
2018 WESTMONT WEST ATHENS UNITY SUMMIT REPORT

January 2019



WESTMONT WEST ATHENS COMMUNITY ACTION FOR PEACE

Prepared by Urban Peace Institute for the Department of Public Health,
Trauma Prevention Initiative



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The opinions, findings and recommendations expressed are those of Urban Peace Institute.

Sponsors and Partners

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Westmont West Athens Community Action for Peace (CAP)

We would like to thank the following individuals and organizations who provided their time, dedication, and input over several months to plan the 2018 Unity Summit.

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Community Action for Peace members and the Los Angeles County Department of Public Health Staff at the 2018 Unity Summit

URBAN PEACE INSTITUTE

Urban Peace Institute (UPI) is a national social justice non-profit organization working with communities across the country to develop and implement innovative policy, system and practice solutions. Through policy and program development, training, smart justice, and technical assistance UPI implements effective strategies to reduce violence, achieve safety, and improve overall community health. Building on 16 years of success as a program of the Advancement Project, UPI launched as an independent organization in August 2015 and is currently operating under the fiscal sponsorship of Community Partners.

TRAUMA PREVENTION INITIATIVE

The Trauma Prevention Initiative (TPI) was established in December 2015 to reduce trauma visits and deaths throughout Los Angeles County, beginning with reducing the high rates of violence related injuries and deaths in South Los Angeles. In 2015, this region experienced some of the highest rates of assault-related trauma center visits (62.8 per 100,000) and homicide (10.7 per 100,000) in the county. TPI is partnering with community residents and stakeholders to develop strategic priorities to prevent and reduce violence. Informed by community leadership, TPI is coordinating with county services and initiatives to build a comprehensive, place-based approach through innovative programs, policies, and partnerships. TPI is built on the core values of community empowerment and systems change and includes three key strategy areas: Prevention, Intervention and Capacity. TPI is led by the Department of Public Health (DPH), the Department of Health Services (DHS), the Department of Mental Health (DMH), the DHS Emergency Medical Services (EMS) Agency, and many other county and community partners.

Several indicators were used to identify priority communities for TPI implementation, including (1) status as an unincorporated community, (2) high violence: assault rates, homicide rates, violent crime rate, gang-related crime rate, assault-related trauma visits, and (3) established community infrastructure: adjacent to a GRYD zone, PAD park in community, DPH existing relationships with community, and a Trauma Center within 5 miles. Based on these criteria, Westmont West Athensⁱ was identified as one of four unincorporated communities in addition to Willowbrook, Florence-Firestone, and unincorporated Compton in which TPI seeks to build a comprehensive, place-based approach to violence prevention and intervention that can be scaled to more communities.

ⁱ Westmont and West Athens are distinct neighboring communities that are engaged together in TPI's violence prevention and reduction initiative. For the purposes of this report, we refer to Westmont West Athens except where specifying one community in particular.

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

“There is need for a model or a structure dealing with the root causes of violence and trauma.”

– Westmont West Athens Resident

Urban Peace Institute (UPI) was contracted to provide community engagement and strategic planning support for the Trauma Prevention Initiative (TPI) led by LA County Department of Public Health (DPH). UPI conducted focus groups and one-on-one interviews with Westmont West Athens stakeholders to develop a baseline understanding of community dynamics. In addition, the Community Action for Peace (CAP) group and TPI, partnered with UPI to host a community Summit that engaged 146 stakeholders who participated in six breakout sessions focused on various topics impacting the Westmont West Athens communities.

Westmont West Athens has been called “the forgotten city,” given its status as an unincorporated County area. Many unincorporated County areas have become “resource deserts” among the 88 incorporated cities and therefore require strategic investments that not only build resident capacity, but address the local socio-economic conditions spawned from years of civic isolation. Westmont West Athens is one of those areas where violence and trauma has manifested as a result of isolation. From psychological stress to adult obesity, residents suffer from some of the County’s highest public health disparities. Life expectancy in Westmont West Athens is approximately 8 years lower than the LA County average.

Since 2014, LA County Department of Public Health has been dedicated to a community engagement process in the Westmont West Athens Area. In March 2017, those efforts culminated in the 2017 Westmont West Athens Unity Summit. The Westmont West Athens Community Action for Peace was created as result from of initial meetings with DPH and continued meet to work on prioritized community needs. The Westmont West Athens CAP continues to build upon the 2017 Unity Summit goals.

On June 8, 2018 at Los Angeles Southwest College, DPH’s Trauma Prevention Initiative hosted the “2018 Unity Summit” for residents and stakeholders. Planned in partnership with community residents and stakeholders composing the CAP group, the gathering focused on strengthening relationships, developing additional community priorities, identifying next steps, and strengthening the CAP coalition to further inform the development of a Westmont West Athens strategic plan. Six breakout sessions were planned to generate dialogue on specific issue areas identified by the CAP coalition. Notes were taken by UPI staff members to capture key information that could inform the further development of the strategic plan for trauma reduction and violence prevention within the Westmont West Athens community.

Westmont West Athens residents shared a vision of a cohesive community where every neighbor knew each other, and they knew their local police officers by name. Long-term residents shared that many years ago, the community enjoyed that level of cohesion and relationship with local law enforcement. Embracing this vision, TPI staff and CAP members developed the Summit agenda. A series of preliminary findings emerged from UPI data collection efforts through community engagement via interviews and focus groups as well as Summit breakout sessions. Key baseline findings from stakeholder interviews, focus groups, and breakout sessions include:

Poor Law Enforcement Relations:

- CAP leaders described a desire for investment in community policing strategies focused on increasing public trust and developing positive relationships in the Westmont West Athens community.

Gang Violence:

- Stakeholders expressed need for more targeted resources for gang-involved youth and their families to help address violence.

Normalization of Violence & Traumatized Youth:

- Residents described how young people in this area have been affected by the regularity of violence and death;
- Stakeholders described the need to address untreated trauma among youth and adults.

Lack of Community Cohesion:

- Stakeholders expressed the need for intentional outreach to Latino residents to increase participation and build community cohesion;
- Local churches need to increase outreach in the community in order to provide necessary leadership to enhance their advocacy efforts at the local level.

21st Century Jobs & Local Investment:

- Stakeholders stressed the importance of increasing resource support for current community-based organizations to help address community needs.

Given the findings outlined above, UPI developed some general recommendations to support the development of the TPI strategy to address the needs of West Athens Westmont stakeholders.

While the Westmont West Athens stakeholders identified some prevailing needs, the 2018 Unity Summit was also an opportunity to celebrate some of the positive strides and progress achieved over the past year. Among the achievements and highlights:

- South LA Sheriff's Station is strengthening the relationship with gang interventionists working in the Westmont West Athens area;
- Addressing gang violence, after the 2017 Unity Summit, several grassroots organizations have partnered to support the Parks Are Safe Zones Initiative;
- TPI has invested in Street Outreach and Community Intervention in the Westmont West Athens area;
- As a result of the 2017 Unity Summit, a new job center was created at Los Angeles Southwest College;
- Increased energy and efficacy among local coalitions such as the Westmont West Athens CAP, West Athens Westmont Task Force, et al.

BACKGROUND AND PURPOSE

In December 2015, Los Angeles County leadership, recognizing the importance and cost-benefit of focusing efforts upstream on violence prevention, allocated funding to the Department of Public Health to implement a Trauma Prevention Initiative (TPI), using Measure B dollars. Measure B funding is collected through a county parcel tax to provide funding to support the county's hospital trauma system. The goal of TPI is to develop a comprehensive, community-driven, place-based approach to prevent violence in regions of the county experiencing a disproportionately high incidence of violence-related injuries and deaths. Based on these criteria, Westmont West Athens was identified as one of four unincorporated TPI communities to pilot a comprehensive, place-based approach to violence prevention. TPI is striving to achieve a 10% reduction in the number of violence-related trauma center Emergency Department visits and hospitalizations among residents in the four TPI identified communities in South Los Angeles that include Willowbrook, Westmont West Athens, Florence-Firestone, and unincorporated Compton.

One of TPI's core prevention strategies is facilitated community engagement and strategic planning. In Westmont West Athens, DPH began a dedicated community engagement process in March 2014. TPI convened the Westmont West Athens Community Summit Planning Committee beginning in September 2016 to plan the 2017 Unity Summit in response to the need identified by community members for increased collaboration among the many active community groups. Following the 2017 Summit, the Westmont West Athens Summit Planning Committee continued meeting as the Community Action for Peace (CAP). The 2018 Unity Summit builds on the success of the 2017 Summit and the continued work of dedicated CAP members with support from the TPI team.

2018 Unity Summit Goal: to highlight the many accomplishments of the Westmont West Athens CAP in 2017, including, but not limited to the development and implementation of the highly impactful "Parks Are Safe Zones" project, uplift violence prevention and intervention efforts of various service providers and community stakeholders within the area, and to further expand and/or enhance the strategies and activities identified in the 2017 Strategic Plan.

WESTMONT WEST ATHENS DATA SNAPSHOT

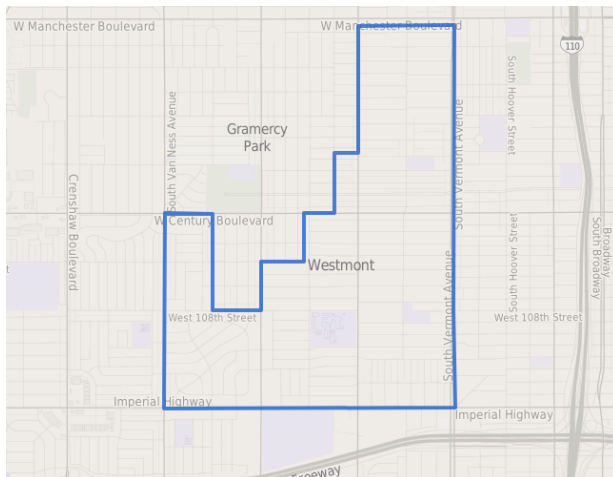
Geography

Westmont and West Athens are neighboring Census Designated Places in unincorporated South Los Angeles County which is located West of the 110 Harbor Freeway. Westmont is located north of the 105 Century Freeway and east of the city of Inglewood; West Athens stretches south of the 105 Century Freeway and is east of the city of Hawthorne, and north of the city of Gardena. The areas are often combined for Los Angeles County planning purposes. Together they make up 3.17 square miles with a population of 40,582 (according to the 2010 Census). The street boundaries of Westmont West Athens are Century Blvd./108th St./Manchester Ave. to the north, Vermont Ave. to the east, El Segundo Blvd., to the south, and Van Ness Ave./Wilton Pl. to the west.

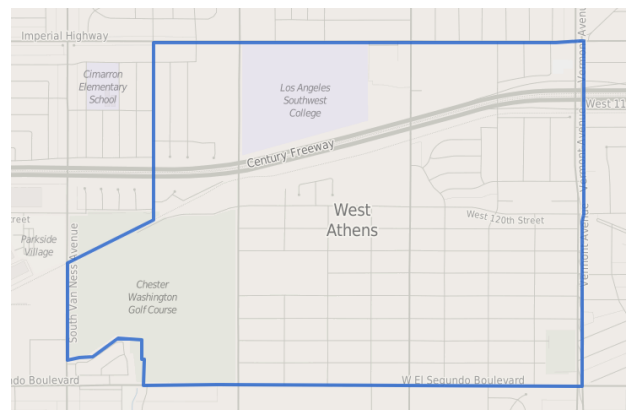
There are distinct population differences between Westmont and West Athens. Westmont, with a population of 31,853¹ in 1.84 square miles, has a high population density of 17,311 people per square mile that is average for South Los Angeles but high for Los Angeles County² which has a population density of 2,478 people per square mile.³ West Athens with a population of 8,729⁴ in 1.33 square miles, has a population density of 6,563 people per square mile that is average for Los Angeles County but low for South Los Angeles⁵ which has a population density of 14,761 people per square miles.⁶

Westmont and West Athens are located in Los Angeles County Supervisorial District 2, Los Angeles County Department of Public Health Service Planning Area (SPA) 8, and zip codes 90044 and 90047.⁷ The area is served by Los Angeles County Sheriff Department's South Los Angeles Station.

Westmont Map:²



West Athens Map:⁵

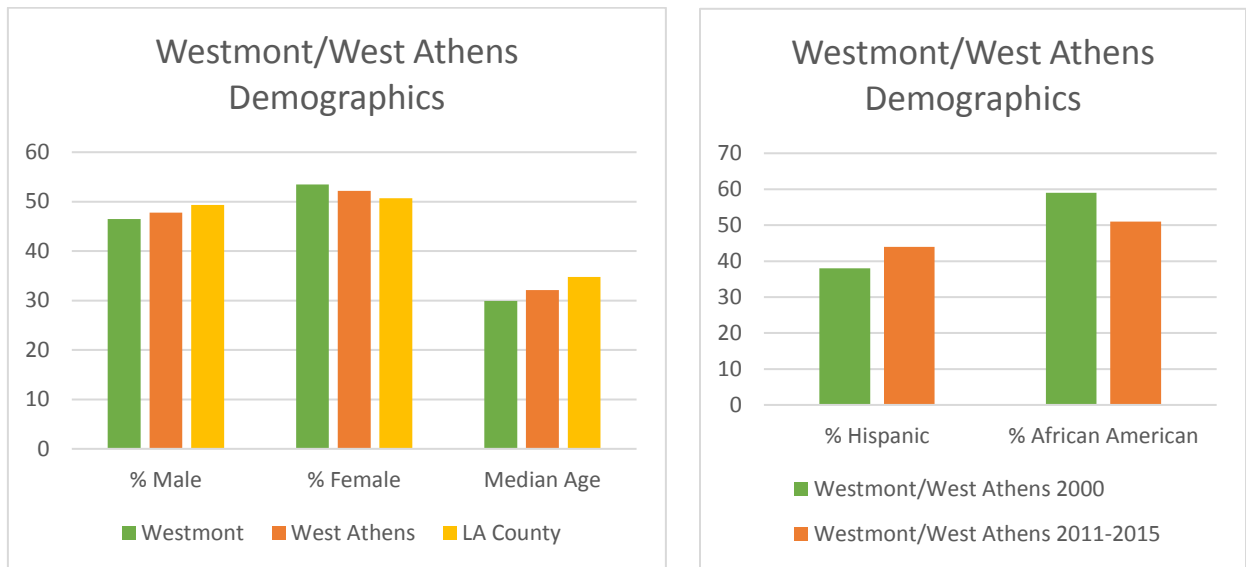


Demographics

Westmont is comprised of 46.5% male and 53.5% female;¹ West Athens has a similar gender makeup with 47.8% of the population being male and 52.2% female.⁴ According to the 2010 U.S. Census, the median age in Westmont is 29.9 years old,¹ and is slightly older in West Athens at 32.1 years old.⁴ Both areas are slightly younger than Los Angeles County which has a median age of 34.8 years old.⁸

There has been a demographic shift in race/ethnicity in Westmont West Athens, with the percentage of Hispanic residents increasing and the percentage of African American residents decreasing over time.⁷ The percentage of Hispanic residents grew from 38% in 2000 to 44% in 2011-2015; while the percentage

of African American residents decreased from 59% in 2000 to 51% in 2011-2015.⁷ The percentage of foreign-born population in Westmont West Athens is 27%, lower than the Los Angeles County percentage of 35%.⁷ The percentage of people who speak Spanish at home is higher in Westmont West Athens than in LA County at 48% and 39% respectively.⁷



Socioeconomic Characteristicsⁱⁱ

Westmont and West Athens vary considerably based on socioeconomic characteristics. While both areas generally fare worse on socioeconomic indicators than Los Angeles County as a whole, West Athens fares better than Westmont on most socioeconomic indicators. Median household income in Westmont is \$29,262, far lower than it is in West Athens which is \$40,756 – still lower than the LA County median household income which is \$57,952⁹ as seen in figure one. Per capita income in Westmont is \$14,409, compared to \$19,645 in West Athens, and \$29,301 in LA County as illustrated in figure one.⁹ Forty-six percent of children, 30.1% of families, and 32.3% of people in Westmont live below the poverty line.⁹ In West Athens, 34.3% of children, 20.4% of families, and 22.9% of people live below the poverty line.⁹ In LA County, in comparison, 25.3% of children, 13.9% of families, and 17.8% of individuals live below the poverty line as depicted in figure three.⁹

Figure three also illustrates statistics related to homeownership and renting in Westmont and West Athens. Homeownership in West Athens is 45.8%, slightly higher than in LA County which is 43%, while homeownership in Westmont is far lower than the county at 27.9%.⁹ However, renters in both Westmont and West Athens pay a substantial portion of their income on rent. Seventy-two percent of renters in West Athens spend 30% or more of their household income on rent, while 76.2% do so in Westmont; this compares to 56.5% of renters in LA County.⁹ These numbers represent an increase of nearly 10% of renters in West Athens since the 2015 American Community Survey, while the numbers have remained stable in Westmont over that period of time.⁹

Figure two shows the percent of 16-19 year old youth who are not in school or working which is 5.4% in West Athens, and 4.5% in Westmont where there has been an increase from 2.9% from the 2015 American

ⁱⁱ Unless otherwise stated, socioeconomic characteristics are from the 2012-2016 American Community Survey from the U.S. Census Bureau.

Community Survey.⁹ These numbers are higher in both Westmont and West Athens areas as compared to LA County in which 2.3% of 16-19 year old youth are not in school or working.⁹ Only 7.9% of people in Westmont and 13.3% of people in West Athens who are 25 years and older have a Bachelor’s degree or higher, compared to 30.8% countywide.⁹ The number of single parent households is 26% greater in Westmont at 61.7% than in LA County at 35.7%, while the number of single parent households in West Athens is over 13% higher than the county at 49.5%, as illustrated figure three.⁹ The number of individuals who are 65 years of age or older living alone in West Athens is 27.6%, and 28.9% in Westmont, compared to 22.3% in LA County, as illustrated in figure three.⁹

Figure 1.

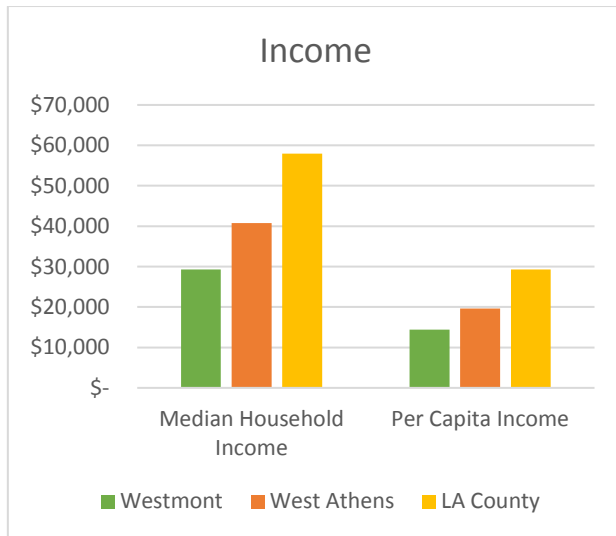


Figure 2.

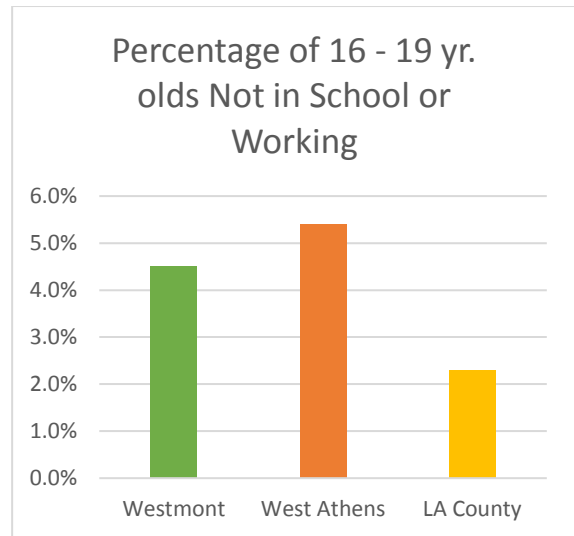
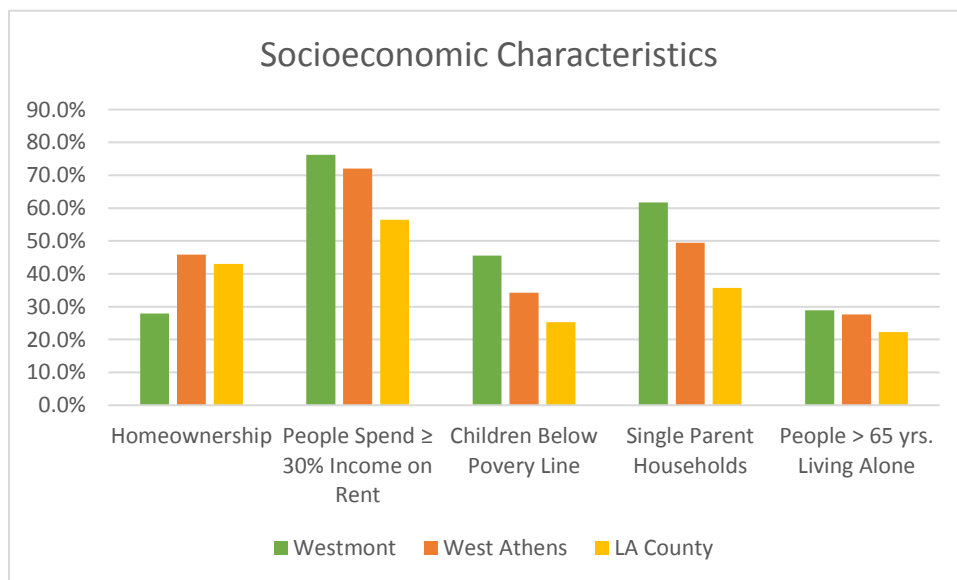
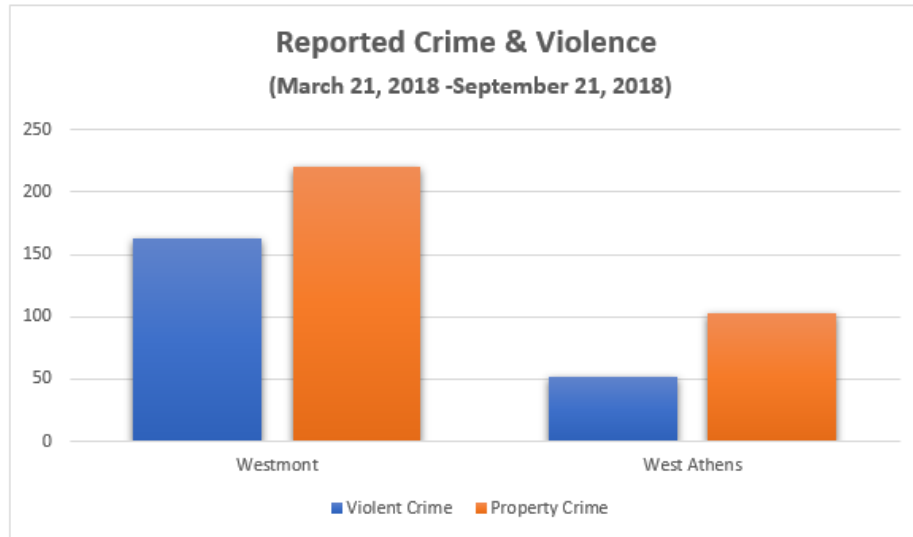


Figure 3.



Crime and Violence



There were 52 violent crimes in West Athens over the last six months (as of September 21, 2018), 103 property crimes, and 170.3 total crimes per 10,000 people.⁵ The 52 violent crimes reported included no homicides, one rape, 30 aggravated assaults, and 21 robberies.⁵ West Athens ranked 23 out of 209 neighborhoods in Los Angeles County with the highest violent crime rate.⁵

Westmont had 163 violent crimes over the last six months (as of September 21, 2018), 220 property crimes, and 121.7 total crimes per 10,000 people.² Westmont ranked 26 out of 209 neighborhoods in Los Angeles County with the highest violent crime rate.² The 163 violent crimes reported included one homicide, four rapes, 86 aggravated assaults, and 72 robberies.² A 2014 Los Angeles Times story dubbed the Westmont area, “Death Alley,” due to its distinction of having the highest homicide rate in LA County.¹⁰

The area is home to a number of gangs including: the Underground Crips, South Los, The Hoovers, 8 Trey Gangsters, the Raymond Crips, and the Rollin’ 100s.¹⁰ During the “Getting Our Fair Share,” breakout session at the 2018 Summit, a panelist recounted the history of the area, including the social media rumor of gangs to engage in 100 killings over the course of the next 100 days and nights, which was made one year after the publication of the LA Times “Death Alley” article.

Westmont West Athens combined ranked as the 13th among 209 LA County Communities for violent crimes per capita in 2016.¹¹ Of the violent crimes in Westmont West Athens, 55% were aggravated assaults, and 40% were robberies.¹¹ There were 112 documented gang-related crime instances in Westmont West Athens in 2016.¹¹ Homicide is a public health issue that particularly effects 17-25 year old men in Westmont West Athens.¹¹

Health:

Life expectancy in Westmont West Athens is approximately eight years lower than the LA County average, at 72.4 years of age compared to 80.3 years.¹¹ The two leading causes of death in Westmont West Athens – heart disease and cancer – are highly correlated with physical activity, diet, stress, and exposure to toxins such as pollution and tobacco.¹¹ The percent of adults who self-reported psychological stress in

Westmont West Athens was 10%, higher than the eight percent who self-reported psychological stress countywide. Adult obesity is nearly 42% higher in Westmont West Athens than in LA County.¹¹ The area ranks in the bottom 50th percentile of unincorporated LA County communities for child and adult obesity rates.¹¹ The rate of overweight and obese teens in Westmont West Athens is one of the highest in the state of California.¹¹ Adults in Westmont West Athens walk less than adults in LA County – 19.8% of adults in Westmont West Athens walk the recommended 150 minutes per week, less than the 34.1% of adults countywide.¹¹ Low levels of walking can be directly tied to the crime and violence present in this community, which can be a deterrent for people who wish to walk in their community or use public transportation. In addition to factors of crime and violence, Westmont West Athens has high traffic congestion because the area is split by the I-105 Freeway and bordered by the I-110 Freeway, and limited pedestrian infrastructure, which further deter residents from walking.¹¹ In a recent survey, Westmont West Athens residents reported the top challenges faced while walking were: obstacles on sidewalks, fear of robbery or theft, fear of physical violence, and insufficient street lighting.¹¹ Community policing was among the strategies that residents reported would make them feel safer while walking.¹¹

Community Assets and Strengths:

Resident-led coalitions in the area, are also a notable asset. Community assets and strengths in Westmont West Athens include the CAP, additional community leaders and community members, faith-based organizations, and community groups and coalitions that organize community residents and foster relationship building, including the West Athens Westmont Task Force, the Vermont Manchester Collaborative, the West Athens Best Start Collaborative and the Southwest Neighborhood Association. Additional assets include Woodcrest Library, the Victory Garden, Jess Owens and Helen Keller Parks and Los Angeles Southwest College.

During the “Getting Our Fair Share” breakout session, a panelist shared about the area’s history including how, a year after the “100 days, 100 nights” social media frenzy, Black Lives Matter marched through the area in response to police shootings. He also described a story about how Snoop Dogg who was a Crip, and the Game, who was a Blood, brought Mayor Garcetti and Police Chief Beck to the corner of Vermont Avenue and 81st Street, and how thousands of gang members signed a truce.

During the session there was discussion about how \$150 billion of investments are being made in the community, including Measure M investment in the Metro down Crenshaw Blvd. Additionally, there will be funding for Community Colleges, including the Southwest College Campus where the Unity Summit was held, Parks and Recreation funding (Westmont West Athens currently has one park, Helen Keller Park, and provides 0.2 acres of park space per 1,000 residents¹¹), and Measure H funding to build affordable housing and provide wraparound services for the homeless. The panelist also referenced approximately \$14 billion in local hiring for LAX, a new stadium in Inglewood, and Jordan Downs Redevelopment, all near Westmont West Athens.

WESTMONT WEST ATHENS STAKEHOLDER ANALYSIS

METHODOLOGY

UPI participated in the Westmont West Athens Community Action for Peace (CAP) meetings composed of residents, stakeholders, and staff from the Los Angeles County Department of Public Health. Additionally, UPI gathered community feedback through one-on-one interviews and from Summit participants. Through these interactions, UPI developed a community-based lens to offer an understanding of community issues and needs expressed by residents and stakeholders. From January through July 2018, UPI met with residents and stakeholders to discuss community needs and gain insight on perceptions of the Westmont West Athens community. UPI synthesized information to create a list of core themes that frequently emerged during the CAP meetings, interviews, and Summit breakout discussions. This information was utilized to develop a series of recommendations to help inform the development of a community-based violence prevention strategy

PROMINENT THEMES

The community of Westmont West Athens is home to over 40,000 residents. One resident described it as the “forgotten city” because it does not receive the attention and resources it needs. Many residents trace back several generations and reminisce on the days when neighbors all knew each other and all the parks were safe for young people. Present day, the community dynamics are different. What some community members described as a “beautiful” community, for many years now, has been suffering from a myriad of social conditions. Through key informant interviews, community members shared the following themes about the Westmont West Athens community: gang violence, normalization of violence and traumatized youth, lack of community cohesion, 21st century jobs and local investment, and poor law enforcement relationships.

Gang Violence

Community members lifted up the high levels of gang violence in the area as a top concern. A LA Times article, labeled the Vermont corridor in Westmont “LA County’s Death Alley.”¹⁰ Since 2015, there have been at least ten homicides per year: this amounts to almost one death per month.¹² Some interviewees highlighted the multigenerational gang dynamics in which kids are “born into the gangs.” There is a greater level of gang entrenchment in communities when multiple generations of family members are gang involved. As one resident described “some of these are good kids with good grades” but end up in gangs because of multiple family ties.

Interviewees also described the intensity of the gang violence dynamics and how it affects everyone in the community. The gang dynamics impact mobility, public spaces, and community assets. Students expressed experiences being harassed by gang members on the streets. Participants described how community members refrain from using resources (such as WIC, mental health offices) because of fear.

The fear being described as caused by the location of these services where loitering by gang members occurs and the recognition that shootings have happened there. From walking down the street to playing at the local parks, everyone is affected by the gang dynamics. For instance, community members shared that ten years ago, gangs operated on defined concepts such as colors, boundaries, and safe zones which has changed over the years. One community member described that in previous generations the “parks were considered safe, kids and women would get a pass at the park,” but that is no longer the case.

WESTMONT WEST ATHENS HAS ALWAYS BEEN AN AREA THAT IS HEAVILY POPULATED WITH GANGS. MANY OF THE YOUTH IN THE AREA AUTOMATICALLY RELATE AND GRAVITATE WITH GANGS BECAUSE THEIR FAMILY MEMBERS AND PARENTS ARE USUALLY GANG AFFILIATED.” – COMMUNITY MEMBER

Community members described how the gang dynamics in Westmont West Athens have changed and are particularly more dangerous. It was described how many young gang members “no longer respect the OGs” and the elders of their community like in previous generations. Gangs have turned to social media for instant communication which can quickly spread rumors and incite violence. Social media has played a big role in the way gangs operate and engage in violence. Gang members have gained a new platform for notoriety. Interviewees shared a particular concern that gang involved youth nowadays are more daring and reckless, describing it as “they want to be hardcore and die gang banging.” Also, another new dynamic is the increase in females in gangs and partaking in violent crime.

Normalization of Violence and Traumatized Youth

Residents described how young people in this area have been affected by the regularity of violence and death. The two themes of normalization of violence and the trauma suffered by youth parallel each other very closely. As one interviewee described it, “the youth are silently traumatized and refuse to talk about violence. They have normalized and internalized this behavior.”

While some residents described that adults in the area are walking around with unresolved trauma, youth trauma was a large theme among the interviewees. As one community described it, “there is a lot of unresolved trauma. There are lot of youth trying to avenge their murdered loved ones. No one is addressing the trauma.” Others have described local youth exhibiting symptoms that could be associated with PTSD, acute stress disorder, or depression. Others said it bluntly: “the youth suffer from PTSD.”

While resident leaders recognize the needs of youth, they also recognize the gap in programming and services. They articulated the need for programs to help youth dealing with trauma, prevent them from joining gangs and to get them out of gangs. One interviewee also raised the issue of bullying in school and the need for school support services focused on gang-involved youth.

Lack of Community Cohesion

The older residents remember a time when this community was tightly knit, when neighbors all knew each other and took care of each other's kids. As one resident put it, "It used to be a village until we got siloed." Interviewees described the gap between neighbors but also between organizations.

Among the factors affecting cohesion is the language barrier between immigrant Latinos and African Americans. As one community member put it, "the area has a large Latino and black population but the relationship between these two is weak." Residents have voiced a need for English and Spanish classes. Neighbors want to interact with one another and create community, but communication has become a barrier. The lack of translation services in community spaces is a factor. Interviewees did mention the need to create these places to develop community cohesion; however, they were not able to identify many civic spaces in the community where both Latinos and African Americans could come together.

Interviewees also described how people, organizations, and even government often "work in silos" in Westmont West Athens. The lack of funding opportunities for community-based organizations fosters a sense of competition that can inhibit collaboration. While all community organizations look to create change and strive to provide residents with resources, a common concern is that many organizations do not communicate with one another and often duplicate efforts. For instance, one resident shared that three community organizations held food giveaways on separate dates but none of them was aware of the other, nor did they refer people to each other. Additionally, residents have stressed the need for better partnership among community organizations.

There is still a gap in a larger community vision. Keenly one interviewee stated that instead of focusing on individual programs and activities that only deal with symptoms, there is need for "a model or a structure dealing with the root causes" of violence and trauma. More so, interviewees shared the need to bring in more residents to better advocate for the Westmont West Athens community.

21st Century Jobs and Local Investment

Community members recognize the need for jobs and quality local workforce development. They want local schools focused on STEM classes. They want youth to get connected to 21st century jobs. One of the biggest assets in the community is Southwest Community College. They also want more certificate trainings and work programs at Southwest Community College. Westmont West Athens leaders also see how local community-based organizations can help people connect to those workforce initiatives and resources in general.

For many residents in Westmont West Athens obtaining resources and jobs services is an arduous task. Some community members find themselves in a maze trying to figure out the correct offices and phone numbers to call for services like trash pick-up. Frustrated and confused, community members go without services and resources. Residents interviewed voiced a need for a community hub where people could walk-in and get information and guidance in obtaining services and resources. The idea of a community hub was also a way for community organizations to come together and work in-partnership.

“Help the people who are helping the people”

- Community Member

“I’d like to see the County and other big organizations provide funding for local organizations to work together with community.”

- Community Member

Interviewees also spoke about the need to support local community-based organizations to help the high need populations. Many local organizations have been working and servicing this area for many years and without compensation. Many local organizations could help support youth, health, recreational, and mental health initiatives. One resident described it as “I’d like to see the County and other big organizations provide funding for local organizations to work together with community.”

Poor Law Enforcement Relationships

Westmont and West Athens community leaders are very clear that they want a different approach from law enforcement – they want to be treated with dignity and respect. Interviewees shared many negative interactions with law enforcement, but they also shared positive ones that happened many decades ago. The vision they described is a community policing approach in which law enforcement builds relationships with community members. They want local Sheriff deputies in particular, to have the dedicated capacity to know the people they are serving, so that all members of law enforcement treat this community with respect.

“Back in the day, officers knew who community members were by name and the community knew the names of the police officers.”

- Community Member

Interviewees want a law enforcement structure that allows residents to get to know officers and vice versa. Several respondents complimented the efforts of some local law enforcement leaders but were quick to point out the poor interactions and customer service from the street level officers. The issues described were: 1) constantly feeling criminalized by law enforcement officers, 2) fear of excessive use of force by law enforcement, and 3) defensive / intimidating posture by law enforcement officers.

Concerns on Local Law Enforcement:

“There is no relationship with law enforcement, no communication.”

“Captains and Lieutenants will hear the community out, but there are other police officers that will shoot first and ask questions later.”

“Officers need to have common courtesy, treat people with respect, and stop treating everyone like they are gang members or on parole.”

“Nowadays, officers even scare old ladies watering their grass”

Participants stated that they want positive relationships and good customer service— meaning they want to be treated with respect by law enforcement officers. One participant shared the vision to expand positive relationships to parole, probation, sheriffs working in custody, and the district attorney as well.

SUMMIT OVERVIEW & AGENDA

The second Westmont West Athens Unity Summit was held on Saturday June 8, 2018 at Los Angeles Southwest College. The summit expanded on the work that began at the 2017 Unity Summit to develop an action plan for reducing and preventing violence in the Westmont and West Athens communities of unincorporated Los Angeles County. The Westmont West Athens Community Action for Peace (CAP) was formed in order to address the disproportionately high level of violence and trauma in the communities, and continues to meet on a monthly basis, work on prioritized community needs, and to implement the components of the Strategic Plan. Additionally, they planned the 2018 Summit to build on the success and momentum of previous year’s work.



Participation

One hundred forty-six people attended the Unity Summit. All attendees received a summit evaluation form at registration and asked to complete and return it at the end of the summit. Sixteen attendees completed summit evaluations which represents a 11% response rate (see Appendix A for full summit evaluation report). Due to the low response rate, the evaluation findings are less reliable. The longest-term resident who attended the summit reported living in the Westmont West Athens community for 53 years. The majority of attendees (53%) reported finding out about the summit from a Summit Planning Committee member, while 40% percent learned about the summit from a community-based organization, and 27% heard about the summit from a friend or family member. Evaluations were generally positive about the summit, however more outreach for higher attendance was suggested for improvement. One participant also suggested making the CAP more accessible for broader participation, commenting: “Many people in the community would like to be a part of CAP; however the meetings are always held in during working hours. Meetings should alternate between day and evening.”

Morning Program

Participants enjoyed a continental breakfast and networking, community art, and a performance by the Washington High School Jazz Band when they arrived at the Summit. Youth drummers from the Al Wooten Jr. Heritage Center led participants into the auditorium for the morning program. Summit emcee Kevin Orange, a member of the Westmont West Athens Community Action for Peace (CAP) and a Community Intervention Worker, welcomed participants. Dr. Denise Noldon, the Interim President of Los Angeles Southwest College, and Robert Saucedo, Deputy from Supervisor Mark Ridley-Thomas’s Office also gave a welcome and their remarks to the community. Pastor Bruce McCall gave a spiritual invocation to set the tone for the day. Kevin Orange shared local crime statistics and highlighted improvements over the past year. Local Los Angeles Sheriffs Department Captain April Tardy presented Kevin Orange and Reynaldo Reaser with an award of recognition for their work and leadership in Violence Prevention in Westmont West Athens. Youth voices were uplifted in the morning program by Arianna and Lilyanna Smalls from Phenomenal Angels, and Janae Burney and Ian Flowers from Washington High School. Community Artist Bryant Magnum led the participants in a healing art activity.

Breakout Sessions

Six breakout sessions on priority issues for the community that were identified by the CAP were the root of the summit: (1) Community and Law Enforcement Engagement, (2) Trauma: How It Impacts Youth/Youth Empowerment, (3) A Vacation from Trauma, (4) Community Healing Through Music, (5) Getting Our Fair Share, (6) Faith-based and Community Relationships. Breakouts were held both in the morning and the afternoon to allow participants to engage in more than one topic. The morning breakout sessions had higher attendance than the afternoon session. Planning for future events should consider the likelihood that not all community members will be able to commit a full day to such an event.



Afternoon Program

The afternoon program featured a hot lunch by Apple Spice Kitchen. Dr. Barbara Ferrer, Director of the Los Angeles County Department of Public Health, spoke to participants during lunch. Musical entertainment was provided by the Washington High School Jazz Band and local R&B Hip Hop Artist Matthew Sutton. Local fraternities entertained summit participants with a Step Show.



Summit Wrap-up and Adjournment

The summit closed with a raffle for a bicycle through TPI's partnership with DPH's P.L.A.C.E. Program, and a report back from the six breakout sessions so that all community members could be updated about what was covered in each of the sessions. Community artists unveiled the artwork that all summit attendees had contributed to by writing a positive word on feather. The individual feathers were brought together into a pair of angel wings. Emcee Kevin Orange wrapped up the day.



SUMMIT BREAKOUT SESSIONS

Summit breakout sessions gave community leaders and stakeholders an opportunity to share resources, learn, and dialogue about six topic areas identified by the Community Action for Peace (CAP). The breakout session topics continued discussion and built off of the breakout sessions from the 2017 Unity Summit and the work of the CAP over the past year. The six breakout sessions featured community leaders with expertise on specific topic areas as panelists. The goal of the breakout sessions was to foster dialogue between panelists and Summit participants, to build connections, share perspectives, and identify next steps for action on community priorities. Two of the breakout sessions were interactive opportunities for participants to learn about trauma and practice healing.

Breakout Session 1: Community and Law Enforcement Engagement

Facilitator: Ben Owens, Soledad Enrichment Action

Description:

The goal of this breakout session was to reduce the trauma between the community and law enforcement. The panel featured the Captain of the South Los Angeles Sheriff's Station, a youth representative from the community who had just graduated from High School and will be attending college in the fall, and two Community Intervention Workers (CIWs) who provide gang intervention services for the City and County of Los Angeles.

Panelists:

- *Captain April Tardy, Los Angeles Sheriff's Department, South Los Angeles Station*
- *Youth Community Member*
- *Reynaldo Reaser, Reclaim Americas Communities Through Empowerment (R.A.C.E.)*
- *Dr. Perry Crouch, Watts Gang Taskforce*

Panelist Perspectives:

Youth Relationships with Law Enforcement

One local youth shared his perspective on how his peer group sees law enforcement. He noted that he has been lucky and has generally had good interactions with law enforcement, typically only being stopped for something small when he is stopped, like crossing the street while the light is counting down. However, he explained that the experience of many of his peers has been different, noting that there is a lot of distrust of law enforcement among his peers resulting from people's past experience and how they have been treated throughout their lives. One panelist agreed with this perspective noting that youth "turn sour" on law enforcement when they are treated like gang members or thugs simply because of the way they are walking. He equated law enforcement to a referee, whose role is to call a foul, not create a foul. He shared his perspective that: "law enforcement should give youth invitations to good things as opposed to slamming them which just breeds hostility."

"Our biggest dilemma as interventionists and community leaders is bridging the gap between law enforcement and youth." -- Session Panelist

Community, Intervention Workers & Reduction in Crime

According to LASD, the South Los Angeles Station has had the largest reduction in crime in LA County for nearly one year. This reduction in crime was attributed not only to deputies working hard, but to the larger community, and to gang intervention workers. Both LASD and gang interventionists shared their perspectives on the challenges of collaboration, and how they have built relationships to improve safety in the community. They both shared that there is a gap in understanding about what intervention workers do and what deputies believe they do. Some deputies may place blame on intervention workers for not stopping all violent crimes, which they realistically cannot do. Even after violence occurs, intervention workers can play a critical role in preventing the situation from escalating. From the interventionist perspective, developing relationships with law enforcement can lead to distrust from some community members. But it was noted, that while interventionists and law enforcement have both taken risks and have both received push back for working on community engagement, they have led the County with results.

“It’s hard to walk that fine line to have that relationship with law enforcement and community.” -- Session Panelist

Panelists spoke about trying to change the culture within the Sheriff’s Department for increased support of the community engagement policing model. Examples were shared including speaking about this model to young deputies in training to for patrol and sending deputies from South Los Angeles Station to a training on intervention with the Los Angeles County Department of Public Health. Interventionists responded to rumors that it pays a lot of money, and that people just go into the field to make money clarifying that, “they pay you crumbs, they don’t pay like they do law enforcement.” People who go into intervention for the money don’t last very long. It was stated, the reason for going into intervention, is for the people. “We are sick and tired of burying our loved ones. We want to go to graduations and not funerals.”

Differentiating Gang Members from Gang Bangers

It was stated to participants that it is not illegal to be a gang member, reading the legal definition of a gang member aloud. One panelist explained that there is a difference between gang members and gang bangers. Gang members can simply be members of the community but not involved in any criminal activity, which gang bangers are. A session participant who is an ex-gang member who did a lot of time in prison and is now trying to give back to the community shared that while it’s not illegal to be a gang member, “you don’t want to be known as a gang member.” When known as a gang member on the gang database, you do get penalized under the law – getting more severely punished for any minor crime – and your life is more difficult. An example was shared that a youth who stole headphones might only receive a citation, but if known as a gang member may be put in jail. A youth panelist shared that he has peers who become gang members because that is their only option for safety when they have to walk through a gang area to get to school. He shared that some of his friends go to college so they’re able to get out of the gang. But that others aren’t lucky and end up doing a lot of time for a small violation because of their

“Don’t get the member confused with the banger.”
-- Session Panelist

“We are sick and tired of burying our loved ones. We want to go to graduations and not funerals.”
-- Session Panelist

“If it looks like a duck, and talks like a duck, it is a duck.”
-- Session Panelist

gang affiliation. Law enforcement expressed a differing view on the topic saying that if you are a gang member then you will be involved in gang banging at some point in time, even if you aren't currently involved in criminal activity.

Legalized Marijuana

The facilitator, Ben Owen, raised the issue of legalized marijuana for discussion among the panel, saying that this has brought up issues between the community and police. Captain April Tardy shared information about what people should expect from law enforcement regarding use of marijuana now that it has been legalized. She reminded participants that it is never okay to drive while under the influence of marijuana, and that it is still illegal to smoke marijuana in public. She shared that some people have been blatantly disrespectful, smoking marijuana in public places where children are present, and cautioned people that if they use marijuana while in public or while driving, they should expect to get arrested and may have their car impounded if they are arrested while driving. Arrests for marijuana have become a daily occurrence. From the youth perspective, the youth panelist shared that he doesn't smoke but that, "my peer group are major fans of this." From the interventionist perspective, both legal and illegal dispensaries are hot spots for fights, assaults, and shootings. He suggested that having bigger signs in parks stating that it is illegal to smoke in public would be helpful in reducing that activity, and therefore reduce or eliminate the need to arrest people for smoking in public. The youth panelist suggested that policies making it illegal to smoke in public places would also deter people from smoking marijuana in public.

Parks Are Safe Zones

Reynaldo Reaser spoke about becoming very angry and affected after watching someone get shot at a park where kids were playing on the playground and becoming inspired to work on establishing safe zones at parks and schools where children play. He shared that there are safe areas that are off-limits for violence in penitentiaries – in the visiting area. He thought the same mentality could be established in the community. Since the 2017 Unity Summit, Westmont West Athens Community Action for Peace, Los Angeles County Department of Public Health, and Los Angeles County Department of Parks and Recreation, have worked to post "Parks Are Safe Zones" signage in all South Los Angeles County parks including parks in the Westmont West Athens community, with the message spread through gang interventionists.

Safe Passages & Intervention at Schools

An audience member who is on the parent advisory committee of a local school asked about safe passage efforts at local schools, stating that it did not seem like LAUSD was working with interventionists, and yet kids are not safe at school. Reynaldo Reaser explained that he is a vendor to do intervention work both with the County of Los Angeles, and with Los Angeles Unified School District, but that he's not allowed in schools. He saw this as a problem, as issues in the school can spill out into the community, especially with the use of social media. He saw a need to have interventionists who can deescalate violence in schools as a preventative measure, especially since school police doesn't respond arrest until a violent act actually occurs. A panelist shared that from the youth perspective, they are often not engaged in discussions about where safe passage zones are needed and should be implemented. He shared that he personally had to walk through the territory of ten different gangs to get to school, while there is a safe passage zone that is far north from where it would be helpful to him. Ben Owens also shared that safe passages can protect kids from the "pocket check,"

"Not allowing gang interventionists to work in local schools is a problem"
-- Panelist

having their money and phone stolen on the way to school, which can also prevent youth from becoming gang members as a means for protection. When kids are getting robbed on the way to school, they won't tell anyone because they don't want to be labelled a "snitch," according to the youth panelist.

Sheriff's Department Programs and Strategies

Captain April Tardy shared information about the programs that the Sheriff's Department has for youth that include athletic programs at the 120th Street and Vermont location which is currently under renovation. The space will reopen and provide youth support with homework, boxing, dance, skating, and many more services. One of the audience members shared that participating in youth services at the police station when he was a child had a positive impact on his life, and that receiving services and programs directly from the station has the power to change people's mindset about law enforcement.

Building Community & Law Enforcement Relationships

One of the audience members shared that law enforcement engaging in events at the schools and the parks helped her to connect with law enforcement, which has made her feel like community and law enforcement engagement is good. She also saw the intervention workers as being very positive, having observed them as leaders in the community who empower others and are involved with the youth.

Another participant stated that they would like law enforcement to hire more people from the community they are patrolling. There was a deeper discussion about "snitching," with members of the audience expressing that people need to stop covering up for each other. Panelists clarified through this dialogue that there is a difference between an intervention worker, or someone who is involved in a gang, talking or "snitching" compared to a community resident who is simply reporting a crime such as a robbery that they happened to witness. The session closed with a community member sharing her sentiment that, "We can't just have an event and then disperse in the world. We have to come together collectively at a time and place that we set for ourselves. And demonstrate."

"We can't just have an event and then disperse in the world. We have to come together collectively at a time and place that we set for ourselves. And demonstrate." -- Summit Participant

Family Support & Role Models

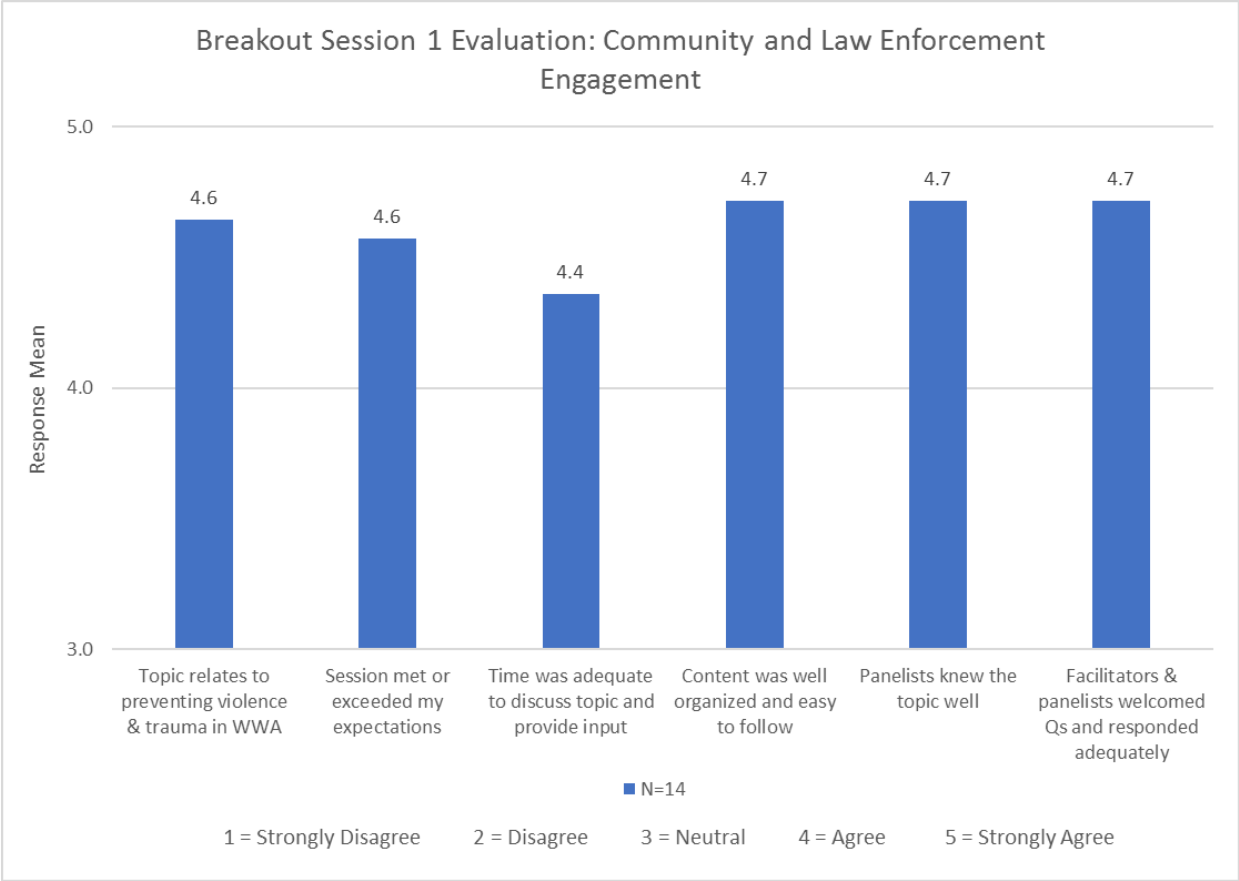
Participants asked the youth panelist what advice he would give them as mothers of black males. He spoke about the importance of kids having respect for their parents, noting that his mother commanded respect but that he observes that connection missing now between many parents and children, with the children having no consequences for their mistakes. Dr. Perry Crouch suggested that the mother connect to strong positive male leaders in the community, noting that many children in the community feel abandoned because adults have become scared of kids. Session participants also spoke about the power of love, of community supporting each other, and of providing family structure to the youth to prevent them from turning to gangs to fill that void.

Moving Forward

Panelists and participants discussed the need for improved relationships between police officers and community members – especially between law enforcement and youth, increased support for families and additional mentors and role models for youth, and for safe passage zones to be established around schools that are informed by the needs of youth in the community.

Next Steps

1. Establish Community Safety Partnership Policing Initiative to implement a 21st Century Policing Model that will increase the capacity and presence of LASD and establish positive relationships and interactions between law enforcement and community members. All efforts should be made to hire police from the community or with a strong connection to the community.
 - a. Suggested partners: LASD, LACDPH, LACDMH (implementation); community (CAP) (input).
2. LASD presence in the community should follow diversion recommendations for diversion, especially when dealing with youth.
 - a. Suggested partners: LASD, LACDPH
3. Establish educational workshops and support groups for parents and families.
 - a. Suggested partners: LACDPH, LADMH
4. Establish a mentorship program to give youth additional adult role models.
 - a. Suggested partners: LACDPH, LACDMH, community (CAP), CBOs
5. Engage youth to establish Safe Passage zones where youth need them.
 - a. Suggested partners: LACDPH, CBOs
6. Establish effective intervention programs in schools.
 - a. Suggested partners: LAUSD/school administrators, parent advisory committees, LACDPH, CBOs, CIWs, local youth
7. Establish a youth advisory committee component of the CAP so that youth are engaged in community decision making to increase safety.
 - a. Suggested partners: LACDPH, CAP
8. Convene CAP meetings at times that are accessible to community members who work during typical 9-5 working hours, to engage a broader range of community members to build community cohesion to improve public safety.
 - a. Suggested partners: LACDPH, CAP, community members



Breakout Session 2: Trauma: How It Impacts Youth (Youth Empowerment)

Description:

Crystal Pitts of C.H.A.N.G.E.S presented and engaged participants in dialogue about specific topics related to bullying, teen dating and domestic violence, cycles of abuse, the importance of talking to the right person, and forgiveness. She provided tips and information to help youth and parents better understand and identify bullying, and how to deal with bullying.

Naomi McSwain of the Al Wooten Jr. Heritage Center presented on the importance of education as a pathway to success. She shared information on the link between education and crime, and resources that are available at the Al Wooten Jr. Heritage Center.

Panelists:

- *Crystal Pitts, Westmont West Athens Community Action for Peace/Community Helping All Needing Guidance Education & Support (C.H.A.N.G.E.S.)*
- *Naomi McSwain, Al Wooten Jr. Heritage Center*

Panelist Perspectives:

Bullying

Participants discussed what bullying is, with youth sharing personal stories about people they know who have been bullied. Crystal Pitts explained the different types of bullying, and the difference between conflict and bullying. A conflict is generally a one-time occurrence between people who are equals, while bullying is often ongoing and involves a power

dynamic in which the person being bullied is made to feel inferior to the bully. The importance of both youth and parents being able to identify bullying, and the importance of parents themselves not bullying their children was emphasized. It was explained that, if not identified or addressed at a young age, children who experience bullying will think that is normal. Panelists also discussed cyberbullying which has become more prevalent with the increased use of cellphones and social media. It was explained that cyberbullying allows bullies to attack people when they are in their home, where they and their parents think that they are in a safe space. The importance of youth telling an adult if they experience cyberbullying was also emphasized. Even if the bullying is being done through a fake account, the cyberbully can be tracked down through methods such as using IP addresses. Parents and guardians were advised to monitor their kid's online activity to identify cyberbullying and to notice the kinds of blogs and chatrooms that the child frequents. Parents were also cautioned that addition to cyberbullies, other predators can target children when they are online. Predators, who may compliment rather than bully children, use social media to human traffick children every day.

Types of Bullying:

- *Traditional Bullying: physical, verbal, and social.*
 - *Cyber Bullying*
 - *Parents Bullying Children*
-

Participants dialogued about the roles that various people play in supporting bullies: instigator, photographer, cheerleader, and lookie lou, each who promote bullying in their own way by encouraging the bully and giving the bully an audience. Crystal Pitts emphasized that it is very important that youth don't engage in any of these roles of promoting bullying. One of the youths in the session expressed that the people who promote bullying are followers, not leaders, noting that leaders will do something to try to stop the bully such as telling an adult.

Children who are bullied were encouraged to talk to someone about it, and to write it down so that they don't forget to tell someone, especially if bullying happens at school. When talking to someone, it was emphasized that the person needs to understand and relate to your situation. Youth participants then shared their perspectives on why it is not good to keep bullying to yourself which included stress and anxiety:

- "It builds up a lot of stress";
- "You could build up negative emotions in side of you";
- "If you don't tell, you might think about committing suicide."
- "If you build up negative emotions, you might take it out on someone else."

The Role of Parents:

Crystal Pitts shared warnings signs of bullying that parents can look for to identify bullying if their child does not talk to them about it. These strategies focused on parents talking to their children regularly, noticing if they are hungry and their lunch money has been taken, paying attention to what their friends are doing, and watching their body language. Parents were encouraged to ask their children questions, ask about their friends, and to really listen to children rather than correcting them or cutting them off which will discourage them from speaking up. It was recommended to have conversation with children at the dinner table and explained that doing this regularly will develop a good habit.

Participants shared parenting challenges:

- "We have in our head that we have shape our kids, we want to live through our children, but we have let children be children";
- "We don't listen, we want to talk";
- "Our kids don't come to us because we want to talk but not listen";
- "Allow children to teach us who they are and not shape them to who we want them to be;"
- "We want to know about their day, but how we want to see it."

Crystal also explained that it's important for parents to take responsibility for what they are teaching and to enforce appropriate punishments, and that children who feel loved also feel motivated and want to be all that they can be. Crystal Pitts also brought up the issue of the lack of men in homes which results in many women raising kids while playing both roles. She acknowledged that having multiple roles can make it difficult to have direction, and that kids do realize when they are in a single-family home which can be emotional for the child.

Participants shared their perspectives noting that kids may engage in bad behavior, but it's the responsibility of parents to be there for them. Another participant expressed that while parents can't change who kids are, they can give them the tools to mold themselves. Another participant talked about the importance of modelling positive behavior. There was also discussion about the different needs of children at different ages and stages of life. Older children deal with peer pressure, may use marijuana to self-medicate, and may wear sports logos to demonstrate their connected with a gang. Parents were also cautioned that kids might look healthy, confident, and composed around their parents, but they may display themselves differently with other people. For this reason, it was emphasized, that it's important for parents to be there and make themselves available to youth.

How to address bullying at schools:

To address bullying at schools, it's important to put the issue in writing – document what is happening and that it needs to stop – and follow the appropriate chain of command: school counsellor, assistant

principal, principal, and if necessary the School Board who will hold the principal accountable if they are ineffective or unresponsive. One participant who is a teacher urged parents not to come to school to be bullies or their parents themselves, sharing that when this happens the school calls the police to have those parents escorted off campus. The importance of collaboration between schools and homes was emphasized.

Forgiveness:

Parents were also encouraged to forgive themselves, and to teach their kids to forgive themselves. It was explained that forgiveness is a means of relieving oneself of victimhood, of removing power from someone who stays in your thoughts, and of healing. Parents were encouraged not to let the pain of the past dictate the path of the future because, “hurt people hurt people.” Crystal Pitts told participants that, “if you are a bully, if you have ever been bullied, it’s important to forgive yourself,” explaining that feelings of isolation and neglect, or suicidal thoughts, can hurt people who don’t forgive. She told participants, “you owe it to yourself to live the best life that you can live. And part of doing so is healing.”

“Hurt people hurt people.”
-- Crystal Pitts

“If you are a bully, if you have ever been bullied, it’s important to forgive yourself,” explaining that feelings of isolation and neglect, or suicidal thoughts, can hurt people who don’t forgive.

-- Crystal Pitts

The Importance of Education

Naomi McSwain of the Al Wooten Jr. Heritage Center, which was created as a positive response to the death of her cousin in a drive-by shooting in 1989, spoke about the importance of education as a pathway for success in all things. She pointed out how education on bullying can help people to be successful in not being a victim of bullying. There was a discussion about what kind of education is needed to prevent bullying from forming. It was noted that parents must educate kids on bullying and substance use at home. Parents can also play a role in teaching kids what to look to avoid bullying, and how to not encourage bullying – including how to not instigate bullying or be an audience for bullying.

The presentation began with information about the connection between education and crime, and statistics about the area. Naomi McSwain shared that 68% of residents 25 years and older in South Los Angeles have a high school diploma, while only 8% have a bachelor’s degree. Comparatively, over 30% of people 25 years and older in the City of Los Angeles have a bachelor’s degree. At Manhattan Elementary in Westmont, just about two miles down the street from the summit, only 25% of students tested at grade level in English, while 24% tested on grade level for math. Those numbers compare to 40% of students who are on grade level for English in the Los Angeles Unified School District, and 48% on grade level in the state of California. Naomi McSwain told session participants, “We have some work to do, some education to do.” She also shared statistics from the United Way that show evidence of a strong link between education

“We have some work to do, some education to do.”
-- Naomi McSwain

and crime. She noted that these statistics confirm what people already know anecdotally – when people don’t have job opportunities and are hungry, they are more likely to steal to meet their basic needs, but education leads to higher wages and increased job opportunities which reduces people’s desire to steal.

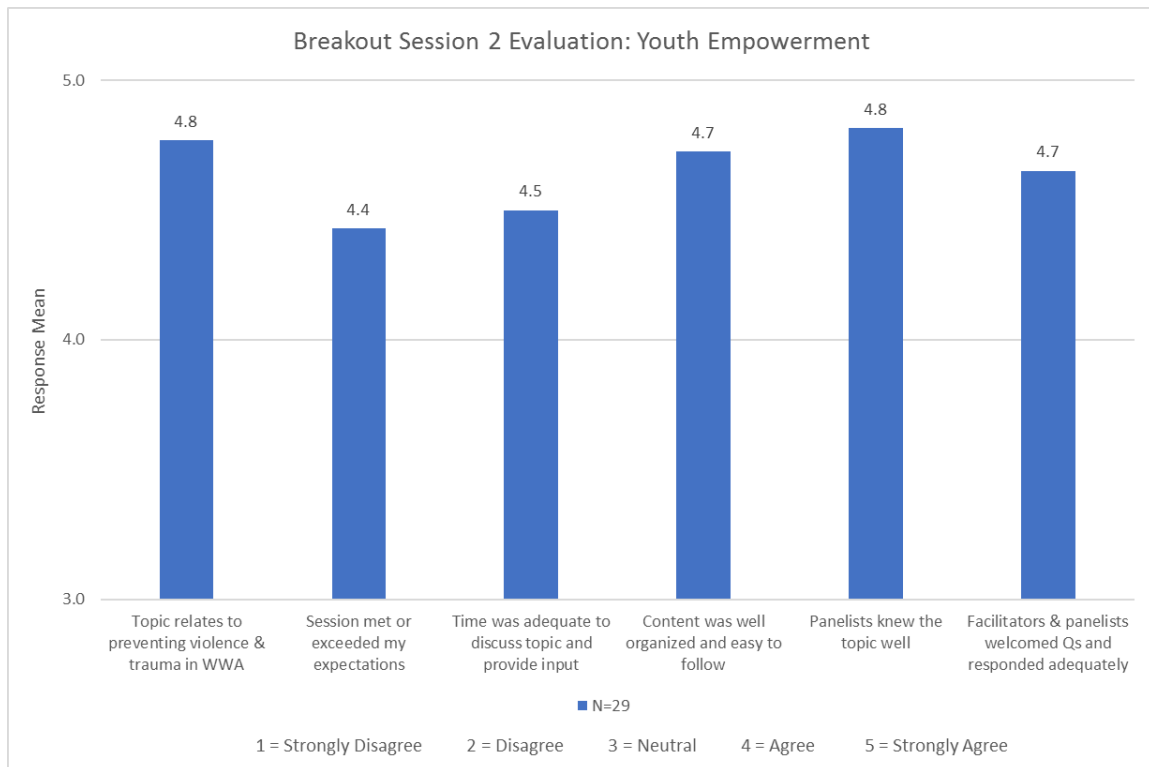
Naomi McSwain shared information about the activities and resources available at the Al Wooten Jr. Heritage Center including regular discussion groups, information about juvenile justice to teach kids about juvenile law and how to conduct themselves if they have an interaction with law enforcement, CollegeTrek Afterschool Program (with SAT preparatory workshop, college advising tour, and mentoring), and Summer Camp Fun. The Al Wooten Jr. Heritage Center takes an all-encompassing approach, with homework help, tutoring, STEM classes, leadership, cooking, college plans, performing arts, and sports.

Moving Forward

The session focused on bullying, the importance of education and collaboration between households and schools, and the importance of forgiveness and healing. Key takeaways for moving forward included parents being careful not to be bullies themselves, and to listen to their children and look for signs of bullying. Children were encouraged to pursue their education, access educational resources, and not to engage in bullying either actively or by giving an audience to bullies. Both parents and children were encouraged to forgive themselves and others which encourages healing.

Next Steps

1. Education and support services covering the topics of bullying, forgiveness and healing, predators, gangs, substance abuse, domestic violence, and cycles of abuse should be provided in the Westmont West Athens community.
 - a. Suggested partners: LACDPH, LADMH, local schools, community-based organizations



Breakout Session 3: A Vacation from Trauma

Description

In this interactive breakout session, participants learned and practiced using two techniques for dealing with trauma. Session attendees learned about different types of trauma – historical trauma, secondary trauma, community trauma, physical trauma, sexual trauma, and intergenerational trauma – and how trauma can vary from person to person. The core of the presentation focused on learning about tools and techniques that are available in the community to help people deal with the trauma that they experience.

Panelists:

Michelle Adams, LCSW, Westmont Counseling Center

Ericka Martin, R.A.C.E.

Panelist Perspectives

Tools and Techniques

Session participants learned about techniques and tools for dealing with trauma that are available at Westmont Counseling Center. They then learned and practiced two techniques for dealing with trauma: 1) “grounding” or taking a mini vacation, and 2) loan a vacation. Grounding is essentially a relaxation tool that can be used by anyone, anywhere, to stop the physical chemical processes of trauma and stress which have negative health effects on the body. Anyone, from police officers to community members can benefit from using these relaxation tools. It was also noted that people don’t always identify when they experience trauma or stress. Because trauma varies from person to person, participants were encouraged to focus on relaxation rather than trauma.

Session participants were instructed to close their eyes, breathe in and out, feel their feet on the floor, and imagine going somewhere – anywhere – on a vacation, to feel peace and let distractions disappear. The grounding tools can be used to help people relax and can be effective even if only used briefly, for 10 seconds. The practice of the “loan a vacation” tool was very similar, but participants imagined themselves on Michelle Adams vacation as she guided them; this tool is often used with young children.

Ericka Martin shared how grounding changed her life. Prior to the tool she would run with different crowds and when situations arose, she would get very intense.

“I have been through all types of trauma. I’m a mother, I didn’t realize I had gone through trauma. My parents never obligated me to go to school because I would get bullied in school. I took myself to school. I went to school because I saw others doing it. Michelle Adams [the therapist] taught me Vacation form Trauma. It has helped a lot. That is why I am here. To explain the impact it has given me.” -- Summit Participant

Community Voice

Several participants expressed that they planned to use the grounding tools in their daily lives, and their appreciation for learning the techniques. One participant commented, “I felt free. My body, spirt: calm.” Evaluation responses were generally positive, but one participant expressed that they would have like for

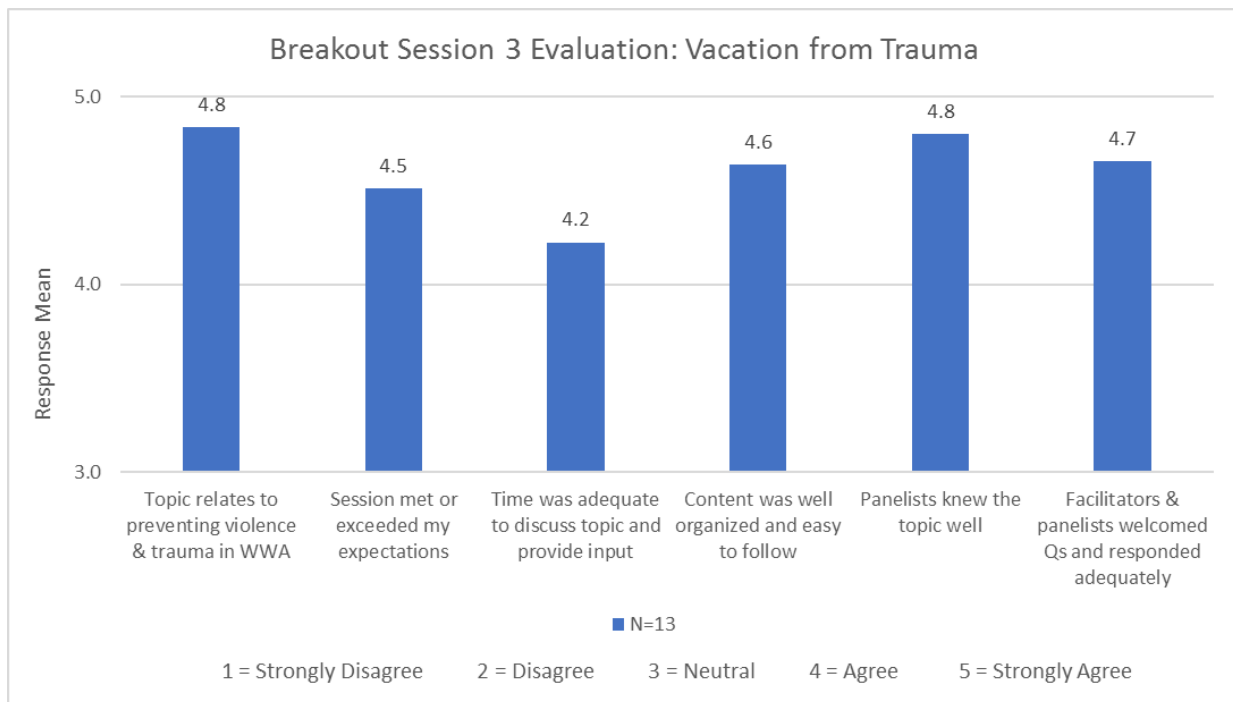
some of the questions and comments related to traumatic moments and experiences to have been more fully addressed.

Moving Forward

Participants expressed desire to implement the grounding tool in their day to day lives, appreciation for being provided the time and space to heal, and desire to have more opportunities to learn and ask questions about trauma. Offering these opportunities regularly to Westmont West Athens residents would benefit the community. The opening of the MLK Healing Center provides an opportunity to offer education, tools, and techniques for trauma being experienced by community residents.

Next Steps

1. Provide space and support for Westmont West Athens community members to practice healing and mindfulness on a regular basis.
 - a. Suggested partners: LACDPH, LACDMH, MLK Healing Center
2. Provide educational workshops about trauma, with the opportunity for participants to ask questions about trauma, for Westmont West Athens community members on a regular basis.
 - a. Suggested partners: LACDMH, LACDPH, MLK Healing Center



Breakout Session 4: Community Healing Through Music

Facilitator: Shari Farmer

Description

This interactive breakout session focused on using music to heal from trauma. The session opened with a brief presentation on the Power of Music and the Brain. After the presentation, Dr. Arvis Jones shared examples of different types of music that can be used for relaxation. Participants then selected instruments to participate in an interactive, music-making component of the session. Additional resources, including information on the Victims of Crime program were also provided to session participants.

Panelist

- Dr. Arvis Jones, Music Therapist

Panelist Perspectives

Dr. Arvis Jones, a Music Therapist who specializes in grief and loss, gave participants an overview of the Music Therapy profession, explaining that it is an Allied Health Profession that requires completion of a certificate program. She shared examples of work that she has done in the past including working with child and adult stroke victims and working with groups of children who have experienced community violence and trauma.

Power of Music and the Brain

The presentation focused on how the brain reacts to different types of music, and the power that music has to change the brain. Dr. Arvis explained that music activates neurons on the right side of the brain. She discussed the power that music has to bring back memories – including both positive and painful memories – noting that each song affects everyone differently because we have our own memories and experiences with music. There is not one type of music that is “the best,” what’s important is that the music engages a person’s emotions. “The music has to reach the person. It has to touch that person.”

“The music has to reach the person. It has to touch that person.” -- Dr. Arvis Jones

Dr. Arvis Jones shared research on how music enhances and optimizes the brain and explained that music can be a powerful tool to assist with learning, relaxation, meditation, and healing. She shared examples of different types of music that can be used for meditation, including a Chakra meditation, and relaxation, including Tibetan bowls, Nuyorican soul, and piano. Dr. Arvis Jones shared an example from her work of using music to help children who were victims of trauma to relax before going to bed, which improved their sleep. She explained that music was a tool that everyone could use to prepare the body to relax and to heal.

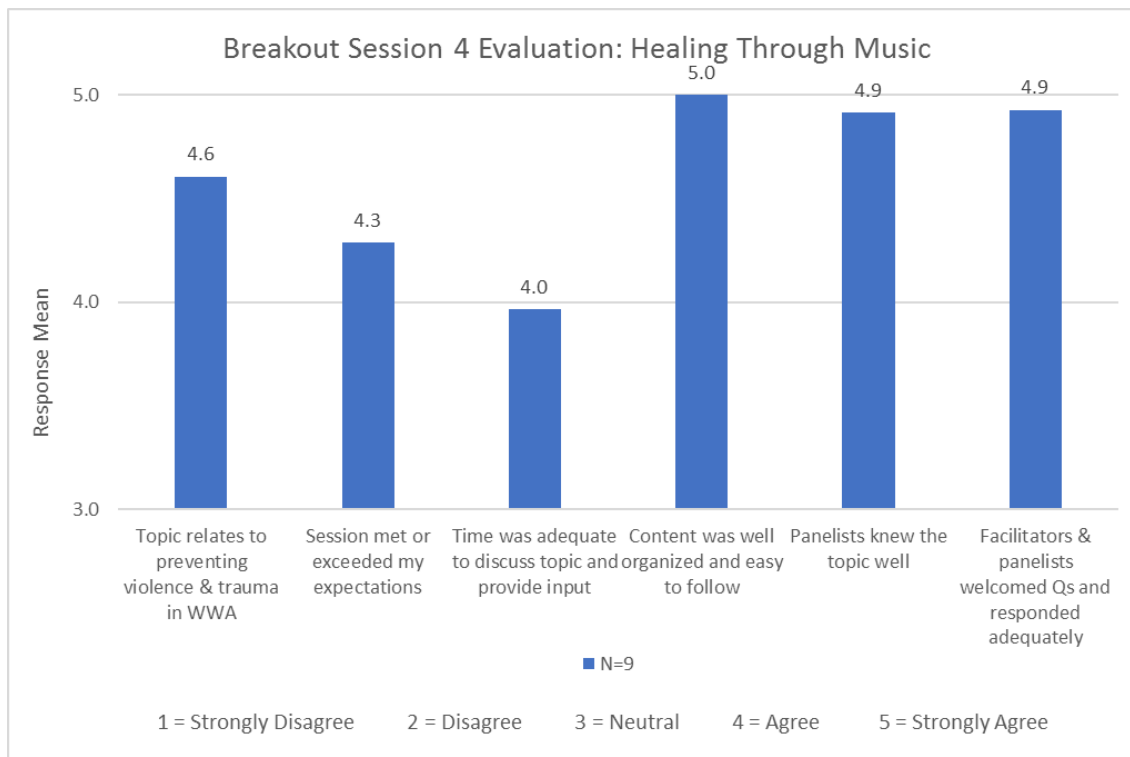


Moving Forward

The breakout session received positive evaluations with one participant noting that participating in the exercises would be useful for all summit attendees to participate in during the morning program. Offering the music therapy workshops regularly throughout the year would be a beneficial resource for Westmont West Athens residents. The upcoming opening of the MLK Community Healing and Trauma Center provides the opportunity to offer musical therapy as a resource to the community.

Next Steps

1. Provide regular musical therapy workshops for Westmont West Athens community residents.
 - a. Suggested partners: Los Angeles County Department of Public Health, Los Angeles County Department of Mental Health.



Breakout Session 5: Getting Our Fair Share

Facilitator: Patricia Hernandez

Description

This breakout session focused on providing community members with information about starting a business and employment avenues. Panelists presented a vision for building a sustainable local economy in Westmont West Athens, and resources for achieving that vision. Brad Carson of Faith in Action shared the seven steps to building a sustainable local economy, noting, “This panel is going to teach us how to do that.”

Seven steps to building a local sustainable economy:

1. Identify the target population – in this case, 200 gang members in Westmont West Athens;
2. Put them on welfare – because they have to eat;
3. Provide them with transitional jobs – paid temporary subsidized employment, paid on the job training, paid student worker jobs, paid internships, and paid trainings;
4. Give them middle class career job opportunities -- take them off of welfare, and off of subsidized employment;
5. Give them a small business/home-based business -- while they are still working the middle-class career job;
6. Teach them how to invest, and how to be an employer;
7. Build small businesses into bigger businesses – to create a sustainable local economy.

Panelists

- *Brad Carson, Jobs Create Peace*
- *Manuel Cerda, AJCC South Los Angeles*
- *Terry Gubatan, Vermont Slauson Economic Development Corporation*
- *Mary Sutton, Collective Remake*
- *Gigi Breland, Collective Remake*

Panelist Perspectives

Historical Context

Brad Carson, a Probation Officer who works in the Westmont West Athens community opened the session by providing background and history on the area, explaining that Westmont West Athens is known for having high crime, high gang, and high narcotic activity that was dubbed “death alley” in the Los Angeles Times with four major gangs intersecting in the area. He shared the terror of the ‘100 days, 100 nights’ social media rumor in summer of 2015 and the 2016 Black Lives Matter march in response to police shootings, and bringing over 2,000 gang members to sign a truce. He explained that in signing the truce, the gang members were asking “us” regular folks to provide structure in the community to support that truce: providing a legitimate, moral, ethical form of income to replace the gang economy.

Community Investments / “Getting Our Fair Share”

Brad Carson explained that the session topic, “getting our fair share,” meant “getting our fair share of services, jobs, and contracts for sustainability.” He then outlined the currently available funding for infrastructure and services in the County, noting that County measures that raise tax payer dollars for infrastructure are, “your tax payer dollars.” Current County investments that he discussed included: Measure M funding for the metro down Crenshaw, Los Angeles City Colleges funding including for the

Southwest College campus, Department of Parks and Recreation funding, and Measure H funding for affordable housing, wraparound services, and continuing care for the homeless. He noted that all of these investments add up to \$150 billion, and that this money has local hiring stipulations.

Job Training & Resources

Manuel Cerda, from the American Job Center of California (AJCC) located on campus at Southwest College that opened in November 2017 gave an overview of the services provided at the AJCC which include a range of youth and adult services to connect individuals in the community with businesses and employment, schools, paid for training opportunities, and paid job opportunities for young adults to gain experience working in a specific field. Adults can also participate in recruitment events held at Southwest College and paid vocational job training in high growth sectors. At a recent recruitment event, FedEx interviewed 80-105 community members, approximately 15-25 of whom were hired.

Entrepreneurial Resources

Terry Gubatan, from Vermont Slauson Economic Development Corporation (VSEDC) that operates a City of Los Angeles Business Source Center, shared information about how the VSEDC supports community members who are interested in starting a business or growing their existing business. He spoke about the importance of having assets if you start a business, noting that VSEDC is a sustainable nonprofit because they own a shopping center. He also encouraged participants not to stop looking for jobs, or quit a job, in order to start a business, stating: “You have two hands, two ears, why not have two incomes?”

The resources available to community members through VSEDC that were shared include education – weekly classes, workshops, and seminars that are free to all City of Los Angeles residents, and alternative financing – to assist people in accessing capital to start a business. VSEDC is also developing a new workshop on procurement to teach people how to get certification and contracts with the City of Los Angeles, LAX, and Metro.

Structure of Capitalism

Brad Carson explained the structure of capitalism as a triangle, with 1% of the population in charge at the top, making decisions for 99% of the population who are middle managers or worker bees, and noted that this structure incentivizes the people in power to grow their own wealth and power at the expense of those who are below them. He shared that this structure is present in private corporations, County agencies, and nonprofit organizations.

The Worker Cooperative Model

In contrast to the traditional structure of capitalism, Brad Carson introduced a worker cooperative model, structured as a circle instead of a triangle. In the worker cooperative model, he explained, workers have ownership in the company and a vote on the board of directors. Mary Sutton, from Collective Remake, further described the worker cooperative model. She explained that any type of business can be a worker cooperative. The primary difference between a worker cooperative and a regular business is that the principles of a worker cooperative are based on democracy, equality, self-help, and autonomy. Mary Sutton explained that in the worker cooperative, the people who start the business own the business, and directly get to make decisions for the business including how surplus funds should be spent or reinvested into the workers or the business itself.

Mary Sutton recounted the history of disinvestment in community services that paralleled investment in prisons, rising cost of education, and tough on crime policies such as the three strikes law and laws that criminalize poverty. Collective Remake is a nonprofit organization with a mission to develop worker

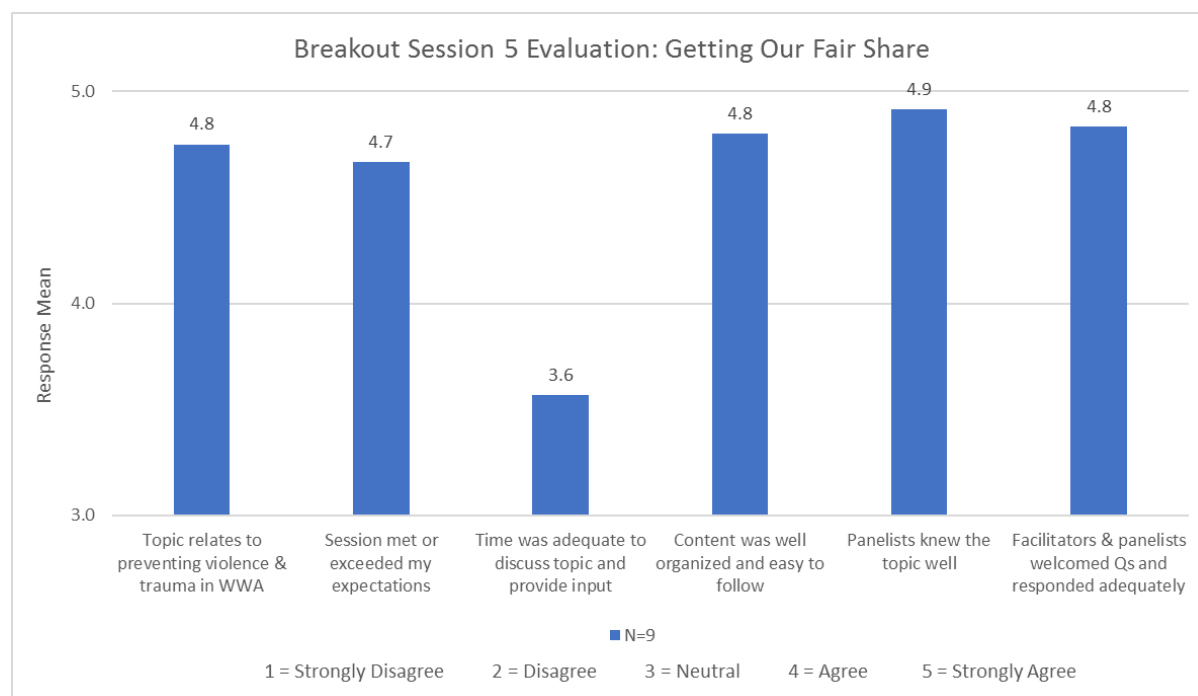
cooperatives for people returning from prison or jails, to develop economic opportunities for those who have been disenfranchised. Collective Remake is currently focused on education. They will be conducting workshops over the next year on Skid Row, Alexandria House shelter for women, and workshops with people who have recently been incarcerated. The grander vision is for worker owned businesses to work together to create a sustainable local economy.

Moving Forward:

The session focused on two root causes of community violence: lack of effective reentry services and support and lack of community economic investment, workforce development, and family economic success. Panelists shared a number of existing resources available in the community, some of which are new services, including: paid vocational training, job placement, business development, and cooperative business development for justice involved individuals. Panelists described a vision of putting these resources together to build a sustainable local economy.

Next Steps:

1. Establish rent control in unincorporated Westmont West Athens so that current community members will be the ones to benefit from economic development.
 - a. Board of Supervisors, CAP
2. Continue to provide vocational training and job placement services in the Westmont West Athens community.
 - a. Suggested partners: American Job Center of California
3. Continue to provide business development services in the Westmont West Athens community.
 - a. Suggested partners: Vermont Slauson Economic Development Corporation
4. Continue to provide worker cooperative business development education in the Westmont West Athens community.
 - a. Suggested partners: Collective Remake



Breakout Session 6: Faith-based and Community Relationships

Facilitator: Hattie McFrasier

Description

A wide range of faiths were represented and participated in the session, including, but not limited to Catholic, Christian, Muslim, Beihai, and Pentecostal. Panelists discussed the role of faith-based organizations in the community to address trauma. Discussion included how faith-based organizations can extend beyond the church walls and into the community, and how to leverage the political power of churches to benefit the community. Barriers for faith-based organizations to support residents who experience trauma were identified: namely a lack of training and knowledge among church leaders. Panelists also discussed how churches can collaborate to address trauma in the community.

Panelists

- Father Stan Bosch – St. Michael’s Catholic Church & Soledad Enrichment Action (SEA)
- William Monroe Campbell III – Mt. Gilead Baptist Church & Los Angeles Chapter of Christian Leadership
- Cheryl Branch – Los Angeles Metropolitan Churches
- Pastor Bruce McCall – Solid Rock Baptist Church
- Susie Jones
- Rev. James Jones – Watts Gang Task Force

Panelist Perspectives

Trauma

The session opened with discussion about how faith-based organizations can best provide resources to the community, noting that there are a lot of resources available through faith-based organizations, particularly food and clothing, but that there is a perception among community members that churches stay within their walls rather than extending out to provide resources in the community. The panel, that included leaders from a number of different faith-based organizations, affirmed that they see their role as supporting everyone who experiences trauma in their community. One panelist remarked that if every church helped everyone in their location, that would cover everyone in need of help. However, one panelist did express concern that churches have not sufficiently provided services to help people deal with trauma, and highlighted the lack of training and education about trauma among faith-based leaders as a barrier to supporting the community in dealing with trauma.

“Our role is to be present for all hurting people, families in trauma.” -- William Campbell

“You have to get out of your church and into the community and do the outreach. They have to stop looking at it like us vs. them, no matter if they’re gangs or reentry – it’s all community.” -- Rev. James Jones

Panelists expressed the need for churches to work together and go beyond the services that they

current provide – food and clothing – and go out into the community to provide support for people who experience trauma. A community member expressed the need for community members to be trained on trauma and healing. Cheryl Branch shared that Los Angeles Metropolitan Churches began collaborating with the Los Angeles County Department of Mental Health to provide training to clergy members to become community leaders on the issue of trauma, in response to data about the high rate of gun violence in Westmont West Athens. Panelists also discussed the need to better outreach specifically to Latino and Spanish-speaking community members who are in need of services.

“If people don’t feel comfortable coming to the church for help that is because we haven’t reached out to the community. The leadership doesn’t make trauma a priority.” -- Pastor Bruce McCall

Politics

There was discussion about whether or not the 501c3 nonprofit status of churches limited their ability to engage in politics. Panelists clarified that pastors as individuals have no limitations on their voices on behalf of the church. Father Stan Bosch stated, “churches can’t be partisan, but we are political.” Comments from participant evaluations following the breakout session expressed a need to be more concrete in leveraging political representation and power of churches. One participant stated, “We need to move on with a political agenda.” Another commented, “Political status gives us political power. There is no political representation for the people.”

*“Churches can’t be partisan, but we are political.”
-- Father Stan Bosch*

*“Political status gives us political power. There is no political representation for the people.”
-- Participant*

Aging

Panelists also discussed the aging of the U.S. population and the issues that the generation gap can cause for community cohesion and unity. One of the panelists shared that their church is using technology to bridge the generational gap and cultivate inter-generational engagement on public health issues. Other panelist expressed the need for churches to support young families who are dealing with the issues of trying to maintain jobs, homes, and be supportive families to children, and also support older community members who may have mobility issues and have trouble coming to the church. Another panelist discussed the importance of STEM education for children and providing services for youth to meet their current needs, where they are.

Financial Literacy & Philanthropy

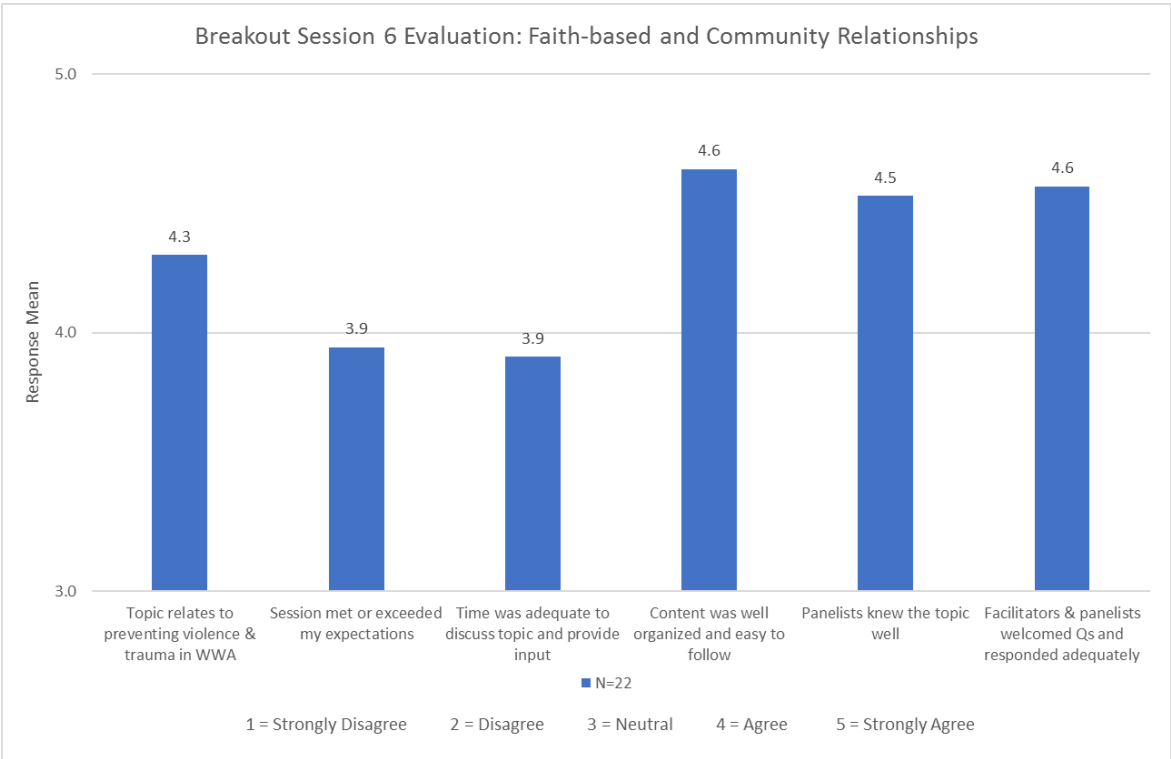
Panelists and participants discussed the need to provide and institutionalize financial literacy education for community members. Panelists also discussed how churches can be catalysts for change, noting the ability of churches to raise awareness about the issue of urban violence which can generate philanthropic support for community improvement. Another panelist expressed the need to go beyond philanthropy to generate health and wellness, stating the need for community members, including young people, to become philanthropists and start a foundation.

Moving Forward

Participants in the session discussed issues related to the root causes of violence including: family isolation and lack of at-risk services and support structures, lack of comprehensive primary prevention infrastructure, lack of community cohesion to improve public safety, inadequate government coordination and accountability, and poor access to quality mental health care services. Solutions discussed to address these root causes included: education about trauma for faith-based leaders and community member, collaboration among faith-based organizations, expansion of services provided through faith-based organizations, and leveraging the political power of faith-based organizations.

Next Steps

1. Faith leaders should be trained in how to support people who have experienced trauma. Faith based organizations should collaborate to form an inter-denominational group that provides trauma services to community members. Churches should provide space and services for community members to heal from trauma, including education on trauma for community members.
 - a. Suggested partners: faith-based organizations, LACDMH, LACDPH, CAP
2. Faith based organizations should expand the services that they provide to community members to include regular financial literacy training and education, resources on maintaining a job, buying and keeping a house, and parenting classes. Classes should be designed to address community needs and should be inclusive of all community members including community members of all ages and Latino and Spanish-speaking community members, to build community cohesion and reduce family isolation.
 - a. Suggested partners: faith-based organizations
3. Faith based organizations should leverage their political power to raise awareness of the issue of community violence and community needs, and raise funding to support high violence communities that are under-invested in, including Westmont West Athens.
 - a. Suggested partners: faith-based organizations



KEY FINDINGS

Law Enforcement & Community Relationships: Summit participants discussed the challenges of building relationships between community members and law enforcement. Intervention and law enforcement panelists uplifted their positive working relationship that has improved community safety in Westmont West Athens. But they also highlighted a level of distrust between community members and law enforcement – particularly among youth and people who are gang affiliated but not engaged in illegal or criminal activities, who reported being treated negatively and are assumed to be criminals by law enforcement because of their dress or their association with friends and/or families.”. Summit participants encouraged law enforcement to offer positive opportunities to youth. Law enforcement, community members, and interventionists shared the success of initiating “Parks Are Safe Zones” as a successful collaboration. Additional needs to be addressed that were identified by participants included: engaging youth in locating safe passage zones around schools so that those zones will be effective, and providing intervention within schools. Participants also discussed the need for community cohesion – to look out for one another, and provide support for families, and positive role models and mentors for youth. A community safety assessment should be conducted to assess establishment of a Community Safety Partnership policing initiative to implement a 21st Century Policing Model that builds relationships between Sheriff Deputies and community members.

Youth & Families: In addition to improved relationships between youth and law enforcement, effective safe passage zones around schools, and intervention within schools, the 2018 Unity Summit participants discussed the impact of bullying on youth and what parents can do to identify and address bullying. The need for healing from trauma and to teach forgiveness were highlighted. Resources to address bullying and trauma would be beneficial for youth in Westmont West Athens, as would education and support for parents and families. Additionally, the need for improved general education in the community was identified as a need, as was collaboration between households and schools.

Healing: The two summit breakout sessions that offered interactive healing opportunities for participants – “A Vacation from Trauma” and “Community Healing Through Music” – were welcomed opportunities for community members to engage in healing activities. Participants expressed interest in having regular opportunities to engage in healing activities in the future, and also expressed an interest in making these opportunities available to all participants at future events.

Economic Opportunities: Summit panelists shared resources on economic opportunities in the Westmont West Athens community, and shared their vision for building a sustainable local economy. Participants expressed the need for additional resources and investment to address root causes of community violence; specifically – effective reentry services and support, sustainable economic opportunities that are viable alternatives to criminal economic activities, and family economic success, were identified needs. Further discussion centered around the need to put available resources together in a cohesive manner, and about the need to ensure that investments in the Westmont West Athens community benefit community members rather than catalyze gentrification.

Faith-Based Community: Faith leaders trained in trauma were identified as community resources. Faith-based leaders spoke about the need to expand the scope of services that they provide, and the need to extend services beyond the boundaries of their church walls, to truly serve the community. The political power of faith-based organizations was also identified as an asset for the Westmont West Athens community that could be leveraged to benefit all community members.

PATH FORWARD

The following recommendations were developed and informed by multiple stakeholder interviews, Westmont West Athens 2018 Unity Summit breakout sessions, and CAP meetings:

Broaden Community Engagement & Leadership

Building on the momentum of the second Westmont West Athens Summit and CAP meetings is an opportunity to broadly connect to more residents of all demographics.

- ❖ Develop a targeted outreach plan to engage local Latino residents to participate in CAP meetings;
- ❖ Provide translation support to ensure monolingual Spanish speakers can participate in meetings;
- ❖ Grow CAP meetings to formal monthly or bi-weekly meetings with residents, local elected offices, law enforcement, Los Angeles County departments, school administrators, faith-based groups, local service providers, and community-based organizations;
- ❖ Establish a formal CAP youth advisory committee to add youth voice in local decision-making – partner with local high schools and colleges on a youth advisory committee;
- ❖ Link existing TPI efforts such as hospital-based violence intervention and street intervention services, and other existing County events such as Parks After Dark, to CAP priorities;
- ❖ Continue to foster a space for information sharing, problem solving and collaboration to strengthen local TPI efforts.

Invest in Prevention and Family Case Management

The high levels of violence and gang entrenchment in Westmont West Athens require a strategy to help young people and their families.

- ❖ Develop partnerships with local high schools and middle schools to support students;
- ❖ Develop funding streams to provide gang prevention;
- ❖ Develop funding streams to provide family case management and wrap around services for gang involved youth;
- ❖ Dedicate capacity for school connectivity, to ensure locals schools, parents, and youth are informed about DPH, TPI and County resources available to them.

Support Resident-led Local Growth Committee

Residents overwhelmingly raised the issue of bringing local investments, local jobs and supporting local community-based organizations.

- ❖ Support committee focused on developing funding and collaborative opportunities for local non-profits;
- ❖ Provide consultants to support organization infrastructure, leadership and management;
- ❖ Support efforts to connect residents to jobs;
- ❖ Develop capacity of residents to be “job mentors” for youth, hard-to-hire and re-entry populations;
- ❖ Connect with local job centers, request capacity building and invite them to CAP meetings;
- ❖ Develop a robust communications plan to share job opportunities broadly with residents.

Create Space for Law Enforcement Relationship Building

Law enforcement plays a critical role in violence & trauma prevention efforts.

- ❖ Hold monthly DPH and LASD leadership meetings to deepen relationship, further define roles, in coordination with TPI initiative (i.e. hospital-based and street intervention protocols);
- ❖ Invite local law enforcement leaders to consistently attend CAP & community meetings;
- ❖ Reserve time in community meetings for law enforcement to share updates and field questions from community members;
- ❖ Engage law enforcement leaders on opportunities to build positive interactions in violence prevention efforts, such as community meetings and PAD;
- ❖ Request law enforcement share plans and policies on diversion for youth and non-violent offenders;
- ❖ Hold monthly incident review meetings with intervention providers, DPH staff, and law enforcement for accountability as well as street intervention protocol refinement;
- ❖ Capture best practices from DPH, LASD, and intervention providers for further County-wide strategy implementation;
- ❖ Train LASD on TPI’s comprehensive safety strategy around working with gang intervention workers and other service providers.

Expansion of Safe Public Spaces

Continue efforts to increase parks and public spaces safe for all residents.

- ❖ Expand Parks After Dark services and programming throughout the year;
- ❖ Leverage Parks After Dark programming by investing more TPI resources and coordination, and add youth jobs and services as prioritized by the Westmont West Athens CAP;
- ❖ Increase the role of gang prevention and gang intervention service providers at local parks;
- ❖ Increase positive law enforcement presence at local parks;
- ❖ Ensure local law enforcement adopts a relationship-based approach with residents and TPI partners;
- ❖ Ensure local law enforcement understands the role of gang prevention and gang intervention as part of the Trauma Prevention Initiative, and more broadly in reducing violence and trauma.

RECOMMENDATIONS FOR FURTHER CONSIDERATION

I. Develop Funding Streams for Youth Programming and Primary Prevention

Develop and maintain adequate comprehensive primary prevention infrastructure. There is a need for recreation and enrichment programming for youth. In Westmont West Athens, there is a very high need for services and programming for at-risk youth that are in danger of entering gangs. Programming and resources targeting high-risk youth is essential to trauma prevention efforts and disrupting the cycle of violence. In this area there is also a high need for targeted programming and services for youth involved in gangs and suffering from trauma.

II. Institutionalize Community Meetings in TPI Areas

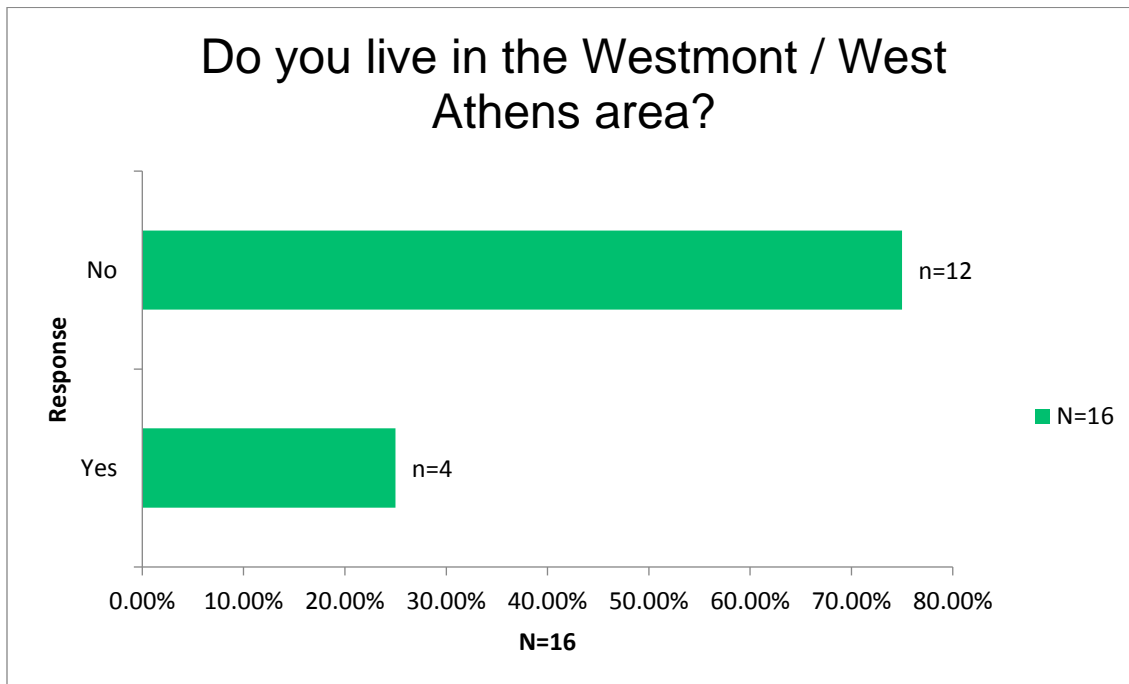
Westmont West Athens has a myriad of social conditions that can impact violence and community safety. By institutionalizing TPI community meetings, residents and County officials can work together to inform local policy and local initiatives. These meetings should be on a regular, continual basis. These meetings need to include law enforcement, local elected office staff, as well as multiple LA County staff. There is a need to create a space for residents to discuss needs and provide feedback for local government service provision. Creating a problem-solving and collaborative culture can empower residents to address the social conditions that foster violence.

III. Develop a Relationship-based Approach for Law Enforcement

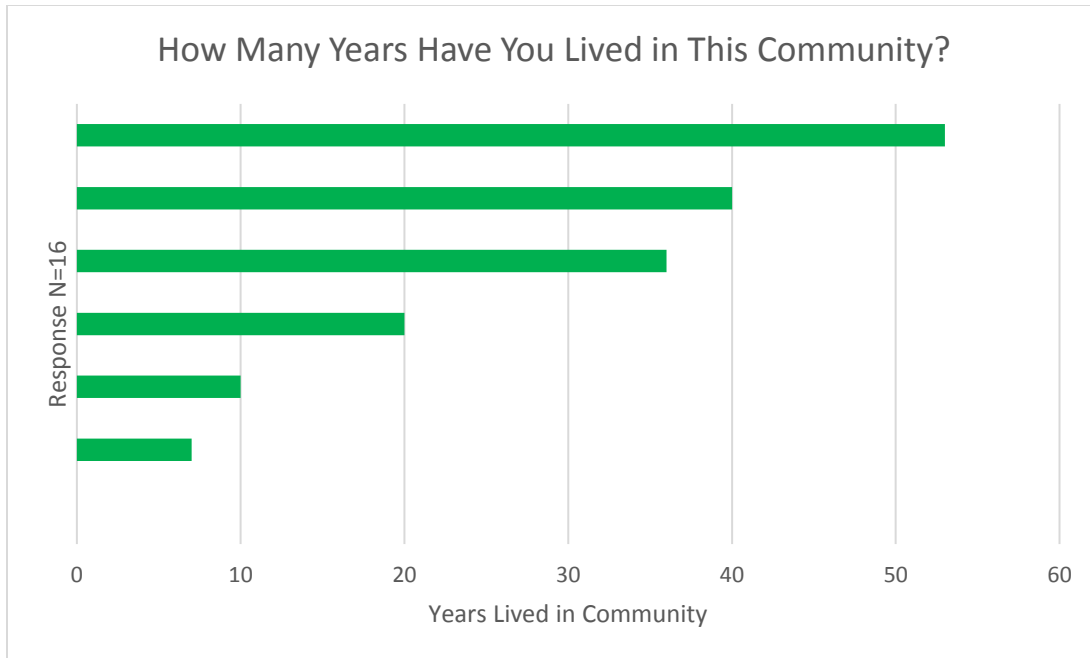
In order for a violence prevention and trauma prevention strategy to be successful, law enforcement needs to be part of it. Law enforcement will need to play a coordinated role in safe parks strategies and law enforcement leaders need to understand the mission of TPI. All law enforcement officers need to understand the role of gang prevention, gang intervention workers that will be servicing the same area in these TPI communities. Law enforcement leaders need to understand the needs of the communities and the concerns that residents have raised. TPI and local law enforcement will need to build a robust partnership to create a better approach that focuses on customer service, relationship building and partnership policing in the TPI areas.

APPENDIX A. Summit Evaluation Survey Report

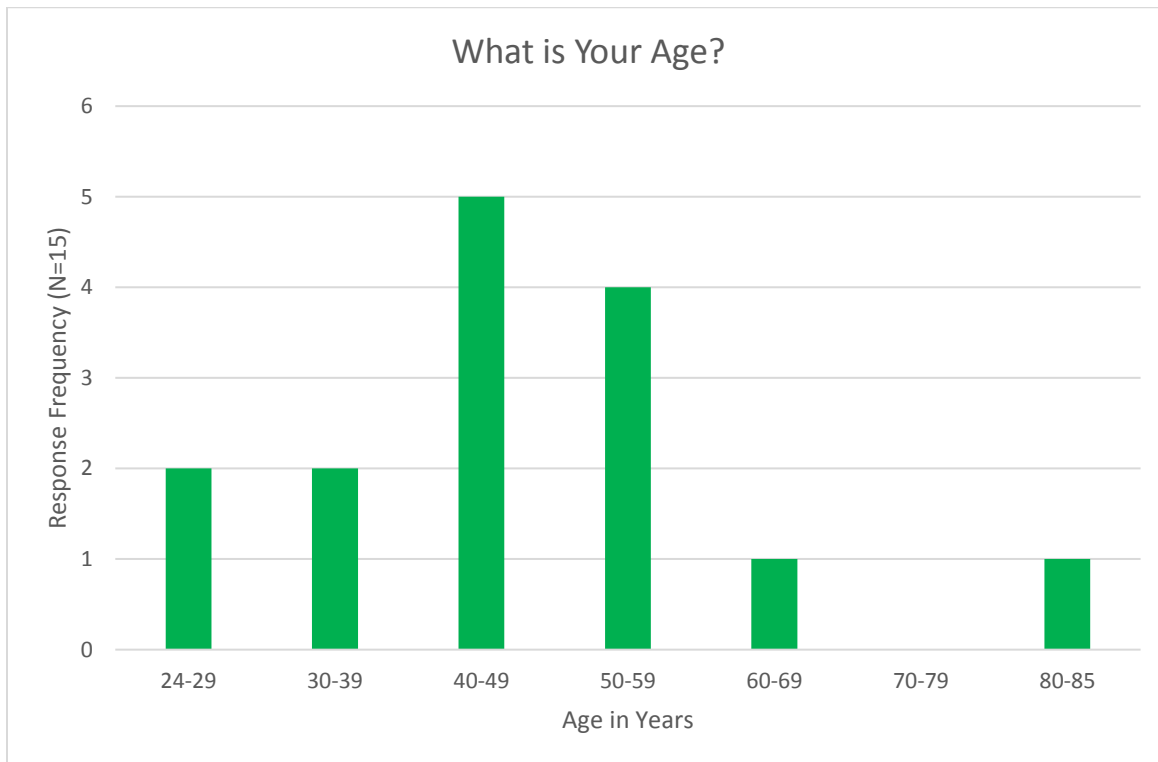
One hundred forty-six people attended the Westmont West Athens Unity Summit on June 9, 2018. Sixteen of the 146 attendees completed the summit evaluation for a 11% response rate. Morning breakout session evaluations were completed by 65 participants, for a response rate of 45%, while 44 people completed afternoon breakout session evaluations for a 30% response rate. The lower response rates of the afternoon breakout sessions and the overall summit evaluations, which were collected at the end of the summit, are likely due to lower attendance for the afternoon portion of the summit. Summit participants were emailed with a link to complete the overall summit evaluation following the event in an attempt to increase the response rate.



Of the respondents to the overall summit evaluation, 25% or four people responded that they live in the Westmont West Athens area. However, given the low response rate of the overall summit evaluation compared to the morning breakout session evaluation, this is likely not representative of the full spectrum of summit attendees. Furthermore, summit participants from outside of Westmont West Athens may be more likely to stay for the duration of the event, or more likely to complete an evaluation than Westmont West Athens residents.

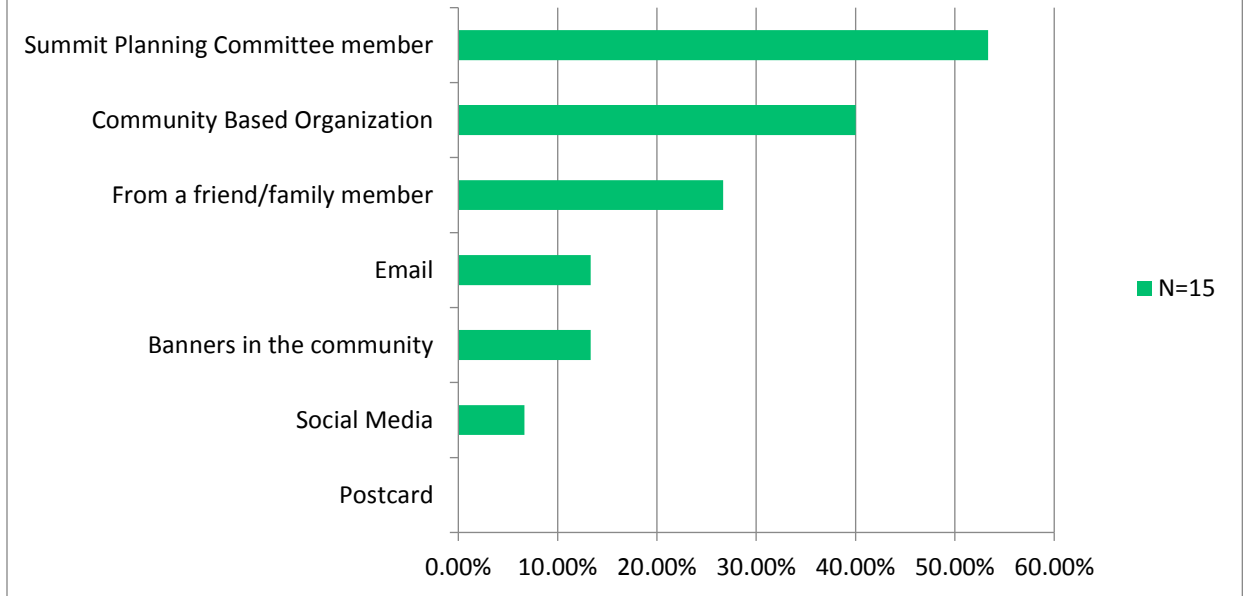


The duration of time that summit evaluation respondents reported living in the Westmont West Athens area ranged from zero years to fifty-three years. The mean response was 21 years while the median response was 15 years. One respondent expressed living “lifetime in LA.”



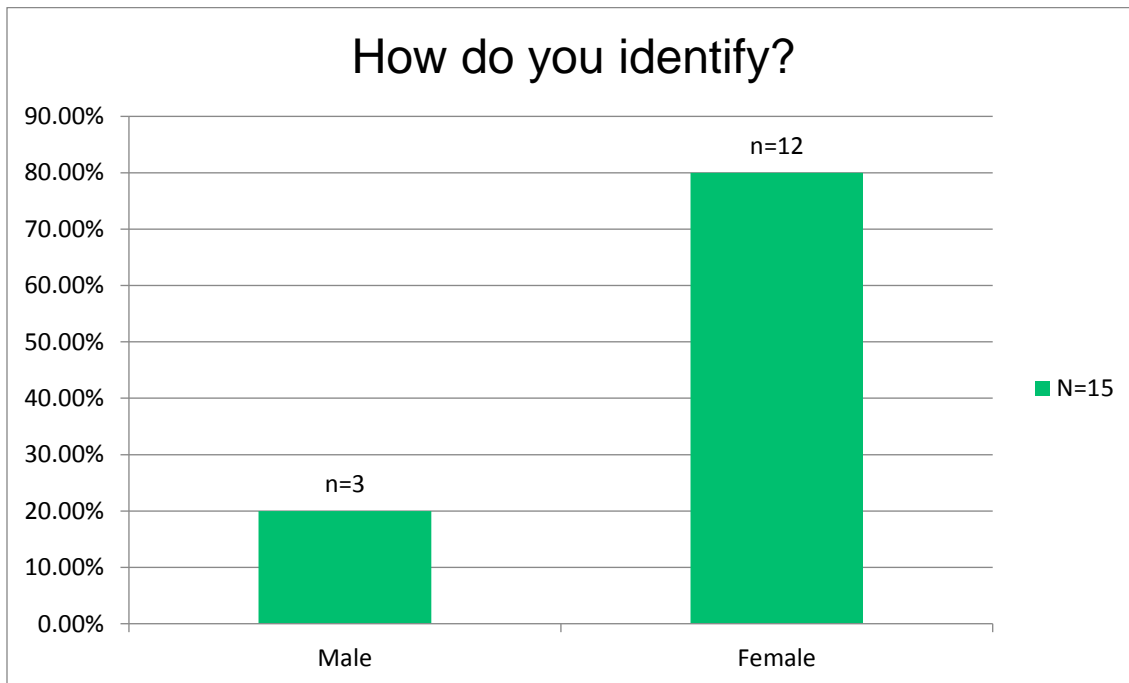
Summit evaluation respondents ranged in age from twenty-four years old to eighty-three years old. The most frequent response (n=5) was from participants in the 40-49-year-old age range. The mean age response was 48 years old; the median age response was 46 years old.

How did you hear about the 2018 Unity Summit? (check all that apply)



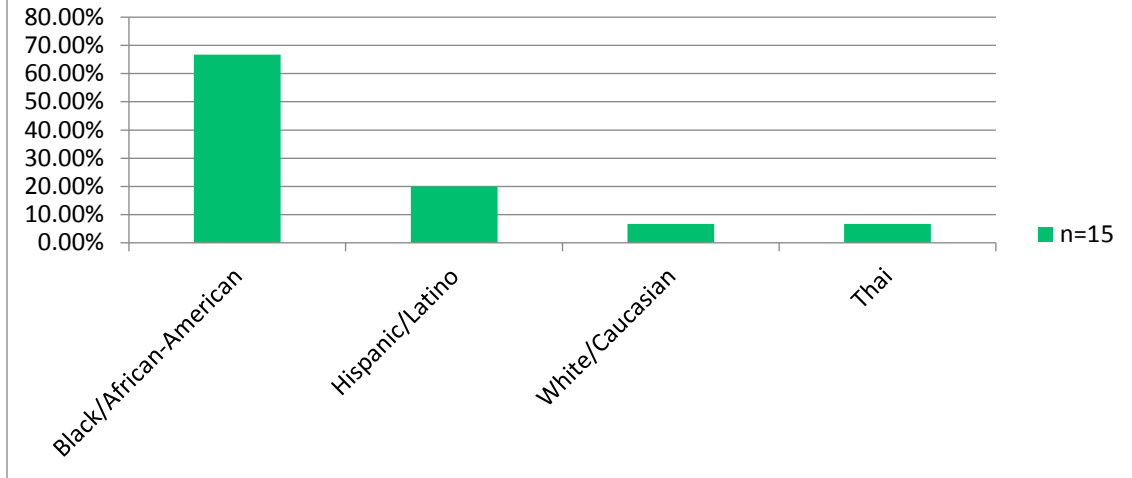
Most people who completed the summit evaluation reported learning about the summit from a Summit Planning Committee member. No respondents reported learning about the summit from postcards.

How do you identify?



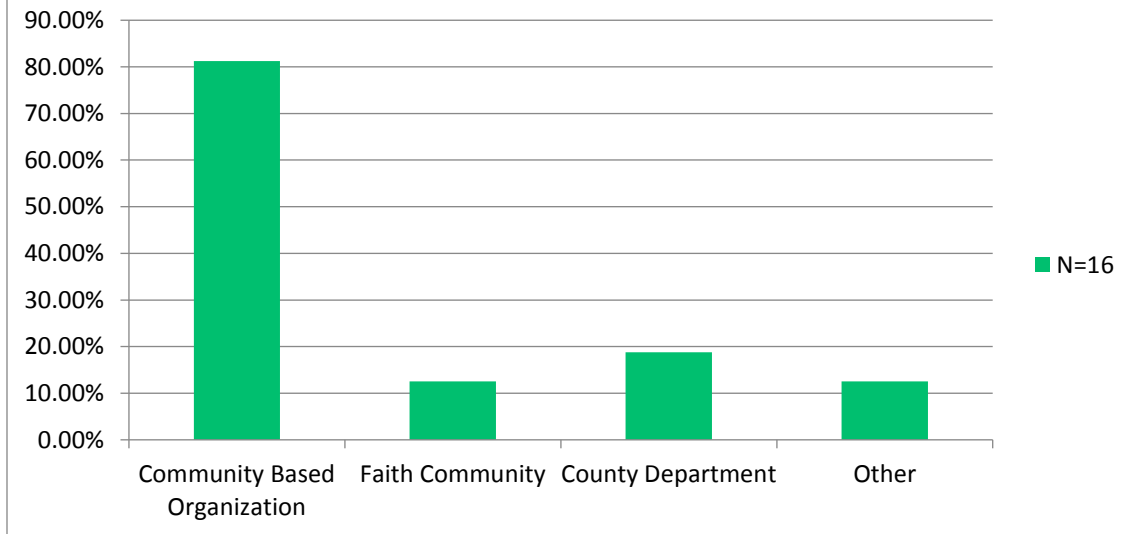
The majority of summit evaluation respondents identified as female (80% or 12 respondents); the remaining 20% or 3 people identified as male.

What race or ethnicity do you consider yourself to be? (It is Okay to check more than one!)



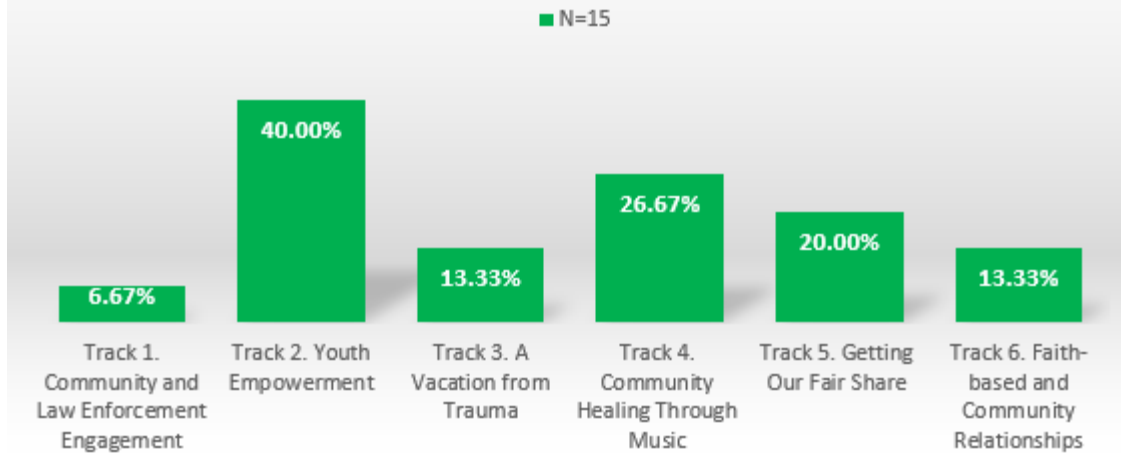
The majority of respondents to the summit evaluation identified as Black/African American (67% or 10 people). Twenty percent of respondents, or three people, identified as Hispanic/Latino; seven percent or one person identified as White/Caucasian; and seven percent or one person identified as Thai.

Please indicate your affiliation, if any: (check all that apply)



The majority of summit evaluation respondents reported their affiliation as “community based organization,” followed by County Department. Two respondents indicated an affiliation with “other” and specified non-profit, and Arts Commission, respectively.

Please check off which Breakout Sessions (tracks) you Attended in the Morning and the Afternoon



The majority of respondents to the summit evaluation attended the breakout session on youth empowerment, followed by community healing through music.

Please let us know what you thought about the Breakout Session(s) by circling one of the four choices:

N=16	Totally Disagree	Disagree	Agree	Totally Agree
The session(s) provided opportunities to discuss and understand the assets and needs of the Westmont West Athens community.	0%	0%	50% n=8	50% n=8
I had an opportunity to connect with residents, leaders and agencies from Westmont West Athens community at the session(s).	0%	6% n=1	75% n=12	19% n=3
I had an opportunity to share my input on the safety and health of residents in Westmont West Athens.	0%	25% n=4	50% n=8	25% n=4
I learned a new perspective on this/these issue at the session(s) that let me think about it differently.	0%	7% n=1	33% n=5	60% n=9
I feel confident that the input gathered in the session(s) will assist in developing a plan of action for a safe and healthy Westmont West Athens community.	6% n=1	6% n=1	44% n=7	44% n=7
The session(s) was (were) informative and productive.	0%	0%	33% n=5	67% n=10

Please let us know what you thought about the 2018 Unity Summit overall by circling one of the four choices:

N=16	Totally Disagree	Disagree	Agree	Totally Agree
The Summit met my expectations.	0%	13% n=2	63% n=10	25% n=4
The Summit was worth my time and effort.	0%	0%	63% n=10	38% n=6
Youth were given the opportunity to contribute to the Summit.	0%	6% n=1	69% n=11	25% n=4
The speakers were informative and interesting.	0%	0%	60% n=9	40% n=6
The resource tables provided useful services and information.	0%	8% n=1	69% n=9	23% n=3
I enjoyed participating in the interactive art activities.	0%	8% n=1	62% n=8	31% n=4
Overall, I was pleased with the venue, activities, and accommodations today.	0%	7% n=1	40% n=6	53% n=8

What did you like most about the summit?

N=13

Key themes:

- People expressed appreciation that the community was involved in the summit and that it was led by community members. They also expressed enjoying the networking opportunities.
 - *“The one-ness of the community.”*
 - *“Meeting new people and agencies in our area. Working with a government agency concerned about our needs and wanting to help and gain insight from residents.”*
 - *“The venue is great, the lunch is good and the sense of community is outstanding.”*
- Participants also commented on enjoying the workshops, particularly the experiential workshops.
- Other highlights included the “band that lead in participants,” and the food.

What could be improved to make the Summit better next time?

N=9

Key themes:

Participants identified areas for improvement that included more outreach to increase participation, setting clearer expectations about workshops, and including a resource fair or resource tables. Other participants expressed a desire for sustainable action to take place, and for community storytelling.

- *“Ensure that there is something sustainable, rather than just another event that happens once a year.”*
- *“More storytelling on the community. History, highlights, and vision for the future.”*

Another community member made specific recommendations about how the County could provide support to CAP members, and build a web portal where community members could see the progress and results of the action plan.

One participant reported interest in having more summits.

Westmont West Athens Community Action for Peace

PRESENTS THE

2018 UNITY SUMMIT

MORNING PROGRAM

Saturday, June 9, 2018 Los Angeles Southwest College

TIME	ACTIVITY
8:00 am	REGISTRATION & MORNING ACTIVITIES <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Continental Breakfast• Photobooth / Storytelling• Performance from Washington High School Jazz Band
9:00 am	OPENING & WELCOME <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Emcee: Kevin Orange, Westmont West Athens Community Action for Peace (CAP) Member/APUU/ West Athens Westmont Task Force• Dr. Denise Noldon, Los Angeles Southwest College
9:15 am	SPIRITUAL INVOCATION <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Pastor Bruce McCall
9:20 am	SUPERVISORIAL DISTRICT 2 WELCOME
9:30 am	REVIEW OF THE DAY & WESTMONT WEST ATHENS RECOGNITION <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Video: "Why We love Westmont West Athens"• CAP Recognition: Crystal Pitts, C.H.A.N.G.E.S.• Special Recognition: Captain April Tardy, Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department
10:05 am	YOUTH VOICES <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Arianna and Lilyanna Smalls, Phenomenal Angels, "Parent's Rights"• Janae Burney, Hamilton High School• Ian Flowers, St. John's High School
10:25 am	HEALING ART ACTIVITY <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Bryant Magnum, Community Artist
10:30 am	BREAK

Westmont West Athens Community Action for Peace

2018 UNITY SUMMIT

AFTERNOON PROGRAM

TIME	ACTIVITY
10:40 am	<p>BREAKOUT SESSIONS: Select 1 of 6 sessions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Track 1: Community and Law Enforcement Engagement • Track 2: Youth Empowerment • Track 3: A Vacation From Trauma • Track 4: Community Healing Through Music • Track 5: Getting Our Fair Share: Services • Jobs • Sustainability • Entrepreneurship • Co-ops • Track 6: What is the Role of Faith Based Organizations in the Community when Trauma Happens?
12:00 pm	<p>LUNCH, Apple Spice Kitchen</p> <p>Introduction: Dr. Silvia Prieto, SPA 7/8 Area Health Officer</p> <p>Lunch Speaker: Dr. Barbara Ferrer, Director, Los Angeles County Department of Public Health</p> <p>Entertainment:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Washington High School Jazz Band • R & B Rap Local Artist- Matthew Sutton
1:00 pm	<p>BREAKOUT SESSIONS: Select 1 of 6 sessions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Track 1: Community and Law Enforcement Engagement • Track 2: Youth Empowerment • Track 3: A Vacation From Trauma • Track 4: Community Healing Through Music • Track 5: Getting Our Fair Share: Services • Jobs • Sustainability • Entrepreneurship • Co-ops • Track 6: What is the Role of Faith Based Organizations in the Community when Trauma Happens?
2:25 pm	BREAK
2:40 pm	<p>RAFFLE, REPORT BACK AND WRAP UP</p> <p>Emcee: Kevin Orange</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Community and Law Enforcement Engagement • Youth Empowerment • A Vacation From Trauma • Community Healing Through Music • Getting Our Fair Share • What is the Role of Faith Based Organizations in the Community when Trauma Happens?
3:00 pm	SUMMIT CLOSE AND UNVEIL COMMUNITY ART PIECE

Westmont West Athens Community Action for Peace 2018 UNITY SUMMIT

Community Action for Peace (CAP)

We would like to thank the following individuals and organizations who provided their time, dedication, and input over several months to plan the 2018 Unity Summit.

CAP STEERING COMMITTEE: Mary Sutton | **Collective Remake** | Brad Carson | **Jobs Create Peace** | Hattie McFrazier | **Community Activist and Resident** | Crystal Pitts | **C.H.A.N.G.E.S.** | Mary Lee | **Best Start First 5 Westmont West Athens**

CAP MEMBERS: Kevin Orange | **Advocates for Peace and Urban Unity (APUU)** | Manuel Cerda | **America's Job Center of California, South Los Angeles** | Jessie, Jessenia Morales, Naomi McSwain | **Al Wooten Jr. Youth Center** | Shari Farmer | **LA County D.A. Bureau of Victim Services** | Georgette Breland | **Collective Remake** | Gilbert Johnson | **Community Coalition** | Dr. Anissa McNeil, Jerry Henry | **Education Works** | Mark Cofield | **Fair Chances Project** | Byron Johns | **Girl's Club of Los Angeles** | Duran Bowie | **I Am A Movement Not A Monument** | Kisha Thompson, Margarita Cabrera | **LA County Department of Mental Health** | BB, Michael Ealey | **Los Angeles County Department of Parks and Recreation** | Laura Magallanes, Brighton Kimbell, Daniel Healy, Kimberly Mendoza, Lisa Odigie, Miguel Ramos, Robbin Randolph Robert Lewis, | **Los Angeles County Department of Public Health** | Cheryl Branch | **Los Angeles Metropolitan Churches** | Andre Noralez | **Los Angeles Southwest College Student** | Desiree Magsonbol, Nkem Ndufo | **Lumos Transforms** | Barbara Jett | **Phenomenal Angels** | Kenneth Jones | **People for Community Improvement** | Ericka Martin, Reynaldo Reaser | **R.A.C.E.** | Daniela Vidal, Patty Vasquez | **South Bay Counseling Center** | Amber Pope | **STARS** | Tiffany Fantroy | **Tiff's Helping Hands** | Vincent Samuels | **Washington Preparatory High School** | Joel McLafferty | **Westmont Counseling Center** | Martiza Dubie | **WDACS** | Onamia Bryant | **West Athens Westmont Task Force** | **& Everyone else who contributed their support.**

DPH Facilitation & Summit Planning Team

Keith Baker, Patricia Hernandez, Aarti Harper, Kelly Fischer, Christine Li, Nicolle Perras | **Injury & Violence Prevention Program** (Andrea Welsing, Director; Dr. Tony Kuo, Director, Division of Chronic Disease and Injury Prevention)

Leslie Lopez, Mila Mulugeta | **SPA 7/8 Area Health Office** (Dr. Silvia Prieto, Area Health Officer)

Westmont West Athens Community Action for Peace 2018 UNITY SUMMIT



Westmont West Athens Community Action for Peace 2018 UNITY SUMMIT

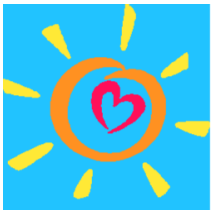
Sponsors & Partners



The Los Angeles County Department of Parks and Recreation Hosted CAP and Summit Planning Meetings at Helen Keller Park, assisted with promotional materials, and loaned staff time, a stage with band shell, and audio equipment for local performances during the Summit. www.parks.lacounty.gov



The Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department helps ensure public safety in the Westmont and West Athens communities. South Station, led by Captain April Tardy, has been a critical partner for community engagement efforts and supporter of the Unity Summits. We would also like to thank Captain Roderick Armalin and his team, who oversees public safety at the Los Angeles Southwest College campus. www.lasd.org



L.A. Care
HEALTH PLAN

LA CARE Health Plan Provided Sponsorship for the Summit to support healthy food and community involvement and performances. Established in 1997, L.A. Care Health Plan is an independent public agency created by the state of California to provide health coverage to low-income Los Angeles County residents. LA Care also promotes community engagement through Community Advisory Committees, Family Resource Centers, and peer Health Promoters. www.lacare.org



Kaiser Permanente Provided Sponsorship for the Summit to support healthy ongoing community engagement. For more than 60 years, Kaiser Permanente has provided quality health care. We're dedicated to improving the health of our members and the communities we serve, by creating safe, healthy environments and providing care and coverage for all. www.kaiserpermanente.org



Los Angeles Southwest College Host site, has provided much support and assistance to make the Summit a success. Thank you to Dr. Denise Noldon, Chauncine Stewart, Courtney Pierce, Benjamin Demers, Deputy Reginald Ducree, and all other campus staff who have provided support. Los Angeles Southwest College, is a two-year college that awards Associates` degrees` in more than 30 fields and occupational certificates in more than 45 disciplines. <http://www.lasc.edu>

Special thanks to Supervisor Mark Ridley-Thomas and his staff for their support of the Trauma Prevention Initiative in Supervisorial District 2.



Los Angeles County is partnering with communities to implement the Trauma Prevention Initiative to reduce violence related trauma injuries and deaths. The Los Angeles County Trauma Prevention Initiative is supported in part by Measure B.

Partners



Urban Peace Institute Summit facilitators, has provided technical and onsite support to make the Summit a success. Thank you to Gil Espinoza, Fernando Rejon, Jessica Canales, and all other staff who have provided support. UPI develops and implements policy, practice and systems solutions to reduce violence, achieve safety and improve community health. www.urbanpeaceinstitute.org



Los Angeles County Arts Commission Facilitating interactive arts and storytelling activities at the Summit. Thanks to Gregg Johnson and Tom McKenzie for their support. The Arts Commission funds 364 nonprofit arts organizations, runs the nation's largest arts internship program, coordinates the LA County Arts Education Collective, manages the County's civic art policy, and produces free community programs. www.lacountyarts.org



Arts for Incarcerated Youth Coordinating arts integration at the Summit to engage youth and residents, and as a tool to increase and improve community health and wellbeing. Thanks to Maira Rios and Kaile Shilling for leading these efforts. AIYN is an organization providing structure and coordination for the collaborative work of community-based arts education organizations serving high-needs youth order to provide alternatives to incarceration, build resiliency and wellness, eliminate recidivism, transform the juvenile justice system, and support community and youth wellbeing and safety. <http://aiynetwork.org>



AL WOOTEN JR.
YOUTH CENTER
EST. 1990 CATCH THE VISION

Al Wooten Jr. Youth Center Community partner, has coordinated support for community engagement in Westmont West Athens. The center is a nonprofit, 501(c)(3) agency founded in 1990 by Myrtle Faye Rumph in honor of her son, killed in a drive-by shooting. Located at 91st and Western, the center provides free and low-cost afterschool and summer programs for more than 350 students per year in grades 3-12 at the center and other sites. www.wootencenter.org



Apple Spice Kitchen Providing meal service for the Summit. Whether you need lunch for a few in the office or several thousand at your next corporate event, Apple Spice is ready with the perfect menu. From box lunches to hot & cold catering, their team will take care of every detail to make your meal a success. www.applespice.com

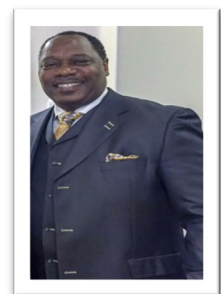
Speakers



Kevin "Twin" Orange, Co-founder, Advocates for Peace and Urban Unity (APUU) was born in Los Angeles, CA- he attended Woodcrest Elementary, Bret Hart Middle School, and Washington High School- all local schools. After seeing his community being underserved, he felt it was a need to stop the cycles of violence in the community and wanted to make a change. He has been working in community intervention for over 12 years in South Los Angeles and has been actively involved in reducing the violence in South LA in partnership with Soledad, Enrichment, and Action (SEA), and the Los Angeles Mayor's GRYD program for the past 10 years including programs such as Summer Night Lights at Algin Sutton Park, and providing Safe Passages. He has been awarded numerous times from entities such as the Los Angeles Mayor's Office, LAPD, and other organizations that have recognized his tireless efforts in creating safer Westmont, West Athens, and South Los Angeles.



Denise F. Noldon, Ph.D., Interim President, Los Angeles Southwest College, where she oversees the entire operation of the South Los Angeles campus, which is part of the Los Angeles Community College District. Dr. Noldon has extensive experience in higher education. Prior to LASC, she served as interim vice chancellor for student services and special programs in the state Chancellor's Office. Dr. Noldon earned an undergraduate degree in psychology and a master's degree in counseling and student development in higher education at California State University, Long Beach. She obtained her doctorate in college student personnel administration at the University of Maryland at College Park.



Pastor Bruce McCall is a former Los Angeles County Sheriff Department Deputy who recently retired after 30 years of service. His dedication and commitment to his community is evident and embodied in the many civilian leadership roles he has held. These include, but are not limited to, he is the founder and former president of the West Athens Westmont Task Force, a long-time volunteer with the Los Angeles County Sheriff Youth Activities League, and in his current role, he is the Sr. Pastor at Solid Rock Baptist Church.

Speakers



Crystal Pitts, Executive Director, C.H.A.N.G.E.S. Crystal is a second generation native of the Westmont West Athens community. She attended Clay Middle School and Washington Prep High School and received her high school diploma from Duke Ellington Continuation School. Crystal's mission is the dedication and passion she gives to help improve the health and well-being of children and families Westmont West Athens; it is the reason she established C.H.A.N.G.E.S., a non-profit organization that is committed to working together with stakeholders to effect positive change to this community and to our society.



Captain April Tardy, a twenty-four year veteran of the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department, was promoted to the rank of Captain and assigned to South Los Angeles Sheriff's Station which provides law enforcement services to approximately 120,000 residents. Captain Tardy earned a Bachelor of Science Degree in Business Administration from California State University at San Bernardino, and currently serves as a board member for the Black Peace Officers Association. Captain Tardy has a son in college. She enjoys spending time with her family, reading, playing volleyball and basketball, mentoring, and community service.

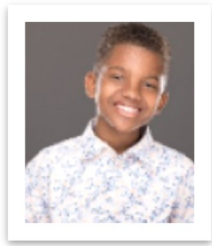


Lilyanna and Arianna Smalls, Phenomenal Angels A product of foster homes, Lilyanna and Arianna have not let that stop them from having a positive outlook on life. Lily attends the 4th grade at Jefferson Elementary School. She began speaking in front of audiences at her church when she was only 5 years old. She enjoys singing, playing basketball and going out to eat at different restaurants with her sister and two older brothers. Arianna attends the 6th at Prairie Vista Middle School. She plays defense on the after-school football team. She loves acting, singing, and dancing. She landed her first role in the play, "Frozen", presented by the Fernando Pullum Performing Arts Center. She continues to build her self-esteem and self-worth through spoken word and song.



Janae Burney is a rising sophomore at Alexander Hamilton High School in Los Angeles, where she is a straight A student. She has been acting professionally and public speaking since she was 5 years old. Janae is a very active member of her church, school, her Girl Scout Troop and is active in a variety of other extracurricular activities. Janae has aspirations to study Musical Theater and Physiology in College.

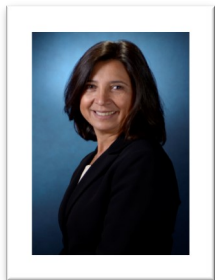
Speakers



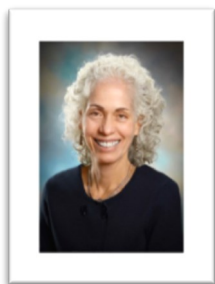
Ian Flowers was born and raised in Los Angeles. He attends the 7th grade at St. John Chrysostom School and lives in the West Athens community with his mom and grandparents. He is very active in his church, Mount Gilead Missionary Baptist Church. He contributes through leadership roles in the Children's Ministry and participates in poetry readings for various programs such as Black History Month, Christmas, and Easter. He also participates on the Track/Field Team for his school. When he grows up wants to be a musical engineer or music producer.



Bryant Magnum, Community Artist for Arts for Incarcerated Youth Network (AIYN) is an interdisciplinary collaborative that provides exceptional arts programming in order to build resiliency and wellness, eliminate recidivism, and transform the juvenile justice system. AIYN envisions a future where youth are empowered and the systems that serve them are transformed by using arts as a foundational strategy and catalyst for change.



Dr. Silvia Prieto, Area Health Officer, Service Planning Areas 7 & 8, encompassing the southern and eastern portions of Los Angeles County and serving about 2.9 million residents. Her vision is to work towards safe, healthy and equitable communities for all our residents by partnering with communities, schools, businesses, community-based organizations and governmental agencies. She obtained her Medical Degree (MD) from UCLA School of Medicine and her Master in Public Health (MPH) from UCLA School of Public Health. During her 26 years with Los Angeles County Department of Public Health, she has served as Area Medical Director, Director of Child Health and Disability Prevention Program and Director of Binational Border Health Program.



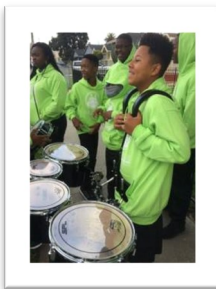
Barbara. Barbara Ferrer, PhD, MPH, MEd leads the Los Angeles County Department of Public Health which protects and promotes health and prevents disease among LA County's more than 10 million residents across its 4,000 square miles. She oversees a budget of \$1 billion and directs a workforce of over 4,100 public health practitioners. Dr. Ferrer is a nationally-known public health leader with over 30 years of professional experience as a philanthropic strategist, public health director, educational leader, researcher, and community advocate.

Special thanks to the DPH Communications Team and Public Affairs for their ongoing support, technical assistance, and dedication to helping program staff ensure the Summit is a success; from graphic design and engaging speakers, to media outreach and photography. Thank you, to: Rachel Tyree, Susan Lesser, Amy Truong, Jennifer Florez, Sergio Belletini, Jackie Valenzuela, Natalie Jimenez, and Bernard Tolliver.

Musical Artists



Rhythm Arts Alliance creates a positive and healing path that can change the world one life at a time. Through our work of awakening the inner artist and building lasting, inclusive communities, we provide the foundation for insightful and soulful living. As we bring the arts off the stage and into the lives of youth challenged by poverty, alienation and marginalization, we provide the threads that will reweave our tattered communities.



Al Wooten, Jr. Heritage Center Drum Line, is comprised of students from the Al Wooten Jr. Heritage Center, a nonprofit youth center at 91st and Western. The students attend a percussions class at the center taught by veteran Afro/ Brazilian percussionist Eric Robnett, who has taught world music classes for more than 20 years, including at Motherland Music in Inglewood. For more information on the Wooten Center and their free afterschool and low-cost summer programs, visit www.wootencenter.org. For private or group instruction, contact Eric at (310) 403-3079.



Matthew Sutton, Local Artist, R&B Rap Matthew Sutton is a songwriter and poet. Raised in South Central Los Angeles, Matthew began his musical journey after being let go from his job in 2013, an unforeseen circumstance that pushed him to reach for his dreams. Drawing inspiration from artists like 2pac and Marvin Gaye, Matthew seeks to bring awareness and love through his music, and to uplift people from every background. Last year, Matthew debuted his first EP titled, *The Vent* – which he describes as a cry

Washington Preparatory H.S. Jazz Combo, Director: Christopher Estrada The Washington Prep Jazz Combo is the elite musical ensemble which represents George Washington Preparatory High School and its music program. Consisting primarily of juniors and seniors, this group is taught by staff from the Thelonius Monk Institute of Jazz at UCLA and are self-managed. The students in the group take the lead during performances and also decide the repertoire they play for each setting. We are proud to represent the Washington Prep, Westmont, and West Athens communities through service in music.

- Joseph Chan, Junior, Drumset
- Robert Couch, Senior, Trombone (graduated 6/7/2018)
- Juneau Damian, Senior, Alto Sax (graduated 6/7/2018)
- Ohanny Delgado, Senior, Trumpet (graduated 6/7/2018)
- Markus Donnell, Junior, Piano
- Joseph Fabian, Sophomore, Trumpet

Westmont West Athens Community Action for Peace

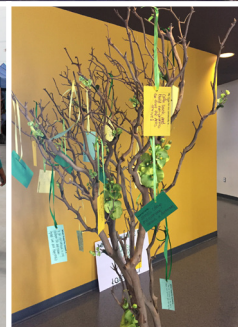
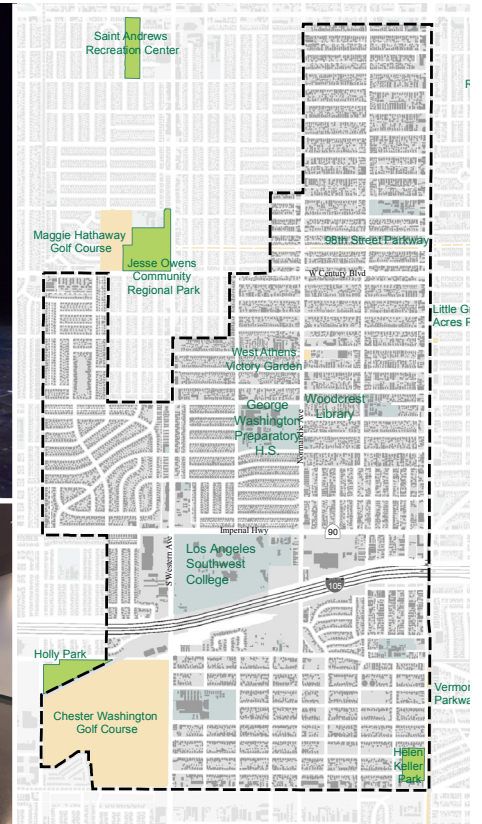
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Workshops • Resources • Food • Prizes • Entertainment

Free! All are welcome!

Los Angeles Southwest College
1600 W. Imperial Hwy., Los Angeles 90047
June 9, 2018 8 AM to 3 PM



Register here: Publichealth.lacounty.gov/IVPP
For questions, contact: Patricia Hernandez 213-351-1902
phernandez@ph.lacounty.gov



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