

Mission: "To build character that lasts in children and families through positive alternatives to crime, violence, dependency, and delinquency, by offering a holistic approach to their academic, physical, social, economic, and spiritual development."

Workforce Development

## Building Connections Building Character

Family Strengthening

**Positive Youth Development** 

## #SummerCamp2019



Over the summer, Gang Alternative, Inc. (GA.)'s Screening, Testing, Education, and Prevention Urban Partnership (STEP-UP) program promoted HIV and substance abuse awareness using the Hip Hop 2 Prevent (H2P) curriculum. H2P, which uses a nontraditional approach to HIV education, was incorporated into GA's Building Leaders of Character and Minority Violence Prevention 88 (MVP) summer programs. H2P uses popular culture to educate young men and women between the ages of 12-17 on the harmful effects of substance use and the dangers of risky sexual behaviors.

GA youth benefited from learning and recreational activities, mentoring, teambuilding experiences and the opportunity to blend hip hop culture with health education. During the summer program, youth experienced the uniqueness of the H2P curriculum as an interactive and creative twist to traditional teaching of prevention and intervention methods.

Using the blend of familiar topics, innovative techniques, and a nurturing environment, this program was created to encourage positive behavioral changes in our youth. Through collaboration with The Motivational Edge, youth participating in GA's MVP summer camp produced songs using their own beats and lyrics to describe the realities of living in their complex Haitian communities. The songs included *"Do for me"*, *"GA Kompa Western Mix,"* and a HIV prevention freestyle. Stay tuned to GA's Building Connections podcast to hear these masterpieces!

HIV STEP-UP falls under GA's Health & Wellness and Positive Youth Development Service Pillars.

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Health & Wellness

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Podcast: Building Connections

## **Our Mission Continues...**

August 27: Parenting Meeting 6 p.m.- 7 p.m. at 6620 North Miami Ave. Open to all parents

August 28: Service Partnership Meeting 10 a.m. -12 p.m. at 6620 North Miami Ave. Open to all community agencies

Visit <u>www.MyGA.org</u> for GA's complete calendar of events

## **Sponsor Spotlight**

Gang Alternative, Inc. would like to thank The Motivational Edge for its continued support to our programs!





Seen here : Ahrydson Joseph in the recording studios getting ready to rap: "Do for Me"

Vision: "A global community-based organization connecting youth and adults to holistic services and tools to develop their full potential and good character to become self sufficient stewards."