# anger management

# Chapter 3 Overview of Anger Management Programs

Many of the SFJPD/CPD-funded programs help youth develop stronger anger management skills. Only one program specifically focuses on building youths' strengths in this area: the Samoan Community Development Center Community Learning Center's Anger Management Program. In this report, this

#### Programs Included in this Section:

 Samoan Community Development Center CLC, Anger Management

program alone is categorized as an "anger management" program both because it is the only program that has this as its main focus and because it has submitted such extensive data collected from youth that if data for this program were compiled with that of other programs, it would significantly influence reported outcomes for youth.

The Anger Management program, offered by the Samoan Community Development Center, works with youth who are on probation as well as youth who are at risk of becoming involved in the juvenile justice system. This program teaches youth basic life skills and offers them specific help with managing their anger. Anger management skills are particularly crucial for youth who have other risk factors, such as physical or emotional abuse or poverty. When youth are able to better manage their anger it often positively impacts other areas of their lives, especially their relationships with other people.

| Program   | Number of<br>Youth<br>Served <sup>1</sup> | Description   |
|---|---|---|
| Samoan Community<br>Development Center CLC,<br>Anger Management | 164                                       | Samoan Community Development Center's Anger<br>Management Workshops and Community Learning Center<br>services are designed to provide academic support, case<br>management and anger management skills to at-risk youth.<br>The target population is primarily Samoan and Pacific<br>Islander youth, but youth of all races and ethnicities<br>participate. Classes are eight weeks long and are offered at<br>local public schools and at the Youth Guidance Center. |

Exhibit 3–1 Overview of Anger Management Program

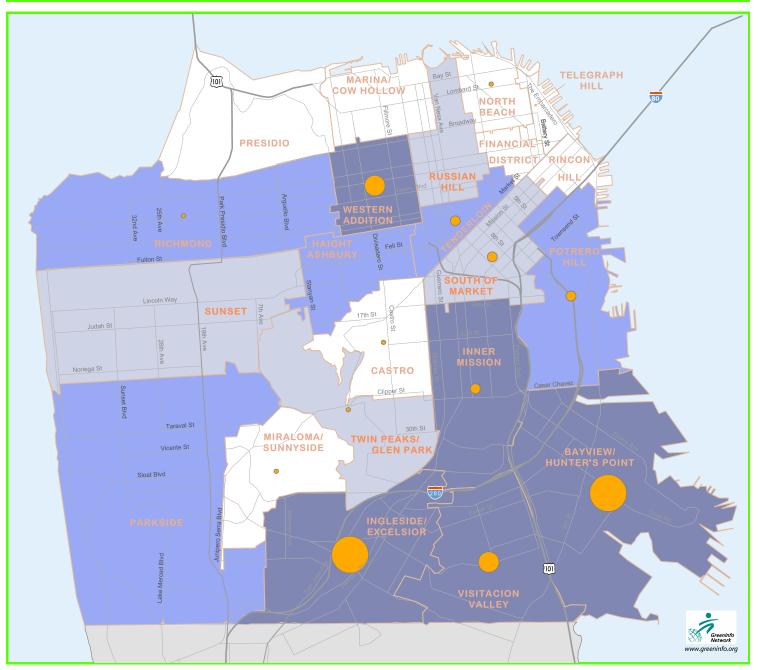
<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup>For some programs data on youth served is available for the period of July 2003 – February 2005; for other programs it is available for the period of July 2003-February 2004 and July 2004-February 2005. See individual chapters for this information.

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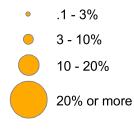
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# Neighborhood Concentrations of Participants Served by Anger Management Programs

and Juvenile Law Violation Referrals



# Percentage of Anger Management Program Participants By Home Neighborhood



Number of Juvenile Law Violation Referrals Participants By Home Neighborhood



Data shown on this map were submitted by: Samoan Community Development Center's Community Learning Center/Anger Management program

Juvenile law violation referral data provided by the San Francisco Juvenile Probation Department: Annual Statistical Reports, 2002 & 2003.

# Chapter 4 Samoan Community Development Center CLC Anger Management

## **Program Overview**

Center services are designed to provide academic support, case management and anger management skills to at-risk youth. The target population is primarily Samoan and Pacific Islander youth, but youth of all races and ethnicities participate. Classes are eight weeks long and are offered at local public schools and at Youth Guidance Center. At YGC, separate classes are offered for boys and girls.

| Exhibit 4–1<br>Program At-A-Glance                          |  |   |  |
|---|--|---|--|
| Services provided to<br>youth:                              | <ul><li>Tutoring/help with homework</li><li>Case management</li></ul>  | <ul> <li>Management services</li> </ul> |  |
| Primary neighborhoods served:                               | <ul> <li>Bayview Hunters Point</li> <li>Western Addition</li> <li>Excelsior</li> <li>Mission</li> <li>Visitacion Valley</li> </ul>   |   |  |
| Target population served:                                   | <ul> <li>Youth between the ages of 12 and 17</li> <li>Youth who are on probation</li> <li>Youth who are at risk of becoming involved with the juvenile justice system</li> </ul> |   |  |
| How youth are referred:                                     | <ul> <li>Self</li> <li>Parent, guardian, or other adult family member</li> <li>Probation Officer</li> <li>Case Manager</li> <li>Teacher or School Counselor</li> </ul>           |   |  |
| Average length of time<br>youth spend in program:           | <ul> <li>8 weeks</li> </ul>  |   |  |
| Average # of youth who<br>participate at any given<br>time: | • 50   |   |  |

# Highlights on Program Outcome Findings<sup>2</sup>

## Key Positive Findings

- The program appears to have a positive effect on youth's educational success. After involvement in the program, youth report greater confidence in their abilities and that they will graduate from high school, fewer behavior problems in school, and greater attendance.
- The program helps youth relate better to friends and relatives. Youth report improved anger management skills as a result of attending the program.

## Areas Where the Program has not been Shown to Have Positive Effects

 The data does not show an association between involvement in the program and lower rates of recidivism.

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> We include only primary outcomes here. For more information on primary vs. secondary outcomes see Exhibit 4-7.

# **Program Contract Compliance**

This grantee is in compliance with all contractual obligations. This is based on data reported by Community Programs Division Staff.

#### Contract Amount as a Percentage of Total Program Budget:

- Information on JPD's contract with this program for the 2003-2004 contract year is unavailable. The program's total budget for 2003-04 is also unavailable.
- JPD's contract amount with this program for the 2004-2005 contract year is \$70,000 which is 100% of the organization's total budget.

#### Number of youth served:<sup>3</sup>

 Data on the number and demographics of youth served are available for all but three months of the evaluation period: July 2003-February 2004, and July 2004-February 2005. During this period, the program served 164 youth.

#### Staffing:

• The program is staffed by 1 full-time and 1 part-time staff member.

#### Evaluation:

This program has participated in PrIDE evaluation data collection on an ongoing basis.

#### Program Strengths and Successes:<sup>4</sup>

- "Youth are staying with the program, completing all their sessions and really changing their attitudes."<sup>5</sup>
- "Building the program into schools has been a big success. The staff see that last years' youth are doing well."<sup>3</sup>
- "After taking this class, about 80% of our youth do well in school and do not re-offend. Many
  of the youth say that they think before they react to different situations they come across.
  Many of the youth that participate at the different schools do not get into fights after taking
  this class."

#### Program Challenges:

"SCDC has been fortunate not to experience any barriers to provide the services that SCDC has to offer."

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Data sources: Participant Tracking Spreadsheets. For more information on the periods during which data was collected, see **Data Sources** section in Chapter 2.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> Unless otherwise indicated, information on program strengths, successes, and challenges are provided by program staff.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>b</sup> Information provided by Community Programs Division Staff

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#### Exhibit 4–2 How to Read the Tables

We have used tables to present data throughout this report.

#### Here's an example:

| Characteristic at  | % of Respondents  |  |
|--|---|--|
| Race/Ethnicity<br>(n=12)   | African American  | 58%  |
|  | Latino/a  | 16%  |
|  | Asian American and Pacific Islander   | 8%   |
|  | Samoan  | 8%   |
|  | White   | 8%   |
| The (n=12) means<br>that 12 participants<br>answered<br>questions about<br>their race/ethnicity. | Participants were grouped into five categories according to their race/ethnicity. | The percentage tells<br>you the proportion of<br>respondents in each<br>race/ethnicity. As you<br>can see, most of the<br>respondents (58.3%)<br>are African American. |

In the text, we might describe youths' race/ethnicity in this way:

"Most of the youth served are African American and Latino (58% and 17%, n=12)."

The 58% refers to the percentage of youth who are African-American; the 17% refers to the percentage of respondents who are Latino/a. The (n=12) refers to the number of respondents who provided information about their race/ethnicity.

## **Data Sources**

All data required for this report were submitted as shown below.

#### Exhibit 4–3 Data Sources SCDC Anger Management

| Data Source                       | Available for<br>This Report |
|-----------------------------------|------------------------------|
| Senior Analyst Site Visit Form    | V                            |
| CBO Questionnaire                 | Ø                            |
| Participant Tracking Spreadsheets | Ŋ                            |
| PrIDE Data                        |                              |

- This program has participated in PrIDE evaluation data collection on an ongoing basis. As of March 31, 2005, the program had submitted 94 Baselines and their paired Follow-ups, 68 Youth Evaluation Surveys, and 62 Exit Forms. All of these data were utilized in this report.
- The program served a total of 164 youth during the following periods: July 2003-February 2004, and July 2004-February 2005. Between July 2003 and February 2005, the program submitted 164 youth surveys. Because programs did not submit data regarding how many youth were served between March and June 2004, we cannot report an exact response rate. Using the reported number of youth served, we report an approximate survey response rate of 100%. The approximate exit form response rate was 38%.<sup>6</sup>

# **Program Description**

### What are the characteristics of the youth served?

- Youth participants range in age from 12 to 17;
- Participants live in many different neighborhoods throughout San Francisco. The largest
  percentages of participants live in Bayview Hunters Point, Western Addition, Excelsior, and
  the Visitacion Valley.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> The exit form response rate is approximate because we do not have exact data on the number of youth who have exited the program of the total number of youth served. This rate likely overestimates the exit form response rate.

| Characteristic at Pro            | % of<br>Participants                  |     |
|----------------------------------|---------------------------------------|-----|
|                                  | Under 13 years old                    | 29% |
| Age+                             | 13-15 years old                       | 52% |
| (n=58)                           | 16-17 years old                       | 16% |
|                                  | Over 18 years old                     | 3%  |
| Gender+                          | Male                                  | 63% |
| (n=164)                          | Female                                | 36% |
| Race/Ethnicity◆                  | African American                      | 34% |
|                                  | Latino/a                              | 24% |
|                                  | Samoan                                | 21% |
| (11-101)                         | Other Asian                           | 18% |
|                                  | White                                 | 3%  |
|                                  | Bayview Hunters Point                 | 20% |
| Home<br>Neighborhood∻<br>(n=131) | Excelsior                             | 15% |
|                                  | Western Addition                      | 15% |
|                                  | Visitacion Valley                     | 9%  |
|                                  | All other San Francisco neighborhoods | 31% |
|                                  | All areas outside San Francisco       | 10% |

#### Exhibit 4–4 Youth Characteristics SCDC Anger Management

Data Sources:

◆ = Participant tracking spreadsheets (July 2003-February 2004, and July 2004-February 2005;
 ◆CBO Questionnaire

 Most of the youth participants live in homes where English is the primary language, however, the program also serves youth whose primary home language is Samoan, Cantonese, Spanish, and other languages. Almost half of the youth live with two parents (45%, n=144) while more than a third live with one parent (38%, n=144).

| Characteristic at Prog      | % of<br>Respondents              |     |
|-----------------------------|----------------------------------|-----|
|                             | English                          | 78% |
|                             | Samoan                           | 9%  |
| Language Spoken at          | Cantonese                        | 5%  |
| Home                        | Spanish                          | 4%  |
| (n=138)                     | Vietnamese                       | 1%  |
|                             | Mandarin                         | 1%  |
|                             | Other/Unknown                    | 1%  |
|                             | Two Parents                      | 45% |
| Living Situation<br>(n=144) | One Parent                       | 38% |
|                             | Family but not parents           | 8%  |
|                             | Guardian                         | 5%  |
|                             | Group Home                       | 3%  |
|                             | Other                            | 1%  |
|                             | JPD/PO/YGC                       | 57% |
|                             | School                           | 29% |
| Referral to Program*        | Friend                           | 7%  |
| (n=137)                     | Referred by another organization | 3%  |
|                             | Family                           | 2%  |
|                             | Police                           | 2%  |

#### Exhibit 4–5 Demographic Information SCDC Anger Management

\*Percentages may add to more than 100% because participants could provide more than one response. Data Source: PrIDE

## What are participants' major risk factors?

- Despite the fact that youth, in general, are likely to under-report the level of their participation in risky activities (such as using alcohol and drugs and hanging out with gang members), a significant proportion of respondents acknowledge these behaviors.
- Participants are part of high-risk peer groups. At program entry, almost two-thirds of participants (64%) acknowledge that they hang out with gang members. When asked if they knew anyone who had been arrested, 93% said that they did (n=130). Most commonly, they noted that friends had been arrested. As a further indication that youth are in high-risk peer groups, 90% said that they knew someone who died (n=125); the largest percentage of youth said that a friend had died. About half of respondents (55%, n=136) say they have tried alcohol or other drugs.

| Exhibit 4–6                  |
|------------------------------|
| Risk Factors                 |
| <b>SCDC Anger Management</b> |

| Risk Factors at Progra   | % of<br>Respondents                                |     |
|--|--|-----|
| Frequency with   | Never  | 19% |
| which Youth Hears<br>Gunshots at Home                          | Once or Twice                                      | 27% |
| (n=121)  | Many Times   | 54% |
| Feels Unsafe in<br>Neighborhood<br>(n=116)                     |  | 39% |
| Acknowledges S/he<br>Hangs Out With<br>Gang Members<br>(n=122) |  | 64% |
| Has Tried Drugs or<br>Alcohol<br>(n=136)                       |  | 55% |
|  | Knows at least one person who was arrested (n=130) | 93% |
|  | Participant's friend was arrested*                 | 51% |
| Knows Someone  | Participant was arrested*                          | 30% |
| Who Was Arrested   | Participant's sibling was arrested*                | 24% |
| (n=146)  | Participant's parent was arrested*                 | 23% |
|  | Participant's neighbor was<br>arrested*            | 18% |
|  | Participant's other relative was<br>arrested*      | 14% |
|  | Knows at least one person who died (n=125)         | 90% |
| Knows Someone  | Participant's friend died*                         | 55% |
| Who Died<br>(n=106)  | Participant's neighbor died*                       | 21% |
|  | Participant's parent died*                         | 16% |
|  | Participant's sibling died*                        | 8%  |

\*Percentages may add to more than 100% because participants could provide more than one response. Data Source: PrIDE

## **Program Outcomes**

Each program has a distinct set of outcome objectives for the participating youth. Staff identified both "primary outcomes" and "secondary outcomes." Staff identify an outcome as *primary* if it is central to the objectives of the program. Staff identify additional outcomes as *secondary* if it is likely that their programs have indirect effects in these areas. The table below specifies the primary and secondary outcomes associated with the program evaluated in this chapter. All areas that the program designated as outcomes were designated as primary.

#### Exhibit 4–7 Program Outcome Measures SCDC Anger Management

| Outcome Area   | Anticipated Outcomes for Participants  | Primary<br>Outcome | Secondary<br>Outcome |
|----------------|--|--------------------|----------------------|
|                | School attendance will increase  | Х                  |                      |
| Education      | <ul> <li>School behavioral problems will decrease</li> </ul>   | Х                  |                      |
| Education      | <ul> <li>Orientation toward the future will increase</li> <li>Engagement in positive after-school activities will</li> </ul> | Х                  |                      |
|                | increase   | Х                  |                      |
| Building       | <ul> <li>Positive peer relationships will increase</li> </ul>  | Х                  |                      |
| Positive       | <ul> <li>Positive parental/guardian relationships will increase</li> </ul>   | Х                  |                      |
| Relationships  | <ul> <li>Positive relationships with service providers will increase</li> </ul>  | Х                  |                      |
| Skill-Building | <ul> <li>Anger management skills will improve</li> </ul>   | Х                  |                      |
| Risk Factors   | <ul> <li>Involvement with the juvenile justice system will<br/>decrease</li> </ul>   | Х                  |                      |

## How to Read the Tables Reporting on Program Outcomes

- The PrIDE survey asks participants a range of questions regarding each program outcome. Youth report on whether there has been a change since participating in the program, and whether the change has been negative or positive.
- Positive change scores range from +1 to +3, and negative change scores range from -1 to -3. If a participant reports no change, the score for that item is zero.

| Indicators of<br>Attendance and                                | Degree to which<br>School Performance and Attitudes have Changed<br>since Attending the Program |  |   | Improvement  | Since<br>Attending  |   |
|--|---|--|---|--|---|---|
| Attendance and<br>School<br>Attachment                         | Worsened  | Stayed<br>Same   | Improved  | On Average   | Shown on<br>Average?  | the<br>Program  |
|  | (-3 to -1)  | (0)  | (+1 to +3)  |  |   |   |
| Number of<br>school days<br>missed during<br>a month<br>(n=23) | 9%  | 55%  | 36%   | +.4  | Yes/No  | Youth<br><b>missed</b><br><b>fewer days</b><br>during a<br>given month. |
|  | ↓<br>This is the<br>percentage of<br>respondents<br>who had a<br>negative<br>change             | ↓<br>This is the<br>percentage of<br>respondents<br>who reported<br>a zero<br>change | ↓<br>This is the<br>percentage of<br>respondents<br>who had a<br><b>positive</b><br><b>change</b> | ↓         This is the         average         score of all         respondents | This box<br>indicates<br>whether the<br>average score<br>indicates<br>improvement<br>overall among<br>respondents | ↓<br>This is a<br>narrative<br>summary of<br>the data                   |

The following table summarizes the data for a program outcome:

### **Education: Primary Outcomes**

- Staff identified the following as primary education outcomes for the program:
  - o School attendance/attachment will increase
  - o School behavioral problems will decrease
  - o Orientation toward the future will increase
  - o Engagement in positive after-school activities will increase

#### School Attendance/Attachment

- Of youth in this program, 99% were enrolled in school or a GED program prior to program participation (n=132). Of these, 96% stayed enrolled, and 4% dropped out (n=111). One youth was *not* enrolled in school or a GED program prior to program participation, and this participant did not enroll in school while in the program.
- For those youth who were in school at program entry and stayed enrolled, we further investigate changes in school attendance and attachment. Youth showed slight improvements on average in their attendance, grades, and enjoyment of school.

#### Exhibit 4–8 School Attendance/Attachment SCDC Anger Management

| Indicators of   | Degree to which<br>School Performance and Attitudes have<br>Changed since Attending the Program |                |            | Improvement | Since                |  |
|---|---|----------------|------------|-------------|----------------------|--|
| Attendance and<br>School Attachment                         | Worsened  | Stayed<br>Same | Improved   | On          | Shown on<br>Average? | Attending the<br>Program   |
|   | (-3 to -1)  | (0)            | (+1 to +3) | Average     |                      |  |
| Number of school<br>days missed during<br>a month<br>(n=95) | 10%   | 53%            | 38%        | +.5         | Yes                  | Youth <b>missed</b><br><b>fewer days</b><br>during a given<br>month. |
| Grades<br>(n=106)   | 22%   | 44%            | 34%        | +.4         | Yes                  | Youth earned<br>slightly higher<br>grades                            |
| Enjoyment of school<br>(n=128)                              | 16%   | 48%            | 36%        | +.4         | Yes                  | Youth enjoyed<br>school a little<br>more                             |

Data Source: PrIDE

- Further indications of the program's ability to promote school attachment among the youth is the fact that several of them said that the program helped them stay in school or get their GED, and also that the program made them feel more comfortable about their abilities in school or their GED program.
- About three-fourths of respondents said that the program helped them stay in school or get their GED and "made them feel more comfortable about their abilities in school" (76%, n=119; 77%, n=115).

#### Exhibit 4–9 Youth Perceptions of How the Program Promotes School Attachment SCDC Anger Management

| Indicators of School Attachment  | Percent of Respondents |
|--|------------------------|
| The program helped participants to stay in school or get their GED.<br>(n=119)   | 76%                    |
| The program made participants feel more<br>comfortable about their abilities in school or a GED<br>program.<br>(n=115) | 77%                    |
|  |                        |

Data Source: PrIDE

#### Behavior Problems in School

- Youth surveys asked about behavior problems in two different ways in year 1 and year 2; for this reason year 1 and year 2 results are presented separately below.
- Year 1 data show that before participating in this program, 32% of youth had been in trouble at school, either getting sent to the counselor's office, suspended, or expelled. After program participation, this proportion was 48%. We cannot conclude that program participation is

associated with behavior problems at school; 71 youth answered the survey question at the baseline period, but only 17 answered it for the follow-up period.

#### Exhibit 4–10 Change in Behavior Problems in School after Program Participation SCDC Anger Management

| Sent to Counselor's Office, Suspended, or Expelled<br>during the Past Three Months | Percent of Respondents |  |  |
|--|------------------------|--|--|
| Prior to Program Enrollment<br>(n=71)  | 32%                    |  |  |
| After Program Participation<br>(n=17)  | 48%                    |  |  |
|  |                        |  |  |

Data Source: PrIDE

 Year 2 data shows that youth in the program got into trouble at school much less frequently since attending the program. About three-fourths of participants said their school behavior improved (76%, n=46).

#### Exhibit 4–11 Change in Behavior Problems in School SCDC Anger Management

|   |            | Attandury the Drawners |            |         |                   |  |  | School Behavior Has Changed since |  |  | Since |
|---|------------|------------------------|------------|---------|-------------------|--|--|-----------------------------------|--|--|-------|
| School Behavior   | Worsened   | Stayed<br>Same         | Improved   | On      | Shown on Average? | Attending the<br>Program                                 |  |                                   |  |  |       |
|   | (-3 to -1) | (0)                    | (+1 to +3) | Average |                   |  |  |                                   |  |  |       |
| Frequency of<br>Getting in Trouble at<br>School<br>(n=46) | 7%         | 17%                    | 76%        | +1.5    | Yes               | Youth get into<br>trouble <b>much</b><br>less frequently |  |                                   |  |  |       |

Data Source: PrIDE

#### **Orientation toward Future Educational Attainment**

 Program participants report that they feel more confident they will graduate from high school since starting the program.

#### Exhibit 4–12 Orientation toward Future Educational Attainment SCDC Anger Management

| Attitudes about the  |            | Degree t<br>about the F<br>have Chang<br>Prog | Improvement Since |         |                      |  |
|--|------------|---|-------------------|---------|----------------------|--|
| Future of Youths'<br>Schooling   | Worsened   | Stayed<br>Same                                | Improved          | On      | Shown on<br>Average? | Attending the<br>Program   |
|  | (-3 to -1) | (0)   | (+1 to +3)        | Average |                      |  |
| Feelings youth has<br>about whether s/he<br>will graduate from<br>High School or get a<br>GED<br>(n=105) | 8%         | 58%   | 34%               | +.7     | Yes                  | Youth were<br><b>more certain</b><br>they would<br>graduate from<br>High School. |

Data Source: PrIDE

#### Engagement in Positive After-School Activities

 The program appears to have a slightly positive effect on youth's engagement in activities outside of school. More than a third of respondents said they participated in more extracurricular activities since starting the program.

#### Exhibit 4–13 After-School Activities SCDC Anger Management

| Engagement in   |            | Degree t<br>ent in After-s<br>d since Atte | Improvement | Since   |                      |  |
|---|------------|--|-------------|---------|----------------------|--|
| After-School<br>Activities                                    | Worsened   | Stayed<br>Same                             | Improved    | On      | Shown on<br>Average? | Attending the<br>Program   |
|   | (-3 to -1) | (0)  | (+1 to +3)  | Average |                      |  |
| Spending time in<br>extra-curricular<br>activities<br>(n=115) | 16%        | 46%  | 38%         | +.4     | Yes                  | Youth spent <b>a</b><br>little more time<br>in extra-<br>curricular<br>activities. |

Data Source: PrIDE

 When asked about specific activities they have joined, more than three-quarters of youth said they had joined at least one activity since starting the program (78%, n=80). About a quarter of youth said they had joined another activity specifically because of the program (28%, n=114).

#### Exhibit 4–14 After-School Activities SCDC Anger Management

| Activity   | Percent of Youth who Have Joined the<br>Following After-School Activities since<br>Beginning the Program |
|--|--|
| Joined at least one activity (n=80)                | 78%  |
| Volunteering (n=86)                                | 29%  |
| Participating in a religious group or club (n=86)  | 29%  |
| Participating in a youth group or club (n=94)      | 27%  |
| Other activity (n=63)                              | 22%  |
| Going to a neighborhood or community center (n=87) | 21%  |
| Playing team sports (n=90)                         | 21%  |
| Practicing martial arts (n=87)                     | 21%  |
| Playing a musical instrument (n=89)                | 20%  |
| Working for pay (n=93)                             | 15%  |

Data Source: PrIDE

## **Building Positive Relationships: Primary Outcomes**

- Staff identified the following as primary outcomes for building positive relationships:
  - Positive peer relationships will increase
  - o Positive parental/guardian relationships will increase
  - o Positive relationships with service providers will increase

#### Positive Peer Relationships

 Most youth have a positive peer relationship. Almost nine-tenths of youth say they have a friend who "really cares about them" and "helps them when they're having a hard time" (88%, n=132; 87%, n=128).

#### Exhibit 4–15 Positive Peer Relationships SCDC Anger Management

| Youth Has a Friend or Relative about His/Her Own Age<br>who | Percent of Respondents Reporting<br>that They have These Positive Peer<br>Relationships |  |
|---|---|--|
| Really cares about me. (n=132)                              | 88%   |  |
| I can go to when I have problems. (n=132)                   | 82%   |  |
| Helps me when I'm having a hard time. (n=128)               | 87%   |  |
|   |   |  |

Data Source: PrIDE

Participants appear to be making different choices about their peer group as a result of the program. Of those participants who acknowledged "hanging out" with those belonging to a gang *before* joining the program, 68% said that they no longer hung out with them.<sup>7</sup> And of those who still hang out with people belonging to a gang, 10% said that they hung out less often (n=10).<sup>8</sup>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> This statement applies to the cumulative sample (year 1 and year 2).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>8</sup> This statement applies to only the year 2 sample; no comparable question was asked in year 1.

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#### Positive Relationships with Parents/Guardians

 Most youth have a positive relationship with a parent or guardian. More than four-fifths of youth say they have a parent who "believes that they will be a success," and "listens when I have something to say" (84%, n=127; 84%, n=126).

#### Exhibit 4–16 Positive Relationships with Parents/Guardians SCDC Anger Management

| Youth Said S/He had a Parent or Other Adult at Home who… | Percent of Respondents Reporting<br>that They have These Positive Adult<br>Relationships |
|--|--|
| Expects me to follow the rules. (n=133)                  | 91%  |
| Believes that I will be a success. (n=127)               | 84%  |
| Talks with me about my problems. (n=129)                 | 79%  |
| Listens to me when I have something to say. (n=126)      | 84%  |
| Is interested in my schoolwork. (n=131)                  | 81%  |
| Data Source: BrIDE                                       |  |

Data Source: PrIDE

 More than two-thirds of respondents (71%, n=101) report that the program helped them get along better with their friends and/or relatives.

#### Positive Relationships with Program Staff

 Participants have developed relationships with staff members in the program. About half (52%, n=103) said that if they were in trouble and needed help they would talk with a staff member about it.

#### Skill-Building: Primary Outcomes

- Staff identified the following as a primary outcome for skill-building:
  - Anger management skills will improve

#### Anger Management

The program does appear to have an effect on participants' anger management skills.
 Participants showed improvement on all anger management skill areas our survey measured.
 Youth showed the strongest improvement in the areas of "hitting people on purpose,"
 "breaking things on purpose," and "believing it is okay to physically fight."

|  |            | anagement      | to which<br>Skills have C<br>g the Progra | Improvement | Since             |  |
|--|------------|----------------|---|-------------|-------------------|--|
| Anger Management<br>Skills   | Worsened   | Stayed<br>Same | Improved                                  | On          | Shown on Average? | Attending the<br>Program   |
|  | (-3 to -1) | (0)            | (+1 to +3)                                | Average     |                   |  |
| Getting mad easily<br>(n=120)  | 16%        | 50%            | 34%                                       | +.4         | Yes               | Youth get mad<br><b>a little less</b><br>easily                      |
| Doing whatever s/he<br>feels like doing<br>when angry or upset<br>(n=118)      | 14%        | 42%            | 45%                                       | +.6         | Yes               | Youth do<br>whatever they<br>feel like doing <b>a</b><br>little less |
| Believing it is okay<br>to physically fight to<br>get what you want<br>(n=120) | 13%        | 44%            | 43%                                       | +.7         | Yes               | Youth believe it<br>is <b>less okay</b> to<br>physically fight       |
| Yelling at people<br>when angry<br>(n=123)                                     | 14%        | 46%            | 40%                                       | +.4         | Yes               | Youth <b>yell a</b><br>little less at<br>people                      |
| Breaking things on<br>purpose<br>(n=119)                                       | 19%        | 38%            | 44%                                       | +.7         | Yes               | Youth break<br>things on<br>purpose <b>less</b>                      |
| Hitting people on<br>purpose<br>(n=119)  | 13%        | 41%            | 46%                                       | +.8         | Yes               | Youth hit people<br>on purpose <b>less</b>                           |

#### Exhibit 4–17 Anger Management SCDC Anger Management

Data Source: PrIDE

## **Risk Behavior: Primary Outcomes**

- Staff identified the following as a primary outcome for risk behavior:
  - o Involvement in juvenile justice system will decrease

#### Involvement in Juvenile Justice System

- The table below shows recidivism rates for youth involved with this program. Recidivism is based on sustained petitions, and we include two types of rates. The first is the *true* recidivism rate: the percentage of youth who have had at least one additional sustained petition after the first one. To see if participation in the program is associated with decreased involvement with the juvenile justice system, we also include a *post-program entry* recidivism rate. This rate applies to the group of youth who have had at least one sustained petition before program entry, and it is the percentage of them who have had at least one additional sustained sustained petition after program entry.
- The data does not show an association between participation in one of these programs and lower rates of recidivism. This table shows that at six months after a first sustained petition, 14% had had at least one more sustained petition. This rate is similar to the recidivism rate of youth six months after program entry which was 20%. At 12 months, the post-program entry rate was slightly higher than the true recidivism rate. There was not enough data to compare the rates at the 18-month or 24-month mark. (For more detailed information on how these

rates were calculated, please see section on **How Recidivism Results were Calculated** in the Appendix.) It is important to note that any change in recidivism rate is associated with many factors.

#### Exhibit 4–18 Recidivism Rates SCDC Anger Management

| Number of Months<br>Elapsed     | Percentage of Youth with at Least<br>One Sustained Petition Since |    |      |          |
|---------------------------------|---|----|------|----------|
| (Since First Sustained Petition | First Sustained Petition Program Entry*                           |    |      | n Entry* |
| or Program Entry)               | Rate  | N  | Rate | Ν        |
| 6                               | 19%   | 16 | 20%  | 16       |
| 12                              | 27%   | 11 | 33%  | 12       |
| 18                              | 25%   | 8  | n/a  | 0        |
| 24                              | 20%   | 12 | n/a  | 0        |

\*This includes only those youth who had at least one sustained petition before program entry.

# **Service Satisfaction**

### How satisfied are youth with the services they received?

A majority of participants said they were satisfied or very satisfied with all aspects, from types
of services offered to respect shown for participants ethnic and cultural background, from
staff to the program overall.

#### Exhibit 4-19 Participant Satisfaction SCDC Anger Management

| Percent of participants who were satisfied with                        | Very Dissatisfied or<br>Dissatisfied | Very Satisfied or<br>Satisfied | No Opinion |
|--|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------|------------|
| The types of services offered (n=144)                                  | 8%                                   | 60%                            | 32%        |
| The staff<br>(n=142)   | 6%                                   | 59%                            | 35%        |
| Respect shown for participant's ethnic and cultural background (n=144) | 7%                                   | 56%                            | 38%        |
| The program overall<br>(n=143)   | 8%                                   | 59%                            | 34%        |

Data Source: PrIDE

# To what extent did youth feel connected to the program, staff and other students?

 Participants do feel connected to the program; 93% of the participants (n=124) felt safe attending the program and 85% said they would recommend it to their friends (n=111).

#### Exhibit 4-20 Program Attachment SCDC Anger Management

| After program Involvement, % of respondents who said "Yes" to:   | % of Respondents |
|--|------------------|
| I feel safe attending this program<br>(n=124)  | 93%              |
| I would recommend this program to my friends (n=111)   | 85%              |
| If I were in trouble and needed to talk, I would talk to a <b>staff member</b> at this program (n=103) | 52%              |
| I am interested in staying in touch and helping out with the program (n=100)                           | 71%              |
| If I were in trouble and needed to talk, I would talk to another <b>youth</b> at this program (n=140)  | 19%              |

Data Source: PrIDE

# How do YOUTH think THEY'VE changed as a result of participating in the program?

 When asked directly what help they received from the program, youth most frequently said help with managing anger.

#### Exhibit 4–21 Program Benefits SCDC Anger Management

| After program involvement, % of respondents who said they<br>"got help from the program with…" | % of Respondents |
|--|------------------|
| Managing anger<br>(n=92)   | 37%              |
| Homework/school/GED studies<br>(n=140)   | 20%              |
| Emotional problems<br>(n=140)  | 17%              |
| Finding a job<br>(n=140)   | 15%              |
| Drug or alcohol use<br>(n=48)  | 13%              |
| Getting away from gangs<br>(n=140)   | 11%              |
| Keeping a job<br>(n=140)   | 7%               |
| Safer sex education<br>(n=140)   | 6%               |

Data Source: PrIDE

### Are youth successfully completing the program?

 Almost two-thirds of youth served for whom we have exit forms successfully completed the program (63%, n=62). About a third did not, primarily due to dropping out (see table below).

#### Exhibit 4-22 Exit Reason SCDC Anger Management

| Reason for program exit*<br>(n=62)   | % of Respondents |
|--|------------------|
| Completed the program  | 63%              |
| Failure to appear at program/ Youth dropped out of program/<br>Absent from program without permission/AWOL | 28%              |
| Partial completion of program  | 13%              |
| Poor performance or behavior in the program  | 2%               |
| Probation violation  | 2%               |
| New arrest/law violation   | 2%               |

\*Percentages may add to more than 100% because staff could provide more than one response. Data Source: PrIDE