

## **One Long Beach Alliance For Better Communities And Schools**

One Long Beach Alliance for Better Communities and Schools is proposing "A Call to Action" to effectively and quickly address the recent crisis of violence and the rise in racial tensions in Long Beach. This crisis can only be solved by a fully funded citywide comprehensive violence prevention and youth development initiative. It must be one that incorporates strategies that are proven to reduce crime and violence. We need an initiative that is aligned with President Obama's and local city ordinance on "My Brother's Keeper". This is an initiative that promotes solutions to improve the social and economic upward mobility of our low-income neighborhoods that are predominately communities of color. We need to change the narrative for low-income youth of color who are most impacted by violence. We must offer solutions that directly impact on their health, long-term quality of life and future.

### **A Call to Action**

#### **1. Ongoing Funding Support To Implement The Long Beach Be SAFE City Wide Violence Prevention & Youth Development Initiative**

One Long Beach Alliance for Better Communities and Schools is requesting that the City reprioritize funding to implement the Be SAFE Violence Prevention & Youth Development Initiative. This program would be set in local park neighborhoods highly impacted by crime and violence during the summer and when school is out of session (Summer, Winter, Spring). The Mayor's Office, Parks, Recreation, and Marine, Long Beach Police Department, Long Beach Public Libraries, various government agencies, and community based non-profit organizations will partner to reduce and prevent community violence. The result will be safer poor neighborhoods so that children can learn, families can access services and thrive, and communities can prosper.

#### **2. Implementation Of A Year Round School Safe Passages Initiative**

Children are unable to fulfill their highest potential while living and attending schools in unsafe environments. Safe Passages is a program that communities across the country have used with great success to ensure that their children are able to safely travel to and from school. The Safe Passages model integrates a powerful network of parent volunteers with the professional efforts of gang violence interventionists, community based organizations, businesses, school personnel, law enforcement under the leadership of the Mayor's Office.

#### **3. Jobs: Implement Economic Opportunities**

- Create 1000 Jobs and entrepreneurship opportunities for extremely low-income adults, youth and the reentry population living in the impacted communities of 90802, 90804, 90805, 90806, 90810, and 90813.
- Provide Summer employment and year round job training and higher education connections for young adults 16-24
- Continue support for community-based programs that provide job training, reentry services and cultural trauma healing and wellness.

#### **4. Mayoral Leadership On Preventing Violence**

- The Mayor's office should oversee the SAFE LB Violence Prevention Plan
- Revitalize City of Long Beach Public Safety Advisory Commission