Challenge Team
October 8th, 2009
7:00 am – 8:30am
Mountain View Police Department
1000 Villa Street, Mountain View

The Challenge Team meets the second Thursday of each month at the Mountain View Police Department at 1000 Villa Street Mountain View. The Challenge Team of Mountain View-Los Altos-Los Altos Hills is a community group that meets each month to discuss the challenges facing youth and families in our community. Leaders from the private & public sector, educational, judicial, health care and faith based groups look for creative and compassionate methods to bring positive influences into the lives of youth and to guide them away from the damaging influences of gangs and drugs.

Next Meeting Thursday, November 12th, 2009.
Preliminary agenda for November Meeting

- Welcome
- Special Announcements
- Informational presentation
- Gang Task Force Report
- Community Announcements
- Contact Gay Krause, email [or Kathi Lilga?] if you would like to add a topic to the agenda

Report from the October 8th, 2009 Meeting

Welcome: Gay Krause, Chair of the Challenge Team, welcomed attendees to our October meeting of the 2009-2010 school year.

Financial Report: Gay announced that the Challenge Team has about $25,000 in its account. These are funds that are raised through community donations and the annual Champions of Youth Breakfast. The funds are to support community programs related to the Gang Task Force.

Challenge Team Bike Ride: Bruce Barsi of CHAC and Trenton Hill of the El Camino YMCA discussed this spring's Challenge Team Bike Ride. The annual Bicycle Ride is a great way for families to show their support and collaboration for Children's health, education, and welfare and promote healthy family activities. SAVE THE DATE: Sunday, May 2nd, 2010.

Gang Task Force Update: Mike Ecdao (MVPD), leader of the MVLA Gang Task Force, reported there were a couple arrests during September. These folks are in the early 20's and some were from out of town.

Youth Services: Symantec holds a "Build a Bike" event for elementary school children,

who are selected by their teachers. Recently 3rd-5th grade students from the Castro School participated in the event.

Sunnyvale Gang Task Force / update and FBI Gang Connection with Mountain View P. D. Doug Moretto of the Sunnyvale Gang Task Force presented highlights of their work with Youth at Risk. Captain Doug Moretto, Special Operations, Public Safety Department, presented an update on the work underway by the Sunnyvale's Public Safety Team. Doug was instrumental in starting the Sunnyvale Challenge Team (modeled on the MVLA Challenge Team) two years ago. The Sunnyvale Challenge Team supports youth programs serving 500 children. They follow key strategies for mentoring, parent education and providing connections to resources. The Sunnyvale Gang Task Force has reviewed its contacts with gang members in the Sunnyvale area. The report showed that Sunnyvale gang members are split between the Norteno and Sureno gangs. Members from each gang are settled across Sunnyvale. The average age of the gang members is 18 with as low as 11 and a drop off after age 23. Moretto's team focuses on prevention, intervention and enforcement. They have increased the number of school officers from four to five. Moretto also discussed the "Tip Now" communication service. Anyone may anonymously text a tip to SVTIP@tipnow.org.

Steering Committee to be formed: Gay announced that she would like to form a "Challenge Team Steering Committee" to develop agendas and guest speakers for upcoming meetings. Kim Castro of the City of Mountain View and Ellen Wheeler of the MVWSD School Board volunteered for the Steering Committee.

Website Update: Trenton Hill reminded Challenge Team members that the website (ChallengTeam.org) is up and available to help promote community events and programs. It includes a community calendar and easy form for capturing information about upcoming events. Challenge Team meeting agendas will be posted on the website. Each attendee received a form to fill out information (description, location, time, contact information) for upcoming events. Trenton Hill will collect the forms and post information on the Challenge Team website.

Announcements: [This is not a complete list of announcements. See the Challenge Team website for information on more upcoming events.]

- Karin Bricker announced that the "Mountain View Reads Together" book for November is "The Mailbox" by Audrey Shafer. You can meet the author on Saturday November 14th 2:30pm at the MV Public Library.
- Kim Castro of the City of Mountain View announced that the Youth and Teen Resources group are following the YMCA Project Cornerstone program to feature one of the "41 Developmental Assets" each month. October's developmental asset is "positive family communication." Kim had distributed a handout to meeting attendees. Information is also available at http://www.ci.mtnview.ca.us/city_hall/city_managers_office/child_and_youth_services/default.asp
- CHAC Annual Fundraiser. During the month of October, the Boardwalk restaurant in Los Altos will contribute 10% of the tab for every lunch and dinner on Thursdays.
- On October 27th the MV Parks & Rec Dept will hold a "Breaking Down Barriers"

event for students in local high schools.

- A Celebration of Collaboration workshop will be held Tuesday November 10th 2:30-5:00pm at the Masonic Lodge in MV. A flyer has been prepared for this workshop and is available on the Challenge Team website.
- The annual "Cops and Gobblers" turkey/food give-away program is planned for Sunday November 22nd at the MVPD. Food and cash donations welcome.

Upcoming Challenge Team Meetings

Nov. 12, 2009
Dec. 10, 2009
Jan. 14, 2009
Feb. 11, 2009
March 11, 2009
April 8, 2009
May 13, 2009 Champion for Youth Breakfast
June 10, 2009