



Oakland Unite Newsletter- Winter 2013

OAKLAND UNITE PROGRAM IN THE NEWS

**Oakland Unite Recognized by
the U.S. Department of Justice
on November 13, 2013**

The Council of State Governments Justice Center released the *Reentry Matters: Strategies and Successes of Second Chance Act Grantees Across the United States*. As a recipient of a Second Chance Grant in 2008, Oakland Unite's Juvenile Justice Center and Oakland Unified School District Wraparound Services Program was one of eleven programs nation-wide highlighted in the report for its innovative approach to working with youth, reducing recidivism and getting youth re-engaged in school. The success of this program comes from the strong collaboration between the City of Oakland's Oakland Unite, Alameda County Probation Department, Alameda County Health Care Services, Oakland Unified School District and community-based organizations.

For more information see the [press release](#).

Dear Friend,

Now that we are in the midst of the holiday season it is important to stop and reflect on what we are grateful for. Here at Oakland Unite we would like to give thanks to all our grantees who continue to work hard to reduce violence in Oakland, as well as for the hard work of our staff, interns, volunteers and community partners. Recently Oakland Unite has welcomed three new members to our team: Kinji Wooten, administrative assistant; Sara Serin-Christ, communications; and Maereg Haile, temporary grants administrator. We are looking forward to continuing this work and our collaborations in the new year. And most of all we are grateful for your continued support.

Thank you,

Download the full report [here](#).

Mark Henderson
Interim Manager
Oakland Unite
City of Oakland

WEBSITE & COMMUNICATIONS UPDATE

1. Look at our website under [News and Events](#) for programs that have been recently highlighted in the news.
2. Oakland Unite is in the process of finalizing new printed communications materials-look for links in the next newsletter.
3. Upcoming communications projects include a video highlighting Oakland United programs and participants. Stay tuned!



Oakland Unite Website



Mayor's Community Toy Drive

After a successful summer program with Friday Summer Nights at the Park in East Oakland, Oakland Unite's Community Engagement Coordinator, Jennifer Argueta, is gearing up for the Mayor's Annual Community Toy Drive. This year a record number of families signed up to receive toys. The toys will be delivered to the children on Saturday, December 21, 2013, just in time for Christmas.

UPCOMING PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT TRAININGS

The Oakland Unite team is dedicated to providing opportunities for our community to stay up-to-date on best practices to deliver relevant and high quality services. We have scheduled several professional development trainings in the new year to increase all of our knowledge and capacity to serve clients and the community in Oakland. Stay tuned for more details!

Scheduled trainings include:

- You Can Be a Change! How to Increase Employment Motivation in People in

Reentry! presented by Larry Robbin

- Medi-Cal and Alternative Forms of Health Insurance for Youth
- Trauma Informed Care

GRANTEE SPOTLIGHT: Romeo & Juliet Presented by Civicorps



On November 15, 2013 Civicorps presented Shakespeare's Romeo and Juliet performed by a highly talented group of Civicorps students.

Civicorps works with high risk young adults and provides them with the opportunity to earn their high school diploma, receive job skills training and continue on to college or technical career programs.

For more information about Civicorps check out their website at: www.cvcorps.org

COMING UP!

In the next newsletter look for new evaluation reports from our external evaluators.

For more information , please visit our website: www.OaklandUnite.org

Happy Holidays!

Sincerely,

The Oakland Unite Team

