



La Salle School

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May 17, 2010

Faye Andrews, Commissioner
City of Albany Department of Youth and Workforce Services
175 Central Avenue
Albany, NY 12206

Re: OJJDP FY 2010 Youth Gang Prevention and Intervention Program

Dear Ms Andrews,

I am very pleased to write in support of the City of Albany's Gang Prevention Program and its application for OJJDP funding.

As the Executive Director of the LaSalle School in Albany, I am all too aware of the impact of gangs on the youth and families that we serve in our Residential, Education, and Community Based Preventive programs. We applaud the commitment of the city to gang prevention and join in the effort to interrupt the flow of our young people toward this dangerous life choice.

In this effort to reduce the growth of gangs in Albany, the Gang Prevention Program, and its Coordinator Ron Barrett, is a tremendous resource. Ron is available to teach, coach, consult to and guide virtually any group, including the young people themselves as well as families, law enforcement, educators and others who work with young people. In addition, the Gang Prevention Program offers safe, alternative activities for the youth in our community, always seeking opportunities to collaborate with and strengthen existing programming.

Especially as we face very challenging times and the loss of programming in our communities, it is critical that the outreach and programming provided by the City's Gang Prevention Program continue. We offer our support and encouragement and our partnership, as we all seek to lower the risks and improve the opportunities for the youth of our city.

Sincerely,

Bill Wolff, Executive Director

MISSION STATEMENT

Through a dedicated and capable community of staff and associates, inspired by the faith and vision of St. John Baptist de La Salle, La Salle School provides therapeutic, educational and supportive services designed to accomplish positive, personal growth and lasting change in the lives of youth and families in need

