

The Institute for Nonviolence
in Los Angeles *presents*

Days of Dialogue on Building Partnerships for Community Wellness

Hosted by
Slauson Recreation Center
and
LAPD Newton Division

July 10, 2019



@daysofdialogue

Days of Dialogue

The First Step...

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DAYS OF DIALOGUE
ON THE FUTURE OF POLICING

INSTITUTE FOR NONVIOLENCE IN LOS ANGELES AND DAYS OF DIALOGUE

INVITE YOU TO JOIN

HOSTS: Slauson Recreation Center
LAPD Newton Division
5306 Compton Ave, Los Angeles 90011

"BUILDING PARTNERSHIPS FOR COMMUNITY WELLNESS"

Wednesday July 10th
Refreshments: 5:30PM
Dialogue: 6:00PM

GVRD GANG REDUCTION & YOUTH DEVELOPMENT | Inland Community Action | NEW 9th | Volunteers of America

Contact 34900@lapd.online

DAYS OF DIALOGUE IS... FACILITATED DIALOGUE

- *Structured Conversation*
- *The facilitator acts as a moderator, rather than a leader and is always neutral*
- *The purpose is to share Thoughts, Feelings, and Experiences in a safe and confidential space*

DIALOGUE PARTICIPANTS ARE ENCOURAGED TO...

- Express your opinions
- Listen to others
- Give everyone a chance to speak
- Respect the ground rules
- Respect each other

GROUND RULES

- Speak openly and honestly
- Listen carefully and respectfully to each person
- Keep comments brief and stay focused on task
- Explore differences respectfully and look for common ground
- Trust that the facilitator has the best interest of the group at heart
- Silence cell phones
- Be **respectful** of the opinions of others

TOTAL PARTICIPANTS: 61

- **Community Members: 33**
- **Officers: 19**
- **Facilitators: 9**

SURVEYS BEFORE AND DURING DIALOGUE

SURVEYS – BEFORE AND DURING DIALOGUE

1. Introductions and What do you hope to learn today?

- A better understanding
- Past and future training
- How to be honest
- Understanding the needs of the community
- Body Language by P.O.'s
- Attitudes, Learn how to talk to community members
- Starting stages of community relationship building and opening verbal interactional relationships
- What will be brought to the table for the community

SURVEYS – BEFORE AND DURING DIALOGUE

2. Define your “community,” i.e., race, location, family members, friends, work associates, division (for officers), etc.

- Black/Latino
- Variety of Cultures/Mixed Relationships

3. In what ways does race impact relationships in your community?

- Some fear of gangs
- Certain police officers judge you at first sight
- For some reason all blacks are suspect in our community
- We don't have equal value of each others

SURVEYS – BEFORE AND DURING DIALOGUE

4. How might we build mutual respect between community members, law enforcement, gang interventionists and others? How can we build mutual respect between all of us?

- Stop assuming someone is bad because of race
- You have to start with talking
- Don't be the bad guy, be the solution to crime
- Safe passages and community relations, police interact more with the people
- Understanding each other

SURVEYS – BEFORE AND DURING DIALOGUE

5. What changes do you think might be made to help avoid conflicts between police officers and residents?

Residents/Community	Law Enforcement
Pause and step back for understanding	More Town Hall Meetings
More interaction	More Community Involvement
Verbal conversation (respect)	Pause and step back for understanding
BBQ with community (picnic)	More communication
Sports Activity	
Cultural Education	
Behind Closed Door Conversations	
Officer pass out numbers to be able to be contact that way	

SURVEYS – BEFORE AND DURING DIALOGUE

6. Do you believe law enforcement treats your community with respect? Why or why not? Do you respect the police in your community? Why or why not?

- Some do, and some react without knowing the truth.
- A few officers should not be in uniform
- Communication between age differences
- Yes the sergeants take good care of my kids, keep them in sports. I love it.
- Sometimes, some look for trouble.

SURVEYS – BEFORE AND DURING DIALOGUE

7. In what ways do gangs impact your neighborhood?

- Kids think they gangbang
- Lots of drugs, impacting problem
- We would like to be treated with respect and not stereotyped because of race.

8. How can we find ways to have real conversations that will result in better outcomes?

- Have more meetings and programs for youth.
- All come together with more programs for the kids
- Summer night lights helping with interactions with kids
- Hire an incident reviewer to examine police officers with data on community engagement.

POST DIALOGUE SURVEYS

SURVEYS – POST DIALOGUE

1. What we learned

- We need to involve more community opinion after cultural events.
- Don't be afraid to talk to officers behind closed doors
- Summer Night Lights, Savior Program
- Officers go through sensitivity training.
- Changing Demographics - Back then kids knew everyone. Before even amount of races, now mostly Hispanic
- Newton community is diverse: Cambodian, Hispanic, African American.
- Elders try to be community leaders, but youth not always friendly
- Important to be proactive and structures also help like community safety partnership.

SURVEYS – POST DIALOGUE

2. What we shared:

- Race, culture, religion impact on conversation
- Crime scene with distracted mothers, how LAPD target gang members
- Police systemic issue of putting the system first
- Learn about the local cultures to reduce fear and increase empathy
- Personal stories/ making each other more human
- Treating each other like how we should be treated
- Public should have intentional interactions
- More jobs and resources for youth, and teaching youth their rights

SURVEYS – POST DIALOGUE

2. What we shared (continued):

- This is where I live and that doesn't make me a bad person
- Calmness has been destroyed. How do we get back to it?
- Positive impact of officers in community
- How we communicate with each other
- Police often have limited info and hard to do with many calls on patrol
- While many gangs in Newton, Pueblos feels like a family
- Fear around confidentiality
- Elders push communication to be accountable

SURVEYS – POST DIALOGUE

3. Specific actions or remedies discussed in question #5 or elsewhere during the dialogue:

- More communication
- Conduct more outreach and dialogues
- Incorporate time for dialogue into roll call or patrol
- Resources like advocates, housing, shelter to help victims
- More officers because not enough to respond
- We need to teach our youth the view laws. Stop putting unlawful drugs and weapons on youth.

SURVEYS – POST DIALOGUE

3. Specific actions or remedies discussed in question #5 or elsewhere during the dialogue (continued)

- The racial composition of LAPD should reflect the racial composition of the community
- More town hall meetings
- Listen, respect and have an open discussion to come to a resolution
- More interaction between police and community. Not just one event. Examples are picnics, BBQs, visit schools, and empathy building trainings.
- There needs to be friendly community members and friendly police officers
- Change trainings to involve more instruction about issues with racial discrimination
- Another conversation is needed.

COMMENTS

COMMUNITY HARVESTING

- This is a special day, meeting, because everybody learned a lot from one another.
- We both learned = what's the job of both the police dept, and the members of the community.
- What's important is communication + mutual respect.
- Complaints in the community can be resolved if the police and the members of the community work together.

COMMENTS CONTINUED

- We're all one as a community
- Summer Night Lights (SNL) is very important for kids and for everybody
- More dialogues like these, more in Slauson Park, shared our stories. We shared personal stories that make us each a little more human. It's important that we treat each other like we all want to be treated.
- We should have intentional interactions- like showing up here to talk with each other. Talk to the parents, and talk to the members of the younger generation before it's too late.

COMMENTS CONTINUED

- Yellow tape – when the mother gets to the tape, she gets body slammed to the ground. What’s the procedure for a mother who’s kid is bleeding out while cops are “trying to secure the area”?
- Friends from the sand box. He chose sports, he chose gang...Now the sports guy is nailed as a gang member cause of associations.
- How can we better deal with – situations- people who aren’t gang bangers but who are profiled like gang banger?
- We looked at both sides. There has to be a compromise.

COMMENTS CONTINUED

- We explained why we do perimeters. Safety.
- Domestic violence conversation- help us help you. Discussed some of the resources that are available.
- We would like more officers- to allow more time to talk to the people- more time would help to slow certain situations – like domestic violence - down.
- We want more hugs. More person to person, more respect.

COMMENTS CONTINUED

- we need a better community response for community trauma, for people who have felt over-policed due to violence. Want to deliver some relief for some community trauma work, not only with law enforcement, but from other departments, people.
- I was able to speak from both sides- we have a lot of police officers who are doing the right thing. They shouldn't be tainted as a whole. And it goes both ways.
- Communication and respect. That is the overriding thing.

COMMENTS CONTINUED

- It takes a lot of courage to come into this room. And not feel intimidated. Shout out to Volunteers of America and Community Build and Slauson Park. Saia.
- If you know a 10 – 24 year old involved with gangs, please ask them to reach out to one of these orgs. Let's do a better job with our kids. Let's do our part to help our kids to become productive citizens. Let's spend more time talking to our kids, and listening to our kids, so they don't go outside looking for that love.

COMMENTS CONTINUED

- Let's start listening to our kids because that may save our kids. Nicole (Slauson Rec Center) retrained officers to become camp counselors. It helped our team have a better relationship with our officers. We love our CSP officers. I hope we can do this again.
- It takes all of us to have our kids have a productive future.
- Get involved in your community much more, it will benefit all of us.

COMMENTS CONTINUED

- Discussed criminal profiling vs. racial profiling
- Police officers ask all POC what gang they are in
- Young black men being targeted, asked what gang they are in
- Detective- witnesses don't want to get involved or don't come forward.
- Gang members no longer wear uniforms- everyone looks the same now.
- Gang interventionists, work to be the liaisons with the community
- Include P.O. in meetings with community members.
- LAPD- better training for officers now, re: shootings.

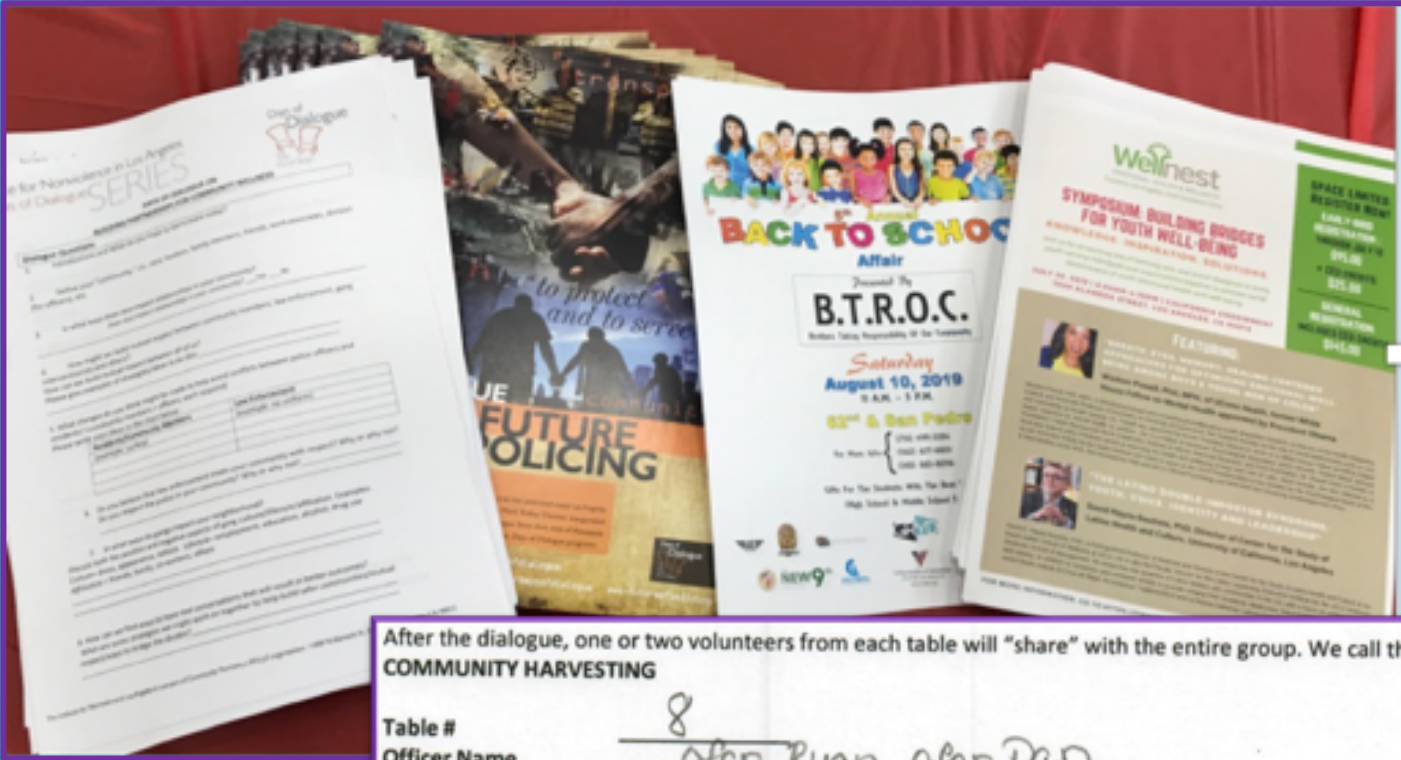
COMMENTS CONTINUED

- A lot of people are connected online, like in Boyle Heights- special FB page. How to get people engaged? People feel isolated- both online, and not online.
- Race has an impact. Religious beliefs have an impact, as do community expectations. Outsiders create problems. In our neighborhood, there are Black, Brown, Cambodian. Culture of immigrants accepting and learning from each other.
- The geography of the projects- we have to know each other. People look out for each other, and intermingle. There is no privacy, no air. We can learn to respect different points of view. Establish mutual respect, understand expectations.

PHOTOS

JULY 10, 2019





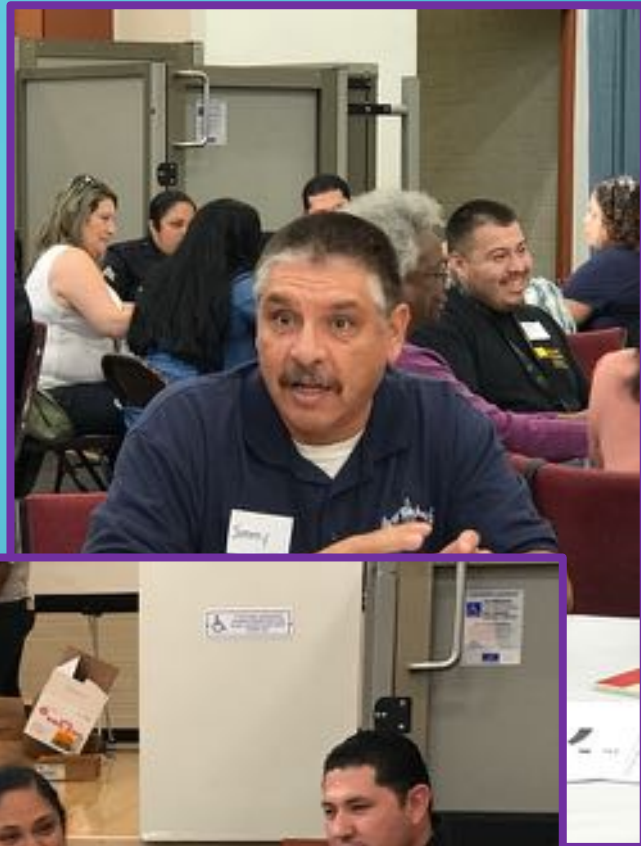
After the dialogue, one or two volunteers from each table will "share" with the entire group. We call this **COMMUNITY HARVESTING**

Table # 8
 Officer Name Officer Ryan, Officer Dan
 Facilitator Name ROSEANNE

1. What we learned ① all officers go through sensitivity training, Newton Community is diverse: Cambodian, Hispanic, African-American

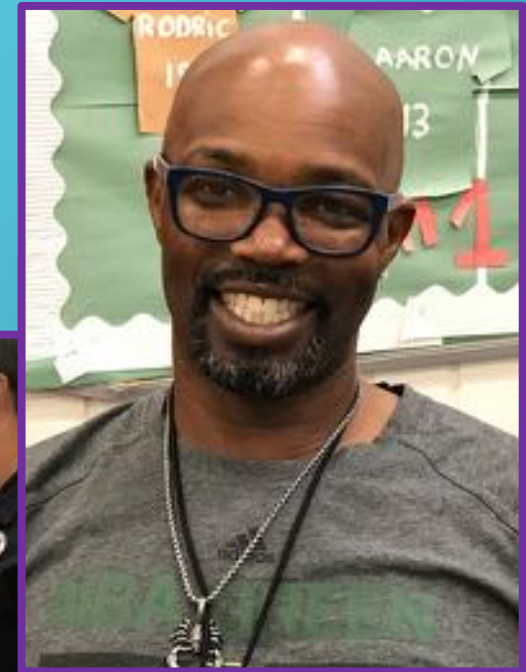
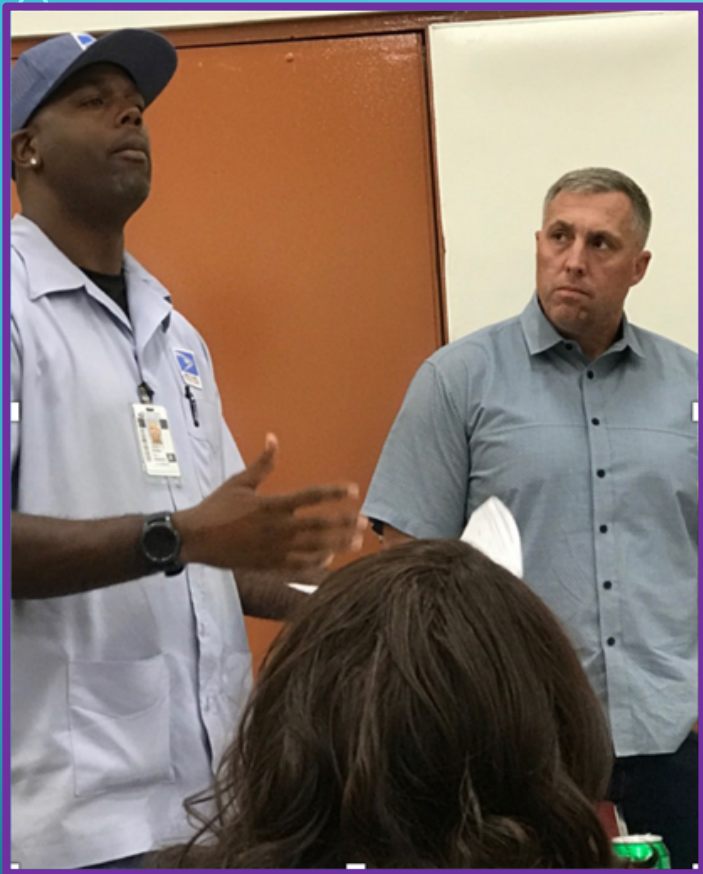
2. What we shared ③ Because this is where I live this doesn't make me a bad person.

calmness has been destroyed. How do we get back to it.









THANK YOU!

SLAUSON RECREATION CENTER AND LAPD NEWTON DIVISION

Facilitators

Audrey Jadlli

Caroline Stauffer

Maureen Smith

Roseanne Hubbard

LeighAnn Pandora

Laura Gonzalez

Melissa King

Karen Civitate

Tanzila Huda

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The Institute for Nonviolence in Los Angeles

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