

N E W S R E L E A S E

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**State grants nearly \$5 million to combat gang violence
and provide job training for at-risk youth**

SACRAMENTO –The Employment Development Department (EDD), in conjunction with the Governor’s Office of Gang and Youth Violence Policy, has awarded ten grants totaling nearly \$5 million to expand education, job training and placement programs for 900 at-risk youth in eight counties as part of the California Gang Reduction, Intervention and Prevention Initiative (CalGRIP).

“These programs will offer at-risk youth the viable option to help turn their lives from crime to self-sufficiency” said Pam Harris, Chief Deputy Director of EDD. “By developing linkages and having access to valuable community resources, these young individuals will have an increased opportunity to complete or continue their education, engage in vocational training, achieve employment and lead a non-violent life.”

The CalGRIP initiative is an effort to confront the dramatic increase in gangs across the state and their proliferation in suburban and rural areas. CalGRIP combines funding from different programs and directs it toward local anti-gang efforts focused on intervention, suppression and prevention.

Since CalGRIP started in 2007, grants totaling more than \$20 million have been awarded to provide job training and education programs targeting youth who are seeking to leave gangs or are at risk of joining them.

“Addressing gang violence in the long term requires an investment in education and job training,” said Colleen Curtin, Chief Deputy Director of the Governor’s Office of Gang and Youth Violence Policy. “The Career Pathway model represents a very strong and coordinated investment on the part of community-based organizations, community colleges and California state universities, and it has proven effective in keeping at-risk youth in school and on track for meaningful employment.”

This year’s CalGRIP grants will fund programs in ten selected agencies to lower gang-related crime and boost economic opportunities for at-risk youth.

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Participants will engage in career pathways that will provide them the opportunity to earn a good wage while redirecting their lives to a positive outcome. Pathways include construction, transportation, infrastructure and clean energy/green jobs.

The funding was allocated into two categories: Job Training Expansion, which focuses on implementing intervention and prevention strategies, including job training, supportive services, education and job placement; and Career Pathway Partnerships to provide youth who did not complete or are still in high school with a pathway to post-secondary education or training that leads to employment as a credentialed teacher or in community service.

Funding for these programs is drawn from the Governor's 15 percent Discretionary Workforce Investment Act under the administrative authority of the EDD.

For more information about the CalGRIP Initiative, please contact Colleen Curtin, Chief Deputy Director of the Governor's Office of Gang and Youth Violence Policy, at (916) 445-8009.

Below is the list of recipients of the CalGRIP grant funding:

Awardee	County	Award
Category 1 – Job Training Expansion		
City Impact	Ventura	\$500,000
South Bay Workforce Investment Board	Los Angeles	\$500,000
Riverside County Economic Development Agency	Riverside	\$500,000
Jewish Vocational Service Los Angeles	Los Angeles	\$300,000
Oakland Private Industry Council	Alameda	\$499,945
Community Services & Employment Training	Tulare	\$500,000
City of Sacramento Police Department	Sacramento	\$500,000

Category 2 – Career Pathway Partnerships		
South Bay Center for Counseling	Los Angeles	\$500,000
CSU Fullerton Auxiliary Services	Orange	\$499,992
The CSU Chico Foundation	Butte	\$500,000
Total		\$4,799,937

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