJTF		NOAH		PLC		Total	
	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%
Associates with or is friends with gang members	28	65.1	41	83.7	19	34.5	20	32.8	23	57.5	74	54.4	205	53.4
Skips school	5	11.6	11	22.4	12	21.8	28	45.9	14	35.0	94	69.1	164	42.7
Has been in physical fights	24	55.8	24	49.0	23	41.8	11	18.0	11	27.5	53	39.0	146	38.0
Always "hangs" with the same group	33	76.7	22	44.9	25	45.5	15	24.6	9	22.5	31	22.8	135	35.2
Refers to known gangs in the neighborhood	19	44.2	17	34.7	34	61.8	15	24.6	16	40.0	20	14.7	121	31.5
Has been arrested	8	18.6	15	30.6	2	3.6	54	88.5	31	77.5	8	5.9	118	30.7
Has family members who are gang members	22	51.2	12	24.5	11	20.0	4	6.6	14	35.0	20	14.7	83	21.6
Uses overt gang handshakes, gestures, or body language	12	27.9	25	51.0	2	3.6	8	13.1	7	17.5	15	11.0	69	18.0
Has carried a weapon	9	20.9	5	10.2	0	0.0	4	6.6	7	17.5	12	8.8	37	9.6
Self identifies as a gang member	1	2.3	9	18.4	0	0.0	2	3.3	3	7.5	10	7.4	25	6.5
Has tattoos that indicate gang affiliation	0	0.0	1	2.0	1	1.8	17	27.9	2	5.0	1	0.7	22	5.7
Has used a weapon to threaten/bully someone	9	20.9	1	2.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	2	5.0	4	2.9	16	4.2
Has "tagged" or marked something with graffiti	4	9.3	0	0.0	1	1.8	0	0.0	2	5.0	7	5.1	14	3.6
<b>Total intake forms completed</b>	<b>43</b>		<b>49</b>		<b>55</b>		<b>61</b>		<b>40</b>		<b>136</b>		<b>384</b>	

Source: CAGI prevention/intervention provider intake forms

Notes: Providers were asked on exit forms to assess changes in gang behaviors since CAGI participation began.

Providers also were asked to select any indicators that applied to individual participants.



As shown in Table 5, most participant respondents indicate that there are gangs in their schools (56 percent) and neighborhoods (54 percent). Fifty-eight percent indicate that they know someone who belongs to a gang. Nearly 40 percent of respondents report having relatives that either are or have been gang members. A majority of Christamore respondents indicated that there are gangs in their schools (76 percent) and in their neighborhoods (84 percent). While IJJTF partici-

pants were court-referred and considered at risk, across all four questions in this series, the percentage of respondents conveying risk in these domains was generally lower than other providers.

Table 6 illustrates that 39 percent of respondents agreed or strongly agreed that gangs are a *real problem at their school* and 43 percent agreed with the statement regarding gangs in their neighborhood. More than one-half of participants at

**Table 5:** Participant responses regarding self-reported knowledge of school and neighborhood gang presence and affiliations

CAGI providers	Are there gangs at your school?		Are there gangs in your neighborhood?		Does anyone you know belong to a gang?		Do you have relatives that are or have been members of a gang?		Total pre-program survey respondents
	Number responding "yes"	%	Number responding "yes"	%	Number responding "yes"	%	Number responding "yes"	%	
Christamore	29	76.3	32	84.2	26	68.4	16	42.1	38
Forest Manor	29	58.0	23	46.0	33	66.0	17	34.0	50
Hawthorne	28	47.5	40	67.8	31	52.5	17	28.8	59
IJJTF	21	42.0	24	48.0	19	38.0	15	30.0	50
NOAH	18	48.6	22	59.5	17	45.9	12	32.4	37
PLC	112	58.6	89	46.6	121	63.4	87	45.5	191
<b>Total</b>	<b>237</b>	<b>55.8</b>	<b>230</b>	<b>54.1</b>	<b>247</b>	<b>58.1</b>	<b>164</b>	<b>38.6</b>	<b>425</b>

Source: CAGI prevention/intervention participant pre-program surveys

Note: Total respondents represents the highest number of responses for this series of questions. Some questions have fewer responses.

**Table 6:** Would you say that gangs are a real problem:

at your school?							
CAGI providers	Agree or strongly agree		Disagree or strongly disagree		No response		Total pre-program survey respondents
	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%	
Christamore	17	44.7	20	52.6	1	2.6	38
Forest Manor	21	42.0	29	58.0	0	0.0	50
Hawthorne	18	30.5	37	62.7	4	6.8	59
IJJTF	17	34.0	31	62.0	2	4.0	50
NOAH	8	21.6	29	78.4	0	0.0	37
PLC	86	45.0	102	53.4	3	1.6	191
<b>Total</b>	<b>167</b>	<b>39.3</b>	<b>248</b>	<b>58.4</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>2.4</b>	<b>425</b>
in your neighborhood?							
CAGI providers	Agree or strongly agree		Disagree or strongly disagree		No response		Total pre-program survey respondents
	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%	
Christamore	21	55.3	17	44.7	0	0.0	38
Forest Manor	18	36.0	32	64.0	0	0.0	50
Hawthorne	31	52.5	25	42.4	3	5.1	59
IJJTF	17	34.0	32	64.0	1	2.0	50
NOAH	14	37.8	23	62.2	0	0.0	37
PLC	82	42.9	104	54.5	5	2.6	191
<b>Total</b>	<b>183</b>	<b>43.1</b>	<b>233</b>	<b>54.8</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>2.1</b>	<b>425</b>

Source: CAGI prevention/intervention participant pre-program surveys





Christamore (55 percent) and Hawthorne (53 percent) agreed or strongly agreed that gangs were a *problem in their neighborhood*. Forty-five percent of PLC and Christamore respondents indicated that gangs posed a problem in their schools.

Participants were asked about any family history of incarceration or exposure to violent crime. Table 7 shows that nearly two-thirds of respondents report having family members that have been incarcerated, and roughly one-third indicate that a family member has committed a violent crime. Nearly 40 percent of respondents report that a family member has been the victim of a violent crime. At the provider-level, 82 percent of Christamore participants and 70 percent of NOAH participants indicate having a family member that had been incarcerated. A higher percentage of NOAH youth also

reported that family members had been a victim of violent crime (54 percent) and that a family member had committed a violent crime (51 percent).

With regard to school discipline and overall academic experience (Table 8), roughly three-quarters of participants indicated they had been suspended and close to one-third (29 percent) had been expelled from school. Ninety percent or more of IJJTF and NOAH respondents reported that they had been suspended and a majority had been expelled at some point prior to involvement with CAGI programming. As shown in Table 9, the majority of respondents conveyed that over the past year they *sometimes* (47 percent) or *never* (8 percent) enjoyed school. A slightly higher percentage (14 percent) of IJJTF and NOAH participants said they *never* enjoyed school.

**Table 7: Participant responses regarding family history of incarceration and exposure to violent crime**

CAGI providers	Has anyone in your family been incarcerated in jail, prison, or a detention center?		Has anyone in your family been a victim of a violent crime?		Has anyone in your family committed a violent crime?		Total pre-program survey respondents
	Number responding "yes"	%	Number responding "yes"	%	Number responding "yes"	%	
Christamore	31	81.6	16	42.1	15	39.5	38
Forest Manor	31	62.0	19	38.0	18	36.0	50
Hawthorne	34	57.6	19	32.2	20	33.9	59
IJJTF	31	62.0	15	30.0	13	26.0	50
NOAH	26	70.3	20	54.1	19	51.4	37
PLC	121	63.4	77	40.3	55	28.8	191
<b>Total</b>	<b>274</b>	<b>64.5</b>	<b>166</b>	<b>39.1</b>	<b>140</b>	<b>32.9</b>	<b>425</b>

Source: CAGI prevention/intervention participant pre-program surveys

Note: Total respondents represents the highest number of responses for this series of questions. Some questions have fewer responses.

**Table 8: Participant responses regarding school discipline**

CAGI providers	Have you ever been suspended from school?		Have you ever been expelled from school?		Total pre-program survey respondents
	Number responding "yes"	%	Number responding "yes"	%	
Christamore	29	76.3	9	23.7	38
Forest Manor	30	60.0	13	26.0	50
Hawthorne	40	67.8	11	18.6	59
IJJTF	45	90.0	29	58.0	50
NOAH	35	94.6	25	67.6	37
PLC	137	71.7	37	19.4	191
<b>Total</b>	<b>316</b>	<b>74.4</b>	<b>124</b>	<b>29.2</b>	<b>425</b>

Source: CAGI prevention/intervention participant pre-program surveys

Note: Total respondents represents the highest number of responses for this series of questions. Some questions have fewer responses.



As shown in Table 10, 57 percent of participants indicated that they lived at home with one parent and just over one-third in a home with two parents. Nine percent were living in *other* types of arrangements, at the time the pre-program surveys were administered, including the home of relatives or friends, foster homes, shelters, or other forms of temporary housing. Close to 80 percent of NOAH respondents reported living in a single-parent home and 11 percent in a two-parent home and an alternate arrangement.

Program participants were asked about how often a parent or guardian was aware of their location when not at home. The majority of respondents overall (71 percent) reported that their parents/guardians were either *always* (46 percent) or *often* (25 percent) aware of their whereabouts (Table 11). Among IJJTF and NOAH respondents, 34 and 43 percent indicated that their parents/guardians *sometimes* or *rarely* knew where they were.

**Table 9:** Thinking back over the past year in school, how often did you enjoy being in school?

CAGI providers	Always		Often		Sometimes		Never		Total pre-program survey respondents
	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%	
Christamore	6	15.8	14	36.8	18	47.4	0	0.0	38
Forest Manor	9	18.0	14	28.0	27	54.0	0	0.0	50
Hawthorne	11	18.6	16	27.1	28	47.5	3	5.1	59
IJJTF	10	20.0	11	22.0	21	42.0	7	14.0	50
NOAH	5	13.5	11	29.7	16	43.2	5	13.5	37
PLC	25	13.1	53	27.7	90	47.1	20	10.5	191
<b>Total</b>	<b>66</b>	<b>15.5</b>	<b>119</b>	<b>28.0</b>	<b>200</b>	<b>47.1</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>8.2</b>	<b>425</b>

Source: CAGI prevention/intervention participant pre-program surveys

Note: Total respondents represents the highest number of responses for this series of questions. Some questions have fewer responses.

**Table 10:** Participants' self-reported living situations

CAGI providers	A home with both parents		A home with one parent		Other		Total pre-program survey respondents
	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%	
Christamore	10	26.3	26	68.4	2	5.3	38
Forest Manor	18	36.0	28	56.0	4	8.0	50
Hawthorne	22	40.7	28	51.9	4	7.4	54
IJJTF	16	33.3	28	58.3	4	8.3	48
NOAH	4	10.8	29	78.4	4	10.8	37
PLC	75	39.5	97	51.1	18	9.5	190
<b>Total</b>	<b>145</b>	<b>34.8</b>	<b>236</b>	<b>56.6</b>	<b>36</b>	<b>8.6</b>	<b>417</b>

Source: CAGI prevention/intervention participant pre-program surveys

Note: *Other* living arrangements include relative's or friend's home, foster home, shelter, or other temporary housing.

**Table 11:** When you are not home, how often does one of your parents/guardian know where you are and who you are with?

CAGI providers	Always		Often		Sometimes		Rarely		Total pre-program survey respondents
	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%	
Christamore	17	47.2	9	25.0	6	16.7	4	11.1	36
Forest Manor	23	46.9	14	28.6	8	16.3	4	8.2	49
Hawthorne	30	52.6	12	21.1	10	17.5	5	8.8	57
IJJTF	19	40.4	12	25.5	13	27.7	3	6.4	47
NOAH	11	31.4	9	25.7	12	34.3	3	8.6	35
PLC	90	48.1	47	25.1	39	20.9	11	5.9	187
<b>Total</b>	<b>190</b>	<b>46.2</b>	<b>103</b>	<b>25.1</b>	<b>88</b>	<b>21.4</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>7.3</b>	<b>411</b>

Source: CAGI prevention/intervention participant pre-program surveys

Notes: Percentages may not add to 100 percent due to non-responses.



**Table 12:** Think of your four best friends (the friends you feel closest to). In the past year (12 months), how many of your best friends have:

Been suspended or expelled from school?							
CAGI providers	None		1		2 to 4		Total pre-program survey respondents
	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%	
Christamore	5	14.3	14	40.0	16	45.7	35
Forest Manor	23	51.1	8	17.8	14	31.1	45
Hawthorne	19	34.5	9	16.4	27	49.1	55
IJJTF	19	44.2	5	11.6	19	44.2	43
NOAH	9	26.5	5	14.7	20	58.8	34
PLC	64	35.0	32	17.5	87	47.5	183
<b>Total</b>	<b>139</b>	<b>35.2</b>	<b>73</b>	<b>18.5</b>	<b>183</b>	<b>46.3</b>	<b>395</b>
Dropped out of school?							
CAGI providers	None		1		2 to 4		Total pre-program survey respondents
	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%	
Christamore	14	42.4	11	33.3	8	24.2	33
Forest Manor	28	59.6	9	19.1	10	21.3	47
Hawthorne	33	58.9	14	25.0	9	16.1	56
IJJTF	15	34.1	7	15.9	22	50.0	44
NOAH	7	20.6	5	14.7	22	64.7	34
PLC	109	60.9	22	12.3	48	26.8	179
<b>Total</b>	<b>206</b>	<b>52.4</b>	<b>68</b>	<b>17.3</b>	<b>119</b>	<b>30.3</b>	<b>393</b>
Been arrested?							
CAGI providers	None		1		2 to 4		Total pre-program survey respondents
	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%	
Christamore	30	90.9	3	9.1	0	0.0	33
Forest Manor	38	82.6	4	8.7	4	8.7	46
Hawthorne	41	73.2	11	19.6	4	7.1	56
IJJTF	29	65.9	5	11.4	10	22.7	44
NOAH	22	64.7	4	11.8	8	23.5	34
PLC	129	70.9	29	15.9	24	13.2	182
<b>Total</b>	<b>289</b>	<b>73.2</b>	<b>56</b>	<b>14.2</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>12.7</b>	<b>395</b>
Been members of a gang?							
CAGI providers	None		1		2 to 4		Total pre-program survey respondents
	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%	
Christamore	21	63.6	5	15.2	7	21.2	33
Forest Manor	31	67.4	3	6.5	12	26.1	46
Hawthorne	36	65.5	6	10.9	13	23.6	55
IJJTF	30	69.8	2	4.7	11	25.6	43
NOAH	21	61.8	1	2.9	12	35.3	34
PLC	120	66.7	21	11.7	39	21.7	180
<b>Total</b>	<b>259</b>	<b>66.2</b>	<b>38</b>	<b>9.7</b>	<b>94</b>	<b>24.0</b>	<b>391</b>

Source: CAGI prevention/intervention participant pre-program surveys

Note: Total respondents represents the actual number of respondents to each question in this series.



Table 12 presents the number and percentage of respondents whose friends have engaged in gang activity or behaviors that place them at high risk for gang involvement. Roughly one-quarter indicated that in the last year, at least two to four of their best friends have been a member of a gang, and 13 percent reported that two to four friends had been arrested. Additionally, 48 percent had at least one friend that dropped out of school and nearly one-third had two or more friends who had been suspended or expelled from school. IJJTF and NOAH participants appear to be at slightly greater risk when considering these results. Fifty percent of IJJTF participants and 65 percent of NOAH respondents report having two to four friends that have dropped out of school and close to one-quarter have two to four friends that have been arrested.

In response to the question, *Thinking of the (four) friends you mentioned above, how much do you agree that it is more important to "have their back" than*

*obey the law*, 53 percent of respondents agreed or strongly agreed that it was important to *have their [friend's] back* (Table 13). A higher percentage of IJJTF (54 percent), Christamore (55 percent), and PLC participants (58 percent) conveyed this sentiment. Less than 40 percent of NOAH respondents agreed or strongly agreed with this statement. The responses to this question are instructive in that gangs often use the logic and peer pressure that members exhibit a stronger allegiance to the group/gang than the law.

### Participant criminal/juvenile delinquent history prior to CAGI participation

Participant criminal/delinquency history, including prior offenses, recent arrests (since the participants began to receive CAGI services) and offense type and offense severity were obtained from the Quest database. As shown in Table 14, among the 555 CAGI participants, 212 were located in the Quest system with at least one record of arrest prior to CAGI program participation. Prior arrest history in

**Table 13:** Thinking of the friends you mentioned above, how much do you agree that it is more important to "have their back" than obey the law?

CAGI providers	Agree or strongly agree		Disagree or strongly disagree		No response		Total pre-program survey respondents
	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%	
Christamore	21	55.3	13	34.2	4	10.5	38
Forest Manor	24	48.0	23	46.0	3	6.0	50
Hawthorne	27	45.8	25	42.4	7	11.9	59
IJJTF	27	54.0	22	44.0	1	2.0	50
NOAH	14	37.8	21	56.8	2	5.4	37
PLC	111	58.1	70	36.6	10	5.2	191
<b>Total</b>	<b>224</b>	<b>52.7</b>	<b>174</b>	<b>40.9</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>6.4</b>	<b>425</b>

Source: CAGI prevention/intervention participant pre-program surveys

**Table 14:** Number of prior arrests

CAGI providers	None		1		2 to 3		4 to 5		6 or more		Total number of CAGI participants
	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%	
Christamore	31	72.1	6	14.0	5	11.6	0	0.0	1	2.3	43
Forest Manor	32	50.8	9	14.3	12	19.0	4	6.3	6	9.5	63
Hawthorne	50	84.7	3	5.1	4	6.8	2	3.4	0	0.0	59
IJJTF	7	11.1	3	4.8	19	30.2	12	19.0	22	34.9	63
NOAH	0	0.0	3	7.5	11	27.5	12	30.0	14	35.0	40
PLC	223	77.7	38	13.2	17	5.9	7	2.4	2	0.7	287
<b>Total</b>	<b>343</b>	<b>61.8</b>	<b>62</b>	<b>11.2</b>	<b>68</b>	<b>12.3</b>	<b>37</b>	<b>6.7</b>	<b>45</b>	<b>8.1</b>	<b>555</b>

Source: Quest Case Management System Database

Notes: Among the 555 CAGI participants, 212 were included in the Quest database with at least 1 record of arrest, prior to CAGI program participation.

The number of participants without any prior arrests is based on the lack of any record in the Quest system. It is possible that participants could have been arrested in other jurisdictions, and not included in Quest. Prior arrest history goes back to 1/4/2002 for one participant. Most recent arrest information was gathered through 5/31/2011.



the Quest data provided dates back to January 4, 2002, for one participant. The number of participants without any prior arrests is indicated by the lack of any record in the Quest system. It is possible that participants could have been arrested in other jurisdictions not included in Quest. Overall, IJJTF and NOAH participants have a more extensive criminal history: over one-third had six or more arrests prior to CAGI participation. Roughly one-quarter of Christamore and PLC participants have a history of at least one prior arrest, while approximately half of Forest Manor participants had a criminal history, and 10 percent have been arrested six or more times.

Table 15 presents first offense types among CAGI participants with a history of arrests, prior to CAGI program participation. The most common type of offenses were battery (51 arrests), runaway/curfew violation/truancy (37 arrests), and theft (36 arrests). Roughly seven percent were for drug-related offenses, and only two arrests were for criminal gang activity.

Corresponding offense severity data are presented in Table 16. Over the pre-CAGI period for which arrest information was provided, 45 percent of arrests were misdemeanors, 37 percent were felonies, and 18 percent were status offenses, such as truancy or curfew violations.

**Table 15: Type of first offenses among CAGI participants with history of prior arrest**

Offense	Pre-CAGI	
	Count	%
Battery	51	24.1
Runaway/curfew violation/truancy	37	17.5
Theft	36	17.0
Criminal trespass/burglary/residential entry	22	10.4
Drug-related	15	7.1
Disorderly conduct/resisting law enforcement	14	6.6
Criminal recklessness/criminal mischief	12	5.7
Intimidation/criminal confinement	7	3.3
Weapon-related	4	1.9
Criminal gang activity	2	0.9
Robbery	2	0.9
Other	10	4.7
<b>Total</b>	<b>212</b>	<b>100.0</b>

Source: Quest Case Management System Database

Notes: Other category includes operating a vehicle never receiving a license, criminal conversion, visiting a common nuisance, child molesting, failure to stop personal injury.

The pre-CAGI period includes dates of arrest prior to CAGI program start dates. Most recent arrest information was gathered through 5/31/2011.

**Table 16: Number and percentage of pre-CAGI offenses by severity**

Offense Severity	Pre-CAGI	
	Count	%
Felony	78	36.8%
Misdemeanor	96	45.3%
Status offense	38	17.9%
<b>Total</b>	<b>212</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

Source: Quest Case Management System Database

Notes: The pre-CAGI period includes dates of arrest prior to CAGI program start dates.

Most recent arrest information was gathered through 5/31/2011.



## Summary of results

The results presented thus far offer a clear picture that, overall, CAGI providers served participants at risk of gang involvement. Key findings that demonstrate this are highlighted below:

- Roughly one-third or more of participants exhibited risks of gang activity/involvement, including *having friends that are known gang members* (53 percent), *skipping school* (43 percent), *having been in physical fights* (38 percent), *always hanging with the same group* (35 percent), or *referring to known gangs in the neighborhood* (32 percent).
- Over one-half of participants indicated that gangs are in their schools and neighborhoods and 39 percent or more reported that gangs are a real problem in their schools and neighborhoods.
- Almost 40 percent of participants reported that they have relatives that either are or have been gang members.
- With regard to risk factors of family history of incarceration and exposure to violence, nearly two-thirds of participants indicated they had family members that had been incarcerated and close to one-third reported that a family member has committed a violent crime.
- Three-quarters of participants had been suspended from school and 29 percent had been expelled at some point prior to participating in CAGI programming.
- With regard to peer relationships, nearly one-quarter indicated that in the last year, at least two to four of their best friends had been a member of a gang, and 13 percent reported that two to four friends had been arrested. Additionally, 48 percent had at least one friend that dropped out of school and nearly one-third had two or more friends who had been suspended or expelled from school.
- 53 percent of respondents agreed or strongly agreed that it was more important to *have their [friend's] back than obey the law*.
- 38 percent of the participants had a history of at least one prior arrest (before CAGI); one-quarter of the first offenses were for battery, 18 percent for status offenses, and 17 percent were theft-related.
- In terms of the severity of first offense among the participants with history of prior arrest, 37 percent were felony charges.



## COMPARING PRE- AND POST- CAGI PROGRAM RESULTS

In this section of the report we compare the pre-program survey results with post-program survey results, provider intake and exit form results, and juvenile justice contacts. Ordinarily, comparing pre- and post-data would offer insights into CAGI program effects. However, prior to discussing the specific results, it is important to consider the limitations of the data. With respect to the provider data, as noted above, there were difficulties in compiling complete data at intake but especially on the exit forms. CCJR researchers and CAGI staff repeatedly followed up with providers to ensure that required forms were submitted. In some cases, these forms had to be re-submitted because they were incomplete. Information gaps on the exit form are especially crucial because that is the source of information on the effect of the program on the youth. Staff transitions in several of the programs also raise doubts about the ability of the providers to fully assess changes in the attitudes and behavior of the youth in the programs. Several staff filling out the exit forms were newly involved with the project, and appeared to have had limited interaction with the CAGI youth participating in their programs. It is unclear, then, how accurate their perceptions of the attitudes and behaviors were in filling out exit forms.

The match rate for this crucial piece of information was also low enough to raise potential concerns. Intake and exit forms could be matched for only 63 percent of CAGI participants. This was mainly a function of the 40 percent match rate for PLC. All of the other providers had much higher rates of completion of both the intake and exit forms. Finally, the providers did have some incentive (conscious or unconscious) to show changes in youth in completing the exit forms. In some cases, there were distressing similarities in the patterns of exit responses across large numbers of individuals. Thus, any conclusions drawn from provider data must be considered with these limitations in mind.

The low match rate for the participant pre- and post-surveys is also a concern. Overall, less than one-quarter of youth in the CAGI programs filled out both a pre- and post-program survey and this problem was endemic to all providers. No provider had a pre-post match rate higher than 40 percent, and less than 10 percent of CAGI youth in the IJJTF program filled out a post-program survey. Some loss of participation was to be expected (except for the court-ordered participants of IJJTF and NOAH), especially for programs that were mainly comprised of voluntary participants. Yet, several of the providers defined success partly in terms of continued involvement in the program. Therefore, having post-program surveys on only 33 percent of youth certainly must temper any evidence of success discussed below.

Finally, these programs were very different in the populations they served (some participants were voluntary while others were court-ordered), the goals of the programs, and program characteristics. Some had defined curricula that appeared to be specifically anti-gang in nature, while others appeared to have more general anti-criminal or pro-social programming. Some had defined durations and others had open-ended programming. Therefore, few comparisons can or should be made across programs.

### Provider data

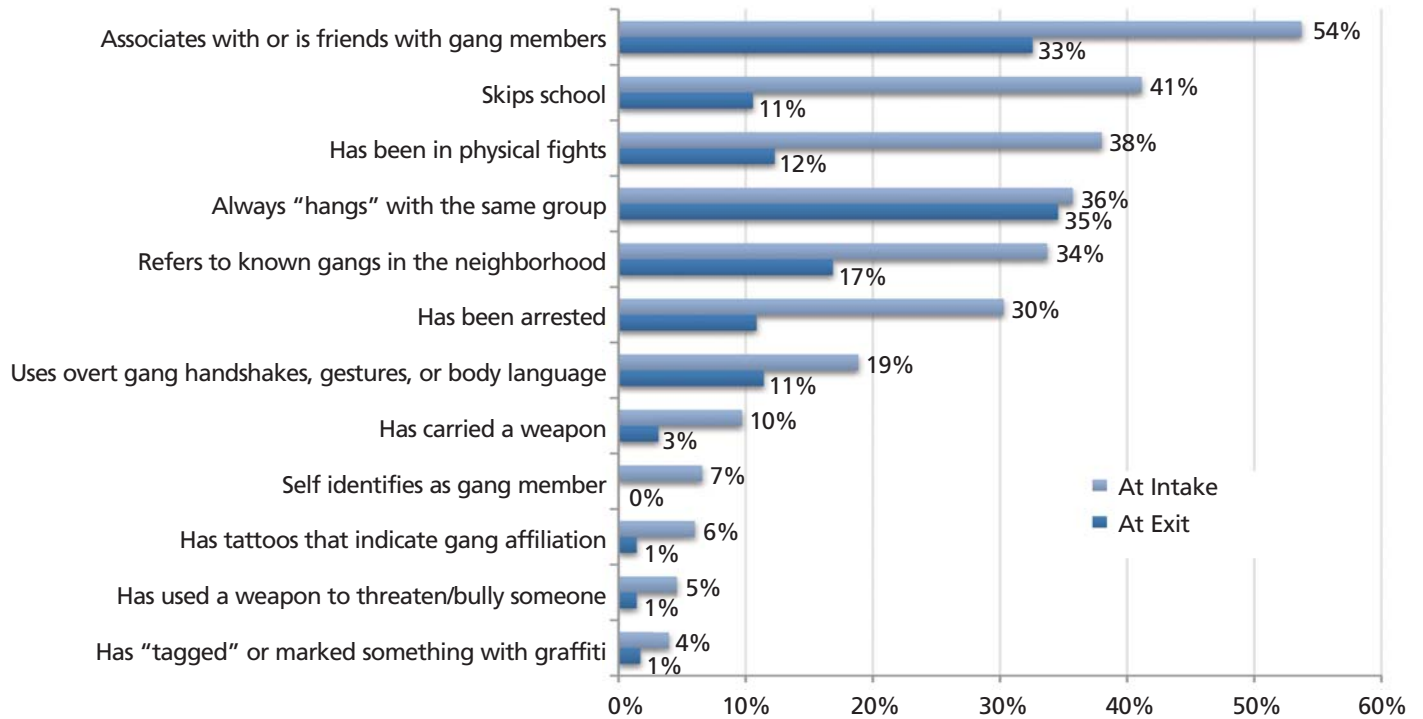
#### *Participant gang risk and involvement*

Figure 2 provides a comparison of gang risk behaviors based on providers' perceptions of identified indicators at the beginning of CAGI service provision and at exit. Providers were asked to indicate whether they were aware of or had observed the behavior recently (since CAGI participation began). The results displayed are based on results from matching intake and exit forms and intake results will differ very slightly from results shown in Figure 1. Based on provider intake data, the most commonly reported indicators of gang risk or involvement were *associating with or having friends that are known gang members* (54 percent), *skipping school* (41 percent), *having been in physical fights* (38 percent), *always hanging with the same group* (36 percent), or *referring to known gangs in the neighborhood* (34 percent). For each gang-risk behavior except always hanging with the same group, the percentage of participants that exhibited risk behaviors fell fairly dramatically—differences that were statistically significant at the .05 level. For instance, *having been in physical fights* declined from 38 percent to 12 percent, *associates with or is friends with gang members* dropped from 54 to 33 percent, and *referring to known neighborhood gangs* fell from 34 to 17 percent.

At the provider-level, the decline in some observed and reported gang risk behaviors was quite dramatic; for instance, the percentage of participants that have recently been in physical fights or skipped school fell across all programs—differences that were statistically significant at the .05 level (Table 17). Other results were more mixed, as with Christamore, Hawthorne, and NOAH observing an increase between intake and exit in participants always hanging with the same group. While large declines were observed among Forest Manor participants in a number of gang risk behaviors, changes in personnel meant different individuals completed the forms, some of whom may not have had any contact with or only limited knowledge of program youths' attitudes and behavior. Therefore, these results should be interpreted with caution.



**Figure 2:** Gang risk behaviors that providers were aware of or have observed among participants at Intake and Exit



Source: CAGI prevention/intervention provider forms

Notes: Providers were asked to "mark all that apply" in identifying indicators of gang risk or involvement.

With the exception of hangs with the same group, the difference between the provider intake and exit form results across all other indicators is statistically significant at the .05 level.

**Table 17:** Gang risk behaviors that providers were aware of or have observed among participants at Intake and Exit

Gang risk indicators	Christamore		Forest Manor		Hawthorne		IJTF		NOAH		PLC		Total	
	% at Intake	% at Exit	% at Intake	% at Exit	% at Intake	% at Exit	% at Intake	% at Exit	% at Intake	% at Exit	% at Intake	% at Exit	% at Intake	% at Exit
Associates with or is friends with gang members	66.7	50.0	82.6	50.0*	34.5	20.0*	32.1	3.8*	56.4	53.8	55.7	31.3*	53.7	32.6*
Skips school	11.9	0.0*	23.9	6.5*	21.8	12.7	50.9	5.7*	33.3	12.8*	66.1	16.5*	41.1	10.6*
Has been in physical fights	57.1	16.7*	52.2	6.5*	41.8	14.5*	15.1	0.0*	25.6	15.4	38.3	16.5*	38.0	12.3*
Always "hangs" with the same group	78.6	85.7	47.8	8.7*	45.5	60.0	22.6	18.9	23.1	48.7	20.9	16.5	35.7	34.6
Refers to known gangs in the neighborhood	45.2	21.4*	37.0	2.2*	61.8	40.0*	26.4	9.4*	38.5	33.3	16.5	7.8*	33.7	16.9*
Has been arrested	19.0	0.0*	30.4	4.3*	3.6	1.8	86.8	35.8*	76.9	23.1*	5.2	6.1	30.3	10.1*
Uses overt gang handshakes, gestures, or body language	28.6	38.1	54.3	8.7*	3.6	3.6	13.2	3.8	17.9	17.9	11.3	7.8	18.9	11.4*
Has carried a weapon	21.4	0.0*	10.9	0.0*	0.0	0.0	3.8	3.8	15.4	2.6	10.4	7.0	9.7	3.1*
Self identifies as a gang member	2.4	0.0	19.6	0.0*	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	7.7	0.0	8.7	0.0	6.6	0.0*
Has tattoos that indicate gang affiliation	0.0	2.4	2.2	0.0	1.8	0.0	30.2	1.9*	5.1	7.7	0.9	0.0	6.0	1.4*
Has used a weapon to threaten/bully someone	21.4	0.0*	2.2	0.0	0.0	1.8	0.0	0.0	5.1	0.0	3.5	3.5	4.6	1.4*
Has "tagged" or marked something with graffiti	9.5	0.0*	0.0	2.2	1.8	1.8	0.0	0.0	5.1	2.6	6.1	2.6	4.0	1.7*
<b>Total number matched provider intake and exit forms</b>	<b>42</b>		<b>46</b>		<b>55</b>		<b>53</b>		<b>39</b>		<b>115</b>		<b>350</b>	

Source: CAGI prevention/intervention provider forms

Notes: On exit forms, providers were asked to indicate whether they were aware of or had observed the behavior recently (since CAGI participation began).

\*The difference between the provider intake and exit form results is statistically significant at the .05 level in a paired sample t-test.





**Table 18:** Think of your four best friends (the friends you feel closest to). In the past year (12 months), how many of your best friends have:

	Pre-program surveys				Post-program surveys					
<b>Been suspended or expelled from school?</b>										
CAGI providers	None		1 or more (A)		None		1 or more (B)		Pre/post percent difference (A v. B).	Total matching pre/post survey respondents
	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%		
Christamore	2	15.4	10	76.9	7	53.8	5	38.5	-38.5%*	13
Forest Manor	5	35.7	7	50.0	9	64.3	5	35.7	-14.3%*	14
Hawthorne	6	26.1	15	65.2	10	43.5	12	52.2	-13.0%*	23
IJJTF	0	0.0	2	100.0	0	0.0	2	100.0	0.0%	2
NOAH	2	16.7	9	75.0	9	75.0	3	25.0	-50.0%*	12
PLC	26	40.0	39	60.0	29	44.6	34	52.3	-7.7%	65
<b>Total</b>	<b>41</b>	<b>31.8</b>	<b>82</b>	<b>63.6</b>	<b>64</b>	<b>49.6</b>	<b>61</b>	<b>47.3</b>	<b>-16.3%*</b>	<b>129</b>
<b>Dropped out of school?</b>										
CAGI providers	None		1 or more (A)		None		1 or more (B)		Pre/post percent difference (A v. B).	Total matching pre/post survey respondents
	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%		
Christamore	10	76.9	0	0.0	11	84.6	0	0.0	0.0%	13
Forest Manor	6	42.9	6	42.9	12	85.7	2	14.3	-28.6%*	14
Hawthorne	18	78.3	4	17.4	16	69.6	3	13.0	-4.3%	23
IJJTF	1	50.0	1	50.0	1	50.0	1	50.0	0.0%	2
NOAH	9	75.0	2	16.7	10	83.3	2	16.7	0.0%	12
PLC	45	69.2	19	29.2	45	69.2	18	27.7	-1.5%	65
<b>Total</b>	<b>89</b>	<b>69.0</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>24.8</b>	<b>95</b>	<b>73.6</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>20.2</b>	<b>-4.7%*</b>	<b>129</b>
<b>Been arrested?</b>										
CAGI providers	None		1 or more (A)		None		1 or more (B)		Pre/post percent difference (A v. B).	Total matching pre/post survey respondents
	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%		
Christamore	5	38.5	5	38.5	7	53.8	5	38.5	0.0%	13
Forest Manor	7	50.0	5	35.7	10	71.4	4	28.6	-7.1%	14
Hawthorne	13	56.5	9	39.1	14	60.9	7	30.4	-8.7%	23
IJJTF	0	0.0	2	100.0	0	0.0	2	100.0	0.0%	2
NOAH	1	8.3	10	83.3	7	58.3	5	41.7	-41.7%*	12
PLC	36	55.4	28	43.1	39	60.0	25	38.5	-4.6%	65
<b>Total</b>	<b>62</b>	<b>48.1</b>	<b>59</b>	<b>45.7</b>	<b>77</b>	<b>59.7</b>	<b>48</b>	<b>37.2</b>	<b>-8.5%*</b>	<b>129</b>
<b>Been members of a gang?</b>										
CAGI providers	None		1 or more (A)		None		1 or more (B)		Pre/post percent difference (A v. B).	Total matching pre/post survey respondents
	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%		
Christamore	8	61.5	2	15.4	9	69.2	4	30.8	15.4%	13
Forest Manor	7	50.0	5	35.7	11	78.6	3	21.4	-14.3%*	14
Hawthorne	14	1.0	8	34.8	13	56.5	8	34.8	0.0%	23
IJJTF	0	1.0	2	100.0	0	0.0	2	100.0	0.0%	2
NOAH	8	0.0	3	25.0	9	75.0	3	25.0	0.0%	12
PLC	39	0.0	24	36.9	34	52.3	30	46.2	9.2%*	65
<b>Total</b>	<b>76</b>	<b>58.9</b>	<b>44</b>	<b>34.1</b>	<b>76</b>	<b>58.9</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>38.8</b>	<b>4.7%*</b>	<b>129</b>

Source: CAGI prevention/intervention participant surveys

Note: Percentages may not add to 100 percent due to non-responses.

\* Pre/post difference is statistically significant at p <.05 in paired sample t-test



### Pre/post-CAGI programming comparisons of participant gang risk, attitudes, and behaviors

CCJR researchers conducted comparative analysis of respondents' pre/post responses to assess whether changes in attitudes occurred following CAGI programming. Table 18 illustrates participant pre-program and post-program responses regarding the number of the participant's four best friends that have engaged in gang activity or behaviors that place them at high risk for gang involvement. Table 18 shows the percentage of participants taking the pre- and post-surveys reporting that one or more of their friends had been suspended or expelled, dropped out of school, been arrested, and were members of a gang. At the right of this table is a column which compares the percentage change from the pre- to the post-survey for each question, overall and by provider. Paired sample t-tests were performed to determine whether pre/post differences were statistically significant at the  $p < .05$  level. Overall, there was a statistically significant 16.3 percent reduction in the number of youth reporting that one or more of their friends had been suspended or expelled. When considering this question by provider, Christamore House, Forest Manor, Hawthorne, and NOAH also reported statistically significant decreases in the percentage of the participant's friends having been suspended or expelled.

Overall, there was also a small but statistically significant 4.7 percent decrease in the number of respondents reporting that their friends had dropped out of school. When considering differences by provider, only youth at Forest Manor reported a statistically significant reduction in the percentage of friends that had dropped out of school (28.6 percent). There was also a statistically significant drop in the overall number of participants reporting that one or more of their friends

had been arrested (8.5 percent). However, when considering this question by provider, only NOAH reported a statistically significant reduction in the number of the participant's friends that had been arrested (41.7 percent).

When comparing pre- and post-responses, the share of respondents that report that at least one of their best friends has been a member of a gang rose a statistically significant 4.7 percent—from 34 percent prior to CAGI programming to 39 percent after. At the provider level, only two differences were statistically significant. Forest Manor reported a 14.3 percent reduction in the number of participant's friends that were gang members, whereas for PLC there was a 9.2 percent increase in the percentage of respondents stating that one or more of their friends were gang members. Given that the programming was designed to reduce gang involvement among participants, the fact that the matched pre/post sample respondents reported an overall increase in the number of friends that were gang members is dismaying. This is especially concerning given that the matched pre/post sample respondents are likely to be the youth whom were most impacted by the programs because they were available to take both pre- and post-program surveys.

In response to the question, *Thinking of the (four) friends you mentioned above, how much do you agree that it is more important to "have their back" than obey the law*, while 54 percent of participant respondents agreed or strongly agreed that it is more important to *have their back* than obey the law on pre-surveys, 61 percent of post-survey respondents agreed or strongly agreed with that statement, an increase of 7 percent (Table 19). Among all participants, the only group that demonstrated a small decline in the opinion that allegiance to friends was more important than

**Table 19:** Thinking of the friends you mentioned above, how much do you agree that it is more important to "have their back" than obey the law?

CAGI providers	Agree or strongly agree (pre)		Agree or strongly agree (post)		Total matching pre/post survey respondents
	Count	%	Count	%	
Christamore	7	53.8	7	53.8	13
Forest Manor	6	42.9	5	35.7	14
Hawthorne	9	39.1	11	47.8	23
IJJTF	1	50.0	2	100.0	2
NOAH	7	58.3	8	66.7	12
PLC	40	61.5	46	70.8	65
<b>Total</b>	<b>70</b>	<b>54.3</b>	<b>79</b>	<b>61.2</b>	<b>129</b>

Source: CAGI prevention/intervention participant surveys

Notes: Percentages may not add up to 100 percent due to non-responses.

No pre/post differences were statistically significant at  $p < .05$  in paired sample t-tests.



obeying the law was Forest Manor. To determine whether any of these changes were statistically significant, a paired sample t-test was performed. In all cases, pre/post differences were not statistically significant. Although these differences were not statistically significant, given that this program was designed to reduce gang risk, it is dismaying that there were no reductions in the number of youth respondents who would choose to obey the law over loyalty to their friends. This is especially troublesome because the youth who responded to both pre- and post-surveys could be the ones expected to be most likely to show changes in attitudes about gangs due to their ongoing involvement with the providers.

As Table 20 illustrates, when comparing participant responses regarding school discipline, the percentage of respondents indicating that they had been suspended since beginning to partici-

pate in CAGI participation fell from 73 percent to 22 percent. This difference was statistically significant at the .05 level. Similarly, the share of participants surveyed that reported expulsion dropped from 23 percent to 5 percent; also statistically significant at the .05 level. It should be noted that one might expect such changes, given that participants remaining in the programs and able to complete the post-program surveys would be considered most successful. It is also possible that part of the explanation for this smaller number of suspensions and expulsions lies in the fact that youth had less opportunity (in terms of time in school) for these events to occur since they began participating in CAGI programming than in the pre-CAGI period. Still, it is encouraging that there appeared to be reductions in trouble at school, at least among youth who filled out both pre- and post-surveys.

**Table 20: Participant responses regarding school discipline**

School suspension					
CAGI providers	Have you ever been suspended from school? (pre-program)		Since you began participating in the CAGI program, have you been suspended from school? (post-program)		Total matching pre/post survey respondents
	Number responding "yes"	%	Number responding "yes"	%	
Christamore	9	69.2	1	7.7*	13
Forest Manor	11	78.6	4	28.6*	14
Hawthorne	14	60.9	5	21.7*	23
IJJTF	2	100.0	0	0.0	2
NOAH	12	100.0	1	8.3*	12
PLC	46	70.8	17	26.2*	65
<b>Total</b>	<b>94</b>	<b>72.9</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>21.7*</b>	<b>129</b>
School expulsion					
CAGI providers	Have you ever been expelled from school? (pre-program)		Since you began participating in the CAGI program, have you been expelled from school? (post-program)		Total matching pre/post survey respondents
	Number responding "yes"	%	Number responding "yes"	%	
Christamore	3	23.1	1	7.7	13
Forest Manor	5	35.7	1	7.1	14
Hawthorne	3	13.0	3	13.0	23
IJJTF	2	100.0	0	0.0	2
NOAH	8	66.7	2	16.7*	12
PLC	9	13.8	0	0.0*	65
<b>Total</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>23.3</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>5.4*</b>	<b>129</b>

Source: CAGI prevention/intervention participant surveys

\* The difference between the participant pre- and post-survey results is statistically significant at the .05 level.



As part of post-surveys, participants were asked about their views regarding gangs, crime, and peer contacts. As shown in Table 21, in response to a question about attitudes toward gangs since beginning the CAGI program, only 45 percent of respondents indicated that they viewed gangs *more negatively*. Approximately one-half of those surveyed conveyed that their view of gangs remained *about the same*, an indication that gang-specific attitudes did not appear to change following CAGI programming. This is a special concern,

given that the programs were intended to convey anti-gang messages. Once again, because the data here come from post-program surveys that were completed by only a minority of program youth, these results should be interpreted with caution.

Participants were asked to indicate, since beginning CAGI, how much they had been involved in activities that could get them in trouble (Table 22). A majority (60 percent) conveyed that they have been involved in such activities *somewhat or a lot*

**Table 21:** Since you began in the CAGI program, how would you describe your attitude toward gangs?

CAGI providers	I view gangs more negatively.		I view gangs about the same.		I view gangs more positively.		Total matching pre/post program survey respondents
	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%	
Christamore	7	53.8	6	46.2	0	0.0	13
Forest Manor	8	57.1	4	28.6	1	7.1	14
Hawthorne	7	30.4	13	56.5	2	8.7	23
IJJTF	0	0.0	2	100.0	0	0.0	2
NOAH	8	66.7	3	25.0	1	8.3	12
PLC	28	43.1	36	55.4	1	1.5	65
<b>Total</b>	<b>58</b>	<b>45.0</b>	<b>64</b>	<b>49.6</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>3.9</b>	<b>129</b>

Source: CAGI prevention/intervention participant surveys

Note: Percentages may not add to 100 percent due to non-responses.

**Table 22:** Since you began in the CAGI program, how much would you say:

you have been involved in activities that could get you in trouble?							
CAGI providers	Somewhat or a lot less		About the same		Somewhat or a lot more		Total matching pre/post program survey respondents
	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%	
Christamore	7	53.8	5	38.5	1	7.7	13
Forest Manor	12	85.7	1	7.1	1	7.1	14
Hawthorne	15	65.2	5	21.7	3	13.0	23
IJJTF	2	100.0	0	0.0	0	0.0	2
NOAH	7	58.3	2	16.7	2	16.7	12
PLC	34	52.3	20	30.8	10	15.4	65
<b>Total</b>	<b>77</b>	<b>59.7</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>25.6</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>13.2</b>	<b>129</b>
you worry that your friends could get you in trouble?							
CAGI providers	Somewhat or a lot less		About the same		Somewhat or a lot more		Total matching pre/post program survey respondents
	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%	
Christamore	3	23.1	7	53.8	3	23.1	13
Forest Manor	8	57.1	4	28.6	2	14.3	14
Hawthorne	8	34.8	10	43.5	5	21.7	23
IJJTF	0	0.0	1	50.0	1	50.0	2
NOAH	4	33.3	8	66.7	0	0.0	12
PLC	21	32.3	26	40.0	18	27.7	65
<b>Total</b>	<b>44</b>	<b>34.1</b>	<b>56</b>	<b>43.4</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>22.5</b>	<b>129</b>

Source: CAGI prevention/intervention participant surveys

Note: Percentages may not add to 100 percent due to non-responses.



less. One-quarter reported that their involvement in activities that could get them in trouble remained *about the same*, and 13 percent indicated *somewhat or a lot more*. In response to a question about worrying about their friends getting them in trouble, 34 percent of respondents reported worrying *somewhat or a lot less* about this. Two-thirds of respondents reported that their concern regarding this issue was *about the same* (43 percent) or *somewhat or a lot more* (23 percent).

As shown in Table 23, participants were asked about how the CAGI program had impacted their

attitudes regarding obeying the law. Seventy-eight percent *agreed or strongly agreed* that since they began participating in the CAGI program, they were more concerned with abiding by the law than before they started the program. Nineteen percent of respondents either *disagreed or strongly disagreed with the statement*. This result suggests a much stronger effect of the program on general attitudes regarding law abiding behavior than gang-specific attitudes (at least among youth who responded to both surveys).

**Table 23:** Since you began in the CAGI program, would you agree that you are more concerned with obeying the law than you were before you started coming to this program?

CAGI providers	Agree or strongly agree		Disagree or strongly disagree		Total matching pre/post survey respondents
	Count	%	Count	%	
Christamore	12	92.3	1	7.7	13
Forest Manor	11	78.6	2	14.3	14
Hawthorne	19	82.6	3	13.0	23
IJJTF	2	100.0	0	0.0	2
NOAH	10	83.3	2	16.7	12
PLC	47	72.3	17	26.2	65
<b>Total</b>	<b>101</b>	<b>78.3</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>19.4</b>	<b>129</b>

Source: CAGI prevention/intervention participant surveys

Note: Percentages may not add up to 100 percent due to non-responses.

**Table 24:** Comparison of percentage of youth arrested, pre- and post-CAGI by provider

	Youth with arrest prior to CAGI		Youth with arrest in two years pre-CAGI		Youth with arrest post-CAGI start date		Percentage difference for entire pre-CAGI period v. post arrest	Percentage difference for two year pre-CAGI period v. post arrest
	A		B		C		A v. C	B v. C
	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%	pct difference	pct. difference
Christamore (N=43)	12	28.0%	4	9.0%	9	21.0%	-7.0%	11.6%*
Forest Manor (N=63)	31	49%	12	19%	16	25.0%	-24.0%*	6.3%
Hawthorne (N=59)	9	15.0%	2	3.0%	6	10.0%	-5.1%	6.8%
IJJTF (N=63)	56	89.0%	19	30.0%	41	65.0%	-23.8%*	34.9%*
NOAH (N=40)	40	100%	18	45.0%	29	73.0%	-27.5%*	27.5%*
PLC (N=287)	64	22.0%	34	12.0%	29	10.0%	-12.7%*	-1.7%*
<b>Total (N=555)</b>	<b>212</b>	<b>38.0%</b>	<b>89</b>	<b>16.0%</b>	<b>130</b>	<b>23.0%</b>	<b>-15.0%*</b>	<b>7.0%*</b>

Source: Quest Case Management System Database

Note: The pre-CAGI period includes dates of arrest prior to CAGI program start dates. The post-CAGI includes dates of arrest since participant approximate CAGI program start date (by available dates on intake forms or pre-surveys). Prior arrest history goes back to 1/4/2002, for one participant. Most recent Quest arrest information was gathered through 5/31/2011.

\* Difference significant at  $p < .05$  in paired sample t-test.



### Participant criminal/juvenile delinquent history post-CAGI participation

Through the Quest data, CCJR researchers analyzed information regarding arrests among participants that occurred after CAGI program start dates. In some cases, due to missing or incomplete intake forms, CCJR had to approximate program start dates based on dates of pre-program survey completion.

Table 24 compares the frequency of arrest in the pre-CAGI period overall and within two years prior to CAGI participation with post-CAGI start date arrests. Overall 58.2 percent (323) of youth had no arrest at any point prior to, during or after CAGI involvement (not shown in table). Thirty-eight percent (212 of 555) of youth had an arrest at some point prior to starting CAGI participation. In the two years prior to CAGI, 16 percent of CAGI youth were arrested and in the period following the start of CAGI programming, 23 percent of the sample (130 youth) were arrested.

The last two columns of Table 24 compare the percentage differences in arrest percentages overall and by provider. The table shows that the results depend on what time frame is considered.

Comparing all pre-CAGI arrests with post-CAGI start date arrests would lead one to conclude that there was a statistically significant decrease (as shown in a paired sample to t-test,  $p < .05$ ) in the

percentage of program youth arrested following the start of the program. This might not be a fair comparison, however, given the long period of potential arrest for youth in the entire pre-CAGI period and the comparatively short post-CAGI period of exposure to potential arrest. A fairer comparison is to consider the two years immediately prior to CAGI programming (B v. C). When comparing this arrest rate, the picture is different. There was a statistically significant ( $p < .05$ ) increase in the percentage of youth arrested from the two-year pre-CAGI period to the period post-CAGI start date. This pattern of overall reductions and shorter term increases is consistent across all providers except PLC. PLC had a small (1.7 percent) but statistically significant reduction in arrests in the latter comparison. These results are certainly troubling and temper any conclusions regarding the positive impacts of CAGI programming on youth. Unfortunately, the nature of the current data does not permit us to examine these issues more fully.

Table 25 shows a similar comparison across crime severity. The categories of crime severity are felony, misdemeanor, and other (status offenses, warrant arrests, and probation violations). Here again, the conclusions one draws depend on the time frame one chooses to consider. In the entire pre-CAGI period, 14 percent of CAGI youth were arrested

**Table 25: Comparison of percentage of youth arrested, pre- and post-CAGI by crime severity**

	Youth with arrest pre-CAGI by type		Youth with arrest in two-year pre-CAGI period by type		Youth with arrest post-CAGI start date by type		Percentage difference for entire pre-CAGI period v. post arrest	Percentage difference for two year pre-CAGI period v. post arrest
	A		B		C		A v. C	B v. C
	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%	pct difference	pct difference
Felony	78	14.0%	36	6.5%	46	8.3%	-5.6%*	1.8%*
Misdemeanor	96	17.3%	34	6.1%	50	9.0%	-8.3%*	2.9%*
Other (status, warrants, probation violation)	38	6.8%	19	3.4%	34	6.1%	-0.7%*	2.7%*
<b>Total</b>	<b>212</b>	<b>38.2%</b>	<b>89</b>	<b>16.0%</b>	<b>130</b>	<b>23.4%</b>	<b>-15.0%*</b>	<b>7.0%*</b>

Source: Quest Case Management System Database

Note: The pre-CAGI period includes dates of arrest prior to CAGI program start dates. The post-CAGI includes dates of arrest since participant approximate CAGI program start date (by available dates on intake forms or pre-surveys). Prior arrest history goes back to 1/4/2002, for one participant. Most recent Quest arrest information was gathered through 5/31/2011.

\* Difference significant at  $p < .05$  in paired sample t-test.



for at least one felony compared to only 8.3 percent in the period following the start of CAGI programming, which is a statistically significant 5.6 percent reduction. Yet, comparing the two years pre-CAGI with the post CAGI period shows that the percentage of felonies increased a small but statistically significant 1.8 percent. The pattern of results for misdemeanors is similar with the overall pre/post comparison yielding a statistically significant 8.3 percent decrease in the percentage of CAGI youth arrested for misdemeanors, but the shorter time frame comparison yielding a statistically significant 2.9 percent increase.

Table 26 illustrates that during the entire pre-CAGI period, the most common types of first offenses among CAGI participants were battery, status offenses—such as runaway, truancy, or curfew violations—thrift, and property crimes, including criminal trespass, burglary, and residential entry. The top three first offenses were the same

for the two-year pre-CAGI period, though in reverse order.

During the post-programming period, the types of offenses were slightly more varied, including a higher percentage of drug- and weapon-related crimes. While battery and status offenses continued to top the list of offenses, these types of crime fell as a share of all offenses in the period following the start of CAGI programming. As a proportion of offenses, drug-related crimes rose from 7 percent in the entire pre-CAGI period to 11 percent post-CAGI and weapon-related offense increased from 2 to 4 percent. Only two arrests in the pre-CAGI period were for criminal gang activity, with none for that type offense in the two-year period prior to CAGI or post-CAGI programming. This is not surprising, given that under Indiana law, gang activity is difficult to prove. In addition, battery and intimidation could easily be associated with gang activity.


**Table 26:** Types of first offenses among CAGI participants with history of prior arrest and post-CAGI arrest(s)

Offense	Entire pre-CAGI period		Two years pre-CAGI		Post-CAGI program start date	
	Count	%	Count	%	Count	%
Battery	51	24.1	14	15.7	19	14.6
Runaway/curfew violation/truancy	37	17.5	19	21.3	14	10.8
Theft	36	17.0	20	22.5	11	8.5
Criminal trespass/burglary/residential entry	22	10.4	6	6.7	12	9.2
Drug-related	15	7.1	7	7.9	14	10.8
Disorderly conduct/resisting law enforcement	14	6.6	3	3.4	11	8.5
Criminal recklessness/criminal mischief	12	5.7	7	7.9	2	1.5
Intimidation/criminal confinement	7	3.3	3	3.4	9	6.9
Weapon-related	4	1.9	3	3.4	5	3.8
Criminal gang activity	2	0.9	0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Robbery	2	0.9	2	2.2	7	5.4
Other	10	4.7	5	5.6	7	5.4
Warrant	0	0.0	0	0.0	16	12.3
Violation of release or probation	0	0.0	0	0.0	3	2.3
<b>Total</b>	<b>212</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>89</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>130</b>	<b>100.0</b>

Source: Quest Case Management System Database

Notes: *Other* offense category includes operating a vehicle never receiving a license, criminal conversion, visiting a common nuisance, and child molesting.

The pre-CAGI period includes dates of arrest prior to CAGI program start dates. The post-CAGI includes dates of arrest since participant approximate CAGI program start date (by available dates on intake forms or pre-surveys). Prior arrest history goes back to 1/4/2002, for one participant. Most recent Quest arrest information was gathered through 5/31/2011.



# ASSESSMENT OF THE IMPACT OF CAGI PREVENTION/ INTERVENTION PROGRAMMING

While evidence of overall program impact is mixed, the preceding comparison of participant and provider data points to some positive results, which are highlighted below:

- With the majority of gang-risk indicators observed by providers, the percentage of participants that exhibited risk behaviors fell fairly dramatically. Reported gang-risk indicators with the steepest declines between intake and exit included *skips school* (31 percent reduction), *having been in physical fights* (26 percent decline), *associating with or being friends with gang members* (21 percent decrease), and *referring to known neighborhood gangs* (17 percent drop).
- A majority (78 percent) of respondents conveyed that since they began CAGI, they were more concerned with obeying the law. Over one-half (60 percent) also reported that they have been *somewhat or a lot less* involved in activities that could get them in trouble.
- For the 129 youth who responded to both the pre- and post-survey, there were statistically significant reductions in the percentage of youth reporting that one or more of their friends had been arrested, suspended or expelled, or dropped out of school.
- Overall 323 youth (58.2 percent) were never arrested at any point prior to or subsequent to their involvement with the CAGI program. It seems reasonable to conclude that some number of these youth might have been arrested but for their involvement with CAGI programming. Unfortunately, it is impossible to quantify the number of youth for whom this might be true given the current data.

Results that represent some concern in terms of program impact include the following:

- For the matched pre/post survey respondents, overall, there was a statistically significant 4.7 percent increase in the percentage of respondents that indicated that at least one of their best friends had been a member of a gang. Only one provider, Forest Manor, showed a statistically significant reduction in the percentage of youth reporting that at least one of their friends belonged to a gang.
- Additionally, 54 percent of participant respondents on pre-surveys conveyed that allegiance to friends was more important than obeying the law, compared with 61 percent of respondents on post-surveys.
- Many youth reported little or no change in their attitudes about gangs. In response to a question about attitudes toward gangs since beginning the CAGI program, less than half (45 percent) of participants said that they viewed gangs more negatively and one-half indicated that their attitudes remained constant.
- A minority (34 percent) of respondents reported worrying *somewhat or a lot less* about their friends getting them into trouble.
- When comparing arrest outcomes, there was a statistically significant 7.0 percent increase in the overall number of youth arrested following the start of CAGI, compared with the two years pre-CAGI. Three of the six providers also had statistically significant increases in the number of participants arrested subsequent to the start of CAGI programming, compared to the immediate prior two years. Only PLC had a statistically significant 1.7 percent reduction in the number of youth participants arrested.
- When comparing the percentage of crimes that were felonies, overall there was a statistically significant 1.8 percent increase in the number of felonies subsequent to the start of CAGI programming as compared with the immediate two years prior to the start of CAGI programming.



There were clear challenges associated with implementation of CAGI prevention/intervention initiatives. The specification of the five zip codes in the application to DOJ proved to be overly restrictive when combined with the need to fill programs with court-ordered youth. The juvenile court was unable to refer enough youth to the providers to populate their programs. This left the steering committee with a difficult choice—between changing the criteria for involvement in the program or serving fewer youth with the program. Faced with this reality, it was determined that the providers could refer youth they determined to be at risk. Although necessary in this case, relying on providers to refer participants to their own programs raises concerns of bias both in identifying participants as well as self-assessments of participant outcomes following programming.

The determination of providers also raised complex questions. Eight local organizations submitted proposals and five were initially accepted (Hawthorne went from a subcontractor to an independent grantee in year two). Some of these programs proposed specific anti-gang curricula, whereas others had much more general pro-social or anti-crime programming. There were three broadly similar approaches to serving these youth that were very different in their particulars. It remains unclear to what extent these programs were explicitly anti-gang in nature and this is perhaps reflected in the limited changes in attitudes on gangs shown in the post-program surveys.

Data collection efforts by CCJR researchers proved challenging. CCJR researchers were not involved in the project until after the grant was approved and had limited interaction with the project prior to the selection of providers. The wide variation in program goals, characteristics, and definitions of success made measurement of success difficult, especially after random assignment by the courts was determined not to be feasible. Another major challenge was the inability to ask direct questions of participants about their gang activity. Providers and CAGI Steering Committee representatives rejected an early survey draft proposed by CCJR researchers that asked youth to self-report their gang activity and juvenile delinquency/crime. This meant that only attitudinal measures and very indirect indicators of gang risk could be assessed. Because these measures are indirect indicators, interpretation becomes less clear.

Another challenge was the reliance on providers to administer pre- and post-program surveys and complete intake and exit forms. This data collection strategy was chosen because of the labor intensive nature of collecting information at six locations and the discomfort some providers had with direct interaction of CCJR researchers with youth at the outset of their participation in CAGI programming. Although this was a reasonable decision, it led to issues with comprehensive data collection that resulted in incomplete survey/form administration and completion.

Although not part of the evaluation described here, it should also be noted that providers listed a number of performance metrics to be collected in their grant proposals. (See Appendix A) Many also reported some numerical data on these metrics on their semi-annual or final grant reports which were required for CAGI subgrantees. Given the difficulty CCJR researchers had in gathering complete data on program participants from providers, it is unclear the source from which providers could report any of these metrics. Therefore, any numerical data reported by providers on these metrics should be viewed with caution. This suggests that future programs that involve subgrantees would be well-served by requiring that any metrics proposed by subgrantees should include a data collection plan and any metrics reported by subgrantees should be accompanied by a description of how the data were collected.

Personnel transitions both at the CAGI program staff level and among provider staff also posed significant challenges to comprehensive data collection. Although perhaps unavoidable, these transitions impacted the degree to which comprehensive data could be collected from CAGI participants and providers, as well as tracking participants' progress through the various programs. In particular, transition among the provider staff who directly interacted with youth in some locations raise concerns about the validity of provider exit assessments of changes in attitudes and behaviors of these youth over time. And when required provider forms were submitted, they were often incomplete and had to be re-submitted. In some cases, it became difficult to ascertain how many youth were in a given program at any given time.



## RECOMMENDATIONS

Based on the lessons learned from this program, the following recommendations are made:

1. Ensure at the outset of programming that parameters are defined in such a way that enough youth will meet eligibility requirements to populate programs. The initial plan was to rely on juvenile court referrals. The failure of this approach to adequately direct youth to the three community-based programs dramatically altered the nature of these programs and led to the referral of program youth by the providers themselves.
2. Engage the research partner as early as possible in the research process, preferably as the grant proposal is being developed so that data collection strategies can be worked out in advance of program implementation.
3. Try to ensure as much continuity in program provider staff as possible. Staff transitions are in some ways inevitable but they posed a serious challenge to the data collection efforts described here.
4. For data collection efforts that rely on providers to administer surveys and complete intake and exit forms, methods need to be devised to hold programs accountable. For instance, quarterly payments could be disbursed only following thorough reporting and data submission by the provider. This suggestion was implemented toward the end of CAGI data collection efforts and resulted in a higher number of surveys/forms being submitted than persuasive efforts involving repeated follow up by CCJR researchers and CAGI staff. This suggestion refers to both the submission and completeness of required data instruments.
5. Ensure that data collection procedures for proposed metrics in subgrantee applications are described fully and that proposed performance metrics are accurately reported in semi-annual and final subgrantee reports. Nearly all providers proposed to submit performance metrics that would have aided in program evaluation. Several of them also reported these metrics in semi-annual or final progress reports. Given the limited confidence CCJR researchers had in data submitted by providers, the accuracy of the metrics submitted are questionable. Future programs that involve subgrantees would be well-served by requiring that any metrics proposed by subgrantees should include a data collection plan. Additionally, any metrics reported in semi-annual progress or final subgrantee reports should be accompanied by a description of how the data were collected.
6. Begin procurement of necessary juvenile justice data early. The procurement of juvenile justice data from the State Court Administrators took an inordinately long time. Preparing the request was time-consuming, and approval took nearly a year. This dramatically delayed efforts to determine whether program youth had additional contact with the juvenile court following CAGI participation.



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## APPENDIX A — METRICS PROPOSED BY PROVIDERS

Christamore House indicated in its proposal that it expected the following outcomes:

- 70 percent would complete the 12-week *Community Works/Survival Skills Course*
- 60 percent would not recidivate with a crime or gang arrest, fail a urine test, or violate probation requirements while participating in the program
- 70 percent would maintain attendance in an education program or secure age-appropriate employment
- 50 percent would maintain enrollment in an educational program and/or employment for at least 90 days
- 75 percent would demonstrate an increased ability to make good decisions
- 75 percent would demonstrate an increased ability to resolve conflict in a peaceful manner

Hawthorne's proposal included the following anticipated outcomes:

- 75 percent will complete the 12-week course
- 75 percent will not recidivate with a crime or gang arrest, fail a urine test, or violate probation requirements while in the program
- 75 percent will maintain attendance in an educational program
- 75 percent will demonstrate an increased ability to make good decisions
- 75 percent will demonstrate increased ability to resolve conflict in a peaceful manner.

Forest Manor proposed the following outcomes measures:

- 75 percent of youth will have learned about at least one career or college opportunity
- 75 percent of youth will have learned the dangers of drug and alcohol use
- 80 percent of youth participants will meet either a 25 percent improvement in attendance or maintain a 95 percent attendance standard by the end of the Fall 2009 semester
- 80 percent of youth will report 25 percent decrease in illegal behaviors, and/or, gang involvement

- 55 participants will increase their GPA by a minimum of 0.25 on a four point scale at some time between the first and final grading period of Fall 2009
- 75 percent of participants will demonstrate appropriate conflict resolution skills by the end of the summer 2009
- 75 percent of participants will report a decrease in involvement in illegal or gang-related activities.

NOAH's proposal included the following outcomes:

- 80 percent of youth will acknowledge risk factors and commit to new skills leading to positive change
- 80 percent will complete a life plan and 90 percent of youth completing life plan will experience increased hope for the future
- 80 percent will initiate and/or achieve at least one life plan goal, e.g., education or employment
- 80 percent will increase participation in social services/faith-based organizations
- 75 percent will not participate in/or decrease involvement in gangs while in the program
- 80 percent of family relations will be improved and will support life plan.

The IJJTF proposal did not include specific figures regarding outcomes, but outlined broad measures:

- Recidivism outcomes in terms of arrests for new offenses, convictions for new offenses, length of time to new offenses, and types of charges involved in new offenses
- Successful program completion that would take into account number and percentage of youth completing the program
- Desired pro-social outcomes, including reduced level of risk for reoffending, reduced use of illegal substances, progress in specific education and/or employment activities and goals and family strengthening

Peace Learning Centers Peace Schools proposed outcomes included the following:

- At least 1,300 youth will receive anti-gang prevention programming in four designated schools



- 85 percent of students will be able to identify at least three ways of peacefully solving conflicts
  - 75 percent of student will strengthen protective factors
  - 90 percent of school staff will report improved school environment and better behavior by students
- 85 percent of students will be able to identify at least three ways of peacefully solving conflicts
  - 75 percent of students will strengthen protective factors
  - 90 percent of school staff will report improved behavior and academic success by students.

Peace Learning Centers' stated outcomes for the intervention component included the following:

- At least 100 14 to 18 year old youth will receive 40 hours of anti-gang intervention programming in four designated schools



## **APPENDIX B — PARTICIPANT SURVEYS**

### **Pre-Program Participant Survey Comprehensive Anti-Gang Initiative**

**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Today's Date:** \_\_\_\_\_



1. What is your date of birth: \_\_\_\_\_
  
2. Are you currently enrolled in school?  Yes  No  
If yes, what is the name of your school? \_\_\_\_\_
  
3. What grades do you general get in school?  
 Mostly A's  Mostly B's  Mostly C's  Mostly D's  Mostly F's
  
4. Have you ever been suspended from school?  Yes  No
  
5. Have you ever been expelled from school?  Yes  No
  
6. Thinking back over the past year in school, how often did you enjoy being in school?  
 Always  Often  Sometimes  Never
  
7. Are there gangs at your school?  Yes  No  Don't know
  
8. Are there gangs in your neighborhood?  Yes  No  Don't know
  
9. Do you know anyone who belongs to a gang?  Yes  No  Don't know
  
10. Do you have relatives that are or have been members of a gang?  Yes  No  Don't know
  
11. Would you say that gangs are a real problem at your school?  
 strongly agree  agree  disagree  strongly disagree
  
12. Would you say that gangs are a real problem in your neighborhood?  
 strongly agree  agree  disagree  strongly disagree
  
13. What best describes where you currently live? A home includes a house, apartment, trailer, or mobile home.  
 A home with both parents  A home with only one parent  
 Other relatives' or a friend's home  Foster home, group care, or waiting placement  
 Shelter, or on the street (no fixed housing), car or van, park campground or abandoned building  
 Other living arrangement, transitional, or temporary housing
  
14. Is there an adult in your household that is employed?  Yes  No



15. Who is this adult(s)? (CHECK ALL THAT APPLY)

- Father     Mother     Aunt/Uncle     Grandparent     Brother/sister     Other

16. Has anyone in your family been incarcerated in jail, prison, or a detention center?

- Yes     No     Don't know

17. Has anyone in your family been a victim of a violent crime?

- Yes     No     Don't know

18. Has anyone in your family committed a violent crime?

- Yes     No     Don't know

19. When you are not home, how often does one of your parents/guardian know where you are and who you are with?

- Rarely     Sometimes     Often     Always

20. Do you currently have a job?

- Yes     No

If yes, how many hours a week do you work? \_\_\_\_\_ hours per week

21. Think of your four best friends (the friends you feel closest to). In the past year (12 months), how many of your best friends have:

- |  |                               |                            |                            |                            |                            |
|--|-------------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|
| a. Been suspended or expelled from school? | <input type="checkbox"/> None | <input type="checkbox"/> 1 | <input type="checkbox"/> 2 | <input type="checkbox"/> 3 | <input type="checkbox"/> 4 |
| b. Been arrested?                          | <input type="checkbox"/> None | <input type="checkbox"/> 1 | <input type="checkbox"/> 2 | <input type="checkbox"/> 3 | <input type="checkbox"/> 4 |
| c. Dropped out of school?                  | <input type="checkbox"/> None | <input type="checkbox"/> 1 | <input type="checkbox"/> 2 | <input type="checkbox"/> 3 | <input type="checkbox"/> 4 |
| d. Been members of a gang?                 | <input type="checkbox"/> None | <input type="checkbox"/> 1 | <input type="checkbox"/> 2 | <input type="checkbox"/> 3 | <input type="checkbox"/> 4 |

22. Thinking of the friends you mentioned above, how much do you agree that it is more important to "have their back" than obey the law?

- strongly agree     agree     disagree     strongly disagree





# CAGI POST-PROGRAM PARTICIPANT SURVEY

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Today's Date: \_\_\_\_\_

1. Are you currently enrolled in school? 0 Yes 0 No

If YES, what is the name of your school? \_\_\_\_\_

2. Since you began participating in the CAGI program, how often would you say you go to school? (MARK ONLY ONE)

- Much more regularly
- Somewhat more regularly
- About the same
- Somewhat less regularly
- Much less regularly
- I don't go to school

3. Since you began participating in the CAGI program, if you go to school, how would you say you are doing in school? (MARK ONLY ONE)

- I get much better grades
- I get somewhat better grades
- 0 I get about the same grades
- I get somewhat lower grades
- I get much lower grades
- I don't go to school

4. If you are currently in school, what kind of grades do you currently get? (MARK ONLY ONE)

- Mostly A's     Mostly B's     Mostly C's     Mostly D's     Mostly F's     I don't go to school

5. Since you began participating in the CAGI program, have you been suspended from school?

- Yes     No

6. Since you began participating in the CAGI program, have you been expelled from school?

- Yes     No

If YES, since you were expelled, have you started going to school again?

- Yes     No

7. Since you began participating in the CAGI program, how much would you say you like school? (MARK ONLY ONE)

- I like school a lot more
- I like school somewhat more
- I like it about the same as before
- I like it somewhat less
- I like it a lot less
- I don't go to school



8. Do you know anyone who belongs to a gang?  Yes  No  Don't know

9. Since you began participating in the CAGI program, how much would you agree with the following statement, "I think using illegal drugs and alcohol is a bad idea." (MARK ONLY ONE)

- Strongly agree
- Somewhat agree
- Not sure
- Somewhat disagree
- Strongly disagree

10. Since you began participating in the CAGI program, how would you describe your likelihood of trying or using drugs/alcohol? (MARK ONLY ONE)

- A lot more likely
- Somewhat more likely
- About the same
- Somewhat less likely
- A lot less likely

11. Do you currently have a job?  Yes  No

If YES, please describe your job: \_\_\_\_\_

If YES, how many hours a week do you work? \_\_\_\_\_hours per week

If NO, are you looking for a job right now?  Yes  No

12. Has participating in the CAGI program helped you prepare to get a job? (MARK ONLY ONE)

- Yes
- No
- I am not looking for a job right now

If YES, please tell us how the CAGI program has helped you prepare for or get a job? (MARK ALL THAT APPLY)

- Learned about how to look for a job, (for example, newspaper or internet job searches)
- Helped me find a job or jobs that I could apply for
- Helped me complete a job application
- Helped me create a resume
- Helped me write a cover letter to apply for a job
- Helped me practice interviewing for a job
- Helped me learn about how to act on the job
- Helped me learn about how to be organized
- Helped me learn about the importance of planning for my future

13. Think of your four best friends (the friends you feel closest to). Since you began participating in the CAGI program, how many of your best friends have:

- a. Been suspended or expelled from school?  None  1  2  3  4
- b. Been arrested?  None  1  2  3  4
- c. Dropped out of school?  None  1  2  3  4
- d. Been members of a gang?  None  1  2  3  4



14. Since you began participating in the CAGI program, how much would you say your friends have been getting in trouble? (MARK ONLY ONE)
- A lot more
  - Somewhat more
  - About the same
  - Somewhat less
  - A lot less
15. Thinking of the friends you mentioned above, how much do you agree that it is more important to “have their back” than obey the law? (MARK ONLY ONE)
- strongly agree     agree     disagree     strongly disagree
16. Since you began participating in the CAGI program, how would you describe your attitude toward gangs? (MARK ONLY ONE)
- I view gangs more positively
  - I view gangs about the same
  - I view gangs more negatively
17. Since you began participating in the CAGI program, how much would you say you have been involved in activities that could get you in trouble? (MARK ONLY ONE)
- A lot more
  - Somewhat more
  - About the same
  - Somewhat less
  - A lot less
18. Since you began participating in the CAGI program, how much would you say you that you worry that your friends could get you in trouble? (MARK ONLY ONE)
- A lot more
  - Somewhat more
  - About the same
  - Somewhat less
  - A lot less
19. Since you began participating in the CAGI program, would you agree that you are more concerned with obeying the law than you were before you started coming to this program? (MARK ONLY ONE)
- strongly agree     agree     disagree     strongly disagree
20. Since you began participating in the CAGI program, would you say that you get along with your family: (MARK ONLY ONE)
- A lot better
  - Better
  - About the same
  - Somewhat worse
  - A lot worse



21. What have you found to be of most benefit to you from the CAGI program?

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22. What have you found to be of little or no benefit?

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23. How would you change this program to have more of an impact or make a bigger difference?

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24. Since you began participating in the CAGI program, which of the following youth programs have you participated in?  
(Mark ALL that Apply)

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Campfire Girls                           | <input type="checkbox"/> YMCA/YWCA                     |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Cub Scouts                               | <input type="checkbox"/> Church/religious youth groups |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Girl Scouts                              | <input type="checkbox"/> Future Farmers of America     |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Big Brothers/Big Sisters                 | <input type="checkbox"/> 4-H                           |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Boys/Girls Clubs                         |  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Other youth programs (Please list: _____ |  |

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I have not participated in any other youth programs



25. Before you began participating in the CAGI program, which of the following youth programs have you ever participated in? (Mark ALL that apply)

- Campfire Girls
- Cub Scouts
- Girl Scouts
- Big Brothers/Big Sisters
- Boys/Girls Clubs
- YMCA/YWCA
- Church/religious youth groups
- Future Farmers of America
- 4-H
- Christamore House
- NOAH
- Forest Manor Multiservice Center
- Juvenile Justice Taskforce
- Hawthorne Center
- Peace Learning Center
- Other youth programs (Please list: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_ )

I have not participated in any other youth programs



# APPENDIX C — CAGI PROVIDER INTAKE AND EXIT FORMS

## CAGI PROVIDER INTAKE FORM

### TO BE COMPLETED BY CAGI PROVIDER FOLLOWING CAGI PARTICIPANT INTAKE SESSION

Participant's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Participant's date of birth: \_\_\_\_\_

Today's date: \_\_\_\_\_

1. Is this individual court ordered to participate in your program?  Yes  No

If YES, for how many weeks has he/she been court ordered to participate in your program? \_\_\_\_\_ weeks

2. Please describe, based on your personal assessment, why you think this individual is gang involved or at risk for gang involvement or activity. (Please be as specific as possible about any risk factors and behavior you observe.)

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3. Please indicate which of the following gang risk behaviors you are aware of or have observed with the participant:  
(PLEASE CHECK ALL THAT APPLY)

- Self identifies as a gang member
- Associates with or is friends with gang members
- Always "hangs" with the same group
- Has "tagged" or marked something with graffiti
- Uses overt gang handshakes, gestures, or body language
- Refers to known gangs in the neighborhood
- Has tattoos that indicate gang affiliation
- Has family members who are gang members
- Has been in physical fights
- Skips school
- Has been arrested
- Has carried a weapon
- Has used a weapon to threaten/bully someone



## CAGI PROVIDER EXIT FORM

Participant's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Participant's date of birth: \_\_\_\_\_

Today's date: \_\_\_\_\_

1. Is this participant still enrolled in your program?  Yes  No

If NO, when did he/she exit your program? DATE of last attendance: \_\_\_\_\_

Did he/she successfully complete your program?  Yes  No

2. Was this individual court ordered to participate in your program?  Yes  No

a. If YES, how many weeks did he/she participate in your program? \_\_\_\_\_ weeks

b. If YES, has this participant fulfilled the court ordered requirement?  Yes  No

If you answered YES to 2b, this individual has fulfilled the court ordered requirement, is he/she still participating in your program?

Yes  No

3. Please indicate which of the following gang risk behaviors you were aware of or recently observed when the participant completed/exited your program (if person still in program please note any current or recent risk behaviors you are aware of): (PLEASE MARK ALL THAT APPLY)

- Currently self identifies as a gang member
- Currently associates with or is friends with gang members
- Still "hangs" with the same group
- Recently has "tagged" or marked something with graffiti
- Uses overt gang handshakes, gestures, or body language
- Continues to refer to known gangs in the neighborhood
- Has recently received tattoos that indicate gang affiliation
- Recently has been in physical fights
- Continues to skip school
- Recently has been arrested
- Recently has carried a weapon
- Recently has used a weapon to threaten/bully someone

4. Please describe, based on your personal assessment, if and how you think this individual's level of gang involvement/activity or risk for gang involvement/activity has changed since they began participating in your program. (Please be as specific as possible about any changes in risk factors and behavior changes you observe.)

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5. Since this individual began participating in your program, are you aware of a change in his/her school attendance patterns?

- Yes       No       Don't know

If YES, please indicate what you have observed in terms of his/her school attendance. (MARK ONLY ONE)

- Now attends school much more regularly  
 Now attends school more regularly  
 Attends school less regularly than when began program  
 Attends school much less regularly than when began program  
 No longer attends school

6. Since this individual began participating in your program, are you aware of a change in his/her school performance?

- Yes       No       Don't know

If YES, please indicate what you have observed in terms of his/her school performance. (MARK ONLY ONE)

- Now gets much better grades  
 Now gets somewhat better grades  
 Now gets somewhat lower grades  
 Now gets much lower grades  
 No longer attends school

7. Please indicate what kind of grades he/she currently gets in school (MARK ONLY ONE)

- Mostly A's     Mostly B's     Mostly C's     Mostly D's     Mostly F's     Don't know  
 No longer attends school

8. Since this individual began participating in your program, are you aware of a change with regard to school behavior problems?

- Yes       No       Don't know

If YES, please indicate if he/she has been suspended or expelled from school.

Since this individual began participating in your program, has he/she been suspended from school?     Yes     No

Since this individual began participating in your program, has he/she been expelled from school?     Yes     No

If this individual was expelled from school, has he/she been re-enrolled in school following the expulsion?

- Yes, re-enrolled  
 No, has not re-enrolled  
 Don't know

9. Since this individual began participating in your program, are you aware of a change in his/her family relationships?

- Yes       No       Don't know

If YES, would you say that his/her family relationships are: (MARK ONLY ONE)

- A lot better     Better     About the same     Somewhat worse     A lot worse





10. Since this individual began participating in your program, are you aware of a change regarding his/her friends?

- Yes       No       Don't know

If YES, please indicate whether his/her friends and peers were a positive or negative influence: (MARK ONLY ONE)

	Mostly Positive	Somewhat Positive	Somewhat Negative	Mostly Negatively	Don't Know
When he/she first started participating in your program	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Since he/she has been participating in your program or completed/exited the program	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

11. To your knowledge was this individual abusing substances at the time they entered your program?

- Yes       No       Don't know

If YES, is his/her current substance abuse: (MARK ONLY ONE)

- Much more frequent  
 More frequent  
 About the same  
 Less frequent  
 Much less frequent  
 Stopped using  
 Don't know

12. Since this individual began participating in your program, are you aware of his/her employment status?

- Yes       No       Don't know

If YES, please indicate what you have observed regarding his/her employment status: (MARK ONLY ONE)

- Currently employed (Please specify what kind of job he/she has: \_\_\_\_\_)  
 Actively seeking employment  
 Not old enough to work (NOTE: Indiana's Teen Labor Laws require that Indiana employers must obtain a work permit to employ minors ages 14, 15, 16 and 17.)  
 Not interested in seeking employment  
(Please specify reason(s) why he/she is may not be interested in looking for a job: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_ )

13. Since this individual began participating in your program, are you aware of a change in his/her attitudes regarding gangs?

- Yes       No       Don't know

If YES, please indicate what you have observed regarding his/her attitudes: (MARK ONLY ONE)

- Now seems much less favorable toward gangs  
 Now seems somewhat less favorable toward gangs  
 Now seems somewhat more favorable toward gangs  
 Now seems much more favorable toward gangs



14. Since this individual began participating in your program, are you aware of a change in his/her attitudes regarding crime?

- Yes       No       Don't know

If YES, please indicate what you have observed regarding his/her attitudes: (MARK ONLY ONE)

- Now seems much less favorable toward crime  
 Now seems somewhat less favorable toward crime  
 Now seems somewhat more favorable toward crime  
 Now seems much more favorable toward crime

15. What aspect of your program was most able to help this person?

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16. What did your program lack that could have helped this person?

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17. Has this person received any non-CAGI services from your program within the last year?

- Yes       No

If YES, please describe the type and duration of any non-CAGI services he/she received from your program within the last year:

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