



CITY HALL • 1 FRANK H. OGAWA PLAZA • OAKLAND, CALIFORNIA 94612

Office of the City Administrator  
Deborah A. Edgerly  
City Administrator

(510) 238-3301  
FAX (510) 238-2223  
TDD (510) 238-2007

June 20, 2006

Oakland City Council  
Oakland, CA

RE: Presentation from Safe Passages, a Collaborative Partnership between the City of Oakland, the County of Alameda, the Oakland Unified School District, the East Bay Community Foundation, and Several Community Service Providers, on their Work and Accomplishments in Oakland

Dear President De La Fuente and Members of the City Council:

The Rules and Legislation Committee on June 1, 2006 requested a presentation by Safe Passages on its work and accomplishments in Oakland.

Safe Passages has submitted the attached informational report.

FORWARDED TO CITY COUNCIL:

  
Office of the City Administrator



OFFICE OF THE CITY CLERK  
 2006 JUN -8 PM 5:58

June 20, 2006

TO: Oakland City Council  
 FROM: Josefina Alvarado Mena, Executive Director Safe Passages  
 RE: *A presentation from Safe Passages, a collaborative partnership between the City of Oakland, the County of Alameda, the Oakland Unified School District, the East Bay Community Foundation, and several community service providers, on its work and accomplishment in Oakland.*

**SUMMARY**

At the request of the Rules Committee on June 1, 2006, Safe Passages is providing an informational report on its work and successes in Oakland. No legislative action is required at this time.

**FISCAL IMPACT**

- Last year alone, **Safe Passages leveraged its \$1.4 million core funding budget into \$14 million in services funded by outside dollars, partners, and matching funds. That's a return on investment of 912%.**
- The City of Oakland contributes \$150,000 annually in to the core functions of Safe Passages (research, development, evaluation, oversight, communications, and administration). Both Alameda County and OUSD each contribute \$150,000 annually, and EBCF contributes \$25,000 annually.
- With its contribution, the City of Oakland has successfully leveraged the following major funding sources for services for Oakland's children and youth:

○ <b>Alameda County and Federal Medicaid</b> (annually in mental health services)	<b>\$10.5 Million +</b>
○ <b>RWJF Urban Health Initiative</b>	<b>\$10,000,000</b>
○ <b>Other private foundations</b> (Walter S, RWJF after school, United Way of the Bay Area, RWJF incentive)	<b>\$1,309,998</b>
○ <b>Federal Grants:</b>	<b>\$21,249,329</b>
21 <sup>st</sup> Century After-School	\$18,407,373
US Dept. Health and Human Services	\$ 1,386,300
US Dept. of Justice Safe Start Grant	\$ 816,000
Other appropriation	\$ 639,656
○ <b>State funding</b>	<b>\$ 1,364,000</b>

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## **BACKGROUND**

Safe Passages was founded when Oakland was chosen as one of five urban cities in 1996 to participate in the Urban Health Initiative of the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation designed to improve the health and safety of children. The focus of Safe Passages was to create large scale systems change to improve public system service delivery. To this end, Safe Passages developed an unprecedented partnership in Oakland among the city government, the County of Alameda, the Oakland Unified School District (OUSD), the East Bay Community Foundation (EBCF), and a variety of community-based organizations. The new entity was placed under the hospices of EBCF and is considered a project of the foundation.

Prior to the creation of this partnership, each public entity delivered services to children and families in an uncoordinated, often duplicative, manner. The efforts of the collaborative allowed public systems to work together in the delivery of services thus creating more efficient and streamline programs.

The Safe Passages Board of Directors includes elected county, city, and school district officials, as well as agency directors, high level administrators, and community leaders. Today over 65 governmental agencies, community service providers, schools, early childhood centers, and philanthropic organizations work together under the Safe Passages umbrella to design, fund, implement, and evaluate programs for poor and vulnerable families in Oakland, particularly those *exposed to community violence*.

### **Safe Passages Board of Directors**

Josefina Alvarado-Mena, Executive Director  
Dave Kears, Chair, Alameda County health Care Services Agency Director  
Hon. Keith Carson, Alameda County Board of Supervisors  
Hon. Nate Miley, Alameda County Board of Supervisors  
Hon. Jane Brunner, Oakland City Council Member  
Hon. Jean Quan, Oakland City Council member  
Hon. Dan Siegel, School Board Member, Oakland Unified School District  
Donald Blevins, Probation Chief Alameda County  
Chet Hewitt, Director Alameda County Social Service Agency  
Mike Howe, President, East Bay Community Foundation  
Dr. Harold Mayberry, Reverend, First African Methodist Episcopal Church  
Susan Muranishi, Alameda County Administrator  
Cheryl A.P. Thompson, Assistant City Administrator, City of Oakland  
Wayne Tucker, Chief of Police, Oakland Police Department  
Kirsten Vital, Chief of Community Accountability, Oakland Unified School District  
Andrea Youngdahl, Director, City of Oakland Department of Human Services

## SAFE PASSAGES STRATEGIES AND PROGRAMS

Safe Passages has developed health-and safety-related strategies for children and youth that are data-driven, research-based, and proven best practices. Prior to implementing three of its current strategies, Safe Passages spent two years conducting a thorough literature review, visiting various cities, and administering surveys to identify effective models to replicate locally. Finally, the following violence prevention strategies were identified to address the unique needs of Oakland: 1) Early Childhood Initiative, 2) Middle School Strategy, 3) Youth Offender Strategy: Pathways to Change, 4) After-School Initiative.

### *Early Childhood Initiative*

- All public childcare teachers receive training on implementing a violence prevention curriculum and **identifying children exposed to violence**; initiative offers mental health services to children and families exposed to violence through non-profit providers.
- Police officers are also trained on how to work with children at crime scenes.
- **Partners and funders:** City of Oakland's Head Start Programs, OUSD Early Childhood Centers, Alameda County Behavioral Health Care Services, the Oakland Police Department, and several nonprofit providers.
- **In 2005, nearly 6,000 children were being taught the curriculum at all 77 public childcare sites across Oakland, over 2,500 children and families had received mental health services, and 460 officers had been trained.**

### Numbers Served : January – December 2005

Component	Annual Goal	Served as of Dec 05	% of Goal	% of Year
Violence Prevention Curriculum	5,750 children	5,750	100%	100%
Mental Health Consultation	948 children	2279	240%	100%
Parent Infant Psychotherapy	60 children	319	532%	100%
OPD Training	460 officers	342	74%	100%

### Parent Survey Outcomes 2005

Due to this program...	Dec 04	June 05	% Change
my child's ability to master skills is <i>better</i> .	46	80	74%
my child's level of active participation in his/her daily life is <i>better</i>	46	68	48%
my child's ability to play with other children is <i>better</i>	38	84	121%
my child gets along with others <i>better</i>	23	72	213%
my child is able to express feelings in an appropriate manner <i>more</i>	31	70	126%
my child's problem behaviors related to witnessing violence have <i>decreased</i>	31	75	142%

Dec survey: 13 parents June survey: 49 parents

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## Police Training Survey Outcomes

	Pre	Post	%Change
Witnessing Domestic Violence can have a greater impact on a child's mental health than actual physical abuse.	53	80	51%
There are effective services available in the community for young children exposed to violence	33	67	103%
I learned things in this training that I will be able to use at a violence scene	Yes: 83%		

### *Middle School Strategy*

- Aims to improve school climate and reduce the number of suspensions, particularly due to violence, at school sites.
- It includes a violence prevention curriculum, school-based mental health counseling, case management, alternatives to suspension, parental involvement, service coordination and after-school programs.
- **Partners and funders:** This strategy involves collaboration between the County of Alameda, the Oakland Unified School District, the City of Oakland, and several community mental health providers.
- **Since inception in 1998, schools participating in this strategy have experienced a 72% decrease in suspensions due to violence. In addition, school absences dropped by 28%. Over 5,200 students and families at 11 middle schools are being served currently.**

### Numbers Served School Year 2004 – 2005:

Program Component	Annual Goal	# Served	% of Goal Reached	% of *Year
Second Step	5431	5244	97%	100%
Case Management	600	496	83%	100%
Mental Health	250	167	67%	100%
After School Activities	2716	2824	104%	100%
Family Engagement	600	904	151%	100%

### Numbers Served Thru February School Year 2005 – 2006:

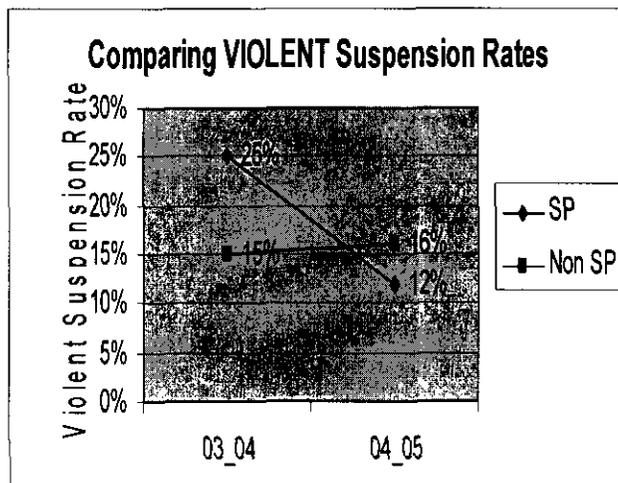
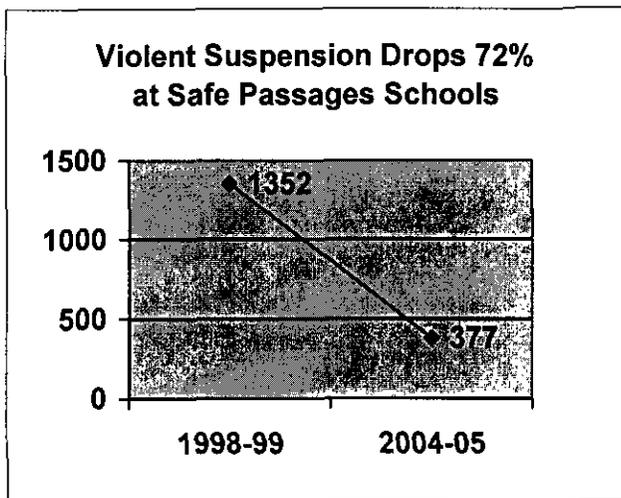
Program Component	Annual Goal	# Served	% of Goal Reached	% of *Year
Second Step	5216	4604	88%	60%
Case Management	600	295	49%	60%
Mental Health	250	110	44%	60%
After School Activities	2716	1525	56%	60%
Family Engagement Activities	600	407	68%	60%

\* Based on the 10 month school year

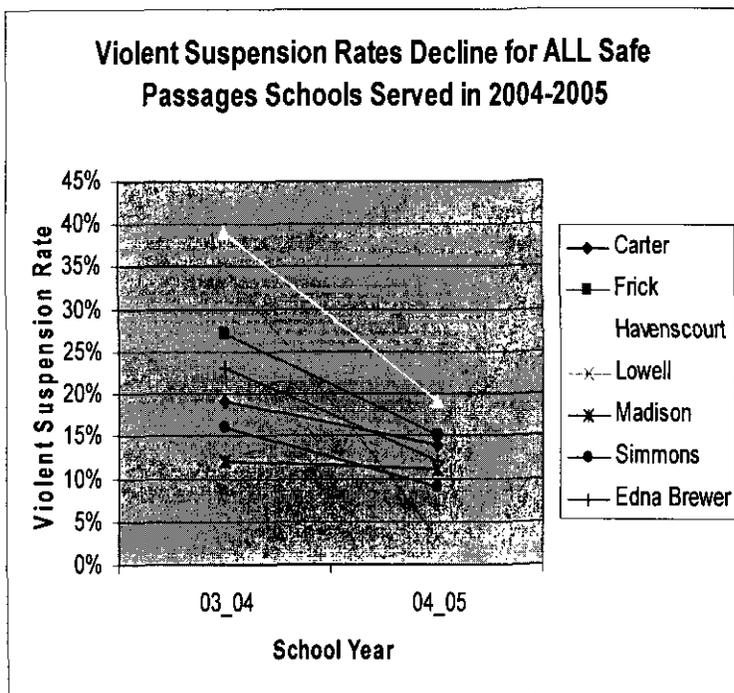
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## Middle School Outcomes



- Since inception, Safe Passages Middle Schools have experienced an overall decline in suspensions of 72%.
- Last school year, 04-05, violent suspension rate for Safe Passages schools fell below that of Non-Safe Passages schools.
- Suspension rates for violent acts decreased from the previous year at **all** Safe Passages middle schools served in 2004-2005.



- **Lowell:** 91% decrease in violent suspension rate.
- **Havenscourt:** 51% decrease in violent suspension rate.
- **Edna Brewer:** 48% decrease in violent suspension rate.
- **Frick and Simmons:** 44% decrease in violent suspension rate.
- **Carter:** 26% decrease in violent suspension rate.
- **Madison:** 8% decrease in violent suspension rate. (This is on top of the 75% reduction experienced in 2002-03 school year).

**Youth Offender Strategy: Pathways to Change**

- Brings juvenile courts, probation officers, and service providers together to reduce recidivism among juvenile repeat offenders and to provide an alternative to costly incarceration. The program involves intensive case management and service referrals.
- **Partners and funders:** This collaboration includes the Alameda County Probation Department, Alameda County Health Care Services Agency, the City of Oakland’s Measure Y, the Oakland Police Department, the District Attorney’s Office, the Public Defender Office, the Social Services Agency, the County Superior Court, the Mentoring Center, and several other community service agencies.
- **Since program inception, nearly 300 youth have been served through the program at a cost of approximately \$3,000 a year per youth, while it costs the state over \$50,000 annually to incarcerate a youth.**

**Numbers Served**

**January – December 2005 Comparison to 2004**

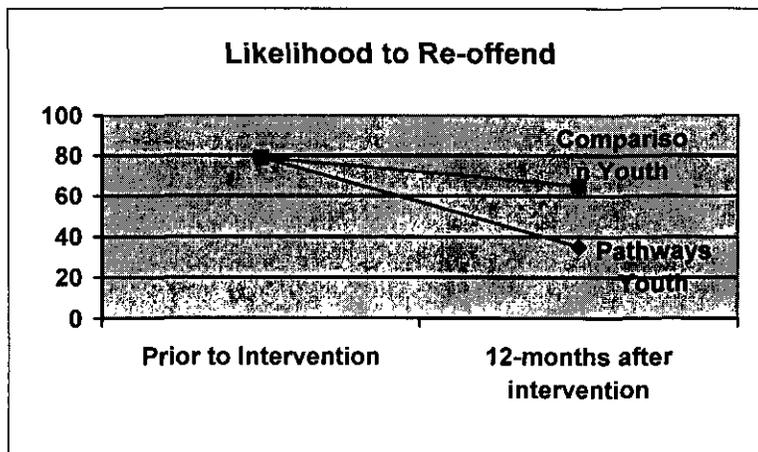
Year	Annual Goal	# Served	% of Goal	% of Year
2004	100	105	105%	100%
2005	120	146	122%	100%

**January – February 2006**

Year	Annual Goal	# Served	% of Goal	% of Year
2006	120	38	32%	17%

**Youth Offender Strategy/Pathways to Change Outcomes**

- **Pathways to Change youth are nearly half as likely to re-offend when compared to a matched group of similar youth. They also see a 26% reduction in school absence rate, and a 71% reduction in school suspensions.**



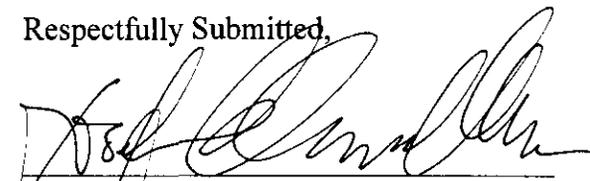
*After-School Strategy*

- Safe Passages houses Oakland's city-wide After-School Coordinating Team (OASCT), which includes city and school district representatives and providers to promote data sharing and the sustainability of quality after-school programs.
- Developed a web-based database to collect and coordinate information from after-school providers.
- To date, the efforts of the OASCT have improved the way the City of Oakland and the school district work together to transform the after-school arena, **and have brought in an additional \$23 million in funding to Oakland after-school programs.** These sources include:

**ACTION REQUESTED OF THE CITY COUNCIL**

No action is requested at this time.

Respectfully Submitted,



Josefina Alvarado Mena  
Executive Director, Safe Passages