

Southeast

Sentinel

A monthly look into the musings and glimpses of the Los Angeles Police Department's Southeast Community Safety Partnership teams

In collaboration with the Housing Authority City of Los Angeles (HACLA)

Issue No 6 - Summer 2012



Sunburst Youth Academy: Second Chances

Nickerson CSP Officers sponsor a child from Nickerson Gardens to the California National Guard's Sunburst Youth Academy.
Page 2



Imperial's First Tee Program: Student Spotlight

Imperial CSP Officers mentor and offer opportunities to foster short-term successes to help grow into long term achievements in life.
Page 3



The Watts Bears Football team

The Watts Bears pop Warner team win the first game of the season!
Page 4



Educational Programs set to resume

The USC PLAY Mentoring/Tutoring Program as well as Jordan Downs CSP's Watts Tutoring Program are returning after the summer break.
Page 5



Quick Glimpses

A brief look into the various activities of the Southeast CSP teams.
Page 6



Looking forward

Upcoming events, programs, and just the facts ma'am!
Page 7



Roll Call briefing



LAPD Deputy Chief Patrick Gannon Retires

Deputy Chief Patrick Gannon retires after 34 dedicated years servicing the communities of Los Angeles. Chief Gannon was instrumental in the development and deployment of the LAPD Community Safety Partnership program. On August 30th, Chief Gannon received a final salute and drove off from the troops at 77th Street Police Station for the final time. We wish you well in retirement, Sir!



Summer Night Lights Comes to a Close

This summer, Los Angeles neighborhoods enjoyed the Summer Night Lights (SNL) program organized by the Mayor's office. It was a huge success as we all teamed up to provide a safe environment for the community and especially the youth. There were several different activities offered every week for the kids as well as the adults. The city organized skating, basketball, street hockey, sumo wrestling, soccer and baseball just to name a few. SNL has been very successful in reducing crime and violence in the summer months by giving kids a safe place to enjoy their summer with positive activities to keep them busy and out of trouble.

The LAPD CSP staff was busy interacting with the adults and children of the community and keeping a watchful eye over the program. Our presence helped to deter possible gang and narcotic activity that would be a bad influence on the children. While assigned as security for the event, the Mayor himself stopped by and talked with us one evening. He was very impressed with the safe and upbeat atmosphere at the Imperial Courts, Jordan Downs, and Nickerson Gardens recreation centers.



CSP second chances



Nickerson CSP Officer Moore with Isidoro Rivera and family.

Nickerson Gardens CSP partners with the Sunburst Youth Academy

Isidoro Rivera is an example of a young man who is striving to succeed despite the odds stacked against him. Isidoro is a 16 year-old resident of the Nickerson Gardens Housing Development in Watts, California, the largest public housing development west of the Mississippi in the United States. He attends Dorothy Lee Continuation High School (directly across the street from the famous Watts Towers), where 100% of its students are deficient in high school credits or have been expelled from other schools.

Isidoro, a lifelong resident of Nickerson Gardens, doesn't like to talk about any of the negative aspects of his life. He is much more eager to talk about how much his parents have struggled to provide a better life for him. He will readily tell you about his willingness to work side by side with his parents at the small recycling plant that employs his entire family. He will also tell you about his dreams and aspirations to have an opportunity and a career that will enable him to provide a better life for him as well as his family.

The Nickerson Gardens Community Safety Partnership Team is proud to

announce that the Los Angeles Police Department and the Army National Guard has developed an opportunity that can benefit kids such as Isidoro. The LAPD and the Army National Guard have recently developed a partnership which allows youth from the housing developments of Watts to enter the Army National Guard's Sunburst Youth Academy. The mission of the Sunburst Youth Academy is to intervene in and reclaim the lives of sixteen to eighteen year-old high school dropouts and to produce a program that gives its graduates the values, life skills, education, and self-discipline necessary to succeed as productive citizens. The academy is a 5 ½ month long residential military style academy structured to promote an academic environment where students earn 55 high school credits, develop leadership, cooperation, and academic skills, while improving self-esteem, pride, and confidence.

The reason that kids such as Isidoro are able to make it through a program like Sunburst is because they have a support system of at least one other person or organization who believes in their ability to make something more of themselves,

someone who believes in their ability to succeed. The Menasha Corporation and its outstanding employees have been that positive agent of change who have made a difference in the lives of the youth who reside within the South Central Los Angeles community and the Nickerson Gardens Housing Development. The Menasha Corporation has worked in conjunction with the LAPD, the Housing Authority of the City of Los Angeles (HACLA), and the community of Watts to secure funding and create intervention and prevention programs for at-risk youth who reside within the housing developments of Watts.

With the support of Menasha Corp., the Nickerson LAPD CSP officers have developed its first official private funding that will be available to at-risk youth who reside within Nickerson Gardens to attend programs such as the Sunburst Youth Academy. With the help of Menasha, LAPD, and the community leaders of Nickerson Gardens, we are offering parents and at-risk teens different options and a second chance regarding their path in life.



A Chance Meeting

Stacey Usher gets ready to take a swing at the driving range

As a Community Safety Partnership Officer, the chance of coming into contact with children and families in need of our help is great. However, it is the child who may do the simplest of things which embraces us the most. One little such girl is Stacey Usher. Stacey is a 10-year old girl who was just recently a student attending Grape Street Elementary School. She is the daughter of a single mother who is also raising four other children. What distinguished Stacy from so many other children was her confidence and level of maturity. While Officers Grant Goosby and Cesar Rivera were visiting Grape Street Elementary, they were approached by young Stacey who walked up to the officers without hesitation, stuck her hand out for a hand shake, and stated "Hello, my name is Stacey and it's a pleasure to meet you." The officers immediately realized there was something special about this little girl and they immediately met with the school principal to find out more about Stacey.

Searching for something to bring to the table and present to Stacey, the officers thought long and hard before pondering the

idea of possibly getting Stacey to join The First Tee Golf Program which they had recently introduced to a number of children living within the Imperial Courts Housing Development. The First Tee Golf Program is more than just going out and playing a fun game of golf, it's about learning and understanding life skills. The First Tee Life Skills Experience is one of the unique features that differentiate the program from other youth initiatives and junior golf programs. It helps young people develop character by focusing on nine core values: honesty, integrity, sportsmanship, respect, confidence, responsibility, perseverance, courtesy, and judgment.

Through the Life Skills Experience, Stacy will discover how skills essential to success on a golf course can also help her flourish in life. Participants learn to introduce themselves, manage emotions, resolve conflict, set step-by-step goals, plan for the future, and appreciate diversity.

It is the goal of the Imperial Courts Team to reach out to all of the children residing within the housing development to

determine what the children's passions are and find methods to assist them as well as the child's parent or guardian on capitalizing on the child's strong points for short-term successes which will hopefully grow into long-term achievements in life.

Stacey's life has already been majorly impacted by this one chance meeting. Stacey was accepted as a student to attend St. Lawrence Catholic School on a scholarship sponsored by Operation Progress, a program developed by several of the Nickerson Gardens CSP officers. If Stacey continues on this path she has helped create for herself, she is destined to become an illustrious success!





The Watts Bears

the watts bears pop-warner team achieves success with the help of their CSP coaches

Early this summer, 6 CSP officers started the Watts Bears youth football program. There have been football teams in the Watts area for years. However, none have ever had the opportunity to select youth from all three large housing developments (Jordan, Nickerson and Imperial) with the mission of uniting kids who otherwise would never hang out or play sports together due to possible rival gang influences from their respective communities.

We are lucky to have Officers Goosby, Kelly, Linton, Sanchez, Swift, and Thompson as part of the coaching staff from the CSP team. The Watts Bears are happy to report that they have already had two scrimmage games and one actual game. The first scrimmage game was against the La Habra B team and they won 63 to 0. The second scrimmage game was against the La Habra A team and they tied 12 to 12. This past weekend on August 25, the Bears played their first actual game of

the season and they won 20 to 12 in double overtime. It was a very exciting game and a great ending for the Watts Bears. It looks like all those practices are definitely paying off! Contact one of the coaches for a detailed schedule of their remaining games for the season.

A huge thank you to Affliction Clothing and Chris and Pam Gibbons who generously outfitted the team with much needed team jerseys and cleats.



Compton Air Field

On July 3, Officer Sanchez from the Jordan Downs CSP Team organized a field trip to the Compton Air Field. Officers took 10 young students from

the Jordan Downs area and brought them to the airfield run by Rob Petgrave who is the owner/manager of the Tomorrow's Aeronautical Museum at

Compton Airport. Mr. Petgrave also runs a flight school in addition to the museum. The officers arranged a tour and test flight that Saturday morning. The kids were soon treated to a presentation on how to obtain their own pilot's license and how to explore different jobs within the flight industry. The children also got the chance to fly in a small Cessna plane with one of the certified flight instructors. The students had a great time, as 90% of them had never been in an airplane before! The flights departed from Compton Airport and circled the surrounding area before landing back at the museum. After the tour and flight, officers took the kids to a local park and had a picnic. It was fun hearing and seeing everyone's excitement from their flight experience!



USC PROJECT LA YOUTH

The Nickerson CSP Team is excited to kick off USC PLAY (Project Los Angeles Youth) for the upcoming school year! This year we hope to expand to service Jordan Downs and Imperial Courts youth. USC PLAY was developed last year by the Nickerson CSP Team and the program is a one-on-one tutoring/mentorship program between USC students and Nickerson youth. The program strives to foster an environment of learning, team-building, social skills, and fellowship and takes place at USC.

Officers Hong, Kim, and Ortiz went to USC's campus on Wednesday August 29 to recruit the new crop of Nickerson mentor hopefuls. The student club recruitment was a raging success, with hundreds of fresh-faced USC students signing up on PLAY's interest list.

Officers have been speaking at subsequent information sessions to detail USC PLAY and Nickerson CSP's mission and the importance of partnerships in positively impacting the community of Nickerson Gardens. USC students learned about the importance of being a positive role model in the lives of Nickerson youth, and all were eager to interact with Nickerson kids and be a force of change. USC PLAY plans on kicking off their first session on Wednesday, October 3. Sessions will be held every other Wednesdays for 2 hours with specific times TBA. Stay tuned for more information and visit USC PLAY's facebook page at www.facebook.com/uscplay.

JORDAN DOWNS TUTORING PROGRAM

When the 2011-2012 school year ended in June, the Jordan CSP Team stopped its in-house Watts Tutoring Program because the tutors were also out of school and needed a long-earned break to be with their families. Your Jordan Downs CSP team, however, has continued to work throughout the summer to prepare for the upcoming school year which is fast upon us.

For the school year of 2012-2013, we are collaborating with an awesome group called Alpha Phi Omega. They are a co-ed fraternity that is focused upon community service and inner-city youth development. This fraternity is nationwide, with hundreds of chapters and a long list of very famous and successful alumni. Last school year, we used several different philanthropic groups from various campuses and it was difficult for the tutors to get to know the Jordan Downs students because we were using different groups every week. Now that we have the full commitment of USC's Alpha Phi Omega, the students and tutors will be able to get to know each other very well and the tutors will be able to focus on different subject matters to challenge our students.

We will kick off our in-house Watts Tutoring Program on Tuesday, September 11. We will be meeting weekly on Tuesdays except for holiday and seasonal breaks throughout the school year. Applications will be accepted for students from the ages of 7 to 17 years old. Seats are given on a first-come first-serve basis and we have made arrangements for 15

to 20 students, so please arrive early that day to secure a spot. Tutoring will be held from 5 to 7 pm in the community conference room located in the Jordan Downs Community Center at 2101 E. 101st St, LA CA 90002.

We would like to thank John Hernandez and Joel Lopez who work directly with "Shields for Families" and the Jordan Downs HACLA staff for their continued support in enhancing the education of the youth that reside in Jordan Downs.





quick glimpses

Law Enforcement Efforts

Although we are most visible with our community outreach and youth programs, another equally important part of our job as CSP officers is deterring the fear and incidents of crime in and around the Jordan Downs Area. In this article I would like to acknowledge the enforcement efforts of Officers Pearce and Zuniga. In a two-week span, they managed to arrest 7 individuals for narcotics sales and possession within the housing development. They were working at the behest of the community members who want the trespassers, loiterers and narcotics users/sellers gone from Jordan Downs.

Narcotics sales has a detrimental effect on the quality of life for the majority of residents as it attracts illegal activity and loitering. It also exposes the youth residing in the developments to the many dangers of illegal drugs, and has far-reaching consequences including incarceration and bad health choices. Due to the diligence of Officers Pearce and Zuniga, the parking lots of Jordan

Downs are safer for residents to enjoy the outdoors without having to be fearful while going for an evening walk.

Deep-Sea Fishing



On July 11, 30 children of all ages were taken on a deep-sea youth fishing trip. The children boarded a boat in Marina Del Rey and were taken out near Catalina Island to embark on a fishing frenzy. Although a number of the children were taken by motion sickness, they all had a blast. For a number of children, this was their first time seeing the ocean. Many children caught fish. However, as part of the rules established by organizers of this trip, no fish were kept for personal

feasting. The idea for the field trip was to provide the children the opportunity to work together as a team as well as take some time to socialize with children their own age. Hopefully, this experience will help children express an interest in new hobbies!

Solstice Canyon Hike

On June 27, 60 children from Imperial Courts were taken to Solstice Canyon National Park in the Santa Monica Mountains on a field trip. The program ran for about 2.5 hours and the children were provided a box lunch from subway (compliments of HACLA).

Park Rangers were on hand to educate the children on the importance of taking good care of the environment. The children learned that without trees, humans could not exist.

In addition, the staff also dispensed some interesting trivia, such as the fact that some original dwellers rub sage all over themselves as a form of perfume or cologne!

Imperial Camping Trip

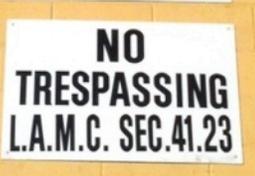
On July 15, 10 children from the Imperial Courts Housing Development were treated to a one-week camping trip with Forest Home, a faith-based organization. The children stayed by the lake, went hiking in the mountains, sang around campfires, and participated in team-building exercises on the confidence course.

The overall goal of the camping trip was to provide the children with an increased sense of self-worth and confidence. The camp staff was highly impressed with every single child who was in attendance at this event. Prior to the field trip, the children were taken on a shopping spree for camping gear on behalf of the Forest Home Organization where they had fun selecting camping equipment.

The children have already received approval from the camp staff to return in 2013 and can't wait to come back!!!

EXTRA! EXTRA!

upcoming programs, events, and news



No Trespassing!!!

Southeast CSP officers recently received specialized

training from city attorneys on no trespassing laws within the housing developments. As such, we are passing along the message that the CSP officers will soon be conducting no trespass warnings. We urge those who do not lawfully reside in Imperial Courts, Jordan Downs, or Nickerson Gardens to heed these warnings, as they will be documented. Chronic violators WILL be arrested for trespassing.



Get Your Parking Permit!!!

Southeast CSP officers will began conducting periodic parking lot compliance audits. These are

designed to alleviate the illegal parking and congestion the lots often endure. It is important to go to your local HACLA Management office and get your parking permit. Failure to do so may result in your vehicle getting cited and impounded during an audit.



Debbie Allen Dance Academy (DADA)

Since the inception of the Debbie Allen Dance Academy partnership with LAPD CSP, we have been able to witness our most timid children dance their way to confidence! Not only are our children becoming more confident in themselves, they are also simultaneously receiving reinforcement in values such as responsibility, timeliness, respect, and team work. Now that the summer break has culminated the dance program is set to resume dates, location, and times TBD.

graphic credit: DADA



UCLA Watts Tutoring Program

FREE Tutoring is provided by UCLA undergrad students every Wednesday evening during the school calendar year. It is offered to children between the ages of 6-17 years old. If your child qualifies, they will be transported to the campus of UCLA, where they'll be paired with a UCLA student who will mentor and tutor them throughout the school year. Registration is limited but available at the Nickerson Gardens Computer Lab located at 1495 W 114th St #1106 or at your HACLA Resident Services Center.



“The future depends on what we do in the present.”

- Mahatma Gandhi

FOR NON-EMERGENCY POLICE RESPONSE CALL 877.ASK.LAPD (877.275.5273)

FOR EMERGENCY POLICE RESPONSE CALL 9 1 1



LAPD SOUTHEAST

145 East 108th Street
Los Angeles, Ca 90061
213.972.7828

Imperial Courts

YTD as of 06.30.2012

Violent Crimes	2012	2011	% Change
Agg Assaults	3	6	-50%
Homicide	0	1	-100%
Rape	1	0	100%
Robbery	4	6	-33.3%
Violent Crimes Total	8	13	-38.5%

Property Crimes	2012	2011	% Change
BTFV	8	9	-11.1%
Burglary	5	2	150%
GTA	2	2	0%
GTP/Theft	9	2	-33.3%
Property Crimes Total	24	15	60%



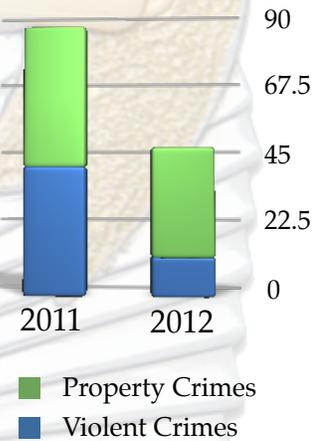
Imperial Courts	2012	2011	% Change
Part I Total	32	28	14.3%

Jordan Downs

YTD as of 06.30.2012

Violent Crimes	2012	2011	% Change
Agg Assaults	5	11	-54.5
Homicide	0	0	N.C.
Rape	1	0	100%
Robbery	6	29	-79.3%
Violent Crimes Total	12	40	-70%

Property Crimes	2012	2011	% Change
BTFV	6	7	-14.3%
Burglary	6	18	-66.7%
GTA	12	7	71.4%
GTP/Theft	10	12	-16.7
Property Crimes Total	34	44	-22.7



Jordan Downs	2012	2011	% Change
Part I Total	46	84	-45.2%

Nickerson Gardens

YTD as of 06.30.2012

Violent Crimes	2012	2011	% Change
Agg Assaults	7	18	-61.1%
Homicide	0	1	-100%
Rape	0	1	-100%
Robbery	27	32	-15.6%
Violent Crimes Total	34	52	-34.6%

Property Crimes	2012	2011	% Change
BTFV	11	5	120%
Burglary	5	19	-73.7%
GTA	9	6	50%
GTP/Theft	11	11	0%
Property Crimes Total	70	93	-24.7%



Nickerson Gardens	2012	2011	% Change
Part I Total	70	93	-24.7%

CRIME BY THE NUMBERS