

Office of Chief of Police



Chief of Police Kurt S. Wahlen

City of Racine, Wisconsin

May 12, 2010

Mr. Joseph Heck
and Members of the
Racine Community Development Block Grant Program

Re: Local Option Funding Proposal for Why Gangs LLC

Dear Mr. Heck and Committee Members:

Please note that the Racine Police Department supports the Why Gangs LLC request for Local Option Funds. The Why Gangs LLC application seeks \$15,000 in funding from the City of Racine Community Development Block Grant program. These funds would be used to fund a Gang Consultant who will be able to provide gang awareness training and workshops to the Racine Unified School District as well as other agencies and organizations within the City of Racine. The training and workshops would inform those in attendance of our community's gang culture and prepare them to effectively deal with those who are part of this culture.

The Gang Consultant will help bridge the gap between those individuals who have little or no knowledge of gangs and how to communicate effectively to those involved in the gang lifestyle. Furthermore, the gang culture in our community differs in organization and activity from other communities. Therefore, it is best if individuals who are familiar with our gang culture would provide the gang awareness instruction.

If you have any further questions or concerns, please feel free to contact me at 262-635-7714.

Sincerely,

Kurt S. Wahlen
Chief of Police

KSW/bb

