



Operation Safe Community

September 9, 2009

Hello to OSC Members,

We trust that this message finds you well into the thrust of safety of our schools and communities. As we met to plan for speakers for our monthly meetings of OSC for the next year, the planning committee reviewed the purpose of the organization and questioned if revisions need to be made regarding our mission and our function in the community. It was felt that it is healthy to periodically review our goals to determine if changes might be in order to reflect how we should function in today's changing world. We need input from you, the members who have been receiving communications. Please review the attached information that represents our purpose and mission, as it was founded and revised over time.

We are also attaching a brief survey to find out how OSC can best meet your needs as a person who has interests in maintaining the safe, healthy environment for families in our community. Please complete this survey and return it by September 22, according to the instructions. You may email it, fax it, or bring it with you to our next meeting on September 22.

Our next meeting: The next meeting of OSC will be held at the Rowland District Office in the Board Room at 2 PM on September 22, 2009. Our featured speaker will be Cindy Rose Escamilla, Specialist of Health Services of Rowland Unified School District. She will be presenting vital information about the Swine Flu Pandemic and how the schools, health agencies, and local community will be working together in health prevention and intervention. We will also be providing a forum for discussion about the future of OSC. We hope that you will join us!

Thank you for your valuable input.

Nancy Ballantyne, Heidi Gallegos, Chief Don Fernald and Jennifer Kottke
OSC Planning Team

Operation Safe Community

Working Together for the Good of All

Operation Safe community (OSC) was organized in 1990 as a community response to the alarming growth of issues related to at-risk youth. It is incorporated as a charitable, non-profit, community based, volunteer coalition embracing multiple organizations and individuals who contribute their support to community problem solving. OSC is a growing coalition of community parents, government agencies, elected officials, educators, law enforcement, business people, public and private service organizations, church and civic leaders who are "working together for the good of all."

Our Mission

Our mission is to focus on safety for children and families through the development of partnerships that promote security and harmony of community life. This is accomplished through awareness, involvement and cooperative action at grassroots and organizational levels, linking services and resources in an ever-evolving society.

OSC activities include, but are not limited to the following:

- Regular monthly meeting--held every month (except December and summers) on the third Tuesday at 2:00 PM in the Rowland Unified School District Board Room. The purpose of the meetings is to share information about community events, issues, concerns, and new available resources in order to effect positive change.
- Parent Education and Student Education—activities, programs, workshops, and printed materials to empower parents and students to increase personal effectiveness and academic success.
- Community and Neighborhood Education—community awareness using local media, networking, and an OSC newsletter. Promote and support community hotlines, which address problems such as graffiti removal and drug abuse.
- Community Events--Promotion of Red Ribbon Week, Safe Communities Week, Buckboard Days, parent group events, and other programs, which unify the community and encourage effective communication.
- Community advocacy for social action -Promote the needs of the community to elected officials in local, regional, state, and federal positions.
- Positive Youth Activities—Provide opportunities that will encourage youth to share their talents and give back to the community through service learning projects.

- Ready Resources—Provide resources to residents and agencies, along with emergency hotline information.
- Community Partner—Encourage business community to be active partners in promoting a healthy, safe environment, through links to the schools and youth organizations

OSC Survey September, 2009

Please respond as best you can to the following questions. Please answer honestly, and no responses will offend us. Instead, your valuable input will be helpful in shaping the future of the Operation Safe Community Organization. Please complete the survey, and send it by September 22 by fax (626-854-8547) or email it to Emily Nunez, DATE Secretary, at enunez@rowland.k12.ca.us. Or you may bring it to the next OSC meeting on September 22 at 2 PM at the Rowland District Board Room.

Name _____ Organization _____

Current email address _____ Date _____

Do you regularly attend any of meetings of the following community organizations:

- Rowland Heights coordinating Council
- Rotary
- Chamber of Commerce Mixers
- Industry Manufacturing Council
- City Council meetings (what city? _____)
- School District Board Meetings (what district? _____)
- Other _____

Do you feel that OSC is a duplication of efforts of these organizations?

Regarding OSC monthly meetings. Please respond to the following items that apply:

- I enjoy the meetings every month with a featured speaker
- I feel that we should meet less frequently, such as
 - Every other month
 - Twice a year
 - I feel we should disband monthly meetings and instead go to a format of community forums on specific issues open to the public
 - If you checked the item above, please indicate if you prefer these evening, afternoon, or morning meetings:

 - I feel that we should downsize our meetings and only put on the annual Safe Communities Festival

- ❑ I would prefer that we change the time to one that is more convenient:
 - Breakfast meeting
 - Lunch meeting
 - Brown bag lunch meeting
 - Evening Meeting
 - ❑ Please indicate some of the issues you might have with attending regular, afternoon monthly meetings:
 - Budget cuts do not allow me to miss work
 - I don't always find the speakers of interest
 - It is difficult to get away at 2 PM during the week
 - Other _____
-

Regarding the newsletter:

- ❑ I find it interesting and informative
- ❑ I don't have time to read it
- ❑ I wish I could submit articles about what is happening in my organization
- ❑ Please keep me on the emailing list
- ❑ Please take my name off the email list

Regarding featured speakers, please indicate any suggestions of speakers or information you would like to hear at a meeting: _____

Comments: _____

Thank you for your input!