



# OAKLAND UNITE <sup>1</sup> CITY PEACE FUTURE

## Measure Y and Oakland Unite

Passed by voters in 2004, Measure Y raises over \$6 million each year for violence prevention programs. Administered by the City of Oakland's Human Services Department (HSD), Oakland Unite is the collaboration of programs funded by Measure Y and other funding sources, providing over 4,000 individuals with intensive services each year, and reaching over 17,000 people through community outreach and events annually.

## Our Program Strategies

### Violent Incident & Crisis Response (31% of program funding)

Providing immediate and long term services to support individuals and families involved in or affected by gun violence.

### Focused Youth Services (30% of program funding)

Helping youth most likely to be involved in violence with comprehensive services to support them to embrace alternatives, stay in school and out of jail.

### Young Adult Reentry (25% of program funding)

Assisting young adults on probation or parole with a network of support services allowing them to gain valuable job skills and find and retain permanent employment.

### Family Violence Intervention (14% of program funding)

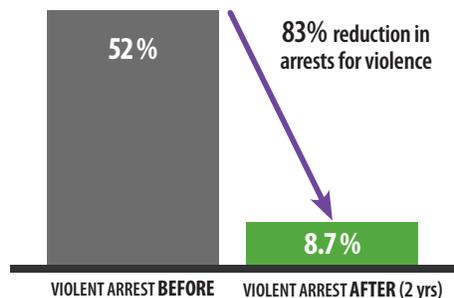
Serving victims of family violence, commercially sexually exploited children and young children (0-5 years old) exposed to violence to overcome trauma and end victimization.

## Outcomes and Evaluation

Approaching violence on multiple levels and providing interventions allows Oakland Unite to target individuals who are at the highest risk of violence—as perpetrators or victims.

To measure whether OU programs are effectively reducing violence in Oakland, independent evaluators work with data collected from service providers, probation, parole and OUSD. The evaluation shows that Oakland Unite programs are engaging the “right” people by serving the highest risk population. **72% of Oakland Unite participants have been arrested for a violent or serious crime prior to participation in Oakland Unite programs.**

Oakland Unite programs are successful in reducing violence, improving school outcomes and providing positive alternatives for program participants in a cost-effective way. **Within a year of participating in OU programs, program participants experience an 83% reduction in arrests for violent crimes.**



## Oakland Unite: New Beginnings



After spending a year and a half in Santa Rita Jail, “Matthew” returned to his West Oakland community ready to begin life anew,

but with little support or guidance on how exactly to do that. Fortunately, a friend told Matthew about an Oakland Unite funded agency that had helped him get back on his feet a year prior, while on parole from prison. Soon after, Matthew began working closely with a reentry service provider who helped him enroll in a GED program, which he completed in January 2013. By the summer, Matthew was attending Merritt College as a full-time student, earning a 3.83 GPA his first semester. With the consistent support and encouragement of his reentry services case manager, Matthew has found the resources and motivation needed to stay in school and out of trouble, while working part-time. Matthew’s plans are to graduate from Merritt with an AA degree and then transfer to a four-year university.

## 2013 BY THE NUMBERS

**17,302**  
Event & Outreach  
Participants

**4,142**  
Direct Service  
Recipients

**25**  
Funded  
Agencies

**34**  
Funded  
Programs

**72%** of program participants have been arrested for a serious or violent crime prior to participation in Oakland Unite.

**83%** reduction in re-arrests for violence after program participation.

*“Working with my case manager and being a part of this program... I learned I have my own life, my own story... my own heart and my own choices to make.”*

— Oakland Unite program participant

## Frequently Asked Questions

### What is Oakland Unite?

Since 2004, Measure Y has raised over \$20 million annually to prevent and reduce violence in Oakland. Of those funds, over \$6 million a year goes towards violence prevention programs. In 2012, the City’s violence prevention programs were named Oakland Unite, to include programs funded by Measure Y as well as by other state and federal sources. This name captures the collaborative nature of the violence prevention and intervention work in Oakland. Oakland Unite programs use proven best-practices towards reducing the violence that affects Oakland residents and communities.

### What is the connection between Oakland Unite and Ceasefire?

Ceasefire is a national anti-violence model that is currently being used by the City of Oakland to directly engage those at the highest risk of gun violence. Oakland Unite provides case management to those individuals asked to participate in Ceasefire “call-ins,” offering intensive, individualized support including counseling services, job readiness and skills training, and employment opportunities. Through this process, participants are given the support and resources to make positive changes in their own lives and in their communities.

For more information go to:  
[www2.oaklandnet.com/Government/o/Mayor/i/Ceasefire/index.htm](http://www2.oaklandnet.com/Government/o/Mayor/i/Ceasefire/index.htm)

### Do Oakland Unite programs reduce violence?

Yes, Oakland Unite is significantly reducing violence for program participants (SEE OUTCOMES & EVALUATION). However, the resources are not to scale with the need. Overall, Oakland Unite programs working at *full capacity* engage about 10% of all those in Oakland on probation and parole and approximately 25% of juveniles arrested each year.

### Who do we fund?

Oakland Unite funds the following agencies:

- ▶ Alameda Family Services
- ▶ Alameda County Probation Department
- ▶ Alameda County Health Care Services Agency
- ▶ Bay Area Legal Aid
- ▶ Bay Area Women Against Rape (BAWAR)
- ▶ CAL-PEP
- ▶ Catholic Charities of the East Bay
- ▶ Center for Employment Opportunities (CEO)
- ▶ Civicorps Schools
- ▶ Community Initiative/Restorative Justice for Oakland Youth (RJOY)
- ▶ East Bay Agency for Children (EBAC)
- ▶ East Bay Asian Youth Center (EBAYC)
- ▶ Family Violence Law Center
- ▶ Healthy Communities/Healthy Oakland
- ▶ Men of Valor
- ▶ Motivating, Inspiring, Supporting, and Serving Sexually Exploited Youth (MISSEY)
- ▶ Oakland California Youth Outreach (OCYO)
- ▶ Oakland Private Industry Council, Inc. (PIC)
- ▶ Oakland Unified School District
- ▶ Safe Passages
- ▶ The Mentoring Center
- ▶ The Unity Council
- ▶ Volunteers of America, Bay Area
- ▶ Youth ALIVE!
- ▶ Youth Employment Partnership (YEP)
- ▶ Youth Radio
- ▶ Youth UpRising

## Oakland Unite: Seeding Change



Oakland Unite dollars have an impact on agencies beyond the dollar amount they are funded. Agencies are able to use the funding as “seed money” to pilot innovative programs that, if successful, can be expanded throughout the city.

One example of this is Restorative Justice for Oakland Youth (RJOY). In 2007, RJOY was given a modest grant by Oakland Unite to begin their work in one Oakland middle school. This initial pilot reduced suspension rates by 87% and saved the school thousands of dollars in funding. Since then, the program has expanded throughout the entire school district, with the Board of Directors passing a resolution in 2010 to adopt restorative justice as an approach to creating healthier schools. RJOY’s work has been recognized nationally and many school districts have incorporated restorative justice practices to resolve conflicts on campuses nationwide.

*The Human Services Department builds strong communities by enriching the quality of life for individuals and families in Oakland.*



*Helping our City grow strong!*



[www.OaklandUnite.org](http://www.OaklandUnite.org)

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