



**CITY OF SANTA BARBARA**  
**NEIGHBORHOOD ADVISORY COUNCIL REPORT**

**AGENDA DATE:** November 11, 2019  
**TO:** Neighborhood Advisory Council  
**FROM:** Ricardo Venegas, Neighborhood and Outreach Services Coordinator  
**SUBJECT:** Human Services Grant Applications for Fiscal Year 2021

**RECOMMENDATION:**

That the Neighborhood Advisory Council support the staff recommendation to approve Human Services Grant applications for the Job Apprenticeship Program and Santa Barbara Arts Alliance Program.

**DISCUSSION:**

The City of Santa Barbara's Fiscal Year 2021 Human Services Grant applications are due December 17, 2019. Community Services staff proposes to submit two programs for funding consideration, the Job Apprenticeship Program, and the Santa Barbara Arts Alliance Program. Highlights of these programs are as follows:

**Job Apprenticeship Program**

For the past 30 years, the Job Apprenticeship Program has served as an on the job mentoring program that provides up to 250 hours of paid employment training to extremely low-income and underserved youth/young adults, between the ages of 14-21 who are at risk of becoming involved in gangs, graffiti vandalism, youth violence, and illegal drug use. On average, this program has led to an average of 8 apprentice's being hired by the city as an hourly employee, and in some cases a permanent employee, such as Omar Urcino who was recently hired as a full time custodian for Public Works Facilities. Program services and activities are designed to support youth development with life and employment skills, as well as resistance strategies and resiliency for avoiding these risky behaviors. This program operates year-round, Monday-Saturday from 7am – 9pm. The job apprentices receive employment and mentoring services within various City Departments, including the Main Library, Eastside Library, Public Works, Parks and Recreation, City Hall, and Community Development.

### Program Goals

The overall goal is to reduce the impact of gang violence and graffiti vandalism in the community by providing job based mentoring services directly to gang-involved youth and/or youth most likely to be involved in gang activity. Youth will develop positive attitudes and behavioral changes through a combination of job based mentoring, life skills training, cooperative learning, facilitated group discussions, and role playing. Acquiring these skills and attitudes helps youth avoid gang membership, prevents violence and graffiti vandalism, and helps youth to develop a positive relationship with peers, family, the community, school, and law enforcement.

### Target Population

The target population is young adults, ages 14-21 that are most likely to engage in risky behaviors such as gang membership, graffiti vandalism, truancy, violence, and other delinquent behaviors. Approximately 70 youth will be provided with job based mentoring, career guidance, coaching, paid on the job training, violence prevention education, and life skills mentoring.

A total of 69 youth were served through this program in 2019

### **BUDGET/FINANCIAL INFORMATION:**

The Job Apprenticeship Program receives \$113,000 from the Parks and Recreation Departments General Fund budget. The adopted budget supports hourly salaries for the youth and a 20 hour per-week hourly program coordinator. Additional monies received from Human Services Grants are deposited in the Parks and Recreation Departments Miscellaneous Grants budget, and are exclusively used to fund the number of youth served in this program and their hourly salary. The Parks and Recreation Department is requesting an additional \$30,000 for this program as part of the FY 2021 Human Services grant cycle.

## **Santa Barbara Arts Alliance**

The Santa Barbara Arts Alliance is a free art based mentoring program that provides hands on art instruction, life skills training, leadership training, and job readiness training. The Arts Alliance program engages youth in community service projects, such as neighborhood clean ups, graffiti abatement, repair of existing murals, and the creation and installation of new public murals that help eliminate blighted conditions and increase neighborhood pride. The program has been in operation since 2003. Program services and activities include helping youth develop resistance strategy tools and resiliency for avoiding gang membership, graffiti vandalism, delinquency, and youth violence. The program operates year-round, Monday - Friday (occasional weekends) from 3pm to 6pm. Services primarily take place at the Franklin Neighborhood Center but do include other locations. Rocelia Rodriguez, one of the programs most recent success stories, credited the program for helping her achieve her academic goals. Ms. Rodriguez is currently a freshman at Cal Poly San Luis Obispo and is majoring in Mechanical Engineering.

### Program Goals

The overall goal is to reduce the community impact of gang violence and graffiti vandalism by providing art based mentoring services directly to gang-involved youth and/or youth most likely to be involved in graffiti vandalism. Youth participants develop positive attitudes and behavioral changes through a combination of art based mentoring, life skills training, cooperative learning, facilitated group discussions, and role playing. Acquiring these skills and attitudes helps youth avoid gang membership, prevent violence and graffiti vandalism, and helps youth to develop a positive relationship with peers, family, the community, school, and law enforcement.

### Target Population

The target population is youth and young adults, ages 14-21 that are most likely to engage in risky behaviors such as graffiti vandalism, truancy, violence, and other delinquent behaviors. Approximately 60 youth will receive art based mentoring, art instruction, violence prevention education, and life skills mentoring.

A total of 58 youth were served through this program in 2019

## **BUDGET/FINANCIAL INFORMATION:**

The annual cost to run the Santa Barbara Arts Alliance program is approximately \$23,000. The program is supported by approximately \$6,000 in the City's General Fund, grants and donations. Additional monies received from Human Services Grants are exclusively used to fund lead artist mentor salaries and the cost of art related materials and supplies. In the FY 2021 Human Services grant cycle, the Department is requesting an additional \$17,000 for this program.

The Santa Barbara Arts Alliance program receives \$6,000 from the Parks and Recreation Departments General Fund budget. The adopted budget supports hourly salaries for the youth participants. Additional monies received from Human Services Grants are deposited in the Parks and Recreation Departments Miscellaneous Grants budget, and are exclusively used to fund the lead artist mentor salaries and the cost of art related materials and supplies. The Parks and Recreation Department is requesting an additional \$17,000 for this program as part of the FY 2021 Human Services grant cycle. As part of this funding cycle, the Parks and Recreation Department is requesting a higher amount due the excessive amount of graffiti vandalism throughout the City. Additional funding will go a long way in supporting the Santa Barbara Alliance with ongoing graffiti abatement.

**SUBMITTED BY:** Ricardo Venegas, Neighborhood and Outreach Services Coordinator

**APPROVED BY:** Rich Hanna, Recreation Manager