

Friday APRIL 17

LA PLAZITA INSTITUTE presents

Gang Awareness: Managing Multiple Worlds

La Plazita Institute is offering its first gang intervention workshop, sharing highly effective and unique gang intervention strategies applicable to a wide range of professionals in the field. Participants will explore the many realities or “multiple worlds” that gang-involved youth manage on a daily basis, and explore tools to more effectively work with these youth. This seminar is designed to challenge participants and to share innovative techniques that work.

Facilitators:

Albino Garcia, Founder and Executive Director of La Plazita Institute, is recognized across the globe for his work with gang-involved youth. As a self-described “BTDT” (been there, done that) with personal experience of street culture, addiction, and incarceration, Albino is a nontraditional leader who has dedicated his life to serving youth. For over two decades he has worked in the field of youth development as a consultant, trainer, and program manager. Garcia received the prestigious Kellogg Fellow Award in 1995, and has met with noted thinkers and leaders including President Jimmy Carter, Bishop Samuel Ruiz, the Dalai Lama, Harry Belafonte, and Parker Palmer. Perhaps most importantly, Garcia is a respected leader in his home community of Albuquerque’s South Valley.

Master Social Worker Valerie Griego is the Program Director for La Plazita Institute. Griego describes her work as a “lifestyle.” She is especially skillful at capitalizing on the strengths of the youth she serves. She holds a deep passion for her work, as well as extensive knowledge of local resources for this population. She has worked in the field in a multitude of capacities since 1997. International and national work include life history documentation for individuals facing the death penalty, serving the severely mentally ill, extensive criminal justice advocacy, and rival gang intervention on a local level. Griego’s commitment to helping youth maximize their positive assets and ‘ganas’-*desire* to make an impact, are evident in all that she does.

Who should attend:

This seminar is ideal for parents, teachers and administrators, counselors, social workers, case managers, law enforcement officers, community members, law makers and many others.

PROGRAM BENEFITS & LEARNING OBJECTIVES:

- Reframe your understanding regarding gang-involved youth and learn how to modify your own behavior, activities and environments, to more effectively work with gang-involved youth;
- Learn how to apply innovative strategies/best practice;
- Maximize learning to provide support at home, school, penal institutions and in community settings;
- Network with others in the community with regards to gang outreach/work;

- Hands on activities, outreach techniques, and substance abuse/addiction awareness as related to gang-involved youth;
- Learn to assist gang-involved youth in navigating multiple worlds;
- Practical approaches/basic plans to preventing and responding to gang involvement;
- Learn to maximize resources and get involved in policy;
- Learn to access and work with non-traditional leaders, including previously incarcerated individuals and "BTDT's."

Date: Friday April 17, 2009

Location: South Valley TBA

Time: 8:00 am-4:00 pm

Cost: \$60 early bird special **Early bird special ends March 16th!!!**

\$70 registration after March 16th-April 16th

\$80 the day of the seminar

Scholarships are available, however you must contact us to apply

6 CEU credit approval from NASW-NM (**specifically-Cultural Competence**)

Simultaneous **SPANISH translation** provided

Cancellation Policy: If you have registered and cannot attend, you may send a substitute. If you are not able to send a substitute, and inform us by the end of the business day on April 5, your registration fee will be held with our organization as a credit for future seminars. No refunds or other arrangements will be granted. Payments not received (post marked) by the dates listed above are subject to the additional fees stated in the cost section. Payment upon registration is required to hold your spot. Checks can be made out to La Plazita Institute.

AGENDA

- **Why the need to learn about gangs/youth involved in them?** Attitudes and beliefs about gangs and the youth.
- **Introduction to Gangs: Factors related to "multiple worlds"** Signs, symptoms, characteristics, and historical perspectives.
- **Cultural Perspectives: Gang, Family, Traditional, American/Market force.** Identifying some of the deep rooted factors.
- **Parents (families), Educators, Community:** NEED TO KNOW information.
- **Effective Approaches: Strategies, techniques, networking when working with gang involved youth.** What works in providing the best service for youth.
- **Gangs & the Law: Juvenile Justice, Current & Prospective Laws.** Understanding the legal "world" and the implications.
- **Framework/Planning Strategies: Identifying underlying problems, prioritizing problems.** What is the best way to identify issues?
- **Ways to Get Involved:** What now? Prevention, intervention, intensive case management, working in related fields.

SCHEDULE

8:00 – 8:30 am	Check in & Continental Breakfast
8:30 – 10:00 am	Program
10: 00– 10:10 am:	Break
10:10 – 11:45 am:	Program
11:45–12:40	Lunch on your own
12:40 – 1:50 pm	Program
1:50 –2:00 pm	Break
2:00--3:30 pm	Program
3:30—4:00 pm	Wrap-up

Confirmation: You will receive a confirmation email via the address you provided when you registered as well as by phone. If you register the week of the seminar, confirmations will be made as soon as possible. If you do not receive confirmation within a week of emailing your registration please contact Valerie Griego or griego12@hotmail.com; or Tami Brunk at tamibrunk@yahoo.com. Please call or email if you wish to register via US mail. You can also reach us at laplazitainstitute@hotmail.com.

STAY TUNED FOR MORE TO COME:

- 1.** National Gang Summit
- 2.** NM Statewide Gang Prevention & Intervention Council