



City Impact's Organizational Profile/Experience

City Impact's Background/History:

City Impact (C/I), located at 555 South A Street #185 in Oxnard CA, is a faith-based multicultural community organization formed in 1995 to meet the growing needs of at-risk/high-risk children, youth and low-income families throughout Ventura County; we serve more than 800 individuals on a weekly basis. C/I's mission is to promote the educational, physical, and emotional well-being of the children, youth, and families. We seek to be the pivotal agent in integrating different people groups in reconciliation, empowerment of youth and development of leaders.

Brief History of Transformation Works:

City Impact's Transformation Works (TW) program is a comprehensive, intensive and coordinated program that offers positive pathways through prevention and intervention activities. The program provides a multi-faceted approach that assists in the empowerment of youth to improve their social-emotional development and well-being. The strategies are designed to meet their individual needs and guide each youth to the path of self-sufficiency, which includes respect for themselves and others.

Since 2008, C/I has worked alongside local Law Enforcement Agencies and served as Lead Agency for the Transformation Works (TW) Programs that focused on one-to-one interventions, mentoring and therapeutic services for gang involved, incarcerated and previously incarcerated youth and young adults. The original project, Transformation Works – Oxnard (TW-O), targeted Oxnard, Port Hueneme and El Rio youth/young adults, was funded through the Governors' WIAARRA 15% California Gang Reduction, Intervention and Prevention Program (CalGRIP) grant and represented the initial effort to couple gang suppression tactics with gang intervention and prevention strategies during the period of 2008 – 2014. C/I collaborated with the Oxnard Police Department to successfully implement TW-O, which was modeled after *Cure the Violence*.

In 2011, City Impact collaborated with the Ventura County Sheriff's Office to replicate the program in the City of Fillmore. This led to the formation of Transformation Works – Fillmore (TW-F) and in 2011 the City of Fillmore was awarded funding through California Emergency Management Agency (Cal EMA) – California Gang Reduction Intervention Program (CalGRIP). TW-F targeted gang involved, incarcerated and previously incarcerated youth/young adults in Fillmore, Piru and Rancho Sespe with intervention and prevention strategies from 2011 – 2015. TW-F was a comprehensive program to holistically address and reduce the rising violence committed by the active gangs and tagging crews. TW-F combined prevention, intervention and therapeutics services through evidence-based programs, practices and strategies.

Because of the effectiveness of these two projects Ventura County leaders and law enforcement personnel agreed that a countywide anti-gang program modeled after TW-Oxnard and TW-Fillmore would be extremely beneficial. In March 2015, the Ventura County Sheriff's Office and City Impact received a federal grant through the Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) funded

through the State of California - Board of State and Community Corrections (BSCC) to implement Transformation Works countywide, Transformation Works – Ventura County (TW-VC). The goal of TW-VC is to reduce risk factors and enhance protective factors to prevent and/or lower the chance of participants entering or returning to the criminal justice system. TW-VC was enhanced and added the component of providing support, resources and services to the family members of program participants. The Ventura County Sheriff's Office received continuation of funding, for TW-VC for the period of October 2019 through March 31, 2023.

Transformation Works - Ventura County's Program Plan and Approach as it relates to the JJCPA-Funded Programs Master Plans Recommendations:

Ventura County Probation Agency conducted an evaluation of JJCPA-funded programs and services in 2020-21. The final evaluation plan outlined the following JJCPA Program-Funded recommendations that Transformation Works-Ventura County complies with:

1. Implementation of Promising Practices and Evidence-Based Programs:

Transformation Works – Ventura County is a comprehensive program where transformation in behavior, attitude, personal well-being, social skills and developmental assets are the expected outcomes for the youth enrolled in the program. The program combines prevention and intervention services through promising practices and evidence-based programs, practices and strategies. Program staff address risk/protective factors and positive youth development through the following services:

Specific Evidence-Based Programs and Strategies used in TW-VC:

- **Mentoring/Case Management:** Case manager (CM) will be engaged with participants throughout the program to guide them through the complex process of goal setting. CM will solicit input from collaborative partners and stakeholders (e.g., probation, employers, service providers) to discuss case plans and refer participants to specialized services provided by collaborative partners. In addition, Life Skills Training and Social Skills will be provided.
- **Academic Intervention:** CM will link participants to the necessary academic strategies whether traditional, alternative and/or GED to assist with academic delays or struggles.
- **Job-Related Interventions/Services:** CM and community partners will provide industry-identified soft skills in work readiness, training to address employment barriers and assistance with obtainment of unsubsidized employment opportunities.
- **Individual/Family Counseling:** provides mental health assistance to help address the symptoms that impact the participant at home, school and in the community.
- **Cognitive Behavioral Therapy:** consists of several core treatment components designed to be developmentally appropriate and address the unique needs of each youth and the family. Therapy addresses the impact of trauma and reactions to trauma, assistance with identifying and coping with emotions, development of stress management skills and appropriate coping strategies.

Enrolled youth work with their case manager to develop an individualized service strategy that appropriately addresses their strengths, skills, interests, and needs. Individualized plans will be flexible – allowing the youth to utilize services in a timeframe that best meets individual needs.

2. Use of Pre/Post Assessments:

All youth enrolled in TW-VC develop an Individual Service Strategy (ISS) that outlines the youths need for support services, interventions, trainings, education and employment assistance. The ISS

details goals for their time in the program and outlines potential program services. Program staff monitors and documents the status made towards and the achievement of outlined goals. Program staff work with collaborative partners (i.e., local school, Ventura County Probation Agency, Community Colleges etc.) to verify personal goals attained and program outcomes achieved.

3. Programs include Family Engagement:

City Impact understands that the family is an integral part of each participant's success; however, parental participation and/or family involvement is not required for program participation. TW-VC staff engage parents/family members during the enrollment process and are engaged with interested family members throughout the program in order to best serve the youth, as well as to provide additional services / resources when needed.

4. Collection of Participant Demographic Information:

During program enrollment, City Impact collects participant demographic information that includes:

- Age
- Gender
- Race / Ethnicity
- Low Income Status
- Language spoken by participant and in the home
- Education Status
- Employment Status
- Housing Status
- Probation Status
- Negative Law Enforcement contacts

5. Comprehensive set of key indicators and program outcomes:

Transformation Works – Ventura County has outlined program goals / objectives, and include:

- 100% of referred youth who participate in case management will complete an Individual Service Strategy (ISS) to maximize strengths and address barriers.
- 50% of participants over the age of 16, will be enrolled in a Work Readiness Program as measured by program data/records.
- 75% of school age youth will be retained in or returned to school, continuation high school, GED classes and/or enrolled in a local college or university as measured by project data/records

Transformation Works - Ventura County Achievements:

City Impact has 194 youth enrolled in Transformation Works – Ventura County case management services. Youth actively participating in the program receive services at our main office (555 South A Street #185), at their personal residence, on school campuses and in the community. Program accomplishments include:

- Therapeutic Services:
 - 43 youth received Individual Counseling Services
 - 17 youth are enrolled in Anger Management classes; 4 youth completed the program (a minimum of 10 weeks)
- 91 youth participated in Career Awareness Program (65% of age appropriate youth enrolled in TW-VC) and 33 youth completed the course
- 81 youth obtained employment during program enrollment

- 38 youth completed a Vocational Certification course and 4 youth have completed two different vocational training certification classes:
 - Food Handlers Certification
 - Auto Body Certification (CEC)
 - Care Givers Certification
 - Digital Media Certification (CEC)
 - Customer Service (2nd Chance Program)
 - Teachers Assistant Certification
 - Forklift Certification
 - Welding Certification (CEC)
 - California Nurse Assistant
- College Enrollment
 - 5 youth enrolled at Oxnard College
 - ✓ 1 youth Graduated with an Associate in Science
 - 4 youth enrolled at Ventura College
 - 1 youth graduated from Ventura Training Institute
- 17 youth Graduated from High School
- Program Enrollments provided by a Case Manager with specialized Training:
 - 41 youth receive Health Navigation Services
 - 19 youth received Triple-P Positive Parenting Resources
 - 15 youth enrolled in *Word on The Street* (CSEC Program) and 6 youth completed the program
- 13 youth participated in community service projects
- 10 youth successfully completed the terms of Probation and are no longer supervised by the Ventura County Probation Agency
- 129 youth have successfully completed one or more of the Personal Goals outlined during program enrollment
- 92 youth received Family Assistance / Resource Management
 - Holiday Resources (Toys for Christmas, Thanksgiving meals)
 - Food Assistance and Food Bank Locations
 - Toiletries
 - Diapers and Baby Supplies
 - Backpacks and School Supplies

In 2020 City Impact collaborated with Resource Development Associates to create a program survey for youth enrolled in case management services. Results from that on-line survey (SurveyGizmo) include:

Participants responded to the question “How true are each of the following statements”:

- 96% indicated Very True (92%) or Mostly True (4%) to the statement “My case manager is a positive influence in my life”
- 96% indicated Very True (92%) or Mostly True (4%) to the statement “My case manager connected me with resources or services”
- 100% indicated Very True (92%) or Mostly True (8%) to the statement “This program has helped me and my family”

Participants responded to the question “What is your favorite part of the program”:

- “Having someone to help me
- “I guess being able to have so much support from someone”
- “My favorite part of the program is looking into programs that will better my future”
- “My favorite part of the program is if I am ever in need of help, guidance or resource of any sort, I know I can come to my case manager”
- “My favorite part of the program is seeing my accomplishments, I’ve slowly but surely improved and my case manager plays a big role in that”

Program successes expressed through “Personal Changes” questions included:

- 96% of participants chose “Often” or Very Much” to the question “I think about how my actions affect my future” based on how they felt AFTER they enrolled in case management services compared to 32% who responded “Often” or Very Much” to the same question based on how they felt PRIOR to program enrollment
- 96% of participants chose “Often” or Very Much” to the question “I am hopeful about my future” based on how they felt AFTER they enrolled in case management services compared to 28% who responded “Often” or Very Much” to the same question based on how they felt PRIOR to program enrollment
- 80% of participants chose “Often” or Very Much” to the question “I am able to solve problems without harming myself or others (for example by using drugs or being violent)” based on how they felt AFTER they enrolled in case management services compared to 36% who responded “Often” or Very Much” to the same question based on how they felt PRIOR to program enrollment

Attached:

GAP Funding Request Budget \$57,828.10