


COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS FOR AT-RISK YOUTH

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State of Colorado

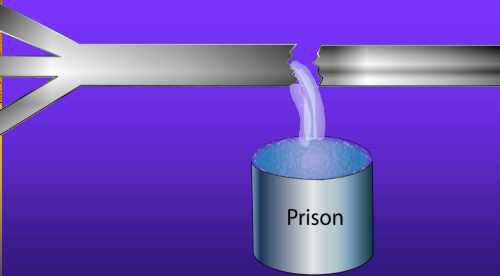


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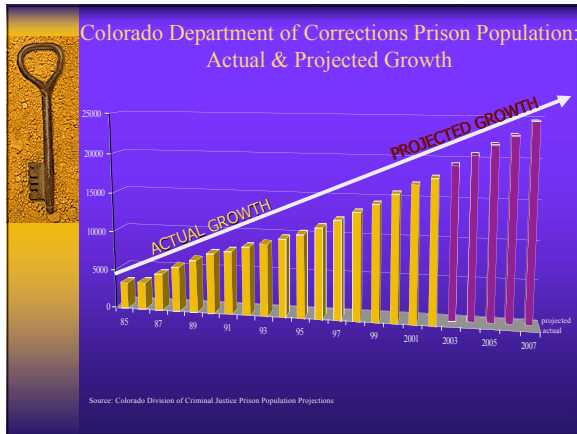
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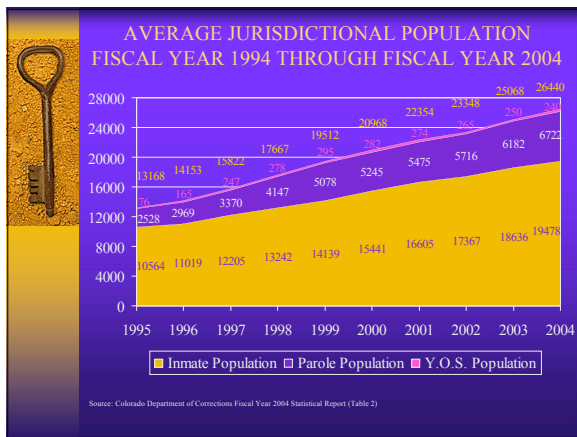


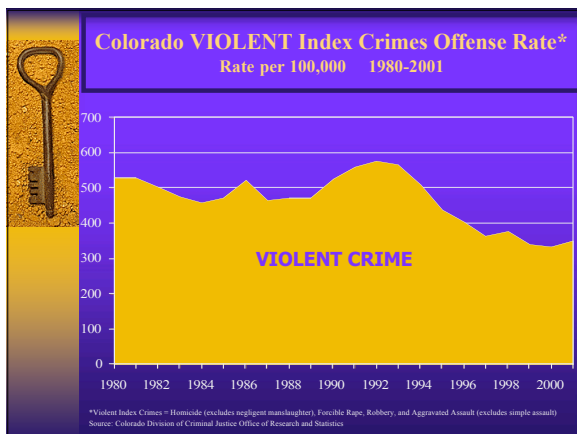
Prosecutor's Traditional Role

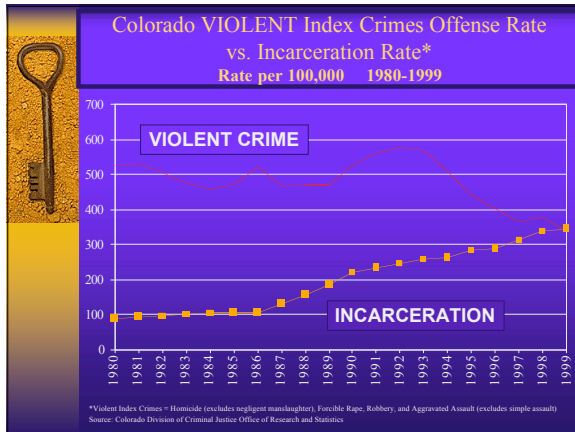


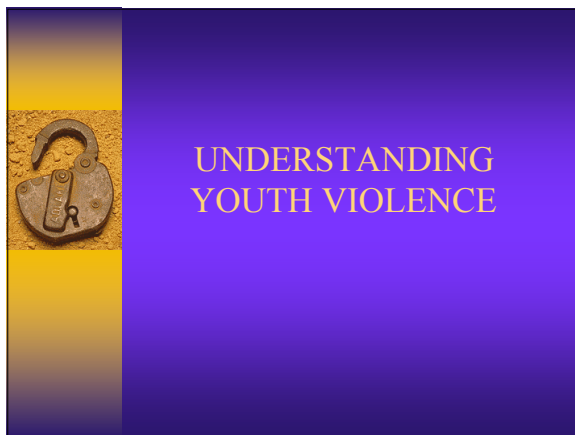
Prison












The Nature of Youth Violence

The Initiation of Violent Behavior

- ◆ Individuals who have not initiated violent behavior by age 20 are unlikely to ever engage in violence
- ◆ The highest risk for initiation of violent behavior is at 15-16 years of age
- ◆ After age 17, participation in violence drops dramatically
- ◆ 80% of youth do not continue violent offending past age 21 (except rapists)

Center for the Study and Prevention of Violence



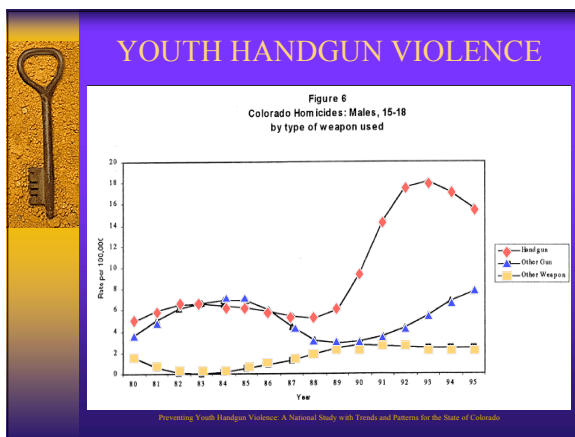
The Nature of Youth Violence


What has changed about youth violence in the '90s?

Today's Youth Violence is more Lethal

- ◆ Youth violence today more often results in serious injury or death
- ◆ Between 1988 and 1993, the youth homicide rate more than doubled, while adult homicide rates stayed the same

Center for the Study and Prevention of Violence





The Social Context of Youth Development

Risk Factors for Youth Violence Reside in a Number of Different *Social Contexts*

- ◆ Individual
- ◆ Peer
- ◆ Family
- ◆ School/Community

Surgeon Generals Report on Youth Violence, Jan 2001

Center for the Study and Prevention of Violence



The Social Context of Youth Development

Individual Risk Factors

- ◆ Poor academic skills
- ◆ Impulsivity
- ◆ Substance use
- ◆ Inability to understand the perspective of others
- ◆ Poor social problem solving skills
- ◆ Poor conflict resolution skills
- ◆ Difficulties in understanding the moral consequences of actions



The Social Context of Youth Development

Peer Risk Factors

- ◆ Low social status
- ◆ Rejection by peers
- ◆ Gang Involvement
- ◆ Shared deviant peer norms
- ◆ Association with delinquent peer groups



The Social Context of Youth Development

Family Risk Factors


- ◆ Inconsistent discipline
- ◆ Reliance on coercion
- ◆ Harsh or abusive discipline
- ◆ Poor monitoring of activities
- ◆ Insecure attachments
- ◆ Defensive communication
- ◆ Deviant shared values
- ◆ High percentage of negative interactions
- ◆ Low levels of emotional closeness
- ◆ Inefficient use of family resources



The Social Context of Youth Development

School/Community Risk Factors

- ◆ Lack of student/parent involvement
- ◆ Low academic achievement
- ◆ Lack of social organization and social support
- ◆ Few opportunities for recreation
- ◆ Unemployment and economic disparities
- ◆ High levels of community crime
- ◆ Availability of firearms



Youth Violence: Trends and Risks

Summary

- ◆ While overall levels of youth violence remain high, the increasing *lethality* of youth violence is the major problem in the 1990's, dropping in the 2000s.
- ◆ Most violent behavior begins during adolescence, emphasizing the need for early prevention and intervention strategies
- ◆ Risks for youth violence are varied and depend on stages of youth development as well as different social settings; prevention/intervention strategies should be sensitive to these



Combination of Factors

- ◆ Early
 - General Offenses .38
 - Substance Abuse .30
- ◆ Late
 - Weak Social Ties .39
 - Antisocial/Delinquent Peers .37
 - Gang Membership .31




RISK FACTORS & PREVENTION PROGRAMS




RISK FACTORS AND RELATED ISSUES

- ◆ Substance Abuse
- ◆ Unmet Mental Health Needs
- ◆ Truancy and Dropping out
- ◆ Lack of After School Supervision
- ◆ Low Level Delinquency
- ◆ Gangs
- ◆ Bullying




SUBSTANCE ABUSE

- ◆ Nationwide, Colorado ranks:
 - 1st in marijuana use
 - 2nd in alcohol abuse
 - 15th in drug abuse
- ◆ Colorado was 50th on spending for prevention and treatment
- ◆ If a child starts drinking before the age of 15, they have a 40% chance of being an alcoholic
- ◆ 5 million high schoolers binge drink at least once a month
- ◆ In 2002, 4 million youths (16% of 12 to 17 year olds) used marijuana in the last year
- ◆ In Colorado, 30% reported marijuana use




IMPACT ON CRIME

- ◆ 78% of inmates have substance abuse problems
- ◆ Only 20% incarcerated on drug charges
- ◆ In 2001, 204 young people between 15 and 25 years of age died on the highways in Colorado
 - 47% were alcohol related
- ◆ U.S. spends over \$40 billion coping with problem of substance abuse
- ◆ Alcohol use is also linked to:
 - Teen Suicides
 - 2/3 of teen sexual assault



SUBSTANCE ABUSE PREVENTION PROGRAMS

- ◆ DUI Education – High School Initiative
 - Partnership with MADD & School Districts
- ◆ Success of last 20 years – 1982 to 2000
 - Drop of 34% in DUI fatalities
 - Teen DUI fatalities dropped 56%



SUBSTANCE ABUSE PREVENTION PROGRAMS

- ◆ Two Blueprint Programs
 - Mid Western Prevention Project
 - 3 year school based program
 - 40% reduction in smoking and marijuana
 - Significant reduction in alcohol use
 - Life Skills Training
 - 3 year middle school program
 - Alcohol & marijuana use reduced 50% to 75%
 - Cut poly drug use up to 66%



IMPACT OF MENTAL ILLNESS ON THE CJS

- ◆ 16% of DOC has serious mental illness
- ◆ 50% to 75% of incarcerated youth have mental health disorders
 - Only around 50% have received treatment
- ◆ Up to 19% of youth involved in CJS may be suicidal
- ◆ Over 50% have co-occurring substance abuse



UNMET MENTAL HEALTH NEEDS

- ◆ 1 in 5 needs Mental Health Services
 - Less than a third receive them
- ◆ Higher percentage for adolescents
- ◆ Colorado ranks 31st for publicly funded mental health



PROGRAMS FOR MENTAL ILLNESS/CONDUCT DISORDERS

- ◆ Publications:
 - OJJDP – Serving the Mental Health needs of young offenders
 - Colorado's DCJ – Community based management pilot programs for youth with mental illness involved in the CJS
- ◆ Programs in the 17th Judicial District:
 - Family Treatment Court
 - CESE program
- ◆ Blueprint Programs:
 - Multisystemic Therapy (MST)
 - Multi-Dimensional Treatment Foster Care (MTFC)



IMPACT OF TRUANCY & DROPPING-OUT

- ◆ Completing 12th grade results in a 50% reduction in entry into CJS
- ◆ Costs of dropping-out
 - \$200,000 in lifetime costs for every high school drop-out
 - Increasing the graduation rate by 2% would result in \$255 million dollars (\$255,364,000) cost savings to society (1,277 graduates)



TRUANCY COURT

- ◆ Started Initiative in 1997
- ◆ Coordinate 5 School Districts
- ◆ School Hearing Procedures
- ◆ Then file in State Court
- ◆ Now have Funding from CFFC



LACK OF AFTER SCHOOL SUPERVISION

- ◆ The parents of 28 million school age kids work outside the home
- ◆ Between 7 and 15 million kids are unsupervised in the afternoon
- ◆ Only 1/3 of kids/parents who want after-school programs find them available



IMPACT ON CRIME

- ◆ The highest time period for juvenile crime is between 3 pm and 7 pm.
 - Victim surveys (NCVS) confirm these hours highest for victimization
- ◆ For all violent crimes – except rape
- ◆ Also, highest period for substance abuse and teen pregnancy
- ◆ Students in after school programs had better grades, better attendance, and less substance abuse



AFTER SCHOOL PROGRAMS

- ◆ Expansion of Boys and Girls Clubs
- ◆ Partnering with school and recreation districts programs
- ◆ Promotion of effective mentoring programs
 - Big Brothers, Big Sisters



Low Level Delinquency

- ◆ “The most powerful early risk factors for violence at age 15 to 18 are involvement in general offenses and substance abuse before age 12” – Surgeon General’s Report p.64



Coordinated Response to Early Delinquency

- ◆ Graduated Sanctions
(with Municipal Courts)
- ◆ Information Sharing
(and Pointer System)
- ◆ Family Treatment Court




GANGS

- ◆ Over 24,000 gangs active in the U.S.
- ◆ Approximately 800,000 gang members
- ◆ 87% from minority communities
- ◆ Increasing female participation
- ◆ Over 37% are juveniles




GANGS IMPACT ON CRIME

- ◆ Although relatively small percentage, commit majority of serious youth violence (68%-79%)
- ◆ 46% of youth gang members are involved in drug sales
- ◆ 67% owned or carried a gun
- ◆ Victimization in school triples from (2.7% to 7.5%) with gang presence




BULLYING

- ◆ Not a “rite of passage”
- ◆ 1.5 million kids – grades 6-10 report being bullied once a week
- ◆ In U.S. 500,000 stay home from school at least once a month
- ◆ 10,000 a month in Colorado alone
- ◆ Victimization role established and mental health issues
- ◆ Effects school performance




IMPACT OF BULLYING

- ◆ 60% of bullies arrested for assault by age 24
- ◆ 40% arrested more than once



BULLY PREVENTION PROGRAMS

- ◆ Blue Print Program
 - Bullying Prevention Program
 - Developed in Norway
 - Bullying dropped 50% in 2 years
 - Broader impact on school climate and crime
- ◆ Promising Program
 - Bully proofing your school
 - Dr. Bill Porter – Cherry Creek School District
 - Being evaluated for Blue Print




RACE AND CRIME

David Satcher, M.D., Ph.D., 16th Surgeon General of the United States

Youth Violence: A Report of the Surgeon General 2001

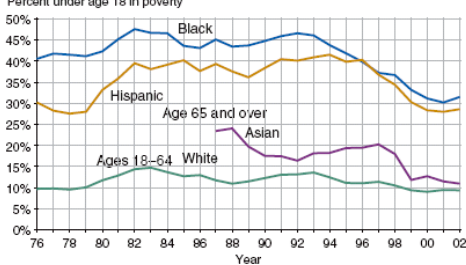
“The question is whether race predicts violence once other known risk factors are taken into account. ...Thus, race appears to be a risk marker rather than a risk factor. Race is a proxy for other known risk factors – living in poor, single-parent families, doing poorly at school, and being exposed to neighborhood disadvantage, gangs, violence, and crime.”




POVERTY

One of every six juveniles lived in poverty in 2002

Percent under age 18 in poverty

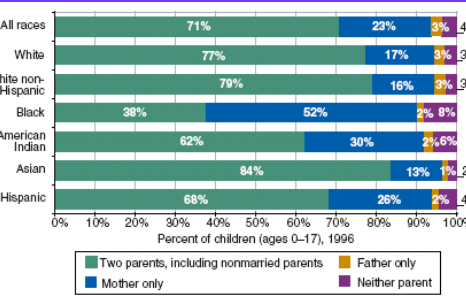


Snyder, Howard N. and Sickmund, Melissa. 2006. *Juvenile Offenders and Victims: 2006 National Report*. Washington, DC: U.S. Dept. of Justice, Office of Justice Programs, Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention

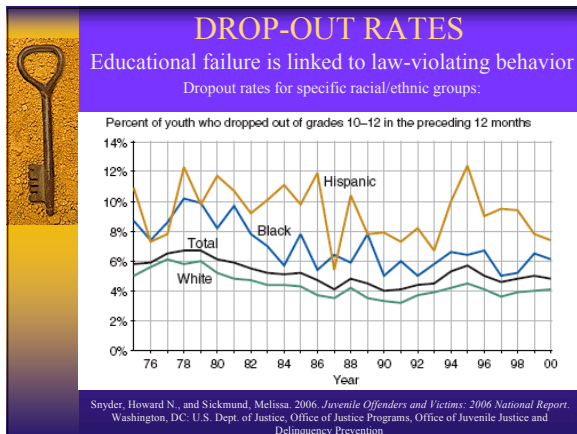



SINGLE-PARENT FAMILIES

Children in single-parent families are more likely to live in poverty

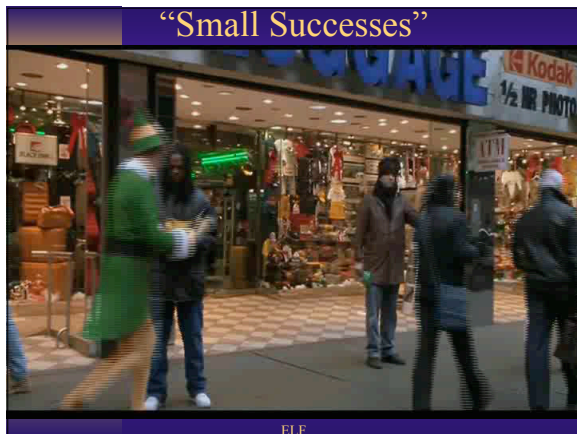


Snyder, Howard N. and Sickmund, Melissa. 2006. *Juvenile Offenders and Victims: 2006 National Report*. Washington, DC: U.S. Dept. of Justice, Office of Justice Programs, Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention



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- TIMELY INTERVENTION**
- ♦ Intervening
 - As early as possible
 - With the appropriate response level
 - ♦ Information Sharing
 - Juvenile Information Sharing Agreements
 - Graduated Sanctions
 - Pointer System
 - ♦ Safe-2-Tell

- 
- EARLY CHILDHOOD INTERVENTION**
- ♦ Professor James Beckman, University of Chicago
 - The Productivity Argument for Investing in Young Children
 - ♦ Criminal Activity costs U.S. \$1.3 trillion per year
 - \$4,818 per person
 - ♦ Investment in Enriched Pre-School Programs





COURT-BASED INTERVENTIONS

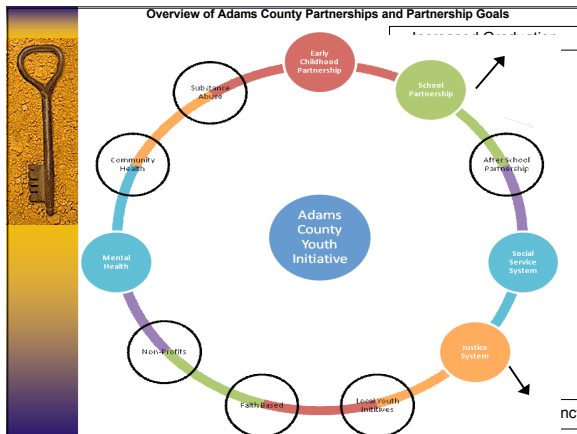
- ◆ Family Treatment Courts
- ◆ Graduated Sanctions Council
- ◆ Coordinated Management/ Bundling of Juvenile Cases
- ◆ Truancy Partnership
- ◆ CESE program



RECIDIVISM

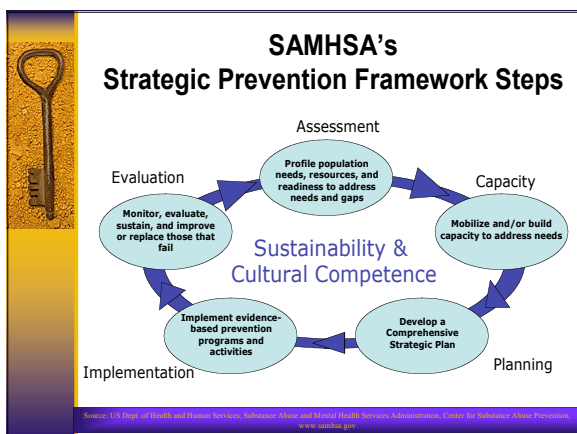


- Substance Abuse
- Truancy/School Performance
- Gangs
- Low Level Delinquency
- After School Supervision
- Mental Illness
- Bullying



PARTNERS IN THE ACYI

<p>Community Reach Center</p> <p>Colorado Dept. of Public Health & Environment</p> <p>The Link Juvenile Facility</p> <p>Yellow Ribbon Organization</p> <p>YISS Institute (SOAR High)</p> <p>Salud Clinic (ParentCorp.org)</p> <p>Asian Pacific Development Center of Colorado</p> <p>Tri-county Health Department (Among American Asso. of Colorado)</p> <p>Hyland Hills Recreation District</p> <p>Arapahoe House</p> <p>Partnerships for Healthy Communities</p> <p>Boys & Girls Clubs of Colorado</p> <p>Immaculate Heart of Mary Catholic Church</p> <p>Westminster Church of the Nazarene</p>	<p>Adams County</p> <p>Sheriff's Office Gang Unit</p> <p>Dept. of Social Services</p> <p>Coroner's Office</p> <p>Headstart</p> <p>County Attorney's Office</p> <p>17th Judicial District</p> <p>District Attorney</p> <p>--Diversion Unit</p> <p>--Child Victim Unit</p> <p>--Juvenile Division</p> <p>Truancy Reduction Project</p> <p>SB 94 Committee</p> <p>Probation Department</p> <p>Cities</p> <p>Brighton</p> <p>Northglenn</p> <p>Westminster</p> <p>Thornton</p> <p>Broomfield</p> <p>Commerce City</p>	<p>Police Department</p> <p>Brighton P.D.</p> <p>Thornton P.D.</p> <p>Northglenn P.D.</p> <p>Westminster P.D.</p> <p>Commerce City P.D.</p> <p>Adams County P.D.</p> <p>School Districts</p> <p>District 14</p> <p>District 12.5 Star</p> <p>District 50</p> <p>Brighton 271</p>
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PLANNING PROCESS

1. Meet with Juvenile Judge
2. Bring Other Partners to the Table
3. Survey what is already being done
4. Identify Problems not being addressed
5. Research Effective Programs to respond to problems
6. Cooperate for Funding
7. Establish Evaluations



17th JUDICIAL LINK FOR EFFECTIVE PROGRAMS

17th Judicial - Judge Chris Melonakis
*Prosecutor, Court and Community
Partnership for At-Risk Youth by Chris
Melonakis*

[Http://www.17thjudicialdistrict.com](http://www.17thjudicialdistrict.com)
(Select Juvenile Court)



LINKS FOR EFFECTIVE PROGRAMS

- ♦ CU Center for Prevention
www.colorado.edu/cspv
- ♦ Department of Education
Ed.gov/admins/lead/safety/exemplary01/report_pg3.html
- ♦ Helping America's Youth (White House)
www.helpingamericasyouth.gov
- ♦ OJJDP Effective Programs
www.ojjdp.ncjrs.org
- ♦ Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA)
www.modelprograms.samhsa.gov
- ♦ Washington State Institute for Public Policy
www.wsipp.wa.gov

ADAMS COUNTY YOUTH INITIATIVE REFERENCE MANUAL						
VIOLENCE/ GANG PREVENTION						
AGENCY	AGENCY INFORMATION		CONTACT INFORMATION			
	PHILOSOPHY/PURPOSE	TELEPHONE	WEBSITE	ADDRESS	CITY	STATE ZIP CODE
Adams County Board Unit	Inevitable Youth is designed to prevent or reduce aggressive and oppositional behavior, thus reducing the chance of developing later delinquent behavior, drug abuse and violence	303-326-4141	No website available	7111 E. 36th Ave.	Commerce	CO 80022
Adams County Sheriff's Office	14 officers assigned to gang unit	726-302-1183	http://webpage.in.adams.co.us/	4301 E. 72nd Ave., Suite C	Commerce	CO 80022
Alternatives to Family Violence	Domestic violence assistance	303-239-4441	http://webfrom.org/47/10866/col	7296 Seward Dr.	Denver	CO 80222
City and County of Broomfield	1 officer is assigned to Safety Gang Unit	303-468-3361	No website available	1 DeCoster Dr.	Broomfield	CO 80020
Colorado Anti-Bullying Project	Contact for details	Contact for details	http://www.coabp.org	Contact for details		
Commerce City Police Department	1 Sergeant and 1 Officers assigned to Gang Task Force	303-287-2214	No website available	3391 E. 66th Ave.	Commerce	CO 80022
Front Range Center for Juvenile Prevention	The Front Range Center for Juvenile Prevention (FRCJP) exists to decrease the vulnerability of children and adolescents to violence, aggression, neglect, physical, emotional and sexual assault through the provision of prevention education and advocacy	303-463-3382	http://www.frontrangegang.org/	7579 W. 30th Pl., Suite 11	Arvada	CO 80002
Gang Resistance Education and Training Program	The program's primary objective is prevention and is intended as an intervention against delinquency, youth violence, and gang membership	1-800-726-7079	http://www.gangresistance.org/	Multiple locations		
GRASP Gang Review and Payment Project National Gang Crime Research Center	Gang Information and help with tattoo removal	303-777-5317	No website available	701 S. Logan St., Suite 201	Denver	CO 80209
	We carry out research on gangs and gang members, disseminate information through publications and reports, and provide training and consulting services	708-256-9111	http://www.nga-usa.org/	P.O. Box 993 Pontiac	IL 60461	